



# UP THE HOLLER



**DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA**

**June 2024**

**FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER**  
**Sam Delauter, Superintendent**

## IN THIS ISSUE

Head of the Holler	1
Contact List	2
Meeting Agenda	2
Meeting Minutes	3
Office Down the Hall	4
Clinics	4
Club News	4
T-TRAK	5
Contest	6
May Events	8
Passenger Manifest	9
Achievement Program	9
Editor's Comments	10
Newsletter Deadlines	10
Budd Company Aircraft	11
Pike Ads	14
Upcoming Meetings	15

At the May meeting, the Coal Division met in Gallipolis, OH at the Gallipolis Freight House Museum. The museum is housed in a restored Hocking Valley/C&O freight house. The group that runs the museum has done a great job with the restoration and finding artifacts and displays for the museum. The museum is home to a multi-scale layout, many artifacts, and several 1:1 scale pieces of rolling stock. They are open throughout the year. If you did not make it to the meeting and have the chance, I would stop and pay them a visit.

Following the meeting, the Grafton and Greenbrier was open to the Division. I hope everyone that wanted to visit the layout or run on it had the chance to. Currently the future of the layout is uncertain but there may be other opportunities to operate on it. I was happy to see a good turnout at both the meeting and at the G&G.

The following weekend was the Mid Central Region convention in Middleburg Heights, OH. There were quite a few Coal Division members present and we did well in the contests. Randy Allio took first through third place in freight cars. Herb Parsons took third place in black and white photos and also received the favorite T-TRAK Module. While it was already finalized, Don Cipolla was recognized at the award ceremony for becoming the newest Master Model Railroader® in the Region. While we are one of the smaller divisions in the Region, we have a great amount of talent and quality in our membership. Next year's convention will be held in Columbus OH and I hope to see a great turnout there as well.

For the June meeting, we will be back at the St. Albans Historical Society. At the meeting, we will see a video clinic by David Oliverio on the NMRA members' layouts during last summer's visit to Wisconsin. The contest will be non-revenue equipment. For those who are taking part in the challenge for this year, this is a good time to start planning your module and the meeting will be a good place to field questions and to have discussions about your T-TRAK module. I look forward to seeing everyone on June 8th at 1:00 PM. Doors open at 12:00 PM as always.

**DIVISION OFFICERS**

Superintendent  
Sam Delauter  
super@coaldivision.org

Assistant Superintendent  
Bill Stowe  
asstsuper@coaldivision.org

Clerk- Jerry Doyle  
304-638-2826  
clerk@coaldivision.org

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Achievement Program Chairmen  
Bob Weinheimer MMR®  
304-546-5896  
ap@coaldivision.org

Clinic  
Randy Allio  
clinic@coaldivision.org

Contest  
Don Cipolla MMR®  
Mark Maynard  
contest@coaldivision.org

Education  
Vacant

Election  
Bill Wadsworth  
304-768-3266  
nominating@coaldivision.org

Membership  
John Harris  
membership@coaldivision.org

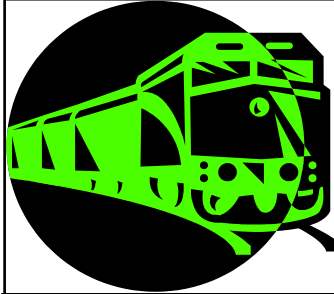
Raffle  
Tony Puccini  
raffle@coaldivision.org

T-TRAK  
Herb Parsons  
t-trak@coaldivision.org

**DIVISION STAFF**

Editor  
Bob Weinheimer MMR®  
editor@coaldivision.org

Webmaster  
Bob Weinheimer MMR®  
webmaster@coaldivision.org



## Coal Division Monthly Railfun Event

### 1:00 PM Saturday June 8 St. Albans Historical Society Division Membership Meeting

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86035617993>

Meeting ID: 860 3561 7993

- **Welcome and Call to Order (Acknowledge members present)**
- **Treasurers Report**
- **Superintendents Report**
- **Assistant Superintendent Report**
- **Contest: Non Revenue Equipment**
- **Adjourn Business Meeting**
- **5 Minute Break**
- **Raffle (always need new items)**
- **Clinic: David Oliverio on layouts in Wisconsin**

**Next Meeting  
July 13**

**NMRA MCR DIVISION 9**  
***THE COAL DIVISION***  
**Minutes**  
**Gallipolis Freight Station Museum**  
**Gallipolis, OH**

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Sam Delauter at 1:00 p.m.

