



# UP THE HOLLER



DIVISION 9, MID CENTRAL REGION, NMRA

May 2022

## IN THIS ISSUE

## FROM THE HEAD OF THE HOLLER

Bob Osburn, Superintendent

Head of the Holler	1
Contact List	2
Meeting Agenda	2
Steel is King Directions	3
Office Down the Hall	4
Clinics	4
Meeting Minutes	5
Contest	6
Editor's Comments	8
Gateway 2022	9
Indy Junction	10
Pike Ads	13
Upcoming Meetings	14

As the situation with COVID-19 continues to improve we seem to be returning to a near normal existence. We have learned a lot about ourselves and others during these difficult past two years and one of those is we miss being together with others. Prior to the start of our April meeting, I stood back and just watched as our members greeted, shook hands, and communicated with those present. What was really evident were the smiles upon everyone's faces and the real sense of being together. Railroad modeling tends to be a solitary hobby for the most part. We spend hours alone pursuing our hobby; building structures, laying track, creating scenery, and so on. We all need some time to let our worries and sometimes hectic lifestyles have a time to breathe. This solitude is part of what a hobby is supposed to do. Webster defines a hobby as "being a pursuit outside one's regular occupation engaged in especially for relaxation". Now, we can also look at the definition of relaxation, as "a state of being free from tension and anxiety". Now I must admit working with N-Scale sometimes creates both tension and anxiety but not the kind we all face during our everyday lives. The downside of our solitude is we also miss the desire to share our interest with others or just have someone to talk to about our life and hobby. The monthly meeting is an excellent way of filling that void. Thanks to all who regularly attend the meetings both in-person and virtually!!

Our April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting consisted of a short business session with reports from our committee chairs, a discussion of old and new business, announcements, contest, and raffle. Mark Maynard presented a very thorough and informative hands-on clinic on car repair. The number of topics he covered in great detail really showed everyone how talented he is with this aspect of our hobby. If you have a piece of rolling stock that just won't stay on the track by following his instructions, I am sure the problem can be fixed!! Thanks Mark, for a great clinic.

As for the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will once again be able to enjoy "Steel is King" day in Parkersburg, WV. We have been unable to have this annual outing for several years because of COVID-19 and it will be great to see the progress David Stout and Paul Lapointe have made on their railroads (and also have a great lunch!) This outing is a great time to car pool and enjoy the company of other members on the trip to and from Parkersburg. I hope to see you there!!

**DIVISION OFFICERS**

Superintendent  
Robert Osburn  
super@coaldivision.org

Assistant Superintendent  
Sam Delauter  
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  
Sam Delauter  
clinic@coaldivision.org

Contest  
Dale Osburn  
contest@coaldivision.org

Education  
Vacant

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

Membership  
John Harris  
membership@coaldivision.org

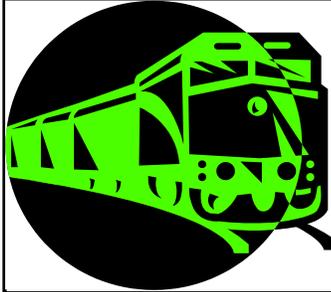
Raffle  
Tom Harris  
raffle@coaldivision.org

T-Trak  
Sam Delauter  
samdelauter@gmail.com  
304-514-8302

**DIVISION STAFF**

Editor  
Bob Weinheimer MMR  
editor@coaldivision.org

Webmaster  
Bob Weinheimer MMR  
webmaster@coaldivision.org



## Coal Division Monthly Railfun Event

**Saturday May 14, 2022**

***Steel is King***

**2 PM**

### **Division Membership Meeting**

- **Welcome and Call to Order (Acknowledge members present)**
- **Approval of Minutes from the April meeting**
- **Treasurers Report**
- **Superintendents Report**
- **Assistant Superintendent Report**
- **Contest: Anything Steel Related**
- **Adjourn Business Meeting**

