

The PLS GAZETTE



PENNSYLVANIA LIVE STEAMERS, INC.

P.O. BOX 26202, COLLEGEVILLE, PA. 19426-0202

September–October 2008

Along The Main Line



Once again the season has changed from summer to fall and winter surely approaches. This is a time of year when I enjoy the sights of Mother Nature changing the outdoors in anticipation of the coming cold months. Upon returning home from the fall meet, I was very pleased to find an extremely generous cash donation to PLS in remembrance of a departed loved one. This particular donor is someone who has not visited the track in quite some time but was always aware of what was going on through the *Gazette*.

Which leads me to take this opportunity to talk about something that is on the minds of everyone these days: *money* and *finance*. As we all know, we find ourselves watching the everyday gaining or losing of dollars and investments within our economy. Even in these doom and gloom times, we must remember that history has shown a turnaround and emergence will occur and we will prosper once again.

Here at PLS, we have the responsibility to carefully allocate and practice good stewardship over our relatively limited budget. This is in order to pay for such things as ever rising taxes, utilities, insurance, gasoline and heating oil. There is also the constant upkeep of numerous wear and tear items such as track and roadbed, grounds-keeping equipment, roofing shingles, paint etc.

Nonetheless, expansion of our club with new projects within our finite grounds is necessary to keep minds and morale focused toward the common growth of this club. All of these projects require tangible support in forms of sweat equity and financial commitment. This keeps our park-like playground in top form for future generations.

Donations, whether in a single dollar from a public rider (which, by the way, account for an estimated 10-15% of our income,) direct giving from individuals, or the generous bequest or other planned gift to the club in one's final last written directive are all votes of confidence and commitment toward survival of what we cherish.

But what about the sweat equity? How can we justify the expense of even setting foot on the property to work with the current cost of gas and travel? PLS is a charity under IRS rule 501 c 3. The rules for charitable deductions are found on the IRS web site, (<http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/i1040.pdf>.) I quote from pages 94 - 95 *Gifts to Charity – Contributions You Can Deduct*:

“Contributions can be in cash, property or out-of-pocket expenses you paid to do volunteer work for the kinds of organizations described earlier. If you drove to and from the volunteer work, you can take the actual cost of gas and oil or 14 cents a mile. Add parking and tolls to the amount you claim under either method. But do not deduct any amounts that were repaid to you.”

Keeping a record of your mileage to and from PLS for work day participation may prove advantageous for some members at tax time.

Food for thought. See you at the track!

Pat Murphy

Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

President –Patrick J. Murphy–2439 Overbrook Drive-Gilbertsville, Pa.19525 email;PMurphy129@aol.com

Secretary –Lee Nonnemacher- 1474 North Wales Road –Blue Bell,PA. 19422–610-275-6070 email;secretary@palivesteamers.org

Treasurer – Lynn Hammond-439 Fletcher Rd. - Wayne, PA 19087-610-688-0463 lhamm950@aol.com

Board of Directors –John Geib –steamer38@comcast.net , Ron Henderson –ronjhenderson@verizon.net, Buddy Borders-

Borders@physics.upenn.edu, Bill Meyer-wvmeyer@verizon.net, George Cooper – georgecoop@comcast.net,

Bruce Saylor- bgsberk@comcast.net

Gazette Editor – Phil Paskos – 508 Boeing Av. – Reading, PA – 19601-1124 – 610-374-0498 email: philpaskos@verizon.net

Clubhouse Phone – 610-454-0477 **Club Web Site**: <http://PALiveSteamers.org>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2008

Saturday, October 25

Fall Cleanup Day, All Hands

Sunday, October 26

Blowdown Run Day – Members and Guests Only –No Rain Date

Saturday, November 8

Board of Directors Meeting - 12:30 PM

Saturday, November 15

Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM - **Fall Cleanup Day- All Hands**

Friday, November 28

Turkey Trot Special Run Day, No Rain/Snow Date

Saturday, December 13

Board of Directors Meeting – 9:30 AM

The PLS *Gazette* is published 6 times a year starting in February. **Deadline is BOD Meeting**
Membership cards will be mailed to all paid up Members with the April Gazette

2008 Fall Meet Thanks

Despite fewer visitors than usual, Kathy Parris reports that the kitchen and snack areas did well. PLS continues to enjoy the support and donations from various companies: Hatfield Quality Meats, Heinz Company, Redner's Warehouse Markets, and Rich's Products. Plus, members and visitors worked many hours and contributed dozens of delicious baked goods: Sue Webb, Rose Ann Wagner-Love, Judy Taylor, Dave Taylor, Richard Speak, Bonnie Shupard, Barry Shapin, Mary Saylor, Bruce Saylor, Jim Salmons, Paul Rice, Jack Reed, Harry Quirk, Carol Quirk, Kristin Moore, Barb Miller, Walt Mensch, Ross McGee, Jane McDevitt, Dave Laird, Paul Kulp, Stacy Klemmer, Ann Keen, Pat Heller, Al Hein, Sandy Hart, Eileen Hammond, John Geib, Ed Faller, Mary Lou Delp, George Cooper, Tom Caldwell, Nancy Blackson, and Bruce Barrett, among others. Thank you everyone!

Donations in Aug and September

Pat Murphy-Paul Nachini-Mary Spear -Frank Pizzuta-Judy Taylor

Thanks to all who have donated to **PLS**.

New Members (all associates) in Aug and September

Chris L. Rood - Michael McLaughlin-Fred Heggan-Julia Kiefer- Jill Filop-William Anderson-Jarred Schoenly- Richard Poleta - Donald Hawley -John Formica - Lee Milhaus- Frank Pizzuta - William Gray- Rochelle Dodge- Judy Taylor - Thomas Bastian- Wes Jackson

Welcome to all.