Members introduced themselves.

**Division Clerk Report**

April minutes approved.  
 Treasury Balance is \$9,028.50.  
 Company Store \$0.  
 Raffle \$0.  
 Pike Ads \$0.

Jerry Doyle reported we have filed the required IRS forms for our 501(c)(3) compliance. We have also renewed our incorporation with the WVSOS. The fee for this is \$25.

**Superintendent Report**

Sam thanked everyone for attending the Charleston train show the previous weekend. Enough money was raised to pay for track for T Track

**Assistant Superintendent Report**

Bill Stowe mentioned the tie in between our contests and the Achievement Program. He feels it's important to encourage everyone to bring in models to share. He also shared thoughts on our group as a community and how we interact with the NMRA. The Division is the focal point of a potential member's involvement and the main benefit of NMRA membership.

**Newsletter - Up the Holler**

Bob Weinheimer noted the deadline of May 29 for the next newsletter The address for contributions is [edi-tor@coaldivision.org](mailto:edi-tor@coaldivision.org).

**Achievement Program**

Bob Weinheimer presented Sam with an AP certificates for Association Volunteer.

**Library**

Bill Wadsworth nothing new to report.

**Clinic**

Today's clinic is the Gallipolis Freight Station Museum and the operations on the Grafton & Greenbrier.

June -- David Oliverio layouts in Wisconsin.

July -- Randy Alio weathering with pan pastels

**Contest**

Today's contest is Anything Steel Related.

**Membership**

John thanked members who have submitted profiles for the meet the modeler section of Up The Holler. He encouraged others to submit stories, he is happy to help. He also mentioned an upcoming order for name badges. He also thanked members who staffed the Division 9 display at the recent train show in Charleston.

**Raffle**

No raffle today. Tony noted we have been covering the meeting space costs for our meetings at St Albans.

**T TRAK**

No report.

**Education**

No report.

**Old Business**

Robert Osburn updated members on this year's T TRAK modeling challenge. The recent book sale netted enough meeting to pay for track. We will have a presentation at the June meeting to introduce members to module construction. The modules will be distributed at the August meeting. Potentially we will have 14 modules built this year.

**New Business**

Jerry Davis gave the group a short history of the museum and plans for the future.

Jerry Doyle gave a brief history of the Grafton and Greenbrier Railroad.

**Announcements**

Mid Central Region convention May 16-19

**Future Meetings:**

June 8 – St Albans Historical Society  
 July 13 – Randy Alio's house Big Chimney, WV.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

## FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

**Bill Stowe, Assistant Superintendent**

So far May has seemed like NMRA month with the Charleston show, monthly meeting, operating sessions, and ending with the Regional Convention in Cleveland. There was a lot of good stuff but I find I'm playing catch up at home with mowing, gardening, etc.!!

I enjoyed my first Regional Convention. I focused on clinics, with topics split between learning more about the NMRA and model railroading topics. Topics relating to the NMRA covered what other Divisions are doing to engage their members, the perspective from NMRA Directors, the Achievement Program, and an introduction to contest judging. The model railroading clinics focused on scenery, something basic for most of you, but they helped me see the next step for my layout I also attended a clinic on using Arduino's, it's great to understand more on how they can be used.

I think for the next Convention, maybe the National this summer, but definitely the Regional Convention in Columbus next year, I'd like to learn more about judging and the contest I also want to attend clinics of interest, as well as layout tours.

I don't typically attend banquets this did so at the convention I was glad I did as I got to see several of our members recognized with awards.

One other item – Randy Allio gave me some flyers to hand out at the next meeting on the Narrow Gauge Convention this September.

That's about it for me – look forward to seeing you at the next meeting in St. Albans!!

## CLINICS

**Randy Allio, Clinic Chair**

Last month we did not hold a clinic since many of you were on the field trip. The clinics for the rest of the year are as follows:

June-NMRA Layout Tours- David Oliverio

July-Painting with Pan Pastels- Randy Allio

August- Building a Prototypical Rolling Stock Fleet-Sam Delauter

September- Crusty Mountain

October-Mini Clinic Event II

November- Adhesives- Bob Osburn

December- Memorial Challenge

As a reminder, I will be hosting the July meeting. This will be a informal get together. I will be available from 10 AM. until whenever you want to leave. We can do tours of my woodshop and check on progress on my double deck On30 layout. Food and beverage will be available as well as plenty of space for B.S. sessions.

