

# WHEEL REPORT **SMD**

SOUTH MOUNTAIN DIVISION - NMRA

smdnmra.org

## WINTER, 2009-2010

### WINTER MEETINGS

All three of our winter hosts' layouts were on the Western Maryland Transfer Layout Tour.

**December** – Sunday, December 13, 2009, 2 to 5 pm. Roy Hoffman's Penn Western Railroad near Roxbury PA. The Penn Western is a proto-freelance model railroad in S/Sn3. The PWRR serves several locations in Eastern PA and Southern NJ including Philadelphia, Reading, Allentown, Harrisburg and Camden, NJ. There is also a section devoted to the East Broad Top in Sn3. The layout occupies a 29' X 45' basement area and its scenery is complete. It was featured in the October 2004 *Model Railroader*. A photo was published in the Trackside Photos section of *MR* in December of 2002.

**Clinic:** "Railroads around Philly" by Roy Hoffman

**January** – Sunday, January 10, 2010, 2 to 5 pm. Bob Johnson's West Virginia Midland RR, near Jefferson MD. The WVM is an HO layout set in the mountains of central West Virginia in the 1950's. The Midland is almost all steam, while the B&O and the WM have switched over to diesels. The main body of the layout is "E" shaped (12x16) while the balance comprises a 60-foot around-the-wall extension. Scenery is virtually complete.

**Clinic:** "Weathering – Finishing Touches" by Bob Johnson

**February** – Sunday, February 14, 2010, 2 to 5 pm. Ed Maldonado's Colorado & Maryland RR near Buckeystown MD. The Colorado & Maryland is a freelance HO scale layout representing late steam to the modern era. The scenery is complete and C&M features a 150-foot 3-track mainline, designed for continuous operations. One of the design parameters was accessibility to enhance maintenance. The layout features CSX and its heritage railroads.

**Clinic:** "Preparing to Host an Ops Session" by Pete Clarke, Bob Johnson, Dick McEvoy, Don Florwick and Harvey Heysler.

### NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to new members Katharine Alley, Jeff Drennan, John Michael Partlow, Bernard Randolph and William Wilson. We invite you to our meetings: an important benefit of NMRA membership.

### FROM THE DESK OF THE SUPER

Congratulations SMD!

The convention is over. It took a lot of work. It took a lot of people. It took a lot of time.

But you did it, and you did it well. You kept your cool. You worked together, with a team spirit. You set a budget and stayed with in it. You didn't blow money and effort on self-congratulatory shirts! You

**From the desk of the Super, cont.**

even managed to make money (in these times!). You showed a lot of good, and some great model railroads to the over 200 folks who attended. You were good hosts, and the guests noticed it and voiced their appreciation.

SMD successfully hosted the 1994, 1999, 2004, and now adds the 2009 convention to the list. You should feel some pride, you've earned it.

We had help from a lot of folks outside of the SMD and we were glad to have it. But I particularly want to thank these **SMD members** for their efforts.

Convention chairperson - Jane Clarke

Layout tours – Bob Johnson and Richard Lind

Clinics – Ray Price

Ops call board/Restaurant list – Harvey Heyser

Prototype tours – Don Florwick (A Day at Union Bridge) and Pete Clarke (EBT)

Non-rail activities - Stefanie Boss

Railroads of Hagerstown display – Dennis Masters  
Clinicians – Pete Clarke, Jim Fisher, Richard Lind, and Bill Miller.

Ops call board hosts – Jeff Grove, Dick McEvoy, Paul Rausch, Mike Shockey, Brian Wolfe

TT/TO Lab hosts – Bob Johnson and Bill & Mary Miller,

Open houses – Jeff Grove, Mike Shockey, Dick McEvoy, Paul Rausch, Don Florwick, Roy

Hoffman, Brian Wolfe, Art Selby, Bob Johnson, Richard Benjamin, Richard Lind, Ed Maldonado, Pete & Jane Clarke, the Hagerstown Roundhouse Museum, The Train Room.

We also thank HobbyTown USA in Frederick, MD and Mainline Hobby Supply in Blue Ridge Summit, PA, two wonderful stores located in the SMD, for their support.

