



The PLS GAZETTE

A newsletter of the Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

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The Wheel Report

As I sit and write, the sun is setting sooner producing shorter days harkening the coming of winter. While these continue to be challenging times here at PLS, I want to first express my thanks and gratitude to all of the members who routinely contribute to the functioning of this hobby club so that all of us can enjoy the summer operating miniature trains. A Special thanks also go to the many workers behind the scenes including Larry Moss, Kathy Paris, Mark Cahill, Pete Brown, Paul Miller, Henry Blanco White, George Fitzgerald, Rick Stoughton and the Forsythe Family.

I would also like to acknowledge and express thanks the Board of Directors and officers who have worked tirelessly with the continuing rebuilding of the club.

Updates – The clubhouse is nearing completion! The bathrooms are done other than the mounting of handles, changing table and the like. The hallway ceiling drywall is to be replaced by a contractor, and blown insulation is to be installed after that. Once that is completed the new heating and cooling system – building wide- is to be installed just in time for the heating season. Once this is finished, only the kitchen and floor remain to be completed and for this we will need to

evaluate our remaining budget. As always donations of time, labor and funding is always needed and greatly appreciated. Please consider making a donation and [Thank you!](#)

Has anyone noticed the new Description Sign at the gate? This will help in describing to any trail walkers who we are, what we do, how to join and to please know that this is private property. Thank you, Larry Moss for the design.

At the October and November meetings we will once again be establishing a Nominating Committee for the March elections. Due to various reasons and term limits notwithstanding in the bylaws, many of our board members will be cycling off. We will need to identify new candidates for the Board of Directors and for the three officer positions of Secretary, Treasurer and President. With over 300 members (Regular and Associates) we still have a severe drought of worthy candidates now and for the future. We need new energy and vision in the way of leadership for the many projects needed to rebuild this club both physically and spiritually. I hope eager candidates will step forward ready to carry on our unfinished work at hand. Otherwise, our future direction may be murky. Please consider running. If you have any questions or are an associate member who wishes to become more involved in the organization, please

email me or see me at the track. If you are on the fence on the matter, it's not that hard to participate in a business/demographic process. I am happy to advise anyone on how to participate. I and several Board members are NOT yet retired. We all give – retired or not - freely of whatever time we can for the benefit of everyone.

Directors are now being listed in the Gazette with term expirations and specific responsibilities around the club to improve point person communications.

Our Club locomotive qualification procedure is now in final testing. Look for opportunities in the spring to study and earn a qualification spot on the club loco and conductor roster. Regular and Associate members over the age of 21 may apply. If interested, please speak to Mark Cahill for more information.

Lastly, I have volunteered to work with Bob Morris to review the upcoming lease renewals. Given that we now have a member waiting list for storage – some now waiting many years, I intend in the remaining months of my term to fairly enforce these agreements in a businesslike fashion according to the lease rules. New leases are now being reviewed by our attorney for better clarity. Please read your existing lease to understand your responsibly.

See you at the track!

Pat Murphy, President

Donation Acknowledgements

PLS wishes to thank the following for donations received since July 2022: Erwin Flynn, Rick Stoughton, Chris Becker, Joe Sullivan, Roy Nelson, and Cheryl Guffey.

Upcoming Membership Renewal

Please Pre-register Family Members

Membership renewals for 2023 will be sent in early December. Included with the renewal material, as in past years, will be a copy of the “ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, AND INDEMNIFICATION” form. **If you have family members who may want to attend run days**, we encourage you to have this form completed and return it with your renewal. If you do so, a **guest card** will be sent to you along with your membership card. That card will allow family members to enter without having to sign in at the gate when they visit. It will also help to reduce paperwork for PLS volunteers.

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Oct. 15 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
FALL CLEAN-UP in AM

Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM

Afternoon/Evening Run (See Note)

Sunday, Oct. 23 Run Day - Members & Guests
(Rain Date October 30)

Saturday, Nov. 19 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM

Friday, Nov. 25 Turkey Trot Run - Gauge 1 only
(Rides not available)

Saturday, Dec. 10 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.

