

Mid-Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club Newsletter

February-March, 2024

The **Louie Creel Memorial Open House** was successful with 307 guests through the door, excellent member participation and three applications for membership in hand.

The total number of guests was much more than usual for a February open house and ticket sales for our prizes were better than expected. MOVIMRC thanks all those who worked the clean-up, ran Baltimore & Ohio and Chessie System trains, worked the front door or otherwise helped with the open house. Special thanks to **Jimmie Bee, Mike Hupp, Todd Riffle, Ed Baranoski, Kelly Offenberger, Roy Highman, Kevin Highman, Tom Ratkovich, Steve Vicars**, and others, for providing food and fixins. We also thank local artist **Mike Penn** for his donation of railroad art prints. Additional thanks to **Jimmie Bee** and all those who shared our event flyer and information on Facebook.

Interestingly, *The Marietta Times* ran a nice photo of the late **Louie Creel** to accompany the feature story **Mark Suek** wrote, while *The Parkersburg News & Sentinel* ran a generic model railroad photo. The two papers are owned by the same company and printed in the same location.

Our next event will be the **Harold Shive Memorial Open House on May 18**. The theme will be Thomas The Tank and Friends and our grand prize will be a Lionel O scale Thomas set.

General Club News

- The photographic skills of **Todd Atkinson** are on display with a montage of Belpre Industrial Parkersburg Railroad trains at the top of the stairs at the club facility. **Parker Atkinson** installed the framed photos.
- **Todd Atkinson** represented MOVIMRC at a recent Parkersburg Lions Club meeting and gave a well-received presentation on BIPR, according to **Cal Malcom**, friend of the club.
- Progress continues on the HO layout upgrade with scenery and buildings, while the O Scale Co-Op is moving along nicely with what amounts to a total rebuild with **Jonathan Insley, Mike Hupp, Jim Mysakowec, Phil O'Brien** and others involved with help from **Todd Riffle** and **Jimmie Bee** from N scale.
- The N scale layout features many new vignettes and revisions, thanks to **Jimmie Bee, Todd Riffle, Doug Unsold** and **Mike Mutz**.
- Please note the updated e-mail for **Phil O'Brien** on the club roster.
- MOVIMRC is saddened by the sudden passing of our friend **Joe Horter** from the Kanawha Valley Railway Association. Joe was instrumental in the KVRA for many years and led the effort to put on the Charleston model railroad show and past several years.

Club News (continued)

- MOVIMRC members should note the updated rules and regulations and the policies prohibiting smoking, chewing or vaping on club property.
- Life member **Eugene Spencer** is now residing at Waterview Pointe care facility at 117 Bartlett Street in Marietta, OH. His phone number there is 740-434-5167.
- Our Facebook group has now reached 1,000 members.
- There are boxes of fluorescent light tubes, available for the taking, in the club meeting room. Any lights remaining at the end of the day on March 14 will be thrown away.
- MOVIMRC may be hosting a bus tour in July, thanks to our partnership with the Greater Parkersburg Convention & Visitors Bureau and **Autumn Henthorn. Donna Briggs**, a volunteer with the bureau, has provided us with a supply of 2024 Parkersburg area visitors guides and has a supply of our brochures in hand to place in the bureau's informational racks at several area locations.
- *Railway Age* magazine has named the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Company as its 2024 Regional Railroad of the Year. The award recognizes W&LE for its outstanding safety record, customer service and overall performance.