

# TRAIN OF THOUGHT

MON VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

JANUARY 2012



## **EDITORS NOTE**

Our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary/Winter Open House was a rousing success! We had visitors all day on both days. Charlene Marshall, one of our local House of Delegates members helped cut the cake and had some very nice remarks about our group and model railroading in general. While exact totals are not officially available, it seems we cleared around \$700.00!! We do know that the chance drawing took in \$333.00 for the weekend. The train set was won by Jen Casper, who bought the tickets for her 5 year old grandson. His father picked up the set on Thursday, January 26th.

I want to thank everyone who helped make this Open House the best I have ever seen. You guys are GREAT!

During the show we picked up two new boxcar ads, one paid for the other not quite yet. I'll explain more at the Feb. Business meeting. For now I intend to relax a bit, work at the club on scenery and finally get my own "O" gauge layout up and running.

I hope you all are working hard on your layouts too. See you down at the MVRHHS club house.

*Rich Henderson, Editor*

## **PRESIDENTIAL NOTES JANUARY 21, 2012**

January is on the wane. Not much snow and only a little ice. I trust you're enjoying your "inside time" in the railroad room or maybe in the easy chair with a warm beverage and the model railroading publication of your choice. I think a hobby like ours does a lot to diminish those "winter blahs" that seem to affect so many. While I will certainly be ready for nice weather in a few weeks, I can also appreciate this season for the opportunities it brings.

One of which was a wildly successful Open House weekend! The public responded to our hard work the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> with good crowds and generous wallets. Only a hotdog or two ended up not sold. Even the rather large 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cake was consumed! Thanks to Delegate Charlene Marshall for attending our celebration and voicing support to our "new" historical society. Visitors came from as far away as Ohio (Division 9). We have a lot of possibilities for our future, and that weekend was a good ready-track. Thanks to everyone who manned this event and made it successful.

Less-than-carload notes (stuff the president wants to mention):

## **SCHEDULE of EVENTS**

**February 2, 2012  
Business Meeting**

**March 1, 2012  
Business meeting**

**April 5, 2012  
Business Meeting**

**May 3, 2012  
Business Meeting**

**June 7, 2012  
Business Meeting**

**July 5, 2012  
Business Meeting**

**July 21, 2012  
Kid's Day  
Open House  
10am til 2pm**



*PRESIDENTIAL NOTES Continued*

Your Board of Directors (current officers and immediate past president) met on January 12. The minutes of that meeting are around this newsletter somewhere.

The December 31 op session was successful, but any thoughts I had of making that the regular date forever and in perpetuity are now in the ash pit. We'll go back to January 1 in 2013!

Be sure your contact information is up-to-date for our membership roster. This is important for ballots and such that must be mailed. Dues deadline is March 31, but earlier is better.

Welcome back Steve Raque! His teaching schedule will allow him to be with us on a regular basis for the foreseeable future.

Presidential get well greetings are extended to Secretary Lew Matt in his battle with cancer.

Finally, here's wishing a speedy recovery to Bill Hudak following shoulder surgery.

*Gary Deavers, PresidentMVRRHHS*



**MINUTES of the  
JANUARY MEETING  
January 5, 2012**

President Deavers called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with 4 officers and 9 members present.

Motion to approve the Minutes from the December meeting as published with no corrections, was moved by Dave Hines and seconded by Mike Hohn. Motion carried.

Keith DeVault presented the financial report for the society and Mike Hohn moved and seconded by Rich Henderson to accept the report as read. Motion carried.

**Publicity Committee:** Rich stated that the open house information is out to all agencies, he will also be sending out flyers to local schools and churches about any of our events. The cake has been ordered for our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on Saturday January 14<sup>th</sup> at noon with state delegate Charlene Marshall to be present for the festivities.

**Box Car Ad Committee:** Rich stated that we added a new car by the name of Todd Johnson Attorney at Law. We now have 26 cars on the modular layout.

Bill Hudak Sr. stated that some upgrades are continuing on the main layout and during the annual op session we had one engine short during the session. He also mentioned that we are short of DCC throttles for the layout.

