



The Second Section



Minutes from the October 18, 2012 meeting

Vice President Dennis Mead called the board and general membership meeting to order at 6:27 p.m., in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA.

Members in attendance were Dennis Mead, Ed Cronin, Carl Timko, Jack Sheets, Larry Johnson, Bill McComas, John Snyder, Tom Collard, Hunt Christie, Carl Ferguson, Tom Stewart, Stan Niwa, and Wayne Brown.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin gave the details of the financial report for the month, noting the move of the 518 went slightly over budget. Ed also noted that tax exempt forms were filed for the Pennsylvania state sales tax on purchases.

Ed made a motion to approve sending a check to the Meadville Auxiliary Police in appreciation for their help in controlling traffic during the lifting and setting of the #518 onto the display track. Tom Collard seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote of the attending members.

The #518 is now insured for liability at no extra charge to the organization.

Committee Reports

-Property / Equipment-

The #518 finally arrived in Meadville on September 24, hauled by Dailey's Express. The S2 was placed on display, with some difficulty, on September 25. For now, the locomotive looks every bit the part of a stripped hulk. Parts will be acquired where needed, and the rest that is already stored will be prepped, painted and installed next spring. Bernie Hanmore and Ed Cronin plan to travel to Worthington, Ohio to George Silcott Co. to pick up to air brake tanks. Jack Sheets agreed to pay for one of them. Stan Niwa plans to work on one of the couplers next weekend. Terry Martin is to sandblast three buckets of bolts. The board would like to get a coupler and step mounted so the caboose can be pulled back to the 518.

The light housing on the signal has been primed, painted, and rewired. The signal head is in need of two clear 8 5/8" lenses and one 8 1/4" lens.

Jack Sheets tried to patch the hole in the roof of the tool car. He is to contact Northwest Roofing, as they may have a black roof spray.

The board needs a letter to confirm ownership of the tool car from the WNYP Railroad before anymore work is started.

-Museum-

Both spans of the old Shenango Bridge have been moved to a location in Shenango Yard to start dismantling the structures. A portion of one of the spans will be dismantled and shipped to Meadville to be stored on property of the Economic Progress Alliance until the museum can be built. It is planned to use the structure either as an entry way into the museum or as a "portal" with a mock-up of a steam locomotive blasting through.

It looks as though, the museum will be acquiring a switch for a siding that is to be built on the museum site. A piece of track that once was the crossing at Spring St. extension is also being acquired. Plans are to be made to haul them to the museum site. The expense to have the WNYP Railroad install the siding is considered to be a fair deal. Preparations that need to be done before the siding is installed include grading the site, laying four to six inches of ballast, tamping after the siding is installed. Comp bars will be needed to compensate the different heights of different size rails.

The board agreed to change the wording for the FCVRRHS's resolution as a partner in the Heritage Center. Line three will be

reworded to state “once the building has been built,, the FCVRRHS plans to donate portions of its collections as free and outright gifts to the Heritage Center. This statement will give the FCVRRHS some control over what is donated to the museum.

Members of the Heritage Center board traveled to Roanoke, Virginia to view the former Erie Lackawanna SDP45 #3639. They talked with a consultant who said another offer was received, but fears their intention is to scrap it for the money. The Heritage Center board plans to make an offer exceeding the other bid, and offer a sum to hold it for one year. The unit needs repaired before moving, as the brakes need repaired, and lights and cab doors reattached. There may be a possibility that a local National Railway Historical Society in Roanoke, may be contacted to sandblast and paint the unit before moving, if acquired.

-Public

Relations/Education-

“Valley Express” editor Bill McComas could use more submissions to be included in the Autumn edition of the newsletter.

-Historical/ Archives-

The 2013 calendar sales are brisk. There are 84 calendars left in stock as of this

meeting, not counting those that have been consigned or sold out of the original 150.

Charles Young of Greensboro, NC recently donated a letter from the USA Railroad Retirement Board to a Mrs. Young, a 3” x 5” black and white photograph/postcard of Erie Railroad 4-6-2 #2929, a Christmas card with an Erie FTA depicted at Susquehanna station, a color photo of an unidentified 2-8-2, and a ten-print black and white album of the January 1959 flood in Meadville's Erie Railroad yards.

Roger Reinnagel donated a matted 5” x 7” pen and ink drawing of Bessemer & Lake Erie Railroad's Albion depot, seven issues of the “*Logging Railroad Era of Lumbering in Pennsylvania*” series, and a signed letter from author Walt Casler.