Announcement of two forthcoming workshops on elementary machining on the lathe.

We will be holding two extremely basic workshops here at the PLS machine shop on Saturday afternoons after the workday (2:30 PM). These will be open to any interested regular or associate member and will focus on the rudimentary use of our small (6" swing) craftsman (Atlas) lathe. These workshops are aimed at the complete beginner:

Workshop 1: Facing, center-drilling and turning a small piece of stock to dimension.

November 15th, 2:30 in the workshop here at Rahns.

Workshop 2: Boring (inside turning) and cutting-off.

December 6th, 2:30 in the workshop her at Rahns.

All are welcome to watch, but since they will involve hands-on experience we must limit the number of participants to five members. For those hands-on participants there will be a \$3.00 materials charge payable in advance (i.e., you must register in advance, first-come-first-serve). Please contact Lynn Hammond at brillcar@aol.com or cell 484-238-7335.

NOTICE TO ALL REGULAR MEMBERS

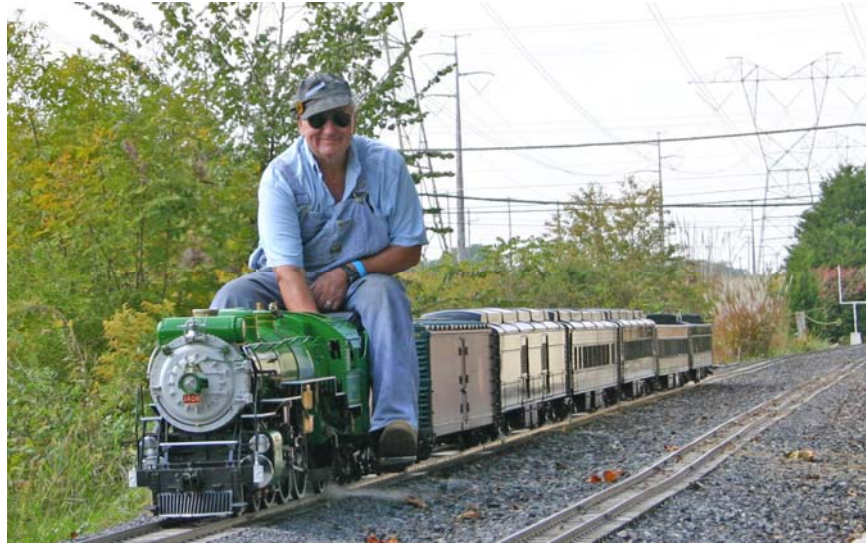
Most of the regular members know and respect PLS to the point that the following notice is not needed, BUT it is vital that anyone who is the last to run and leave be very sure that the turntable, transfer table and loading track is locked, the special aluminum plate is put in building 2, all the buildings are locked and the power shut off to buildings 2 and 3. If there is any questions in the minds of the last member leaving, all they have to do is read the notice on the back of the gray door (electrical panel) in the club house.



Walt Mensch - October,2008

Cabin Fever Expo Jan.17&18,2009- York Fairgrounds at York,PA.

PLS has been offered table space at this event. It's not too early to plan on helping man the table there. Please check in with Big John Geib if you can help out at this event.



Joe Tanski's new Pacific



Bob Morris



Track work- Come out and help

Pisgah Central

On July 20th, a group of PLS members went out to western Pennsylvania to visit Art Dum's Pisgah Central Railroad. Located thirty minutes north of Carlisle, PA, the railroad features two miles of 7.5" gauge track with continuous two to three percent grades. This was definitely the place where properly working brakes and safety chains were necessary since the elevation change between the lowest and highest point on the railroad was 97 feet. The single main line track snaked its way around the heavily wooded property passing through covered bridges, long curved trestles, and around a football field sized pond.

Steam locomotive were the choice of motive power for the day, most of them being modeled after Pennsylvania RR steamers. The aroma of coal smoke and the roar of the locomotive's exhaust working up the ruling grades was a pleasant addition to a sultry summer afternoon. Bruce Saylor and Dave Johnson were even seen running their oil-fired 1.5" scale 7.5" gauge Ten Wheelers.

If you haven't seen many other live steam railroads or wondering what live steam mountain railroading is like, the Pisgah Central RR will be having another meet this coming fall (the dates have not been established yet). Everyone that visited from PLS would like to give our sincere thanks to Art Dum and Wayne Godshall for hosting such a wonderful event and many of us were contemplating on the ride home if we should start regauging our 7.25" equipment so we can run on this railroad.



Bruce Saylor is all smiles while chugging around the Pisgah Central RR on his Virginia & Pennsylvania Ten-Wheeler. The large pond and the half-way point, this was one of the prettiest locations on the RR. (photos and article by Steve Leatherman)



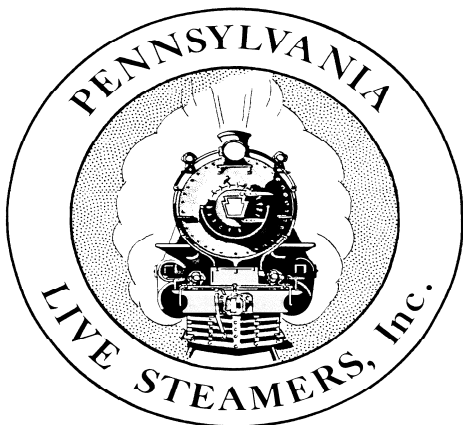
Paul Rice doing track work



Frank Webb

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FIRST CLASS



Think Fall Cleanup!!