

## Minutes of FCVRRHS September 19 Mtg

The meeting began at 6:30 PM at US Bronze on Brakeshoe Rd. in Meadville. Attendees included: Bernie Hanmore, Denny Mead, Ed Cronin, Tom Collard, Tom Stewart, John Snyder, Jack Sheets, Larry Johnson, Carl and Vanessa Timko, and Bill McComas (acting minister?).

### 518 Discussion:

Member Scott Royer will start spray painting on Mon. or Tues. (Weather and Scott's schedule permitting) and Jack S. is standing by with 10-gallons of water (bird poop), broom, rags, and step-ladder. Paint required is 2 gallons @ \$80/ gallon. Tom suggested we find glass for the window frames to improve looks (after painting). Jack is waiting on estimate from glass company. Denny suggests we use masking tape to shield vertical hand rails (to be yellow) from black paint on horizontal hand rails. Ed has engaged the Butler Paint Shop for the yellow paint. Jack feels the wheel sets need steam cleaned (the local "Stanley Steamer" is best for rugs only). Lloyds' offers a heated power washer, but results may not be satisfactory. John suggested applying a gunk like degreaser to wheel sets and other stubborn areas with follow-up power washing later.

Jack has a 12-inch piece of 1/8-inch thick walled school bus tail pipe, with which to fabricate a reasonable facsimile of an antenna, when augmented with steel coils.

Denny reminded members that the Erie bells were historically black steel, rather than stainless or brass.

### Boxcar Discussion:

Jack has spent a lot of time trying to arrange transportation for the recently acquired red wooden boxcar, on long term loan from Lake Shore Railway H.S. in North East, PA. Trying to ship by means of CSX to Erie and hence to Meadville would be cost prohibitive, so Jack has approached several trucking firms as an alternative. The 25-ton boxcar has two wheel sets weighing 4-tons each, and the 10-ft width appears to be a significant hurdle for prospective truckers. Bogies under the unit may be considered.

### Coming Events:

Saturday 21 September: at 8PM; lecture on China's RR, at Lake Shore, North East, PA.

Sunday 22 September from 1-5PM Denny's Garden Scale Layout is open for viewing. Members and spouses welcome. Parking is limited at his residence, but parking is permissible at the lot immediately upstream from his trailer park off Route 97 and just north of I-90 near the site of the old Marx Museum.

Sunday Nov. 3: Erie train Show, Rainbow Gardens (volunteers needed to move stuff to the show before opening time).

Sunday Nov. 16: TCA Toy Train Show @ EL Train Station in Jamestown, NY, 10-3PM, non-members \$5.00.

### Calendars:

New 2014 calendars almost ready. Denny has been working with Mike to conclude use of the Ladner collection. The members voted to order 150 calendars and

increase the price to \$12.50 plus tax. Tom C. suggests we consider starting a WNYF calendar for 2015. Denny suggests using pix from all Meadville area sources.

#### New Plans:

President Bernie would like to see the Christmas Model Train layout displayed for shoppers and train buffs to promote our image. Tom C. suggests a site next to Sandy's Sign Works on Park Ave. if the Downtown Mall is unavailable.

Carl needs help with moving a number of heavy file cabinets from his basement. The files were donated for club use but need a storage site until the Museum is built.

Ed has explored the possibility of excursion trains and has found that three excursions per year would guarantee a reasonable insurance fee. Apparently Carl Belke will have to convince his superiors, because of an earlier accident in Quebec. Ed's study group recommends each excursion be held on a Saturday and Sunday- say May, (Tom S. suggests Father's Day Weekend in June), August and a fall color weekend in September. The trips would require possibly 2 coaches, which would have to be borrowed or leased, and box lunches could be provided. Scott Simon's 0-4-0 steamer is available from New York, but costs for engine and crew are estimated at \$1300/day (or more to turn engine around for return trips), a water stop at the half way point for steam, and coal would cost \$55/ton.

CCHS has agreed to give the Trolley Station to the Heritage Center and Museum Committee Chair for the Trolley Station, Dan Hyham, has received \$20K in donations for heating, etc. The Station could serve as departure point for excursion runs, a meeting place for the Boy Scouts, and a site for the model train layout in' back of the station. Also, exhibits from the Museum could be rotated to the Station.

Tom C. announced a sale on Erie and Crawford fallen flag models in O, HO, TT, N, and Z scales until the end of October at his Train Terminal.

The meeting concluded at 7:45PM. The next meeting will be October 17 at 6:30PM.