## CLUB NEWS

Clubs within the boundaries of the Coal Division are welcome to submit items of interest for inclusion here. The next editorial deadline for this column is Monday February 26. Items can be sent to [editor@coaldivision.org](mailto:editor@coaldivision.org)

Mid-Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club

By Mark Suek

The Mid-Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club unveiled several new attractions at its annual Harold Shive Memorial Open House on Armed Forces Day. Among the new features were two well-received selfie stations, Standard Gauge tinsplate trains running for the first time in many years, a full-size template down on the new O scale layout benchwork, and all kinds of new scenery and new vi-

gnettes on the HO and N scale layouts. Upgrading continues in HO and G scales. Further, MOVRC has simplified its membership levels to Regular Member (\$50 per year) and Junior Member (under 18 years of age, \$25 a year) while eliminating the former Associate Member level. As might be expected Life Members and Honorary Members are not required to pay dues.

## T-TRAK

### Herb Parsons, T-TRAK Chair

#### Photos by Herb Parsons

May has been an exciting and a busy month for the T-TRAK modelers. Starting with the Charleston Model Railroad show where we set up a layout with 16 modules. The NMRA booth was next to the layout and staffed during the weekend by John Harris, Bill Stowe, Randy Allio, and Bob Osburn. Bob also took care of the book sales table.

The Mid Central Region convention was May 16 - 19 in Cleveland, Ohio. I took 4 of my modules as well as Bob Osburn's inside corner module. Unfortunately, the layout had only had 4 outside corner modules and Bob's

module could not be used, but it was on display and got a lot of attention from the convention attendees. There were two other layouts setup in the layout room, a HO Freemo layout and a HO T-TRAK.

Sunday morning after the convention and on my way home, I made a side trip to Marysville, Ohio for the N-Scale Weekend at the county fairgrounds. They had 6 layout setup, 2 T-TRAK, 2 NRail, a Freemo N, and an another modular. There were several vendors selling new and used cars and locomotives, building kits, and detail parts.



A view of T-TRAK modules at the Mid Central Region convention



N Scale layouts at Marysville



T-TRAK modules at Marysville

**CONTEST**  
**Don Cipolla and Mark Maynard Contest Chairs**  
**Photos by Mark Maynard**

For our Steel is King meeting, the contest was anything steel related.

First place went to Paul Lapointe for his steel mill pump house.

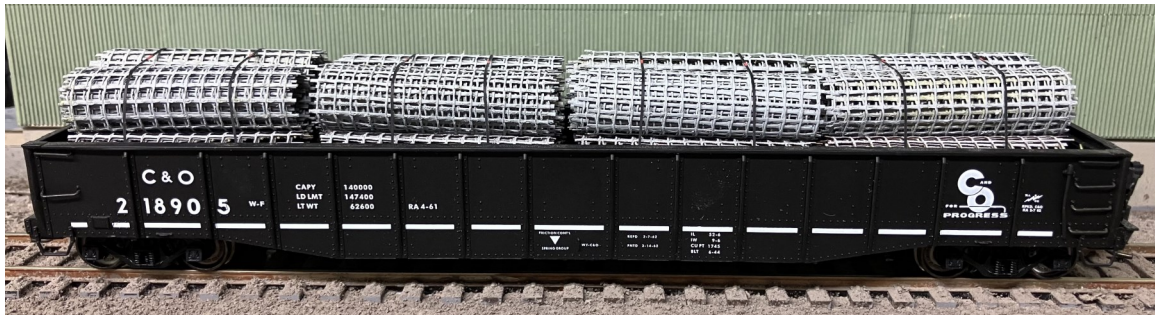
There was a three way tie for second place. One was a load of rebar mesh built by Parul Lapointe. The second was a flat steel load, and the third was a short bulk-head flat for bloom steel. Both of these were built by Mark Maynard.

Congratulations to Paul and Mark on their fine modeling.

2024	Monthly Model Contest
January	Modeler's Choice
February	Steam Locomotives
March	Locomotives Other Than Steam
April	Kitbashing/Scratch Built, (Anything Railroad Related)
May	Anything Steel Related
June	Non Revenue
July	Structures
August	Electronics of a Railroad
September	Photo, Model or Prototype
October	Open Loads
November	Passenger Cars
December	Annual Memorial Modeling Challenge



Paul Lapointe's steel mill pump house.



Paul's steel mesh load



Mark Maynard's steel bloom car



Mark's steel load for a bulkhead flat car

As noted in several columns in this issue, May was a busy month for the Coal Division. Some of the photos elsewhere note the T-TRAK displays at the convention, another notes Achievement Program progress. Here are a few more photos documenting our recent activity.