**Pulpwood Committee:** Jim Kubanick has made up 2 new weighted loads to put into the cars to give the cars added weight. They were a little on the light side to run on the layout.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Club website is back up and operating again, with a very special thanks to Eric Hansmann for getting it back and operating.

Lew Matt has been going in and out of the hospital, and all the membership wishes him a speedy recovery and hope to see him at the society soon.

Jim Kubanick will soon be introducing some new PS-1 Box Cars that fit into our era for the society to run on the layout.

The annual op session was very well attended and as mentioned before, we had one engine short on the system, need more throttles, and 1 bad switch was located in the industrial switching area. Gavin Lantz did a great job on his first attempt as a dispatcher and it was mentioned that we need to have a better system for calling crews.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Open House will be Saturday January 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 5 and January 15 from 12 to 5, we need lots of volunteers to help with the general public and run trains. We will have a white elephant table, food, t shirts, hats, whistles and chance drawing so please stop by the society and help out with this fundraiser.

Rich Henderson presented a community outreach program for the society.

Moved by Keith DeVault and Seconded by Lou Lemelle to adapt the program as written with some additional words to both the internal and external programs.

Rich and Gary stated that the board of directors will be meeting on January 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss this and other

*MINUTES Continued*

issues, and the final document will be published on the society’s website.

Our society’s dues are now due and payable to the treasurer. The membership cost is \$ 60.00 for Regular members, \$ 50.00 for Associates and \$ 70.00 for Families. College Student is \$ 36.00 and Youth membership is \$ 24.00 for the year.

The annual Pike Ad for Division 2 is \$ 15.00 and it was moved by Dave Hines and passed that we pay the division for the ad, it was also mentioned that we have two of our members running for the top two offices of the division, Mike Hohn as Superintendent and Keith DeVault as Asst. Superintendent. There election is in March.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

*Minutes taken by Keith DeVault in Secretary Lew Matts absence*

**JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT**

*January 1, 2012*

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	
December 1, 2011	\$ 2,127.14
<b>Expenses:</b>	
December Rent	\$ 265.00
MonPower	\$ 47.43
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 312.43</b>
<b>Income:</b>	
Johnson Ad car	\$ 35.00
Chance Drawing	\$ 101.00
Food	\$ 91.24
Whistle	\$ 3.00
Caboose Donations	\$ 40.00
White Elephant	\$ 11.20
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 281.44</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	
December 31, 2011	\$2,096.15
Certificate of Deposit	\$1,804.20

*Treasurer, Keith DeVault*  
We have in balance \$300 for IRS Fee Checkbook Expense, Society Shirts and Division 2 newsletter ad

**MVRRHS BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2012**

In attendance: President Gary Deavers, Vice President Frank Benders, Member at Large Rich Henderson, Immediate Past MVRRC President Michael Hohn.

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm by the president. Gary also took the minutes.

Rich reported that Art Reid of the Brunswick Railroad Museum, Brunswick, Maryland asked for a PDF flier to promote our January Open Houses.

Rich gave an update on the Outreach Program. Four Mon County Schools (Brookhaven, Mountain View, North, and Sky View) have after-school programs from 3:30 to 6:00 pm. The presentation by our Society would be considered an enrichment activity. Also discussed was the small group field trip schools could make to our facility. In addition to teachers and two chaperones being admitted free of charge, the bus drivers would also get in free (we’re all about transportation...). For either on or off-site events, we would require four weeks’ notice. The question was raised about our insurance. Deavers voiced the opinion there is no difference between one of these events and our Open Houses. The Board voted 4-0 in favor of the Outreach Program pending a review of our policy.

Morgantown Dental Group and Black Bear Restaurant have paid their Ad Car bills. The cars will be on the modular layout for the Open House.

Rich reported that an invitation to Delegate Charlene Marshall (D-Mon) had been extended to attend

our Saturday Open House and cake-cutting to celebrate our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. He also noted that, so far as he’s noticed, all media outlets “got our publicity right”.