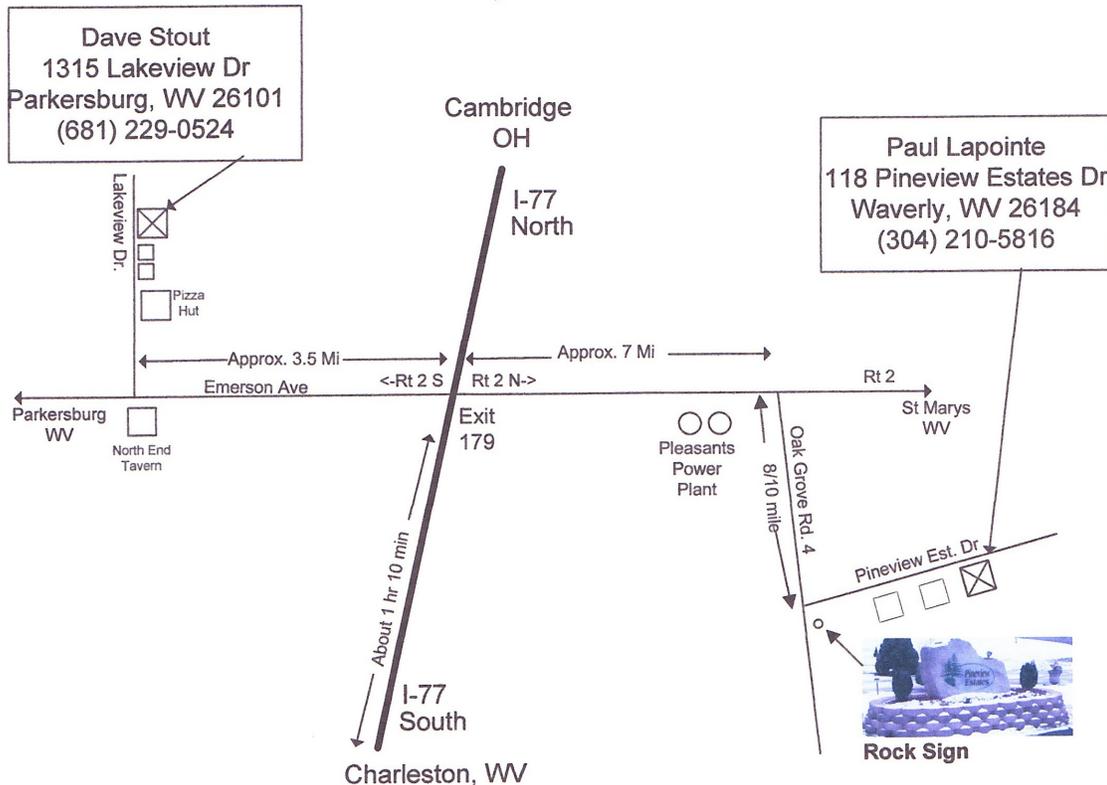
**Next Event**

**Saturday June 11**

**St. Albans, WV**

# Steel Is King Day

## May 14, 2022



***STEEL IS KING DAY is back!***

**There's plenty of steel mill action in Parkersburg on May 14th, 2022 on Dave Stout and Paul Lapointe's layouts.**

**Both Dave and Paul will have their steel mill layouts open at 9:00 AM for your inspection. Dave is at 1315 Lakeview Drive in Parkersburg. Paul is at 118 Pineview Estates Dr. in Waverly. Both will have NMRA layout tour signs leading to their houses.**

**Paul will close his layout around noon as everyone will gather at Dave's house for lunch followed by the NMRA Division 9 business meeting at 2 PM. The contest will be any steel related model of any kind.**

**Dave and Paul look forward to seeing you on the 14th!**

**From Columbus, take Rt. 33 to Athens and then Rt 50 East into Parkersburg (or Rt70 to Cambridge then South on Rt 77).**

**Dave suggests you bring a lawn chair, if you have one, seating for lunch might be tight.**

**Paul's layout from 9am-noon (304) 210- 5816.  
Dave's layout 9am-5pm (681) 229-0524.**

## FROM THE OFFICE DOWN THE HALL

### Sam Delauter, Assistant Superintendent

Over the past month I have been working on some of the kits that I had previously started and a few of the kits that I bought at the KVRA train show. I have finally come close to the end of the build on some of these and actually completed some of them. I had previously written about a pair of F&C Canadian National Reefers that I had started. I have yet to actually finish either of these kits. When I started building these, I decided to build one as a 1940s/50s version and one as a later 1960s+. As of this writing, one of these cars is ready for the paint booth and the other is close behind. I thought I would mention these cars but these are not the purpose of writing of this article. The purpose is to talk about the kits that Intermountain used to produce.