John Harris contributed these photos of our May meeting at the Gallipolis Freight House Museum.



To the left are some, but not all, of the Coal Division members who attended the convention. We were even joined by past Coal Division member Dan Mulhearn!



Above is a Jerry Doyle selfie showing many of the same faces with the addition of Randy Allio.



Above is a photo by Herb Parsons of the Modeling with the Masters® class on the use of cheap acrylic craft paints. Herb was a student in the class



## Passenger Manifest John Harris, Membership Chair

Here is a shout out to Randy Allio, Dale Osburn, Robert Osburn, and Bill Stowe for their time in staffing the Division 9 table at the KVRA show last month. I believe each had stories of their interaction with visitors. Feedback seems to indicate that having the Coal Division display and T-TRAK all in one location was positive. We will request similar arrangements for next year. I still believe scheduling some “how to” demonstrations would be a great addition to the weekend activities. Be thinking about possibilities where you can share your know how to others. While attendance seem to be down a bit, this still promises to be out best public outreach opportunity. We may not see an increase in membership but we are at least making our presence known.

With Memorial Day weekend behind us, summer has officially begun even if the summer solstice is still a few weeks away. For many, travel may make the next few meetings a bit of a scheduling issue, but I hope to see many of you over the next several months. I am particularly looking forward to visiting Randy’s place in July.

The trip to Gallipolis was enjoyable and I was pleased to have one more visit to the G&G. The Gallipolis Railway Freight Station Museum was well done and very in-

formative. It seems like it will be a great educational experience for all ages. I hope one day the C&O Historical Society and the City of St. Albans can someday reach similar levels at the C&O depot. Perhaps some similar state grants can be made available to assist in these efforts. Those involved might want to reach out to the folks in Gallipolis for some guidance in locating possible funding sources. These simply do not just walk thru the door, it takes effort to track them down.

Several of you mentioned interest in getting Name Badges. I have a list from last month’s meeting but perhaps there are others. If interested in obtaining one, reach out to me either at [membership@coaldivision.org](mailto:membership@coaldivision.org) or with request. If I get enough for full order, cost will be \$10 to \$12 each.

On a similar note, some time ago, the Division had access to a company that printed our Coal Division logo to polo shirts or tee shirts that the individual provided. With improvements in printing technology and access, I am sure this can be made available again if there is interest. Price has yet to be determined. Plan to give me your thoughts at the next meeting or via email.

## ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM Bob Weinheimer, MMR® Photo by Herb Parsons

It is always a pleasure to pass out Achievement Program certificates and at the May meeting we recognized Superintendent Sam Delauter with his Association Volunteer certificate. Dale Osburn has also earned his Association Volunteer certificate but was unable to be with us that day.

As noted by Sam in his column, Don Cipolla MMR® was presented with his plaque at the recent Mid Central Region convention banquet by MCR President David Neff.

Randy Allio is also working on several certificates. His Author and Prototype Model work have been submitted and I hope to have those certificates by the June meeting.

Jerry Doyle assures me he is working toward his seventh certificate, we will just have to wait for him to scratch build four cars.

I will be explaining more about the Achievement Program at our October mini clinic event.



## MY WORD

**Bob Weinheimer, Editor**

The month of May has certainly been a busy one for the Coal Division and its members. We started out with the Kanawha Valley Railroad Association show in Charleston in early May. See the Passenger Manifest column for more details.

That was followed by our May membership meeting in Gallipolis. The museum was a new venue for us but I can see an annual trip there. We then visited the Grafton and Greenbrier and, as noted elsewhere, its days may be numbered.

Finally, many of us made our way to Cleveland for the Mid Central Region convention. There were at least eight of us there, that's about 20% of our membership. I suspect our per capita attendance was best in the Region beyond that of the host Division. The next convention is next May in Columbus, start making your plans now.

I just had one more big event in May. The reason this issue is a bit late is two fold. First, I didn't want to interfere with the holiday weekend by demanding the newsletter contributions be submitted on the usual Monday deadline. The other reason I let it slide is that four fellows, all NMRA members, came over from Louisville Tuesday for an op til you drop session Tuesday and Wednesday. We were also joined Wednesday by Coal Division members Bill Grosse and Bill Stowe. You might have seen some highlights of it on the NMRA Facebook page. All of that meant I wouldn't start working on the newsletter until Thursday which then cascades into issuing it a few days later than usual.

