

# Mid-Ohio Valley Model Railroad Club

## *Newsletter for January-February, 2023*

Our model railroad club carries over strong momentum, after a great close to last year, and is looking forward to an even better year in 2023.

A new mix of officers and a new board of directors will be leading the effort this year, a group which includes returning president **Jonathan Insley** from O scale, returning vice-president **Joel Kachel** from HO scale, new treasurer **Ed Baranoski** from HO scale and secretary **Mark Suek** from O scale. The board includes these officers, plus **Joe Stephens** from G scale and **Jimmie Bee** from N scale. Jimmie will also serve as the board chairman this year and lead the effort toward workshops and clinics.

MOVMRC thanks outgoing officers **Josh Lee** and **Josh Poe**, both from HO scale, and outgoing board member **Mike Mutz**, from N scale, for their work in 2022 and years prior.

Back in December, the club enjoyed its most well-attended **Christmas Open House** in many moons, welcoming 429 guests and taking in \$1,064 in funds, including \$505 from the raffle of a Lionel O scale Polar Express train set. The trio of **Jonathan Insley**, **Joel Kachel** and **Josh Lee** generously paid for the set from their own pockets. The open house was part of our partnership with **Downtown PKB** and its **Winterfest** event.

Also in December, we welcomed 23 guests during a two-hour open house in support of the **Belpre Industrial Parkersburg Railroad's Santa Train**.

### ***General Club News***

\*At the December meeting, club officers thanked all those who worked the door, ran trains, cleaned and otherwise helped with the Christmas Open House. We also thanked **Tom Ratkovich**, **Mike Hupp**, **Jim Mysakowec**, **Mark Suek** and others for donating food and “fixins”. Mr. Mysakowec was also thanked for donating a set of raffle tickets to visiting children.

- There is an updated club roster posted on the bulletin board. Please review your information and inform **Mark Suek** of any necessary changes.
- Long-time members **Louie Creel** and **Pat Hines** have been awarded life memberships in recognition of their years of service to the club. **Whitney Hess**, our website manager, has been awarded an honorary membership. **Mark Suek** will work toward establishing a plaque to honor our life members.
- **Joe Stephens** will be following up with **Lisa MCCray** of NOE with regard to grant money for signage as well as the possibility of MOVMRC constructing a multi-scale layout and display in the NOE showroom. By the way, **NOE Office Equipment** has re-opened for regular retail business, Monday through Friday ( 9 am to 4 pm). This is certainly great news!
- **Ed Baranoski** reported we had \$10,139 in our checking account and \$300 in petty cash as of January 12. Ed is also requesting donations from Sam's Club to cover the cost of snacks.

## ***General Club News (continued)***

- MOVIMRC has new business partnerships with the **Greater Parkersburg Convention & Visitors Bureau, Downtown PKB** and **Artsbridge**. **Jonathan Insley** thanked **Mark Suek** for making these arrangements.
- **Tom Ratkovich** reported he has reserved the student activities center at WVU-P for our annual Fall Train Show.
- The O scale group, led by **Jonathan Insley**, welcomed new members **David Bee, Christian Offenberger** and **Parker Lee** to its co-op in December. All three transferred from the HO scale group. Christian and his father, **Kelly Offenberger**, have also been involved with operation of the N scale layout during open houses. Parker, the son of **Josh Lee**, played a co-starring role in MOVIMRC's "Christmas In The Valley" production.
- MOVIMRC welcomed new members **Chandler McDaniel** and **Bryce Willis** at the January meeting. Both are in HO scale and sponsored by **Tom Ratkovich** and **Todd Atkinson**, respectively.
- **Mark Suek** has a feature story on the trains offered by Lionel 1973 in the current issue of **Classic Toy Trains** magazine and two additional stories (Lionel Milwaukee Special set and Lionel nos. 132/133/2133 station variations) in the queue at Kalmbach Publishing.
- **Jimmie Bee** has completed a nice remodeling of Bee Line Hobbies. Jimmie's shop is located within Leroy's Antiques and Collectibles (an antique mall) on Stone Road in Belpre (from downtown Parkersburg, cross the Belpre Bridge in the left lane and veer left on to Washington Boulevard. Then, go straight and turn right at the traffic light near Belpre Volunteer Fire Department). The parking lot for Leroy's is located just behind the storage sheds on the right. Those of you of a certain age will note this is the former location of the Willow Lanes bowling alley. A nice selection of quality B&O, C&O, Chessie System, CSX and other steam and diesel locomotives and rolling stock recently arrived at Jimmie's in HO, N and O scales. Jimmie also stocks scenery materials and supplies, paints, model kits and other hobby necessities.
- **Kevin Highman** will be adding the club president, club secretary and board chairman to the list of administrators for our Facebook page and adjust the page so persons must obtain administrative approval to post messages and notices. As most members know, Kevin also handles the disposition of the wooden pallets stacked behind NOE.
- The next club event in **Clean-Up Day** on **February 18** from 10 am until 2 pm. We will be cleaning the downstairs back storage room, the upstairs side hallway and the upstairs storage room. The club will provide a pizza lunch. All members are encouraged to participate.
- Please also note the return of **Workshops** and **Pro Clinics** (March and April) to our list of events as well as a **Club Picnic** and **Club Banquet**. Please contact **Jimmie Bee** to help with the workshops and clinics.

