



The PLS GAZETTE

A newsletter of the Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

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Green Signals Ahead

As we approach the upcoming March membership meeting scheduled for March 23, 2019, I would like to tell you about some good news and some not so good news about our membership. First some good news. Regular Membership has been on the increase and is currently 102 members strong. Our Probationary Membership, that is those working towards becoming a Regular Members, is currently 10, again a strong number. When these Probationary Members complete their probationary year and/or work requirements and move to the Regular Membership role, we will be at the largest number of Regular Members in PLS history. This is great news and we should all feel good about the health and well being of PLS. Now for the not so good news. Although these numbers look good on paper and we are collecting Regular Membership dues from both Regular and Probationary Members, the membership head count alone does not tell the full story. As an example; as of this writing our nominating committee has not been able to find enough members that are willing to run for the 3 Board of Director openings for 2019. You might ask why as we have more than 100 Regular members? You might find the answer as disappointing as I did. In order for a Regular Member to qualify to run for the Board of Directors they must have attended at least 50% of the membership meetings scheduled each year. The normal number of meetings each year is 9, meaning that in order to qualify a member would need to attend at least 5 meeting. However, for the past several years the Board of Directors

canceled the July meeting thus reducing the annual meeting number to 8, the result is Regular Members only needed to attend 4 meetings to be eligible to run for a seat on the Board of Directors. They would also meet the requirements to run for Secretary or Treasurer. This is where we find disappointment. The number that attended at least 4 meeting was only 21 and three of those will be filling the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer, leaving 18 able to run for the Board. I think you can see where the math leaves us. These numbers look even worse when you consider it is a virtual mirror of last year with only one name of the list of 21 being different this year. In other words, 80% of our membership does not think that taking part in just 4 meeting is important regardless of whether they have any inclination to run for office. VERY DISAPPOINTING!

The Regular Members are effectively the owners of PLS and by taking part in the operations of our organization as a Board member or Officer you have a change to shape the organizations future, give it direction, be the voice of the member and assure its continuation. Having a changing of the guard can be a good thing for PLS, new members bring new ideas, new excitement and a chance to support the balance of the membership that they interface with throughout the running year.

I encourage all regular members to participate in our Regular Membership meetings. Your attendance is important as it give each of you a chance to see what's going on with your club and have a voice in what's going on from month to month. You not only have a chance to listen to the current state of the organization, but a

chance to take part and share with the Board and Officers what you think is important and share ideas of what we might need to fix on the railroad or possibly what needs to change to improve our facilities.

The March Membership meeting is one of the most important meetings of the year. The budget will be reviewed, election of the Board and Officers will be made and an overview of open projects will be discussed. At this meeting you will vote on changes to the Bylaws. We will be discussing our 75th PLS Anniversary planning and what we have to do to make it a grand event.

In addition to membership meeting attendance, I have also noted a decline in our workday participation. I hope to see more of you at our Wednesday and Saturday work sessions. Please remember PLS is a working railroad and it takes people power to keep it up and running. Right now we have about 90 feet of the 7 ¼ inch gauge track pulled out of the ground for rebuild and roadbed work. You know those pesky tree roots from the very, very large sycamore tree in the circular steaming bay gives us a fit about every 5 – 10 years. Dig and repair we must! The railroad does not fix itself! Please make an effort to come out and spend 3 or 4 hours and help keep the railroad running smoothly. I look forward to seeing you at the March Membership Meeting and hopefully other membership meetings throughout the 2019. As noted about and elsewhere in this Gazette, the March Membership Meeting will be held on March 23, 2019.



See you on the Mainline,
Frank Webb, President

PLS Elections

As there is an insufficient number of candidates willing to fill the open spots on the Board, a certification of those on the ballot will be held during the annual membership meeting on Saturday, **March 23, 2019** at 12:30 P.M. **Please note the change in date from that on the 2019 calendar.** To be certified are president, secretary, treasurer and two board members. Of the eighteen members eligible to run for the Board, three are already serving and only two, out of a minimum needed of three, expressed interest in serving for 2019.