That brings up another newsletter schedule point. I need to be in Long Beach for the NMRA board meeting in early August and the travel dates are the usual Up the Holler production days. As a result, there will be no August issue. I do plan to have a July issue that includes plans and information for the August meeting. I also plan to publish minutes from July and August in the September issue. That issue will also contain contest results and photos from both meetings. I do not look forward to missing the picnic but that's the same day as the convention banquet so I won't be back home yet.

This issue also contains an interesting story about the Budd Company, the manufacturer of many passenger cars. Check it out to see what else they got into.

If you have something rail related, even like the story in this issue, let me know and I'll see about printing it.

On a sad note, past NMRA President and Cincinnati Division member Mike Brestel passed away May 22 at the age of 73. After serving as NMRA President, Mike continued to participate at the National level as At Large World Wide Director, calendar editor, nominations chair, and honors committee chair. Mike had attended at least one of our meetings hosted by Mark Maynard in Portsmouth. He will be missed by all who knew him.

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

In order to produce Up The Holler about ten days before the monthly membership meeting, editorial work starts the Monday of the week preceding the meeting. That works out to be the dates below by which I need articles for the first few months of 2024.

- July: July 1
- August; No issue this month
- September: September 2
- October: September 30
- November: October 28
- December: December 2

## Improve your modeling with a few sheets of paper.

That's exactly what happens when you participate in the National Model Railroad Association's Achievement Program. One Merit Award here, another there, and pretty soon you're on your way to becoming a Master Model Railroader. All the while learning and having a ton of fun.

The Achievement Program is modelers helping modelers become better modelers and get the most out of their hobby. And it's yet another benefit of NMRA membership.



Visit [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org).  
Then improve your skills. And your hobby.

**We make it even more fun.**  
[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)  
423-892-2846



## The RB-1/C-93A -- Budd's Wartime Aircraft Project

### Jerry Doyle

We have all heard of the Budd Company, founded in 1912 in Philadelphia by Edward G. Budd. While Budd is well known to railroaders as a pioneer in construction of stainless-steel passenger cars, railroads were not originally the focus of the company's efforts. Originally Budd focused on steel fabrication, making all-steel bodies for Dodge Brothers in the early 1910's. All-steel automobiles were an innovation at the time.

Budd focused on innovations in steel fabrication in many areas. It is credited with designing the first American unibody car design, the Nash 600 economy car first offered in 1941. The frameless design significantly reduced manufacturing costs and weight which allowed it to travel a claimed 600 miles on one tank of fuel.

In 1932 Earl Ragsdale, a Budd engineer, developed an innovative process for the economical welding of stainless steel. The process was called shot welding. It was able to produce strong welds that didn't spoil the corrosion resistance of the stainless steel.

We all are probably familiar with the groundbreaking Pioneer Zephyr built in 1934 for the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy. The Zephyr was revolutionary for bringing several innovations together in one design. The body was made from stainless steel with welded construction and the outer body utilized corrugated stainless steel for added strength along with style. The propulsion was provided by an Electro-Motive Corporation 201A 600 horsepower diesel engine. The robust, lightweight design spawned a wave of revitalization with thousands of passenger cars over the following decades. The success of the design made Budd one of the two largest manufacturers of passenger equipment in the U.S.

While the American railroad passenger car market became the main focus for Budd, other applications of the shot weld process and other innovations continued. In 1930 Budd produced the BB-1 an amphibious aircraft constructed from stainless steel. While the design was innovative, no others were built.

With war clouds on the horizon in 1941, the development of aircraft designs using "non-strategic" materials became a priority in the United States. A number of companies developed various wooden aircraft designs as an alternative to aluminum for aircraft construction, but Budd's expertise was in steel fabrication, and they had a reputation for innovation. The result was a contract to produce 200 aircraft constructed of stainless steel with performance similar to the Douglas C-47/R4D in August 1942.

The initial contract designated the aircraft RB-1 Conestoga under the Navy's model designation system, R (transport), B(Budd), design 1. Shortly afterwards, the Army awarded a contract for 600 and designated them C-93A Conestoga. The design was to carry 24 troops or

9,600 pounds of cargo. The first flight took place on Halloween 1943. The prototype crashed in March 1944 during trials at Patuxent River, Maryland. As subsequent aircraft were delivered from the Philadelphia plant it became apparent that while the design had several advanced features such as a rear loading ramp, the plane did not perform as well as the C-47. The poor performance, production delays from Budd, and lack of aluminum shortages led the Army to cancel their order. The Navy accepted 17 of the 25 aircraft produced but they never reached operational status. They were sold as surplus in early 1945 and seven briefly flew for National Skyway Freight Corporation (later Flying Tiger Lines) until replaced by surplus C-47's.