While I have previously built some Intermountain kits, these were N Scale kits. Those N Scale kits are very nice but the availability seemed to get pretty dry well over 5 years ago. I would assume that this was due to the quality of the kit and that they were sold at a very attractive price.

As for the HO kits, these are nowhere near as fragile as the N Scale. I don't think this is necessarily due to being N Scale as I have built other kits and they weren't as fragile. I am only speaking of the parts when being separated from the sprues. Now back to the HO kits.

There were six kits in my collection. First I chose a boxcar and then a pair of tank cars. Having never built any of these kits, I looked to apply techniques from building resin kits. I can say these Intermountain kits needed little changed in the assembly. On all of three of the kits that I built, I opened all of the holes up with a slightly larger drill bit to aid assembly. With the acceptance of opening the holes, I built the cars with the methods in the instructions, they went together surprisingly well.

Having built kits of similar quality from other brands such as Life-Like Proto, the parts on these kits are much

more sturdy. For those that have built Proto kits and the like, you'll remember that these kits have very delicate parts. The parts on these Intermountain kits are very close or the same size as the Photo kits but I had no broken parts when removing them from the sprue which is not something that I can say for other brands.

While I did not change the construction techniques much on these cars I should mention that I did modify the D&H PS1 that I built. Initially I had planned to build this car as a 1950s era boxcar. When I started looking for pictures of the prototype, I found that these cars lasted into the late 1970s or later in the late 1950s paint scheme. I don't know much about the D&H so maybe they used the scheme for a lot of years but I figured it was a good opportunity to build the car as a modernized version. After looking at a handful of pictures I made the modifications needed to modernize the car. There weren't a lot of changes but the kit was the perfect fit for modernization. One thing that made this an easy conversion of a factory painted model was that there were no holes predrilled in the roof. If you build the kit per the instructions, you drill the mounting holes in the roof. If the holes had been predrilled, they would have to be patched and painted. This removes the step if you have a kit version. These cars retained the high brake wheel until at least the late 1970s. Per the prototype, I shortened 3 of the 4 ladders. With those few modifications, a 1950s era boxcar is easily modernized. It doesn't appear the D&H changed or updated data. The addition of period correct data would be an easy update to finish these cars off.

While I really enjoy building craftsman kits, I have really enjoyed building some simpler kits this month. For those of you that don't model the transition era, Intermountain kits are perfect for modernization and can often be had at good prices.

## CLINICS

### Sam Delauter, Clinic Chair

At the April meeting, Mark Maynard once again gave his car repair clinic and a brief Super Trees clinic. The car clinic has been a recurring every few years, I hope that everyone was able to get some new methods or was able to re-evaluate some of their own. Once again, thank you, Mark, for giving this great clinic.

There was quite a bit of talk about clinics at the meeting. As a result we have filled out the schedule for most of the year. One of the clinics we discussed was doing a series of mini clinics at one of our meetings. This is the perfect format for those short clinics that would not fill an entire clinic. I would like to keep this clinic to no more than an hour. There have already been a couple of volun-

teers for this clinic but there is still plenty of room for more participants. If we have enough volunteers we can make this clinic happen over the course of a couple of months.

May	Steel is King
June	NMRA Magazine
July	DPM Interiors
August	Making Ground Foam
September	Crusty Mountain
October	Mini Clinics 1
November	Mini Clinics 2 tentative
December	Square Foot Challenge

**NMRA MCR DIVISION 9**  
***THE COAL DIVISION***  
**St Albans Historical Society**

April 9, 2022  
 Minutes

Members introduced themselves, several members were attending virtually.

Dennis McGeeney suggested shorter clinics with multiple presentations at a future meeting.

Meeting called to order by Superintendent Bob Osburn at 1:00 p.m.

Mark Maynard suggested moving the September meeting (the meeting held at his home) to September 17. The motion passed unanimously.

**Division Clerk Report**

February minutes approved.  
 Treasury Balance is \$8,440.35. We will be paying for use of the venue for three months in advance \$105. Our goal has been to cover this cost with the monthly raffle. Company Store \$0.  
 Raffle \$70.  
 Pike Ads \$0.

**Contest**

We had three entries in the contest. The May contest theme will be Steel Related models.

**Membership**

No report but Robert Osburn passed on John's appreciation for help at the Charleston Show.

