



The PLS GAZETTE

A newsletter of the Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER TOPICS: Green Signals Ahead **1** PLS Upcoming Events **2**
 Pertinent Election Dates **2** Donations **2** Membership News **2** Membership Gauge **2**
 Membership Renewals **2** PLS Library **3** Obituary **3** Caboose **3** Cabin Fever **3**
 Calendar of Events **4** Turkey Trot **5-6**

Green Signals Ahead

Here we are again, it's December and the new calendar year is just around the corner and although early in the winter season we have already had a good amount of measurable November snow. And while we are discussing the weather we should also remember that we had a very wet year. I sure hope the rest of the winter months are not as wet and cold or we may get enough snow to take us into next summer. While 2018 had a lot of poor weather forecasts especially for our Spring and Fall Meets, those poor forecasts also had an impact on our regular forth of the month Sunday run schedules too. What seems ironic is we had no serious rainouts. The down side of the poor weather forecast was it keep many out of town visitors away. Hopefully the weather-guessers will do a better job at issuing forecasts in 2019. Although we have come to the end of our membership meetings and scheduled run days for 2018 I would like to remind everyone that our Wednesday and Saturday work days continue throughout the year. Rain and snow in November put a damper on our leaf cleanup and we could use a hand in getting the remaining leaf population off the tracks and cleaned up in some of the grassy areas. One or two days of clean up should get the job done. Another project that is underway is the replacement of the full size railroad curbing next to the southeast end of the Building 1 and extending behind the coal bin to Building S. A new low block wall is being made ready to install to replace the ties. The new wall that is only about a foot above grade is needed to hold back the ballast that has been running away from the one inch sid-

ing track. The work is underway and is being led by Jim Miller. The trench is dug. The block is laid out on the ground and is being readied for installation (See Photo 1). The block that is being used is of random size (length) and is dry stacked. The block is then held in place with pins and topped off with a smooth cap block that is held in place with a glue specific to the walls construction. The next steps is to lay ground cloth followed by stone that will require hand tamping. The block is already laid out on the ground with a pre-configured random layout (See Photo 2). The blocks, with the set random layout,



Photo 1 - Trench/Footing ready for New Wall

will be carried to the prepared stone base and stacked. The length of the wall is about 90 feet and although low a fair number of blocks will need to be moved and stacked. Talk to Jim, bring your gloves and give the project a hand.

Another project that is underway is paint restoration of our caboose. Bob Morris has started sanding the south side of the caboose body. Earlier this year one panel on



Photo 2 - Block Layout ready for transfer

the south side was sanded and primed. This test panel looks very good (See Photo 3). Around the first of November we set up scaffolding and started to sand out the entire south side. The area that has been sanded looks good and weather permitting, we will apply at least one coat of primer to the newly sanded areas. What we have



Photo 3 - Caboose Sanding and Priming

learned so far is both good news and bad news. The good news; sanding of the old paint gives us a good surface to prime and not all of the paint need be removed, in

(Continued on page 3)

PLS Membership Renewals for 2019 Now Due

PLS renewal notices have been sent and are due by the end of December in order for your membership to remain current. Please be sure to complete both sides of the renewal form and return it with your payment in the envelope provided. Membership cards will be sent in early February to all those who renew. If you have not received your renewal notice, please e-mail secretary@palivesteamers.org.

Please Renew. We value your support.

Important! Please complete the "ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, AND INDEMNIFICATION" form included with your renewal notice for all family and guests so that they do not have to complete the form at the gate each time they visit. This will ease the administrative workload for PLS volunteers. Questions on completing this form may be directed to: secretary@palivesteamers.org.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Donation Acknowledgements

PLS wishes to thank the Time Bandits Car Club for their donation in October.

Club Membership News

PLS welcomes new Associate Member Charles D. Leeds.