Gary brought up the matter of youth members. He was looking for some mechanism to get language in our Constitution or By-Laws about such members being accompanied by a parent or legal guardian while on club property. He stressed there was no problem at present concerning this, but wanted something in place for the future. There was discussion about where best to place this in the Constitution and By-Laws. Eventually, talk turned to the Membership Application Form. The Board voted 4-0 in favor of having Rich work on the Application to install wording to this effect. We will revisit this at a later date to see if any further adjustments are in order.

In the absence of Treasurer Keith Devault (on the hardboards officiating this evening), budget formulation will be deferred to our next meeting.

In the continuing absence of Secretary Lew Matt due to serious illness, Rich will contact him and see what his wishes are concerning maintaining this office; whether or not we need to appoint a temporary replacement or elect a new secretary.

Frank reported he has taken the Food Handler’s course and is now a card-carrier. He asked them about our event and the requirements. It turns out there is a waiver form for “educational, religious, and non-profits”, which he filled out and the proper authorities signed. We’re good to go.

There being no further business of the Board this evening, we adjourned at 7:49 pm.

## CB&O 219

Earlier this past year, our club was a prize winner in a drawing for a Broadway Limited N&W Y-6b. It has since been weathered and re-lettered as CB&O 219. What follows is a fictitious “history” as to how such an engine could find her way to the CB&O roster:

As the US was pulled into WW II, a number of railroads found themselves short of adequate motive power to handle the increased demand of traffic. By the time the CB&O decided to place an order for new motive power, the War Production Board had already placed restrictions on such orders by limiting production of new steam locomotives to freight only units and those of existing design. Diesel production was rationed to those roads “most in need”.

Thus, the CB&O, like neighbor B&O, among others, faced a quandary: We were not on the qualified list for new diesels but were permitted to purchase new steam power and had to settle for an existing design. The B&O got the WPB’s blessing to go to Baldwin for 25 new locomotives based, roughly, upon the Southern Pacific AC-12. The CB&O was allotted a purchase of five articulated locomotives.

The CB&O Engineering Department felt that our track profile justified the use on an engine, similar to the N&W Y6b that could be switched from compound to simple expansion once the train was in motion. Therefore, we petitioned the WPB to help persuade Roanoke to build an additional five Y-6b’s. These became CB&O 215-219 and they performed even better than expected on CB&O rails. After the War, they continued to perform well enough to help convince Management to delay wholesale

diesel purchases into the era of the road switcher.

The model has a heavy metal boiler casting and is equipped with traction tires, and as a result, will singlehandedly pull any train normally run on our layout. It is very well detailed with a multitude of add-on detail parts. The Tsunami sound decoder duplicates the sounds of the Y-6b very well. However, if the engine momentarily loses power, the decoder resets to maximum volume, which is very irritating during an operating session. We must see if it is possible to re-program this function to minimum volume. In the meantime, we can reduce the volume very quickly by rapidly double clicking throttle function button 8. Each double click will reduce the volume by one step. Several steps are available, and the lower 1 to 3 steps seem to be most satisfactory. The internal electronics and mechanism give the model very realistic operation charities. It is a pleasure to operate!

The engine came with a smoke generator. This has been deactivated as it caused the locomotive to be covered with an oil-like substance which is very difficult to remove. This could have been easily transferred to surfaces on the layout. This toy-like feature made the weathering process an extremely difficult one, and the above action will make the locomotive less likely to cause harm to its surroundings.

As it is a very valuable and somewhat fragile asset for the club, the member ship agreed at a recent Business Meeting to restrict the engine to operation only during Open House and Operation Session occasions. It will otherwise be kept in a secure location.

*By Jim Kubanick*

## ***Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society OFFICERS***

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### ***Our Society Website:***

<http://www.MVRRRC.org>

### ***Our Society Yahoo site:***

[http://groups.yahoo.com/  
group/MVRRHS/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MVRRHS/)

### ***Our Society***

### ***facebook page:***

[http://www.facebook.com/  
pages/Mon-Valley-Railroad-  
Club](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Mon-Valley-Railroad-Club)