Budd wasn't finished finding non-railroad fields to apply their steel fabrication expertise. In 1962 it designed the XR-400, a sporty two-door convertible concept car for American Motors. The demand for new passenger equipment declined significantly in the 1960's and Budd ceased making passenger cars in the 1980's but still exists as a subsidiary of Thyssen Krup, a multi-national industrial supplier.



U. S. Navy Photos



# RAIL FESTIVAL AT CARILLON PARK

Presented by the James F. Dicke Family

**JUNE**  
**22 & 23** **2024**

SATURDAY | 9:30am - 5:00pm  
SUNDAY | 11:00am - 4:00pm

Train Rides • Model Train Displays  
Historical Exhibits • Rail Vendors  
**• FUN FOR ALL AGES •**



**CARILLON PARK RAIL FESTIVAL**

• A DAYTON HISTORY EXPERIENCE •

**ADMISSION**

\$14 / Adult (18-59)  
\$12 / Senior (60+) \$10 / Child (3-17)  
2 & Under are **FREE**  
Dayton History Members are **FREE**

**Membership Makes sense!**

Become a Dayton History Member and you'll get **FREE** access to Rail Fest, along with a whole year's worth of all that Carillon Historical Park has to offer!



CARILLON HISTORICAL PARK



1000 Carillon Blvd. ■ Dayton, OH 45409 ■ 937-293-2841 ■ [daytonhistory.org](http://daytonhistory.org) ■ [railfestival.com](http://railfestival.com)



2024 NMRA

NATIONAL CONVENTION



AUGUST 4 - 11

LONG BEACH, CA



[WWW.SURFLINER2024.ORG](http://WWW.SURFLINER2024.ORG)


*GET ON BOARD TODAY!*






**Midland Atlantic**  
**Anthony Parrish, CEO**  
 tony765@aol.com

NORFOLK AND WESTERN




**PIPESTEM BASEMENT**  
 DIVISION (HO)  
 DAN MULHEARN  
 304-466-9188  
 danmulhearn@gmail.com



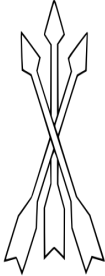
**CRUSTY MOUNTAIN AND WILOBY SPRINGS R.R.**

Mark Maynard, President  
 Portsmouth, OH



**CRESCENT VALLEY**

Jerry Doyle, President  
 Barboursville, WV



**THREE ARROWS RAILROAD**

Tony Puccini, President  
 6 Garwood Drive Huntington, WV 25705  
 puccinibaj@hotmail.com

**PENNSYLVANIA SOUTHERN**

Bob Weinheimer, President  
 398 Mount View Drive Charleston, WV 25314  
 www.pennsylvaniasouthern.com



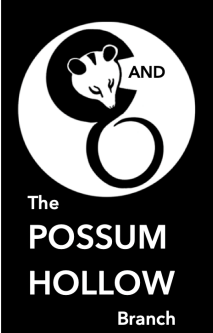
Ed Keith, MMR  
 Assistant Superintendent  
 Chesapeake, OH



**LAKESIDE LINES RAILROAD**

Thomas K. Harris, President and CEO

274 S. Wye Rd., Wytheville, VA 24382 (276)620-3493  
 tharris@va.net www.lakesidelines.com



**Under Construction**

A small N-scale layout of a fictional Appalachian branch line of the Chesapeake & Ohio set in the early 50s or late 70s.

Matt Kearns, Chief Engineer  
 South Charleston, WV  
 mattkearnswv@gmail.com

**Alleghany & New River Road**  
 An Appalachian Coal Hauling Railroad set in the 50's



Bringing a little bit of West Virginia to the rest of America a few tons at a time



John Harris, Chief Engineer  
 AandNRR@aol.com



**HINTON DIVISION**

Gary Burdette - Superintendent  
 Point Pleasant WV



**NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION**

Clint Foster Superintendant  
 Ronceverte WV

## **Upcoming Coal Division Events**

**June 8**  
**St. Albans Historical Society**  
**In Person and Zoom**

**July 13**  
**Randy Allio's Home**  
**In Person**

**August 10**  
**St. Albans Historical Society**  
**Picnic on the Platform**

**September 14**  
**Portsmouth, OH**