Club Membership News

PLS welcomes new Associate Members **Adil Zaim, Victor Gonzalez V, Irvin Brubacher, Erwin Flynn, and Matty Roman.**



Membership Gauge

As of September 30, 2022 PLS has:

105 Regular Members

148 Associate Members

4 Honorary Members

Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

President	Pat Murphy	president@palivesteamers.org
Secretary	Mark Cahill	mark.cahill@verizon.net
Treasurer	Robert Morris	Treasurer@palivesteamers.org
Gazette Editor	Lawrence Moss	LarryMoss@outlook.com

Board of Directors

Steve Leatherman, steveleatherman@gmail.com - Term Expires 3/23

Paul Rice, ricepaul@verizon.net - Term Expires 3/23

Ross Magee, mrrmagww@gmail.com - Term Expires 3/23

Peter Brown, peteprivate@yahoo.com - Term Expires 3/24

Paul Miller, pava77@comcast.net - Term Expires 3/24

Vacant Seat

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

Master Waiting List

Building 3

Name	Date	Notes
Mike Moore	10-14-2017	1st refusal 5/29/21
John Forsythe	12-22-2018	1st refusal 6/7/21
Paul Forsythe	12-22-2019	Wants bottom shelf
Paul Nichini	1 2-22-2019	
Jay Forsythe	4-10-2021	
Jay Shupard	4-19-2021	
Jim Gotlewski	4-25-2021	Needs 10' of 7 1/4"
Jen Reinford	6-22-2021	
Roy Nelson	8-13-2021	Swap for longer shelf
George Fitzgerald	8-24-2021	
Steve Mallon	9-27-2021	
Bonny Mallon	9-29-2022	

Building 6

Ronald Drenth	3-18-2018	
Ken Chermak	6-16-2019	
Richard Poletto	9-1-2019	
Mark Cahill	12-4-2019	
Dace Rose	4-25-2021	Swap for lower track

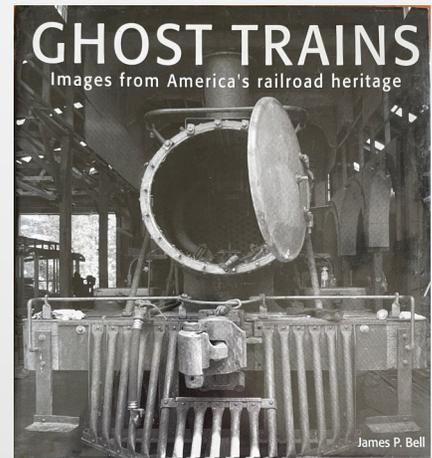
Building 8

John Kane	8-10-2019	
Jay Shupard	4-19-2021	

List as of 10/4/22

PLS Library

Book of the Month



Book Review

This unique and beautifully illustrated book captures the fascinating specters of America's railroad era. Complete with 300 breathtaking black-and-white photographs from the author's personal collection, this is a must have book for rail fans and nostalgia enthusiasts.

For information contact:

Joe Gotlewski, Librarian
joegotlewski@gmail.com

Committee Chairpersons*

- A - Track - Paul Rice
- B - Signals, Bridges and Tunnels - Mark Cahill
- C - Buildings and Grounds - Pete Brown
- D - Special Projects/Gauge One and Multi Gauge - Ross Magee
- E - Archives and Membership - Bob Morris
- F - Club Administration and Publication - Pat Murphy

* Job descriptions available.

Each Board Member is a liaison for a given task assignment.



Rahns Station Roof Cap Replacement

by Mark Cahill

Replacement of the lower roof cap of Rahns Station was recently completed. The station's original roof cap was constructed using finger-jointed pine boards. While pine was an economical material choice, it is a very poor weather-resistant material and probably should not have been used for this application. Despite the fact that it was primed and painted, it weathered extremely poorly to the point where it was literally disintegrating (see the "before" photo).