Nominees for the offices are as follows:

President: Frank Webb
Secretary: Lee Nonnemacher
Treasurer: Bob Morris

Board of Directors: Jim Miller
Jim Salmons

Membership Renewals Past Due

As a reminder, membership renewals were due by December 31, 2018. In order to remain a member, we must have your paid renewal. If you do not renew, this will be your last issue of *The PLS Gazette*. Please take the time to complete the renewal notice that you were sent in early December and forward it with your dues. If you have misplaced your renewal notice, you can receive another one by e-mailing secretary@palivesteamers.org or writing to PLS Inc. at the address at the bottom of Page 2 of this issue. **Please do not forward dues without the renewal form.** We must have the signed renewal form completed for our records. Your membership cards will be sent to you when your dues are received.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Mar. 23 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
Annual Elections

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

Sunday, Apr. 28 Run Day - Members and Guests
Boiler Testing
(Rain Date May 5)

*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.

Club Membership News

PLS welcomes new Associate members Matt Brice, Robert Van Lieu, Tarah McLaughlin, and Allen Fisher.



Membership Cards

Membership cards for paid members have been mailed. Guest cards for those who completed the guest release form will be included. If you have sent your renewal and have not yet received your membership card, please e-mail secretary@palivesteamers.org or write to PLS at the address at the bottom of page 2 of this issue.

Membership Gauge

As of January 31, 2019 PLS has:

112 Regular Members

192 Associate Members

5 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, jshay6@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

PLS Budget for Fiscal Year 2019

Income		Expenses	
100 • Donations		200 • Utilities	
100.10 Run Day	350.00	200.10 Electric	2,350.00
100.11 Gauge 1	25.00	200.20 Oil	750.00
100.40 Pot Luck Dinner	200.00	200.30 Septic Tank	800.00
100.50 Picnic	00.00	200.40 Portable Toilets	1,725.00
100.63 Books and Magazines	00.00	200.50 Telephone	350.00
100.89 GA#1 Rebuild Donation	00.00	200.60 Dumpster	600.00
100.90 Other Donations	7,500.00	Total 200 • Utilities	\$6,575.00
Total 100 • Donations	\$8,075.00	210 • Miscellaneous Expense	
120 • Dues		210.20 Picnic	125.00
120.10 Regular Members	8,800.00	210.30 Pot Luck Dinner	250.00
120.20 Associate Members	5,610.00	210.40 Security	250.00
Total 120 • Dues	\$14,410.00	Total 210 • Miscellaneous Exp.	625.00
130 • Items Sold		220 • Maintenance	
130.10 Boiler Treatment	00.00	220.10 Backhoe	225.00
130.20 Coal	25.00	220.11 Machine Shop Supplies	50.00
130.50 Soda	1,375.00	220.20 Building # 1	750.00
130.60 Snacks Non-Run Day	250.00	220.30 Buildings # 2-8	300.00
130.70 Snacks Run Day	600.00	220.40 Gauge 1	250.00
130.80 Kitchen Sales	1,150.00	220.50 Track	750.00
130.90 Table Sales Taxable	450.00	220.60 Mowers	400.00
130.91 Table Sales Non-Tax	825.00	220.70 Signal	750.00
Total 130 • Items Sold	\$4,675.00	220.80 Gas Mowing	275.00
140 • Storage Track Fees		220.90 Gas Track	50.00
140.30 Building # 3 Rental	3,636.00	220.91 Club Locomotive	200.00
140.60 Building # 6 Rental	2,460.00	220.92 Landscaping	1,000.00
140.80 Building #8 Rental	432.00	220.93 Trees	500.00
Total 140 • Storage Track Fees	\$6,528.00	220.94 Fire Extinguishers	175.00
150 • Recycling		220.99 Misc. Maintenance	500.00
150.10 Aluminum Cans	00.00	Total 220 • Maintenance	\$6,175.00
Total 150 • Recycling	00.00	223 • Communications	
Total Income		223.10 Gazette Postage	\$425.00
	\$33,688.00	223.30 Gazette Printing	425.00
		223.30 Other Printing	200.00
		223.40 Computer	250.00
		223.50 Internet	1,500.00
		223.60 Community Support	100.00
		223.70 Waiver Sheets	75.00
		223.80 Web Page	700.00
		223.99 Miscellaneous	175.00
		Total 223 • Communications	\$3,850.00
		224 • Corporate	
		224.10 Legal & Prof. Fees	450.00
		224.11 Delaware Corp. Tax	50.00
		224.20 Office General	500.00
		224.30 Property Tax	4,250.00
		224.40 Sales Tax	125.00
		224.50 Wristbands	50.00
		224.60 Office Postage	375.00
		224.70 Insurance	4,250.00
		224.80 Corporate Printing	50.00
		224.99 Corporate Misc.	200.00
		Total 224 • Corporate	\$10,300.00
		225 • Sales	
		225.10 Kitchen	575.00
		225.20 Snacks	300.00
		225.30 Soda	575.00
		225.40 Table Sales	250.00
		Total 225 • Sales	\$1,700.00
		226 • Special Projects	
		226.19 Caboose Painting	1,000.00
		226.30 Loader Shed	1,000.00
		226.35 Bathroom Updates	1,000.00
		226.75 75th Anniversary	2,000.00
		Total 226 • Special Projects	\$5,000.00
		Total Expenses	\$34,225.00
		<i>Net of Expenses</i>	
		<i>Over Income.....</i>	(537.00)