**Superintendent Report** Robert reminded members we will be meeting in Parkersburg for our May meeting and carpooling would be a good idea. Our members made a good showing at the recent Charleston Show. John Harris brought our booth to the show.

**Raffle**

Tom Harris thanked members for recent donations. He suggested that N Scalers would like some more items.

**Education**

No report.

**Assistant Superintendent Report** Sam Delauter talked about the railroad show in Charleston. He reminded us that COVID is still an issue this spring. The C&O Historical Society and the AMRS have asked us to display our T-Track modules at their next shows.

**Old Business**

No report.

**Newsletter - Up the Holler**

Bob Weinheimer noted the deadline of May 2 for the May newsletter. The address for contributions is [edi-tor@coaldivision.org](mailto:edi-tor@coaldivision.org).

**New Business**

Robert Osburn is planning on doing a T-Track presentation at the Appalachian Model Railroad Society. There was discussion about the advantages of non-N Scalers participating T-Track.

**Achievement Program**

Bob Weinheimer updated everyone on accessing the new online edition of *NMRA Magazine*. He stressed why it's important to sign up even though you may have already registered your email with the NMRA. Most of the past issues up to 1978 and after 2020 will be available online.

**Announcements**

Indy Junction Convention May 18-22 Indianapolis, IN.

**Library**

Bill Wadsworth reported on the content available in the members-only section at [nmra.org](http://nmra.org).

Sam Delauter mentioned plans for a large T-Track display at the convention. Logistics still need to be worked out.

**Future Meetings:**

May 14 STEEL IS KING – Dave Stout's Paul Lapointe's homes Parkersburg, WV

June 11 – St Albans Historical Society

**Clinic**

Today's clinic is a presentation by Mark Maynard. It is actually two clinics: Using Super Trees and Reliable Rolling Stock. For June the clinic will be how to access and navigate the online version of *NMRA Magazine*. The August clinic will be Making Ground Foam by Dale Osburn.

Meeting adjourned at 1:40.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Doyle, Division 9 Clerk

## CONTEST

### Dale Osburn, Contest Chair

We had three entries for the April Kitbashing/Scratch Built contest. All three were outstanding models.

First Place  
Robert Osburn  
Parsons Creek Coal Co. (Drift Mine)

Second Place  
Dennis McGreeney  
Reading Railroad Diorama

Third Place  
Sam Delauter  
Pennsylvania X31F Turtleroof

Next month's Coal Division contest will be in Parkersburg WV. The contest will be Anything Steel Related.

Photos by Dale Osburn

2022	Monthly Model Contest
January	Modeler's Choice
February	Steam Locomotives
March	Locomotive 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	Fifth Annual Gary Burdette Memorial Modeling Challenge



Robert's entry:

This was a scratch-built project with many hours of work. Robert told us during the meeting that he named the Drift Mine after one of our club members Herb Parsons. Robert used the following materials to build the Drift Mine.

- Tichy Train Group
- N Scale Architect
- Wild West Models
- Plastruct
- Bar Mills
- Design Preservation
- Woodland Scenics
- Micro Mark
- Doctor Bens

So many details to this project that would take hours to fully appreciate the completed build.



#### Dennis's entry

Dennis spent many hours on this Large HO project. When outlining how the project came about Dennis told the group how he used many different items from around the house.

- Items from his garden
- Other items came from various landscaping in and around his yard.
- Two older H.O scale buildings were also use on this project.
- Interesting H.O scale vehicles made the project complete.

As always, we enjoy Dennis letting the group know how he came about completing the Reading Railroad project.



#### Sam's Entry

Sam always takes his projects very serious with an outstanding eye for the very smallest details that go into such a great model. Sam used the following details to complete this project.

- Fine N scale resin kit.
- 3D printed roof.
- Hand bent grab irons.
- Brass Ladders.
- Weathered with many shades of chalk.

When it comes to Resin kit builds it hard to find anyone that comes close to Sam Delauter work!

**MY WORD**  
**Bob Weinheimer, Editor**

The big NMRA news is that the NMRA Magazine is now available to all members on line. As noted before, you must be signed up to use the members' portion of the NMRA web site.