PLS Upcoming Events 2019

January

Sat, January 12 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
 Fri-Sun, Jan. 18-20 Cabin Fever Expo. (CabinFeverExpo.com/)

February

Sat, February 16 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM

March

Sat, March 16 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
 Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM

April

Sat, April 20 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
SPRING CLEAN-UP in AM
 Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
 Afternoon/Evening Run (see Note)

Note: Rides may not be available at afternoon/evening run days following membership meetings due to possible limited participation by equipment owners. All members and their guests are welcome to attend with the understanding that rides are not guaranteed at these events.

Pertinent Dates for the 2019 Election

The 2019 election of all officers and three non-officer directors will take place at the Annual Business Meeting on March 16, 2019. John Caldwell and Ross Magee have volunteered to be this year's Nominating Committee. They will contact all eligible members. Regular Members who attended at least half of the membership meetings in 2018 (four) are eligible to be nominated for election to a seat on the Board and to any office except president, which requires prior service of at least one term as an officer or non-officer director. Pertinent dates for the 2019 election are: Nominations close on January 12, 2019; Final Ballot to be posted in clubhouse by February 16, 2019; and, Absentee Ballots must be requested by March 1, 2019.



Membership Gauge

As of November 30, 2018 PLS has:

112 Regular Members
187 Associate Members
6 Honorary Members

Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

President	Frank Webb	77 Roundwood Circle, Collegeville, PA 19426	president@palivesteamers.org
Secretary	Lee Nonnemacher	1474 North Wales Road, Blue Bell, PA 19422	lee_n@msn.com
Treasurer	Robert Morris	3034 Black Swift Road, Norristown, PA 19403	rmorris1171@verizon.net
Gazette Editor	Lawrence Moss	815 Maplewood Drive, Harleysville, PA 19438	LarryMoss@outlook.com
Board of Directors:	Peter Brown, peteprivate@yahoo.com ; Jim Miller, jbmiller@msn.com ; Jim Salmons, jshay@verizon.net Bob Hillenbrand, RDH7917@comcast.net ; Larry Moss, l.moss256@gmail.com ; Ross Magee, mrrmagee@gmail.com		

Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc. • P.O. Box 26202, Collegeville, PA 19426-0202 • 610-454-0477 • www.palivesteamers.org

(Continued from page 1)

other words we do not need sand to bare metal. The bad news; the sanding is a slow process and many hours will be spent getting the surface read for priming. The ends and north side will not require the level of work that the south side requires. The black under carriage is in good condition and will only require cleaning and a little touch up to the paint. The ends have some black paint that will require some repair along with a few spots in the red paint, but for the most part the ends are in good condition. If you have a good orbital sander and a few hour to spend pick up some 60 grit sand paper and come out and give us a hand. As you most likely know we are working on plans for a PLS 75th Anniversary Meet and the caboose will be painted and badged for that event which is less than 2 years away. Larry Moss has been working on PLS Badging for the 75th that will be the center piece of what we will use on the Caboose, shirts, patches, correspondence and etc. If you have any thoughts or ideas that would help make the 75th a memorable and grand occasion please see Larry Moss. Your ideas are important and we would like to hear from you.

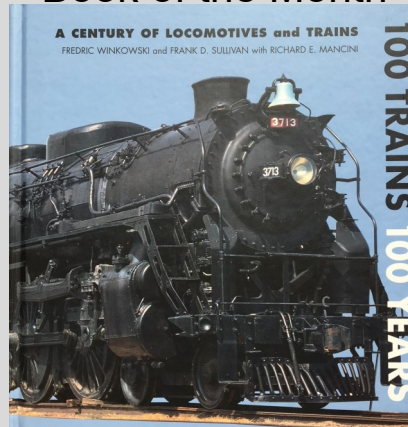
As I close this message I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday and a Very Happy New Year. I hope to see you all in 2019.

See you on the Mainline,
Frank Webb, President



PLS Library

Book of the Month



Book Review

100 remarkable locos representing each year of the 20th century plus 100 more.

