

2019 PRR ANNUAL CONVENTION PRESENTORS

CHUCK BLARDONE- A question and answer session with the editor of our society's flagship magazine "The Keystone".

JACK CONSOLI- "PRR Offspring - The Monongahela Railroad".

The history of how the PRR and its lessees, the PV&C Railway & The SW PA Railway, gave birth to the Monongahela Railroad in the Klondike (Lower Connellsville) coke region in South Western Pennsylvania in concert with the steel, coal and coke companies and the growth of these industries.

CHUCK COVER- "Prototype Modeling of PRR's Shamokin Railroad Facilities".

My model railroad is built in a 23' X 50' studio and is based on the PRR's Shamokin Branch and some of the main line of the Pennsylvania Railroad along the Susquehanna River in central PA between Harrisburg (Enola Yard) and Williamsport in 1957. The Shamokin Branch left the PRR main line at Sunbury, north of Harrisburg and continued east through the valley following the Shamokin Creek to Mt. Carmel, PA where it interchanged with the Lehigh Valley Railroad. This is an operations based layout and was built so that specific scenes along the branch, including Crowl, Weigh Scales and Shamokin are prototypically modeled. I plan to use maps, diagrams, photos and other prototype materials to show how I modeled the Shamokin Railroad facilities. I hope to give attendees ideas on how to approach prototype modeling on their layouts.

MITCH DAKELMAN- "16mm Vintage PRR Movies, A Railroad Oriented Cartoon".

Mitch will treat us to a collection of his vintage 16 MM movies showing the Pennsy in all it's glory to include the list below;

Clear Track Ahead - PRR 1948	GG1-An American Classic-Avanti 1983
Thundering Rails-Universal Int. 1950	Steam in Action on The PRR-McCleod 1954
Diesels Roar On The Pennsy-McCleod 1957	
Wheels Of Steel-Jack Pokress 1954	K4's In Action On The NY&LB-A. Keyser 1957
Clear Track Ahead-PRR 1946	

JOE DeFRANCESCO - "The Spirit Of Altoona: The Development And Career Of K4 1361".

As a thoroughbred of the Altoona Test Department, the K4 became the standard passenger locomotive of the Pennsy. The development of the K4 was one of the PRR's first scientifically engineered locomotives. The accomplishment of the K4's design is of great importance and significance to steam railroading. We will evaluate how the Pennsy came to the creation of the K4 class and look at the service history of K4 1361 (including a look at rare images of 1361). Today, K4 1361 is a century old and still has a story to tell. We will uncover the story of 1361 as a biography of the K4 class and why it truly embodies the "Spirit Of Altoona". Join us as we step back in time to the early 1900's and journey along to 1957 to uncover the story of the K4 class through the eyes of 1361.

DAVE EVANS- "Early 1900's PRR & WABCO Passenger Brake Development".

In 1913 the PRR & Westinghouse Air Brake jointly entered into a 6 month passenger car brake test program that included alternate brake shoe materials, different brake rigging, and a new Westinghouse brake valve, the Type UC, which was one of the first braking systems to support electrical control. The presentation will cover the impetus for upgrading passenger car brakes early in the 1900's, the test program and results, and the legacy of the Type UC brakes, which were used for over 40 years.

IAN FISCHER- "Early Hopper Cars Of The Pennsylvania Railroad".

The presentation is an overview beginning with the transition from wooden to steel cars at the end of the 19th Century to the adoption of the GL, GLA, H21a, H25 and other classes.

DON FISHER & RONNIE SCHNEPF - "LIRR G-5s # 35 & # 39".

Long Island is home to two of the three surviving G-5s Ten Wheelers, LIRR #35 & #39. Since retirement in 1951, these two locomotives have had very separate, yet very parallel histories, and today are both undergoing ambitious restoration efforts, with plans to operate #39 on the Strasburg Railroad, and an "Active Display" restoration of #35 largely inspired by the Railroad Museum Of Pennsylvania's E-6s #460. This talk will be an interesting blend of LIRR and Pennsy history with direct relevance to the local area.

PETER FORBES- "LCL1-The Early Years".

This talk covers the business, traffic department, and operating department aspects associated with operating PRR Train LCL1 in the 1930's. Particular attention will be given to requirements of the freight forwarders and their interaction with the PRR. Brief mention regarding competition from the B & O Railroad is included. The interdepartmental conflicts between the operating and traffic departments will be covered. Various anecdotes from road foreman of engine fact finding trips will be included. The time period covered will be pre-electrification of the freight routes.

JOHN FRANTZ- "The Pennsy Through The Lens Of Davey Carter"

Take a journey with John Frantz through the photographers eye of Davey E.M. Carter as he exhibits photos never seen before from throughout the Pennsy System.

MICHAEL FROIO- "Continuing A Legacy: Photographing The Pennsylvania Railroad."

PRR historian Mike Froio will present a talk about his work documenting the former Pennsylvania Railroad, expanding upon his influence drawn from the photographic commissions by the Pennsy in the 19th and early 20th Centuries, print ad campaigns, and other visual ephemera.

STEVE FUNARO- "The Evergreen Branch Of The Long Island Railroad".