As Sam Delauter noted in his column, we will have a clinic on how to access the NMRA Magazine. To participate, bring your smart phone to the meeting, it will have to have internet access but that is almost universal for phones. If you have a tablet, bring that as well. Some will be Wi-Fi only, others can access the internet. Regardless, we'll find a way to make it work. My goal is to have you reading the magazine online before you leave that day. Again, sounding like that proverbial broken record, please sign up to use the web site before you come to the meeting. That process is quick and easy but it must be done at least one day before the meeting.

At the April meeting I think I was the only one to bring a troublesome car for Mark Maynard to heal. He did diagnose some issues and after returning home I fixed the problems and the car seems to be running quite well now. Thank you, Mark!

I know I have mentioned to at least some of you that I have recently made a bunch of scrap loads for the gon-

dola fleet. These were inspired by an article in the January 2022 issue of the NMRA Magazine written by Matt Snell, you can read about what he did and how he did it online. For reasons he describes, he started with a car that came with a coal load. He modified that load to be a base for his scrap load. I had a somewhat different situation as I had a bunch of empty gondolas. I also had some scrap sheets of wood products that would make a good starting point. It turned out that some half inch particle board made loads of the right depth for the MDC Railgon type gondola.

The trouble was that the particle board was too thick for blue box Athearn gondolas, it stuck up above the car sides. Those cars are also a bit shorter than the MDC car. I turned to some scraps of luaun plywood that are something short of 1/8 inch thick. That was a bit shallow for a load but two of them, one atop the other, was the right thickness. The end result is two very different looking substrates for the same sort of scrap load, see the photos.

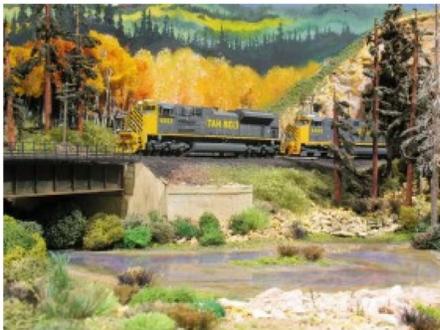
I'll bring these to Steel is King so you can look them over and perhaps how to make them might be one of the mini clinics planned for later this year.



MDC Railgon with particle board based load



Athearn car with luaun based load



**Gateway 2022  
NMRA Convention**

**St Louis, Mo  
August 7-13, 2022**

**St Louis Marriott Grand Hotel**

**Registration and details at  
[gateway2022.org](http://gateway2022.org)**



  
**Indy Junction**  
**2022**  
 MWR NCR MCR  
 RPM Conference  
 Marriott East, 7202 E 21<sup>st</sup> St  
 Indianapolis, IN 46219



Four Full Days  
 Three NMRA Regions  
 And the RPM Conference  
 Three Day Train Show  
 One Convention  
 May 18-22, 2022

Clinics  
 Layout Tours  
 Ops Sessions  
 Prototype Tours



[www.IndyJunction2022.org](http://www.IndyJunction2022.org)



**RPM**  
CONFERENCE



We've promised you Registration would be open soon. Well at long last, soon is NOW. Registration is OPEN. You can register for the Convention, and while you're on the website, make a room reservation.

**GO HERE now** - <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/>

If you've registered for a lot of conventions, you can probably wing it. But if you're a "manual reader", the Registration Committee has provided some great instructions. And we suggest you read through the instructions before you get started.

If you run into any problems, the Registrar is standing by to help you. He's a person so he'll get back to you within 24 hours. (Likely sooner if you make contact during day-light hours.) Here's the contact link if you need help registering - [registra-tion@indyjunction2022.org](mailto:registration@indyjunction2022.org)

As a reminder, the only way to register for **Indy Junction 2022** is online and through the website.

We shared the Convention fees before, but here they are again.

- **\$95.00 Registration** - January 1, 2022 to April 27, 2022
- **\$110.00 Late Registration** - April 28, 2022 to May 21, 2022
- **\$25.00 additional Family Member(s) Registration** - any date
- **\$40.00 Saturday May 21 ONLY**, Individual Registration (One-Day includes Train Show)

And while you're on the site, get a room reserved. We strongly suggest you use the link on the website to reserve your room. Marriott is experiencing some staffing problems for telephone support. They give you some outstanding help once you connect - but there can be some extended hold times to speak with someone on the phone. (We're not kidding - wait times can run from 10 to 30 minutes. Everyone in hospitality is experiencing labor shortages.)