For information contact:

Joe Gotlewski, Librarian
joegotlewski@gmail.com

In Memoriam

Sam Smith

Long-time PLS Associate Member Sam Smith passed on Wednesday, November 28, 2018 at age 97.

Sam was a steam locomotive fan who loved to tell about his boyhood operating a locomotive on the branch from Sears on the Boulevard to the main line connection near North Philadelphia station. When they reached the junction, he had to crouch down below the windowsill so his host would not get in big trouble with Management.

He was also an active ham radio operator with call sign K3GBA. During WWII, he was assigned to Admiral Halsey's communications staff in the Pacific.

Bob Freer

New Look for the Caboose



This is an artist's rendition of the decoration of the club caboose which is currently being prepped for a new paint job in white and Royal blue. It will be the centerpiece for our celebration in 2021. Please feel free to assist Bob Morris in this great endeavor. It has a large surface area and it will take a lot of sweat equity to complete.



The 23rd Annual Cabin Fever Expo
January 18-20, 2019
Lebanon Valley Convention Center
For more info: www.cabinfeverexpo.com

PLS Calendar of Events for 2019

January

Saturday Jan. 12 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM

February

Saturday Feb. 16 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM

March

Saturday Mar. 16 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
 Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
Annual Elections

April

Saturday Apr. 20 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
SPRING CLEAN-UP in AM
 Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
 Afternoon/Evening Run (See Note)

Sunday Apr. 28 Run Day - Members & Guests -
BOILER TESTING
 (Rain Date May 5)

May

Saturday May 18 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
 Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
 Afternoon/Evening Run (See Note)

Friday May 24 **SPRING MEET** - Members & Guests

Saturday May 25 **SPRING MEET** - Members & Guests

Sunday May 26 **SPRING MEET** - Members & Guests

June

Saturday Jun. 15 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
 Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
 Afternoon/Evening Run (See Note)

Sunday Jun. 23 Run Day - Members & Guests
 (Rain Date June 30)

July

Saturday Jul. 20 **Annual PLS Picnic - Noon**
 (Train rides will be available from Noon until 3 PM)
 (Picnic Rain Date Sunday July 21)

Sunday Jul. 28 Run Day – Members & Guests
 (Rain Date August 4)

Note: No meetings in July

August

Saturday Aug. 17 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
 Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
 Afternoon/Evening Run (See Note)

Sunday Aug. 25 Run Day - Members & Guests
 (No Rain Date)

Friday, Aug. 30 **FALL MEET** - Members & Guests

Saturday Aug. 31 **FALL MEET** - Members & Guests

September

Sunday Sept. 1 **FALL MEET** - Members & Guests

Saturday Sept. 21 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
 Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
 Afternoon/Evening Run (See Note)

Sunday Sept. 22 Run Day - Members & Guests
 (Rain Date September 29)

October

Saturday Oct. 19 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
FALL CLEAN-UP in AM
 Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
 Afternoon/Evening Run (See Note)

Sunday Oct. 27 Run Day - Members & Guests
 (Rain Date November 3)

November

Saturday Nov. 16 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
 Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM

Friday Nov. 29 Turkey Trot Run – Gauge 1 only -
 (Rides not available)

December

Saturday Dec. 21 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM

Note: Rides may not be available at afternoon/evening run days following membership meetings due to possible limited participation by equipment owners. All members and their guests are welcome to attend with the understanding that rides are not guaranteed at these events.

Scenes from the Turkey Trot...

PHOTOS COURTESY OF MIKE MOORE



View from atop the tunnel



A Pannier 0-6-0 gets prepped for a run



Cold air made for some great steam plumes



Still a lot of activity later in the day



Brittany Grimm enjoying the day's runs

It was a cold day but those hardy souls who came out for the run had a great time in the crisp fall air.





The PLS GAZETTE

P.O. Box 26202

Collegeville, PA 19426-0202

FIRST CLASS



The Gauge 1 Crew takes a lunch break during the cold at this year's Turkey Trot event on Black Friday. See more photos on page 5.

MIKE MOORE PHOTO