Just two years to the PLS 75th Anniversary Celebration which will be held during the Fall Meet of 2021. Our first planning meeting will happen this spring at a time and date to be announced. Please join the committee now.

Larry Moss - Chair • George Cooper - Advisor
Steve Leatherman • Ryan Bednarik

Free to a Good Home

“Modeltec” magazines from May 1988 to April 1991 and “Live Steam” magazine from May 1978 to present. Contact Paul Wilcox: pjwilcox@embarqmail.com

Finger Lakes 50th Anniversary Meet

The Finger Lakes Live Steamers invite all live steam and train enthusiasts to celebrate to our 50th anniversary from August 1st thru 4th, 2019. The meet will be closed to the general public and all visitors must register to attend.

Our club is located in Marengo, New York, halfway between Syracuse and Rochester on 12 scenic acres near the rural communities of Clyde and Lyons. We have three different gauge railroads: 7 ¼”, 4 ¾” and Gauge One.

For further information and registration forms, please visit: finger-lakeslivesteamers.org.



Remembering Harry Quirk



PLS member Harry Quirk passed away on Monday January 7, 2019. Harry was just over a week short of his 91st birthday. Harry, along with his brother Paul, was a driving force in the creation of the Gauge One layout at PLS and planted the seeds that have grown in to the Gauge One membership of today. I think it would be accurate to refer to Harry as the godfather of PLS and even Mid-Atlantic region Gauge One Live Steam.

Harry started in Gauge One in the mid-1970’s as the Aster Locomotive Company was just beginning to produce a line of Gauge One live steam kits. Harry built a layout around the pool in his backyard in Warminster, PA and soon was hosting events for those of like interest. He recruited Paul and the two brothers built a portable layout that would be erected at events such as the Rough and Tumble Engineers and Blue Mountain Antique Steam and Gas annual shows. At Rough and Tumble in about 1986 PLS member George Hoops stopped at the display and suggested that the Gauge One layout could be a good addition to the Spring and Fall meets at PLS. The rest is history. In 1995 the PLS Board voted to support the building of a permanent Gauge One layout with the provision that construction could not start until after the 1996 50th anniversary year. The Golden Spike ceremony was held at the 1997 Fall Meet.

