

Mid-Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club Newsletter-

September-October, 2025

The club is gearing-up for its biggest event of the year- the **30th Annual Fall Train Show on October 25** at the student activities center at West Virginia University's Parkersburg campus. Hours of operation are 10 am to 3 pm and all available vendor tables have been reserved.

As always, the club will require a lot of member help with regard to set-up on October 24 at 5 pm as well as working the front door, running the bucket drawing during the show and tear-down immediately after the close of the show.

Tom Ratkovich is again serving as show chairman and will be in charge of the set-up, administration and tear-down at the show. **Mike Hupp** has made arrangements for us to enjoy the services of the same food vendor as last year and members are asked to generously patronize this vendor. **Mark Suek** has outdoor signs prepared for the show and publicity in place.

This will be **Tom Ratkovich's** last year as chairman of the Fall Train Show and he will be turning over leadership of the event to **Wayne Batten**, with assistance from **Ed Baranoski**.

General Club News

- **Jimmie Bee** reports the diorama/model of the oil boom town of Volcano is now available for public viewing on Saturdays from 10 am to 2 pm and Sundays from 1-4 pm. The model is in the museum at Mountwood Park on Route 50, just east of Parkersburg.
- **Mark Suek** has announced he will be stepping away from the club and the duties of secretary/publicist. **Wayne Batten** has begun meeting with Mark and shadowing the board of directors meetings to ensure a smooth transition, as he takes over as club secretary/publicist in January. By the way, president **Jonathan Insley** and vice president **Todd Riffle** have announced they will remain on the electoral ballot for 2026. With the Treasurer position being a two-year hitch, **Kelly Offenberger** will return to this position in 2026. Other members who wish to appear on the ballot for either of the two available officer positions are asked to make their intentions known and secure a nomination prior to the November club meeting.
- MOVRC thanks **Jim Mysakowec** for making arrangements with the **Chesapeake & Ohio Railway Historical Society** (based in Clifton Forge, VA) to sponsor an informational and application booth at our Fall Train Show.
- **Tom Ratkovich** will be putting together the **Christmas Dinner** this year. Initial plans call for a Tuesday evening in early December at Western Sizzlin' in South Parkersburg.
- **The Seventh Annual NMRA Division 6 Train Show** is set for October 26 at the Pritchard Laughlin Center in Cambridge, OH. There is an informational flier posted on the club bulletin board and extras on the desk in the meeting room. This show is the day after ours.

General Club News continued

- MOVIMRC thanks **Wayne Batten** for securing two CO2 (Carbon Dioxide) fire extinguishers for use in the club layout room. This will allow members to address any fires which may occur without damaging the layouts or equipment. Wayne will be providing hands-on training in the use of these extinguishers, once they arrive.
- The club welcomes the father and son duo of **David and Brock Akers** as new members. The Akers boys will be modeling in HO scale and are sponsored by **Josh Lee**.
- Good progress continues on the remodel of the club HO scale layout and the construction of the new O scale layout.
- **Kevin Highman** reports the HO group's raffle of a B&O diesel locomotive was successful and another is in the works. MOVIMRC thanks **Chuck Willey** at West Virginia Hobbies and Crafts for his generosity toward providing items for the raffles.
- MOVIMRC is glad to see **Kelly Offenberger** back at the club after a recent health scare.
- **Tim Baer** and **Kevin Highman** will be working toward establishing a business page for the club on Facebook.
- MOVIMRC will need quality model railroad items and railroad memorabilia to place in the **bucket drawing** at the Fall Train Show. These items should be clean and in new, or like new, condition. They should be items we'd be willing to acquire ourselves. All items are considered a donation to the club. No junk, please.
- The club congratulates **Jonathan Insley** on winning a drag racing championship at Rockingham. The key to the victory, it is said, was the installation of a Chevrolet engine into Jonathan's Ford.
- Members who wish to view this newsletter in PDF format may do so by accessing the club website.