A late 1930's view of the Evergreen Branch using New York City assessment photos.

TIM GARNER- "GG1 – A Pictorial Journey".

Tim will take us through dozens of photos of his all-time favorite locomotive. He'll share history, trivia, rarities and even his own artwork – but sorry, no Penn Central, Amtrak or Conrail!!!!!!!!!!!!

ELDEN GATWOOD- "PRR Freight Car Appliances And Details".

Elden will show prototype photos, talk about the variety of handbrakes, brake system details, running boards, etc. Models will also be displayed showing undersides, B ends, roofs and such with a variety of detail parts shown as well. This will continue on some of what was touched upon in past programs.

BOB JANS- “PRR Stone Arch Bridges In The Penn Central, Conrail And Norfolk Southern Era’s.”

PRR stone arch bridges, as built between 1890 and 1910, were covered in my clinic during the PRRT&HS annual meeting in 2016. This new presentation will document the changes to these structures that have occurred from then to the present. For continuity, we will review background information from the previous clinic and then discuss the modifications implemented in the the PC/CR/NS eras. This should be of specific interest to those members wishing to model the current bridges.

CURT LaRUE / BILL NEALE- “Pennsy’s Burgettstown Branch”

Burgettstown was about 25 miles west of Pittsburgh on the PRR Panhandle. It was the end of the Western Pittsburgh Commuter District, and the summit of both the westbound and eastbound helper grades that existed on the Panhandle Mainline. Burgettstown was also a major source of coal for the regional industries. The three branches that ran south from Burgettstown supplied coal and many other important industrial commodities. Using old maps, valuation photographs and various other historical records, we will present a picture of the arrangement and traffic through this area on the Pennsy.

DOUG NELSON - “PRR Mail And Express Trains”

We will look at PRR mail and express trains – passenger trains without passengers. We will cover make-up, equipment and operations in both prototype and some modeling.

BRAD NOBLE AND THE T1 #5550 TRUST- “The T1 Trust-An Update”

Members of the T1 Trust will review the progress made over the last year and provide an engineering update on PRR T1 #5550.

ANDY RUBBO-

“Catenary And Beyond: Capturing The Look Of The PRR’s Heavy Duty Electrified Main Line”.

The presentation will cover catenary, signals and structures, but will take a closer look at some of the more subtle details such as track, scenery textures, painting and weathering and various infrastructure items specific to the PRR’s electrified territory to include discussion of available products and materials.

RICHARD STEWART- “What Is It Like To Own A Private Railroad Car – PRR 7503.”

Railroad enthusiasts of all ages at one time or another have imagined owning their own private railroad car. Listen to the experience of one such fortunate person that was able to make his life-long railroad car ownership dream come true. Where many fans have purchased a caboose, refurbished, and stored them proudly in their backyard; you will hear the first-hand story of what it is like to own a full scale 1914 Pullman Built Heavyweight Business Railroad Car. Initially purchased by and built for the Pennsylvania Railroad Senior Executives, under current ownership this Amtrak Certified Private Railroad Car has travelled over 7,700 rail miles from Philadelphia to Burlington, Vermont, to the Finger Lakes in Upstate, New York, to South Carolina for the Totally Solar Eclipse, and many other fine locations.

FRANK TATNALL- “The Pennsy In Louisville, 1964-1966”.

Frank Tatnall enjoyed working as a PRR Sales Representative in Louisville, while taking full advantage of the opportunity to photograph the seven railroads that served the “Derby City”. The Pennsy’s line south from Indianapolis hosted passenger trains such as the “South Wind” as well as considerable local and overhead freight traffic, all of which passed by his office window. But, as a sales rep, he didn’t need to spend a lot of time in the office!!!!

KEITH THOMPSON - “3D Printing And The Modeler.”

Have you always wanted a model of a prototype that isn’t available commercially? Or you need to make a bunch of the same item? Maybe you are an extreme rivet counter. If any of these are true, 3D printing may be for you. This talk will be an introduction to 3D printing and how the modeler can utilize this technology. Topics will include: what 3D printing is, what kinds of things can be printed, the process of going from idea to finished print, 3D design and printing services, and more.

LOU WHITELY-

Lou will give two separate presentations.

#1. "PRR Octoraro Branch - History And Prototype Overview".

A look at the PRR's Octoraro Branch. A brief history and a look at the trackage, structures, industries and operations along the branch.

#2. "Modeling The PRR's Octoraro Branch".

Developing a layout representing the Octoraro branch. An attempt to capture the distinctive elements of the branch in the late 1940's including structures, industries and operations.

BARRY YANKOLONIS-

"HO BLI PRR Q2 Plus"

Yank will show us the additions and modifications he did to his BLI HO PRR Q2 Brass Hybrid Locomotive. Over all this is a very nice and detailed model. Well done to the PRRT&HS Modeling Committee. However, I didn't care for the OEM Decoder and also I don't like oily smoke messing up my engines. I replaced the decoder and removed the factory smoke unit. I added a few additional details which were omitted from the model, probably due to requirements to access the smoke unit switch behind the smoke box and to accommodate small radius layouts. I'll explain what I did and how I did it.