I've tried to make this list as complete as I could. Please forgive me if your name should be here and is not. Let me know.

Have you checked the SMD website lately? In spite of my efforts, it just keeps getting better. It includes

photos of the convention. Didn't have time to go on the EBT trip that turned out to be a Winter Spectacular? Unable to get to the contest room? Didn't make it to the Day in Union Bridge tour? No problemo, check out the pictures on the website.

Also, we now have a way to show off shots of your layout. Please contact me, I'd love to add your layout to our "Tours" section. I'll even visit and take the pictures, or we can use yours if you prefer. Once it's set up, I'll even give you a direct address so you can email it to friends and all they'll see is your pictures. They'll think you are such a techie geek! Don't have a layout, but want to show off a model? No problemo, we can do that too.

What? You don't have the SMD site saved as a favorite and can't remember what the address is? [WWW.SMDNMRA.ORG](http://WWW.SMDNMRA.ORG) Check it out.

This modern world we live in.

Seems insurance companies rule the world. We can get mad about it, but that does not help. If you host one of our monthly meetings, but are not at that time a NMRA member, then the Superintendent will ask you to sign an insurance waiver. All it states is that you are aware that if you were a member you'd have additional insurance coverage from the NMRA's plan.

While we are on the topic of annoying things... SMD is looking for some (hopefully free) legal advice. We are looking for some tax law info and questions about incorporating. If you can help, please contact me.

Bylaws, bylaws, who's got the bylaws? Everyone tells me that SMD has them. But no one can produce a copy. If you have a copy of SMD's bylaws, please send them to me. If none can be found, I'll have to make some up!

Pete

## MODELING NOTES

by Pete Clarke

Thoughts on a KISS situation:

Yesterday morning we were looking at the RR and I decided that the time had come to add the old car on blocks that sits inside the lumber shed. On the real EBT, there is actually an old truck, but my model suffers from “selective compression” so it would have to be something smaller. I noticed a beat up old model T pickup in a junk pile near the roundhouse. Great. Now I just need the blocks.

I started looking for small size styrene so we could build some cinder blocks.



I'm thinking that this will be a quick thing. After all, it's just 2 side peaces and 3 spacers. I explain what I'm looking for to Jane. She stops and gives me the look of pity that all husbands know. Carefully, slowly, she says that what we should be looking for is a piece of strip styrene that's about the right total size. No sides, no spacers, just one block she says. Paint it, then use a black marker to make it look like it has the openings in it.

We find some styrene the right size. Paint it. Glue it to the bottom of the truck. Use the marker to create the appearance of the openings.

Total effort, near zero. Total time, not much more than the time for the paint to dry. Result, the openings are darker, easier seen, and better defined than if we'd have built blocks with actual openings as I had intended. “Keep it Simple, Stupid!” she mentioned, and gave me a kiss.

## SNAIL MAIL

by SMD Clerk

Last year, we asked those without email to pay \$8 per year for a year's subscription to *The Wheel Report* and meeting reminders to cover the costs of printing and postage. Only one of the 18 folks without email responded. So he got four *Wheel Reports* and about seven meeting notices for his money. Not bad.

But the other 17 were largely in the dark about SMD activities, except for the MER Convention in Hagerstown, because we mailed summer and fall *Wheel Reports* to them, so they would be as informed as our members with email.

So, who are these 17 members? To answer that question, I looked at the September MER membership extract for SMD.

All but one are regular members, so they're not getting a free ride from NMRA. Eight live in Frederick County MD, three live in Frederick County VA, two live in Washington County MD and one each live in Allegheny, Bedford, Berkeley Clarke and Garrett Counties. Only three list a modeling scale.

The extract doesn't have birth information on six in this group, so they are relatively new members. The other 12 vary in age from 63 to 85, and half are in their eighties. I think all members should get the same benefits and I bet the guys in their eighties would appreciate rides to SMD meetings. I'll be in that group in ten years and driving, especially navigating, is already a challenge.

Though I initiated the requirement for hard copy subscriptions, I'd like to remove that requirement for NMRA members, but keep it for non-members.

