

Mid-Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club

July-August, 2020 Newsletter

Our club continues to function in spite of the COVID-19 pandemic, conducting meetings via conference call and taking advantage of social media.

On an even more positive note, the July club meeting was in-person on July 9 at the Vienna Community Building with masks on and social distancing observed. This facility is much more spacious than our regular meeting room and air-conditioned. We will be meeting here through at least October on the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

MOVMRC's next scheduled event is the annual picnic on August 8 at **Joe Stephens'** residence. Festivities begin at 3 p.m. And we will eat at 5 p.m. Please bring a covered dish.

Our initial fundraiser was successful with 101 tickets sold, including 20 to **Barry Powderly**. **Joel Katchel** took home the \$300 top prize, while **Chris Reynolds** won the \$100 prize and **Doug Unsdold** was the \$100 prize winner. Prizes were drawn at random. It should also be mentioned **Chuck Willey** of West Virginia Hobbies and Crafts donated \$200 back to the club. Chuck's business was one of those at which winners could spend their prize money. **Jonathan Insley** generously sponsored the fundraiser. Club leadership has determined another fundraiser will be conducted in the fall.

As of July 9, a few members had yet to pay their 2020 dues. The deadline, as has been the case for several years, was June 30. If you've not paid your dues, please contact **Josh Lee** (304-679-6800), right away, to make dues payment arrangements.

Although many events have been canceled because of the pandemic, MOVMRC is going ahead with plans to host our Fall Train Show. We are currently looking for a new location and considering optional dates, as WVU-P is not going to permit outside groups to use its facilities this fall.

General Club News

- **Jimmie Bee** has been featuring members on the club Facebook page. So far, more than 12 members have been highlighted. Great idea by Jimmie!
- There are many nice photographs and postings on the club Facebook page and it seems new items are added almost daily.
- Representatives from the Arc of the Mid-Ohio Valley visited the club and shot film to be used at the organization's virtual summer camp. MOVMRC thanks **Jimmie Bee** and **Steve Vicars** as well as **Doug Hess** and **Marsha Davis** of the Arc for making this happen.
- **Marty and Martin Prisc** and **Gary Delaney** had their requested membership upgrades approved at the June conference call meeting. All are now full members.
- Please note the new e-mail address for **Jamey and Jesse Eaton** is eatonjesse@yahoo.com.

General Club News (continued)

- According to Josh Lee, MOVIMRC had \$10,545.18 in the account as of July 9. We also had \$130 in petty cash.
- Members are reminded to give their patronage to the the hobby shops which support this club during these uncertain business times. These include **Bee Line Model Trains and Supplies** in Belpre, OH and Berlin, OH, **Stephens Outdoor Railways** in Vienna, WV, **West Virginia Hobbies and Crafts** (aka Chuck's) in Teays Valley, WV, **Patrick's Trains** in Wheeling, WV and **TK Trains** at T and K Hobby in Bridgeport, OH.
- Friend of the club **Cal Malcom** has been featured on a local television commercial for WVU Medicine Camden-Clark Hospital. Cal's G scale layout in Boaz, WV is also shown.
- The G scale layout handiwork of **Joe Stephens** appears on a local television commercial for Ohio Valley Health Care.
- The S scale layout, constructed and operated at MOVIMRC by **Mark Suek**, is for sale, as are the non-Gilbert S scale trains at the club. All are reasonably priced. Serious inquiries only. This is not a fire sale.
- MTH Electric Trains, a big player in O, O27 and G scales and Standard Gauge has announced it is closing in May of 2021 when owner Mike Wolf retires after more than 40 years in the business. Offers are being accepted and there is a story afloat that MTH employees may band together and buy the business. **Jim Mysakowec** shared this information with MOVIMRC.
- According to friend of the club **Cal Malcom**, Hartland Locomotive Works (G scale manufacturer) is also closing.
- **Jesse Eaton's** Model A Ford was featured in the Parkersburg News & Sentinel's "Classic Cars" tabloid earlier in July.
- **Mark Suek** is authoring a book about the history of the three stoneware manufacturers in Parkersburg in the 1800s, one of which is the famous Donaghho Excelsior Pottery.
- Six members of the MOVIMRC O Scale Co-Op have met to discuss and prioritize plans for upgrades to the scenery and electrical operating systems on the layout at the club.