Marriott East Indianapolis Room Rate  
\$132.00 per night plus applicable taxes

One final registration tip - If you are accessing the Indy Junction 2022 webpage on your mobile device, phone or tablet, you'll need to click the menu icon on the top of the homepage to see all the pages.

Share this update with someone who hasn't yet signed up for updates on the Indy Junction 2022 website - <https://www.indyjunction2022.org/>

Indy Junction 2022 Marketing Committee



Four Full Days

Three Regions

Two Day Train Show

One Convention

May 18-22, 2022

[www.IndyJunction2022.org](http://www.IndyJunction2022.org)

## NMRA's Partnership Program



### PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

NMRA members can log in and click on the **Benefits** tab to view the **NMRA Partnership Program**. Please patronize all of our partners for some fantastic discounts as an NMRA member!

Bear Creek Model Railroad, LLC  
 CatzPaw Innovations  
 Clever Models, LLC  
 CMR Products, LLC  
 Daylight Sales (Merchandise)  
 Deepwoods Software  
 Deluxe Materials  
 Digikeijs  
 East Coast Circuits  
 Feight Studios  
 Gatorfoam  
 Great Decals!  
 Green Frog Productions  
 HobbyWorx Tools & Supplies  
 Hot Wire Foam Factory  
 K.I.S.S. Method, Inc.  
 LaBelle Woodworking Co.  
 LARC Products  
 Logic Rail Technologies

MAC Rail  
 Micro-Mark  
 Mine Mount Models  
 miniprints  
 MinuteMan Scale Models  
 Model Railroad Benchwork  
 Model Train Catalogue  
 Modelers Decals & Paint  
 Motrak Models  
 MRC (Model Rectifier Corp)  
 Nick and Nora Designs  
 Northlandz  
 NScale Works by Mike Holly  
 Old West Scenery  
 Ram Track  
 RR-CirKits  
 Rusty Stumps  
 Scale Model Plans  
 Scalecoat Paint

[ **New Partners in RED \*\*\*** ]

Scenery Solutions  
 Showcase Miniatures  
 Team Track Models  
 The N Scale Architech  
 The Old Depot Gallery  
 Tichy Train Group  
 Touch of the Brush Model Weathering  
 Train Installations, LLC  
 Train Show, Inc.  
 Trainmasters TV/Model Railroad Hobbyist Store  
 \***TRAINZ.com\*\*\***  
 TSG Multimedia  
 UGEARS  
 Unreal Details  
 USA Airbrush Supply/  
 Badger Airbrush  
 WiFi Model Railroad, LLC

Sept 2021

## Partnership Program



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

NORFOLK AND WESTERN



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



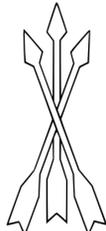
**CRUSTY MOUNTAIN AND WILOBY SPRINGS R.R.**

**Mark Maynard, President**  
 Portsmouth, OH



**CRESCENT VALLEY**

Jerry Doyle, President  
 Barboursville, WV

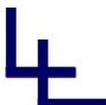


**THREE ARROWS RAILROAD**

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




**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



**BOONE DOCK, GOAT HEAD & CHUG WATER WESTERN RAILWAY & NAVIGATION CO.**

Ed Keith, MMR  
 Assistant Superintendent  
 Chesapeake, OH



**SHAMOKIN DIVISION**  
 DENNIS MCGEENEY ROAD FOREMAN  
 SUMMERSVILLE, WV  
 304-872-7262



**HINTON DIVISION**  
**Gary Burdette - Superintendent**  
 Point Pleasant WV



**WESTERN MARYLAND RAILWAY THOMAS SUBDIVISION**  
**RUSSEL MILLER - SUPERINTENDENT**  
 RUSSEL22@MSN.COM



**NEW RIVER GORGE SUBDIVISION**  
 Clint Foster Superintendent  
 Ronceverte WV

**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



ROBERT WEINHEIMER MMR  
398 MOUNT VIEW DR  
CHARLESTON WV  
25314-1041

## Upcoming Coal Division Events

If you received this newsletter via the US Postal Service and have an email address, please let us know so we can save printing and postage costs. Send a note to [editor@coaldivision.org](mailto:editor@coaldivision.org) to get onto the email distribution list for Up The Holler.

**May 14**  
**Parkersburg, WV**

**June 11**  
**In Person and Zoom**

**July 9**  
**In Person and Zoom**

**August 13**  
**In Person and Zoom**