## CLERK'S SCRIBBLINGS

Your Fall Wheel Report came late because, ironically, I got hung up on drawing the maps. Please accept my regrets.

### RAILROADS IN THE SMD: COVER PHOTO

This is a photo of B&O No. 3112, leased by the Castleman River Railroad, which followed the Casselman River through Grantsville to Jennings MD until 1959. This was the last locomotive used by the Castleman River RR.

For more information, see an excellent website: <http://davecathell.tripod.com/jen.html> and *Tall Pines and Winding Rivers*, by Benjamin F. G. Kline, Jr.

### CLASSES, OPEN HOUSES AND TRAIN SHOWS

Current exhibits at Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania: Energy, Innovation & Impact, and Trains in Motion, through December 31, 2009. [www.rrmuseumpa.org](http://www.rrmuseumpa.org) for more info.

November 14. Noon till 4 PM Air Brush Demo. Hobbytown USA, 919 N. East Street, Frederick MD

November 14-15, 1:30 PM. Screening of the documentary film, "Mechanic Millionaire: The Peter Cooper Story". B&O Railroad Museum, 901 W. Pratt Street, Baltimore MD 21223. Please RSVP to Kathy Hargest at 410-752-2462 x 207 or [kathy.hargest@borail.org](mailto:kathy.hargest@borail.org).

November 15, 1 PM. Restoration Facility Tour. B&O Railroad Museum, 901 W. Pratt Street, Baltimore MD 21223.

November 20, 2009 through February 1, 2010. Trains of Christmas at the Hagerstown Roundhouse Museum, 300 South Burhans Boulevard (US-11),

Hagerstown MD. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays 1-5 PM. Closed December 25 and January 1. <http://www.roundhouse.org/events.shtml> or call (301) 739-4665 for info

November 28. Fall Trainfest – Model Train Sale by the Hagerstown Model Railroad Museum, Inc. at the Washington County Ag Center, 7313 Sharpsburg Pike ( 6.5 mi. south on Maryland Route 65 from I-70 Exit 29, on the left), 9 AM to 3 PM. [hmrrm@myactv.net](mailto:hmrrm@myactv.net) or call (301) 824-2239 for info.

December 5-6. Greenberg's Train and Toy Show, Maryland State Fair Grounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium MD 21093 [www.greenbergshows.com](http://www.greenbergshows.com)

December 5-6; January 2-3, 9-10 and 23-24. Winter Festival Open Houses from 1-5 PM. Waynesboro Model RR Club, Waynecastle Road, Zullinger PA. [www.waynesborotoytrains.blogspot.com](http://www.waynesborotoytrains.blogspot.com) or 717-762-9579 for info

December 5, 12. Home For The Holidays. Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, 300 Gap Road, Stasburg PA 17579 [www.rrmuseumpa.org](http://www.rrmuseumpa.org)

December 12 & 13; Sundays: January 10, 17, 24, 31 and February 7, 1 – 4 PM. Frederick County Soc. of Model Engineers Open House. In C&O horse car behind 423 East Patrick Street, Frederick MD 21701 [www.fcsme.com](http://www.fcsme.com) or (301) 668-6371 for info.

December 13, 20, 27 and January 2, 9, 17 from noon to 5 PM. Xmas Open Houses, Cumberland Valley Model Railroad Club, 440 Nelson St., Chambers-burg PA. [www.cvmrrc.com/events.htm](http://www.cvmrrc.com/events.htm) for info.

January 23-44. World's Greatest Hobby on Tour. Grater Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly VA. <http://www.greatesthobby.com>

February 6-7. Great Scale Model Train Show, Maryland State Fair Grounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium MD 21093 [www.gsmts.com](http://www.gsmts.com)

## TRAIN RIDES

November 7, 14 and 21. Wine and Cheese Trains. 6:00 PM. Strasburg Railroad, East Strasburg PA. <http://www.strasburgrailroad.com> for info.

November 14 and 21, and December 19. Murder Mystery Trains, 6:00 PM. Western Maryland Scenic Railroad. <http://www.wmsr.com> for info.

