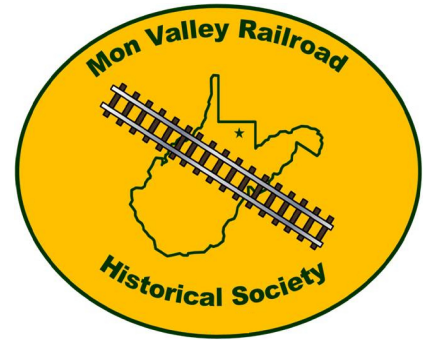


# TRAIN OF THOUGHT

MON VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

MARCH 2016



## **EDITORS NOTE**

Politics, we try our best to keep it out of the Mon Valley Railroad Historical Society. This year is an exception, we have an election coming up. The Nominating Committee was formed at the March business meeting and it is their duty to find members willing to run for office. They will be calling you and asking if you will run for an office. The Nominating Committee will report their results at the April meeting. We only have elections once every two years and it is important for you think about the future of our group. Now, you may say, I have no experience. I have no idea of what to do or how to do the job. I'm just a model railroader.

Well the jobs are not that hard and the current officers will still be around for you to ask questions of and get advice. Our officers work with members to get ideas, work out problems and come up with solutions for the good of our society. If we have no leaders then our group dies.

I know this "Business" part of the society is not very interesting but it is important. For the continuation of our group please think about becoming an officer.

Happy Training,

*Rich Henderson, Editor*



## **Minutes of the Business Meeting March 3, 2016**

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by President, Frank Benders with five (5) officers, twelve (12) members present. Minutes of the January 2016 meeting were printed in the newsletter. Motion to accept the minutes by Keith DeVault, Second by Rich Henderson, Approved with correction, Mrs. McEwuen of Tanner's Alley donated the material for the modules skirting, Not Mrs. Hewitt.

Treasurer's Report: Keith DeVault, All bills are paid. We are still in the Black, Membership dues are due. Keith had to order new checks, they usually cost about \$25.00. Approved.

### **Committee Reports:**

**Modules:** Mike Hohn has been working on the Rowlesburg engine house. He showed us several walls of mostly completed brickwork & windows. The windows came from a company called the "Rusty Stump". The engine house is based on the 1893 house. John Allen made a similar engine house. Mike has also made the roof struts and showed them off. They will not be seen when the building is finished but do add a touch of class! It may be ready for the April Open House but more likely for Kids Day.

## **SCHEDULE of EVENTS**

**March 26  
OP Session  
9am to 2pm**

**April 2 & 3, 2016  
Spring Open House**

**April 7, 2016  
Business Meeting**

**May 5, 2016  
Business Meeting**

**June 2, 2016  
Business Meeting**

**June 11, 2016  
OP session  
9am to 2pm**

**June 11, 2016  
BOD meeting at 2pm**

**July 7, 2016  
Business Meeting**



*Meeting Minutes continued on Page 2*

*Minutes continued from Page 1*

We also need to purchase some toggle switches to turn the power on and off on the new modules.

**Main Layout:** Rich Henderson has added some more Sculptamold to the farm area & added grass, bushes, weeds and more trees. The stream has been painted but not filled with model water yet. He has also started on a model Barbed-wire fence, using flat toothpicks painted gray and sized to about 5 feet after being planted. Eric Hopkins and Jim Kubanick have been building the extensions to the woodwork & fascia for the old coal mine. Scott Welch has almost finished laying new ballast on the East End tracks on the upper level. The ballast in the yard at Wilson's Mills near the turnouts is not glued down yet. Mike Hohn has worked on gaps in the track in the St. George industrial area.

**Publicity:** All the publicity for the Spring Open House in April is ready and will start going out next week. Eric Hansmann has updated the Society web page with the new information. The facebook page has a weekly reach of 123 with a total of 305 Likes.

**Ad cars:** No change.

**Donations:** Ward Paine has donated \$500 from his corporation and \$40 along with his membership dues. Rich had a name plate made, it cost a little bit more ( about \$35) to engrave. Gary Deavers also made a donation of \$240 along with his dues. Gary said he doesn't want a certificate, thank you letter or gifts, just the receipt. We will get a name plate made as soon as possible. Tom Kirby made a \$50 donation to the Modular Transportation Fund.

**Old Business:** Rich sent out an email asking members to come up

with ideas for ways of raising more money for the society. No one except Gary replied. His idea was to try the "Visiting Engineer" program at the Spring Open House on a trail basis. We discussed the "Visiting Engineer" program at Open Houses which was tabled at the last meeting. Rich showed a new sign for that program that had all the changes members talked about. We discussed and age limit for small children and will make that part clear IF the program works. Keith made a motion that we try it out at the Spring Open House, Gary Deavers second the motion. Approved.

We will ask Gregory Malnikoff to bring his camera car to the Open House and use it to find the places on the main layout where the scenery needs to be enhanced. This seemed to be the easiest way, since people enjoy seeing the layout on the TV.

We re-visited the idea of going to the Mon County Fair. Gary questioned whether people would give donations at the fair. It would take too much time and effort with the modular layout. We need more of a "publicity table" at the fair on August 1 - 6, 2016. Keith will talk with the person in charge at the Milan Puskar convention center where the fair takes place. We would only need 2 or 3 people to run a table. Frank said we should focus on the Historical side of our operations - the B&O and other local systems.

We may also be going to Grafton on Memorial Day. A local church is having a Railroad event, Glenn Bartlett of the Grafton model RR group contacted us. We contacted the Pastor of the church and Keith will present his slide show on the B&O West End.

A "Back to School" Open House idea that was tabled last month was discussed. Gary thought it was a better idea than the County Fair as

we would have complete control, would not have to move the modules or incur other expenses. If we have this event it would be on August 27 & 28, 2016, same hours as other Open Houses. This is one week after both College & public schools have started and one week before Labor Day.

**New Business:** President Frank Benders asked for three people to serve on the Nominating Committee. These members will be asking members to run for office in the Society in April & May. Ken Colvin volunteered along with Tom Kirby & Dave Trader. All office's are open for any Regular member. Family members, Associate, College Student & Youth members are not allowed to be officers according to our constitution. Please think about becoming an officer.

Ian Gray gave an update on the Mon Historical Society/WVU railroad project. The grant was approved and they are moving forward with planning this event in June. We have already committed our group to be in on this event several months ago. They want an operating layout, so the modules will be used. There may also be need of an historical presentation.

Motion to adjourn by many,  
Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm  
Respectfully,

*Lou Lemelle, Secretary MVRHHS*

## ***ARTICLES WANTED***

Space is available for members to write an article for the newsletter. It may be about your model railroad, a railfan trip you recently took or about a any railroad related topic. Just type it up and send it to: Rich Henderson, Editor at: trainman430@comcast.net Please allow two (2) weeks before the next newsletter is published.

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***Our Society Yahoo site:***

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

***Our Society  
facebook page:***

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