



Welcome Letter

Hello and welcome to the Short Line Model Railroad Club, in Ephrata, PA. We have been in operation since 1989, and in our current location for over 25 years.

Our layout features the Pennsylvania-Reading Anthracite Lines (PRAL), a fictitious railroad set in central Pennsylvania in the late-1950s. The layout is entirely HO scale, mostly standard gauge with a small amount of narrow gauge trackage on our logging line.

Trains are operated using Digital Command Control (DCC), which is similar to what you would find in radio-controlled cars or airplanes, rather than using a traditional DC power pack per train.

Our club has over 30 members, with a variety of interests (steam/diesel, freight/passenger, local/out-of-state railroads), prior model railroading experience, and modeling skill levels. Members run their own trains, and/or a variety of trains owned by the club.

We meet every Thursday night throughout the year, from 7:00pm – 9:00pm. The 2nd Thursday of each month is our business meeting, while the other Thursdays are devoted to running trains and working on the layout.

In addition to our Thursday night meetings, we are open to the public during our holiday shows, every Saturday and Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00, beginning on Thanksgiving weekend until early-January.

Elsewhere in this brochure are links to our website and Facebook page. We hope to see you at our club!

Kyle Linardo, President

Jim Wellman, Vice President

SHORT LINE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

Tips for New and Prospective Members

Overview of Club:

- The Short Line Model Railroad Club was founded in 1989. We have been at our current location since the mid-1990s and we are celebrating our 35th Anniversary as a Model Railroad club.
- As of July 2024, we have 36 regular members.
- The club meets every Thursday night from 7pm to 9pm to run trains and work on the layout.
- The 2nd Thursday of each month is reserved for our business meeting, followed by running trains.



New Member Process:

- New members join as Probationary Members. Dues for Probationary Members are \$90.00 for six (6) months, Family Members (under 18 years of age) \$50.00 for six (6) months.
- During their period, Probationary Members will attend on Thursday nights, run trains, and work on projects. They are highly encouraged to attend (but not vote during) business meetings.
- For each Thursday visit to the club, Probationary Members will obtain 12 different member signatures.
- After the probationary member has been at the club for six (6) months, worked on the layout, and obtained 12 different signatures, there will be a discussion followed by a vote at the next business meeting regarding making them a Regular Member. Probationary members will not attend that business meeting. The Vice President will notify the Probationary member of the decision. Once voted in, they will receive a door access code.

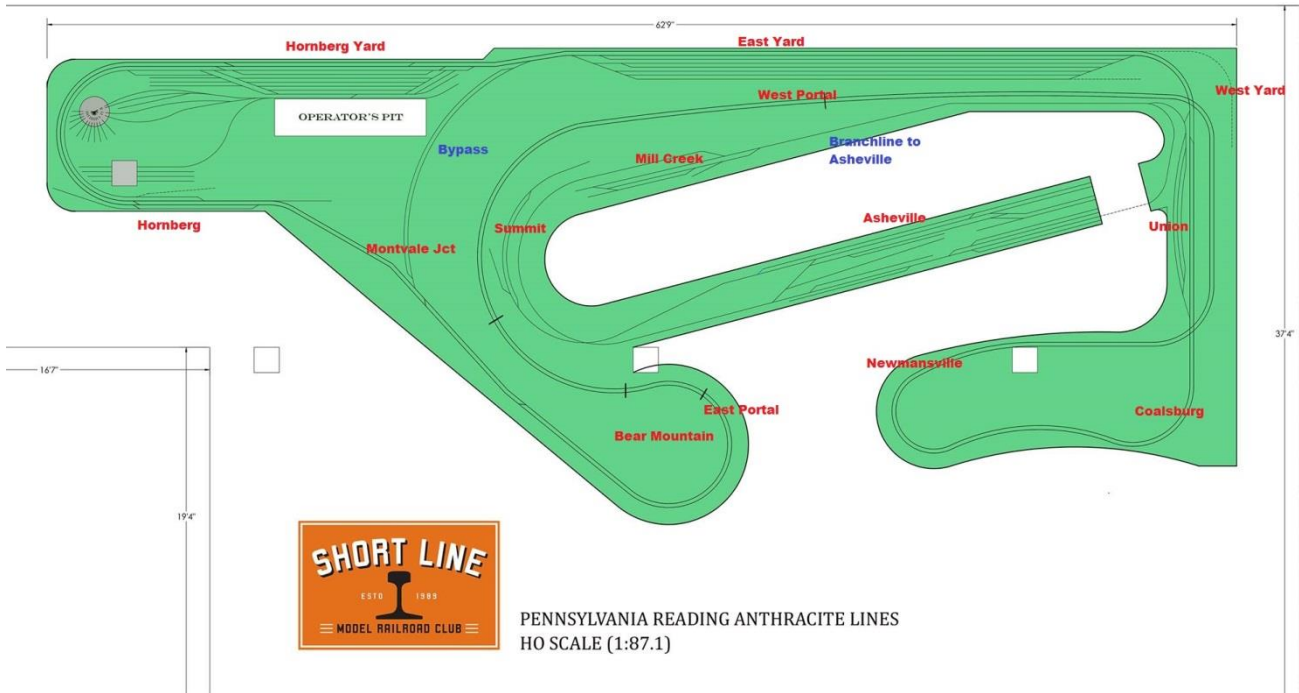
Regular Members:

- Regular Members have voting privileges at the business meetings, and also have individual access codes for the front door. They are then able to come to the club at any time (not just on Thursday evenings).
- Regular Members may also host guests at the club a maximum of 6 times per year.

Overview of Layout:

- Our layout is HO scale. We also have a small HO_n3 narrow gauge logging line in one area of the layout.
- All trains run on DCC, using the Digitrax system. If you have DCC trains, your locomotives will be compatible, however, only Digitrax throttles can be used. The club owns a few throttles for those that do not have their own Digitrax throttles.
- DC-powered locomotives will not operate on the layout.
- Our layout is roughly 25 x 65 feet, with over 900 feet of track. This is a double-track continuous loop mainline and a shorter point-to-point branch line.
- Most track switches are operated by Digitrax throttles. A few have push-pull knobs on the layout fascia, and a few others have manual ground throws.
- The layout is set in Eastern Pennsylvania during the late-1950s. Members are free to run any

kind of equipment (diesel/steam, freight/passenger, and vintage/modern). However, realism is the goal so they need to have knuckle couplers and (to minimize dirty track) should have metal wheels. Most members bring their own trains to run. The club also owns a few dozen pieces of equipment.





New Member Application

Please return completed form to SLMRC Vice-President or other officer with probationary dues of \$90.00 for Regular Probationary or \$40.00 for Family Probationary. Make your check payable to: **Short Line Model Railroad Club.**

Upon acceptance to full membership, after six months, dues will be \$45.00 per quarter for Regular membership or \$25.00 per quarter for Family membership.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ E-mail: _____

Date of Application: _____ Birth Date: _____

Regular membership: OR Family membership:

How long have you been in the hobby? _____

What are your main interests in model railroading (scales, prototypes, eras, etc.): _____

What areas would you like to help contribute to the club? Clinics/Classes: Electronics:

Rolling Stock Maintenance: Train Operations: Scenery: Track Laying:

Other: _____

What model railroading areas would you like to learn more about? Electronics:

Rolling Stock Maintenance: Train Operations: Scenery: Track Laying:

Other: _____

===== SLMRC Use Only =====

Application Date: _____ Dues Paid: _____

New Member Voted On: _____ Treasurer: _____