November 15. End of daily train season on the Strasburg Railroad. Weekend service Nov. 21-22. Fri. Sat. Sun. service begins Nov. 27. <http://www.strasburgrailroad.com> for info.

November 27 – 29, December 11-13, 18-20. Santa's Paradise Express. Strasburg Railroad, East Strasburg PA. <http://www.strasburgrailroad.com> for info.

November 27-29; December 5-6, 12-13 and 19-20. Santa Express, 11:30 AM to 3:00 PM. Western Maryland Scenic Railroad. <http://www.wmsr.com> for info.

November 28-29; December 4-6, 11-13, 18 and 20. North Pole Express, 6:00 to 9:30 PM. Western Maryland Scenic Railroad. <http://www.wmsr.com> for info.

December 4-6. Day Out with Thomas. Strasburg Railroad, East Strasburg PA. <http://www.strasburgrailroad.com> for info.

December 26-31. Strasburg Railroad. Last regular trains of the season. For info, see <http://www.strasburgrailroad.com>

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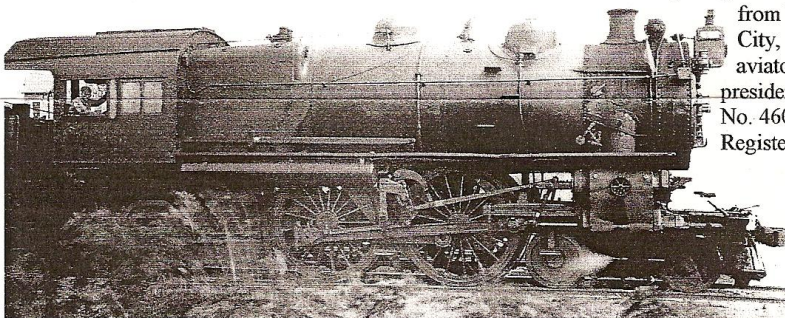
**SPECIAL CAMPAIGN!**

# PRRT&HS Drives Restoration of Historic Lindbergh Engine Twice As Far!



Now through March 15, 2010, the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society—PRRT&HS—will match, dollar for dollar, funds raised for the restoration of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania's Pennsylvania Railroad E6s Atlantic No. 460, the Lindbergh Engine, up to \$50,000!

This means that, with your help, we can put as much as \$100,000 to work to preserve this historic locomotive! Built in 1914 by the Pennsylvania Railroad in the Juniata Shops, No. 460 is the sole survivor of 83 E6 Atlantic class engines, and enjoyed a long and colorful career running on trains like the *Broadway Limited* before she was retired in 1955. Known as the Lindbergh Engine for her role in racing an airplane from Washington, DC to New York City, carrying news reel film of aviator Charles A. Lindbergh's presidential medal of honor ceremony, No. 460 is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Won't you consider contributing today to this special, limited time campaign for the restoration of Pennsylvania Railroad No. 460, courtesy of our generous friends at the PRRT&HS? Thank you!



YES! I would like to contribute to the restoration of Pennsylvania Railroad E6s Atlantic No. 460, the Lindbergh Engine, and have my contribution matched dollar for dollar by the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society.

Please accept my gift of  \$25  \$50  \$100  \$250  \$500  \$1,000  \$5,000  \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mr.  Mrs.  Ms.  Mr. & Mrs.  Other (please specify) \_\_\_\_\_ Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Contribution:  Check *Please make checks payable to the Friends of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania (FRM).*

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I would like my contribution to go even further, with a matching gift from my employer. A matching gift form  is enclosed  will be forwarded.

Please do not send a thank-you gift, if I am entitled (for contributions of \$50 or more and \$250 or more, while supplies last).