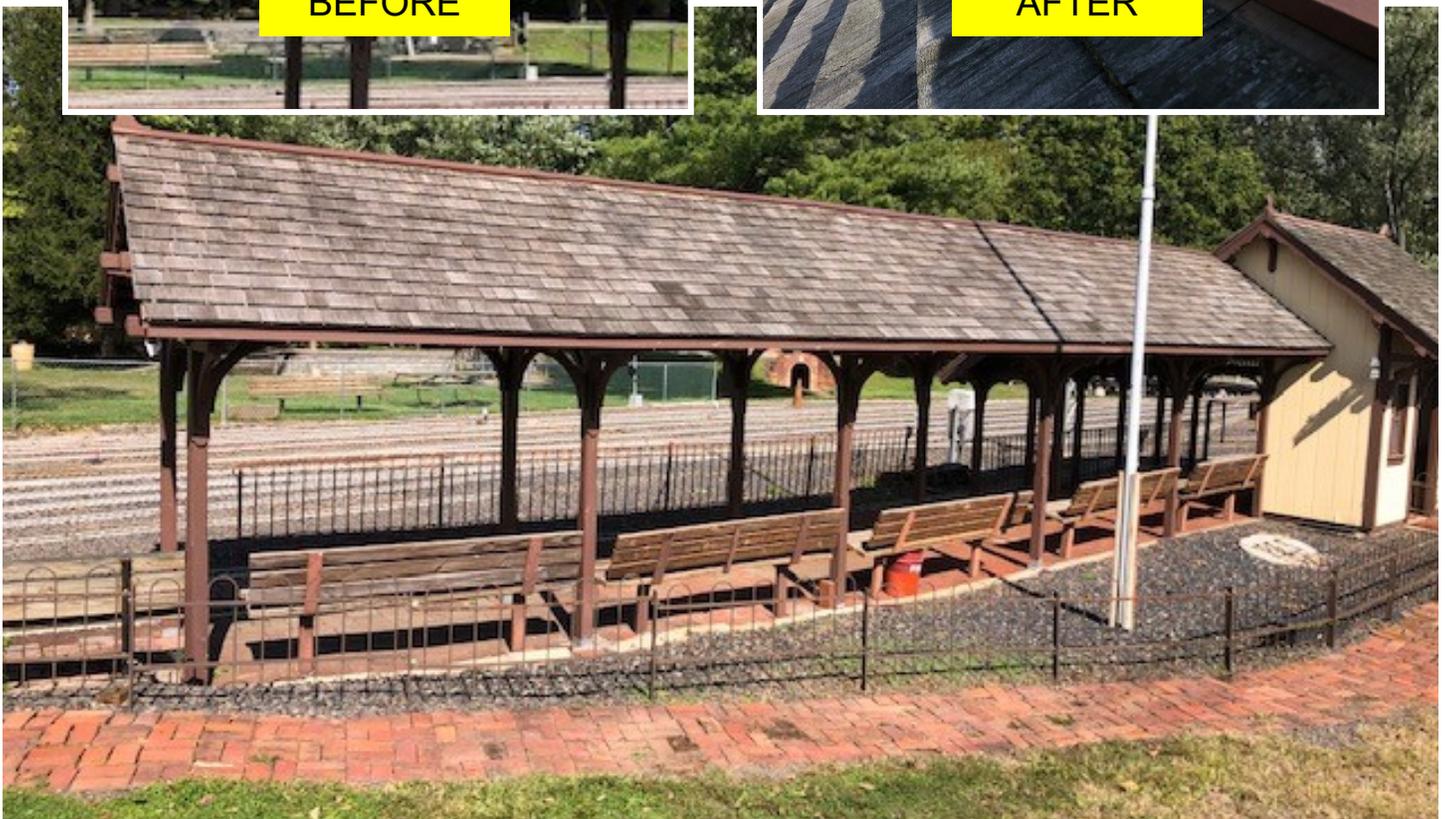
President Pat Murphy and Secretary Mark Cahill discussed how best to replace the roof cap. The decision was made to use cedar, a more expensive but a superior weather-resistant wood.

Secretary Cahill volunteered to donate the material and time required to complete the replacement.

To minimize construction time on the very steep roof and maximize safety, Secretary Cahill elected to construct five eight-foot sections of roof cap on the ground using glue and exterior grade fasteners. He primed and painted the sections, custom cut them to length and then installed them on the roof (see the "after" photos)

Due to the slight curvature of the station roof, there were gaps between the butt joints of adjacent sections. To improve the overall appearance and more importantly to prevent rain water from penetrating through these gaps, the gaps were covered with two-inch wide Venetian blind slats in matched paint color and fastened using stainless steel screws.

Hopefully, the replacement roof cap will last a very long time. Also, if/when replacement of the station's wooden roof shingles becomes necessary, it should be fairly easy to remove and reinstall the new roof cap to facilitate the re-shingling of the roof.



Building a Baldwin

by Steve Mallon

A little over a year ago I decided I was going to build another 1.5 scale Diesel. This time it would be larger than my first build, a two axle GE "critter". But it had to be something I could build as accurately as possible, be something different, and be a locomotive that still exists. So after some consideration I decided on a Baldwin DS-4-4-750. Not only have I always been a Baldwin fan but there is a DS-4-4-750 at the Allentown and Auburn Railroad. So on January 2, 2022, with the help of Mike Bast, I started measuring the former Warner Sand And Gravel #14. Over the next month I returned a few times for additional measurements. I then did the scale conversions (one foot =1.5 inches) for the physical drawings with my brother putting the drawings into CAD for the parts I needed Laser cut. I also acquired a set of powered trucks from L&B trains that need some minor work and assembly. I'm currently working on the doors for the long hood, cab doors, roof, radiator tank and other detail parts for the body and frame. Then onto paint (Warner #14 in green) and then finally the wiring. If all goes well I'll have it ready to run for the first 2023 run day at PLS.





The
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P.O. Box 26202

Collegeville, PA 19426-0202

FIRST CLASS