Donations forwarded from the Crawford County Civil War Roundtable Military History Library include a copy of “*Northwestern Pennsylvania Railway*” by C.L. Siebert, Jr., and an Erie Railroad passenger car book.

-Special

Events/ Programs-

Several model railroading and railroad history events are coming up.

* On October 27, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the second annual Ohio/Pennsylvania

Railroad Seminar will be hosted by the Little Beaver Historical Society at the Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church on Market St., in Darlington, PA. Preregister by sending \$20 to LBHS, P.O. Box 304, Darlington, PA 16115, or pay \$25 at the door. Topics include a complete history of the New Castle American Cyanamid, a review of the P&LE Stateline branch, from Hillsville to Bessemer, PA, and the B&O Foxburg line to Clarion. Author Wayne Cole will be the presenter who is releasing his ninth book of his “*Ghost Rails*” series called “*Ghost Rails IX - State Line Legends*”.

* Also on October 27, from noon to 4 p.m., the Orrville Railroad Heritage Society is hosting its Jumpin Pumpkin Jamboree and will include train rides that will load at McGill St. in Orrville. Rides are \$2 for adults, kids under 12 years of age are free.

(editor's note: Some of these events will have passed before this edition is distributed to the membership. Time constraints prohibit the compilation of The Second Section from being completed any faster. We regret any inconvenience).

* On November 3, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., there will be a Learning Basic Model Railroading at the Lakeland Community College in Kirtland, Ohio. Admission is

free.

* The Youngstown Model Railroad Association has released its open house schedule. The dates are November 3rd and 4th, 10th and 11th, December 1st and 2nd, and 8th and 9th. Hours are noon to 6 p.m. They have an HO layout and an O scale layout, each of which has over 100 scale miles of track. The layouts can be viewed at 751 North Four Mile Run Road in Youngstown, Ohio, which is on the corner of Raccoon Road and Four Mile Run Road. Admission is a \$3 donation.

* On Sunday, November 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., the Rainbow Gardens train show is located on the grounds of Waldameer Park in Erie, PA. Admission is \$4 for adults. The FCVRRHS will have a table at the show, so stop and visit. We will have merchandise for sale at our table.

* The Sebring Model Railroad Club's open house will be on November 10th and 11th and 17th and 18th. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$3. The club is located at 216 E. Pennsylvania Ave., Sebring, Ohio. Sebring is located east of Alliance, Ohio.

* The Clarion Model Railroad Club will have its open house at the Cranberry Mall, located on U.S. Route 322 East in Seneca, PA (south of Oil City, east of

Franklin), starting November 20 and continuing through December 30. Plans are to be open every day except Mondays, Thursdays, and holidays, including Christmas Eve. Hours are Tuesdays: noon to 9 p.m., Wednesdays: 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Fridays: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sundays 1p.m. to 5 p.m. They will have seven different layouts, how to clinics, movies, and a temporary hobby shop.

* November 18, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., the Conneaut Railroad Museum will host its Model Railroad Swap Meet at the American Legion Post 151, located at 272 Broad St., Conneaut, Ohio. Admission is \$2

* December 9, from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., a Christmas Train and Toy Show will be at the Lakeland Community College in Kirtland, Ohio. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$12 for a family. More information can be viewed at www.cleveshows.com.

-Model Railroad-

The HO layout that is used during the Thanksgiving/Christmas season needs some attention to spruce it up. There are some changes to be made, such as filling in the open area next to the backdrops, and eliminating a steep grade. It is hoped that a store can be secured before Thanksgiving, so the organization can take

advantage of the Black Friday frenzy. Some sites have been discussed including the former Scrubs & Such store in the Downtown Mall, and one store in the Kepler Hotel.

The three layouts of the French Creek Valley Model Railroad Club have been progressing. The TT layout has roadbed laid. The club is looking for sources of TT scale turnouts. The HO benchwork is done, thanks in a large part to Bernie Hanmore, who also was instrumental in building the frame of the N scale layout. Lights have been installed under the N scale layout to light up the HO layout. The roadbed is ready, using Flexxbed roadbed.

Memberships in the model railroad club are open. Dues help defray costs of materials.

-Membership-

We welcome a new member to our group. Roger Reinnagel of Edinboro joined October 12. Roger also donated several books as noted earlier.

Next Meeting

The next board and general membership meeting is Thursday, November 15, 2012, at 6:30 p.m., in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze, located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville.