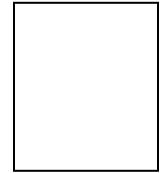
Contributions may also be accepted conveniently and securely on line at [www.rrmuseumpa.org](http://www.rrmuseumpa.org). Friends of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, P. O. Box 125, Strasburg, PA 17579

*Contributions to the Friends of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Every gift of any amount is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support!*

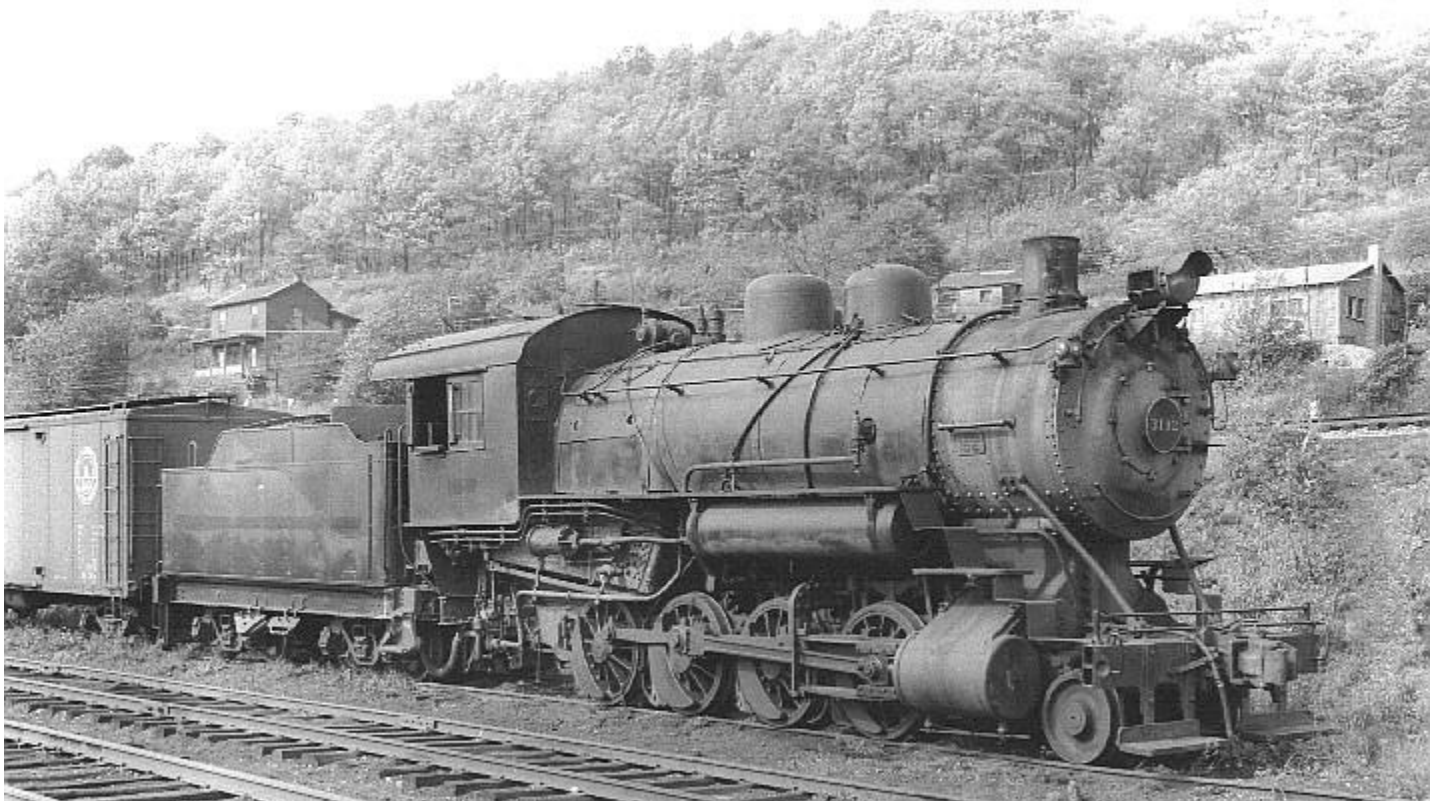
The world class Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum

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SOUTH MOUNTAIN DIVISION - NMRA



Richard Lind, -- Editor, 202 West College Terrace, Frederick MD



No. 3112 was built by Alco-Brooks, N. 30755 in March 1906. Ex B&O E-60. Taken at Salisbury Junction (Meyersdale) on September 3, 1957, a couple of years before the abandonment. The train is pointed south towards CR RR rails with a B&O box car **Theodore F. Geichmann, Jr.** photo- **Dave Cathell** collection