Harry was a tireless promoter of Gauge One Live Steam and a generous mentor to anyone who was the least bit tentative about live steam. Harry was always at trackside; running, teaching, preaching, and coaching. His enthusiasm for trains was contagious and he was a great teacher with a deep knowledge of trains; especially the Reading Railroad. Harry will be remembered as the man who brought so many novices into the hobby and showed such a gift for working with young people.

To meet Harry was to gain a lifelong friend. Harry could also be a lot of fun. The days spent riding to and from Diamondhead, Mississippi steamups were as enjoyable as the event itself. Harry’s love of trains was not limited to models. Even as his health was failing he was quick to jump in the car to chase 425 with never a complaint.

Harry will be sorely missed by those of us who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Mike Moore

We're Building a Wall...

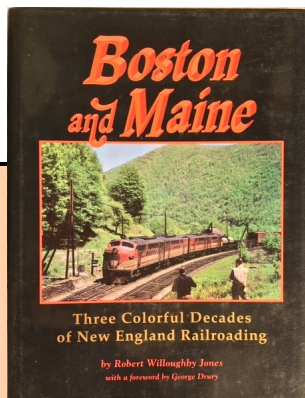


A project currently under construction is a new replacement retaining wall to secure the track bed along the main line behind the club house pavilion. The previous support was constructed of old railroad ties which have since rotted.

Jim Miller (pictured at the right) is the team leader and is joined here by Terry Weinstein. Others have participated in this project and more help is needed to have it ready for spring.



The project extends from the back of Building S to the crosswalk behind Building 1. It will better support the 1" scale siding that connects to Building 8 which is the 1" scale car barn.



PLS Library Book of the Month Review

The first major all-color book about New England's favorite railroad, Boston & Maine. From the 1940's to the mid 1970's and from the waning days of steam through Es and Fs to Geeps.

- 208 pages, 300 color photographs, 15 black and white

For Information contact: **Joe Gotlewski, Librarian** at joegotlewski@gmail.com

Donation Acknowledgements

PLS wishes to thank the following members for donations received during December and January: Mayland Crosson, Robert Blackson, Henry Blanco White, Buddy Borders, Peter Brown, Kenneth Chermak, Ronald Drenth, Ross Magee, Richard Moore, Lee Nonnemacher, Richard Poletto, Jim Salmons, Frank Webb, John Kane, Gretchen Dellatorre, Robert Gray III, Wanda Gammon, Edgar Henderler, James Larkin, Raymond Matus, James Milo, Jack Morris, Joseph Natale, Alan Redeker, Dolores Stahl, Jeff Stahl, David Staplin, Kenneth Thomas, H. Robert Wallace, John Wessels, Wayne Baldwin, David Brush, John Caldwell, Brittany Grimm, Michael McDevitt, Paul Miller, Robert Morris, Lawrence Moss Jr, Paul Nichini, Joseph Rohana, Carl Bruhns, David Bucher, Douglas Clark, Thomas Diedrich, William Fluck, Buzz Heidenreich, Deborah Voynar, Chris Becker, Marc Carpino, David Laird, Kathleen Parris, Duane Quenzel, Jack Richards, Robert Small, Rowland Dudley, Douglas, Eddy, Joe Marra, Joy Pedrick, Roger Ravier, Gita Talmage, Michael B. Yingling Sr, Carmen Visalli, John H. Bortz Jr, Roy Nelson, James Stapleton, John Morris, Harry Quirk Jr, Chris Road, Bruce Barrett, Ronald Henderson, Edward Kabak, Patrick Murphy, Mary Mercer, Douglas Pyatt, James Zaleski, Bill Shields, Jerry R. Shank Sr, and Jared Schoenly.

Thank you also to Roman Pawlowski and Rich Poletto for their donations in memory of Harry Quirk, Sr.



The PLS GAZETTE

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FIRST CLASS



View of Mercer Bridge last November 3rd after heavy rains and flooding from the Perkiomen Creek. It was a wet season.