



The Second Section

Minutes from the November 19, 2018 Meeting



President Bernie Hanmore called the membership meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA. This meeting was originally scheduled for Thursday, November 15, but was postponed due to inclement weather.

Attending the meeting were Bernie Hanmore, Dennis Mead, Carl Timko, Jack Sheets, John Snyder, Stan Niwa, Nick Ozorak, Dave Ellis, Al Reibel, Mike Lynch, Pete Gifford, Wayne Brown, Dan Higham, and Terry Martin.

Treasurer's Report

Secretary Carl Timko read the monthly financial summary that was prepared by Treasurer Ed Cronin. Current balances, income, and expenses were disclosed. Income came from dues, donations, sales from the Erie Train Show, and calendar sales made after the train show. Expenses were the Penelec bill, rent at Parkside Commons for the Meadville Model Railroad Club, Laurie's Embroidery (shirts), a bank service charge, Crawford County Convention and Visitor's Bureau (publishing of the *Valley Express*), table fees at the Erie Train Show and a power pack for the Meadville

Model Railroad Club. The Erie Train Show sales record was not complete due to an outstanding check.

Committee Reports Budget / Finance

The 2019 FCVRRHS Historical Calendar was published before the Erie Train Show by Mike Vickey and were available for sale at the train show. Eight calendars were sold at the show. Jack Sheets received 30 to sell to his contacts.

Membership

The Christmas party will be held at the Cambridge Springs Trolley Station during the December 20 meeting. Members are asked to bring food to share. Dan Higham said he will have a cake for the event.

Model Railroad

Nick Ozorak updated the membership on the status of the progress of the Meadville Model Railroad Club layout. The three students are set to build mountains for the layout and will continue to build the layout while it is at 892 Market St., Meadville for the holiday season. Al Reibel plans to donate some Woodland Scenics material to the club.

The FCVRRHS will be receiving donations of American Flyer model railroad equipment from a member of the Conneaut Lake Area Historical Society. Patrick McHale already donated two O scale Erie Lackawanna locomotives, one being powered and the other an unpowered unit. Chris Manning donated some HO equipment after last month's meeting.

The FCVRRHS is always looking for donations of model railroad equipment to use in raising funds. Those interested in donating, can contact the secretary at blebuddy@yahoo.com to make arrangements.

Museum

The former Meadville Farm & Garden building (once the Bessemer & Lake Erie Railroad Meadville freight station) will be known as the Meadville Depot. The fate of the structure and property will be determined on December 20 in the Federal Court House in Erie, PA. The Northwestern Pennsylvania Heritage Partnership and French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society have placed money down towards the purchase of the depot, and have paid to have an environmental study completed. Another walk-through was scheduled for

November 23 at 10:00 a.m to check for frozen pipes.

Property / Equipment

The snowplow was moved this morning to a spot adjacent to the display track. Industrial Truck & Crane is scheduled to lift the snowplow over onto the display track starting Tuesday, November 20 at 8:00 a.m.

Then, the long ordeal to get the Russell-built snowfighter from Wellsboro to Meadville will be over. The next jobs concerning the snowplow is replacing the windows and having vinyl lettering made.

Public Relations / Education

The French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society will have its holiday layout display and sale at 892 Market St., Meadville, PA. A letter was written to the city Chamber of Commerce, who forwarded it to the city manager, Andy Walker. Mr. Walker then contacted the FCVRRHS, showed the store to four members, and came to an agreement. The store will be open Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., starting November 23 to at least December 23. The display will feature four layouts: HO scale Thomas the Tank Engine, the G scale Polar Express, Ed Cronin's HO scale switching layout, and the Meadville Model Railroad Club's HO scale layout that the students are building.

The city will let us have four keys to the door. Their

whereabouts must be known at all times. Those that need to open up without a keyholder, must contact one of the keyholders and report the exchange of the key to Carl Timko. The keyholders are Carl, Ed Cronin, Jack Sheets, and John Snyder. Members are welcome to help out at the layout display.

There was a discussion about the train set raffle benefitting the Toys for Tots campaign. There were a few who questioned why the proceeds would go to Toys for Tots. No motion was made to change the direction of the proceeds. (*Ed. note: The train set raffle will still benefit Toys for Tots, but a 50/50 drawing will benefit the FCVRRHS*).

A train set was being ordered online by Nick Ozorak. A motion to appropriate the necessary funds to purchase a small train set was made by Dennis Mead and seconded by Al Reibel. The motion carried.

All members have been mailed a copy of the Fall 2018 *Valley Express*. The lead article is of the arrival of the snowplow back in July.

Special Events / Programs

Upcoming train shows include the following:

- * December 8,9 - RIT Tiger Tracks Train Show at the Rochester Airport Radisson Hotel, 175 Jefferson Rd., Rochester, NY. The hours are 9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

- * December 9 - Lakeland

Community College Christmas Train & Toy Show at the college on Overlook Dr. in Kirtland, OH. The hours are 10:00 a.m to 3:30 p.m. Admission is \$6 per person, \$15 for a family.

There will be several model railroad open houses besides the FCVRRHS Market Street display.

- * Western PA Model Railroad Museum, located at 5507 Lakeside Dr., Gibsonia, PA (Interstate 79, exit 73, on Route 910). It will be open Fridays 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. with the following exceptions: Wednesday December 26, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Thursday, December 27, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday December 28, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Monday December 31, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The last day is Sunday, January 13.

- * Beaver County Model Railroad Club, 416 6th St., Monaca, PA, will be open starting November 24 through December on Fridays (5 pm to 9 p.m.), Saturdays and Sundays (noon to 5 p.m.). They will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas and New Year's Day. Donations are appreciated.

- * Mid-Mon Valley Model Railroad Club, located at 159 Main St., New Eagle, PA will be open on Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5 p.m., November 24, 25 through January 5,6. The club is on Route 88, a 1/4 mile west of the city of Monongahela.

- * Ohio Valley Lines, located at 1225 Merchants St., Ambridge, PA will be open on weekends

from noon to 5 p.m., starting November 24,25 through January 5,6.

* Youngstown Model Railroad Association, 751 N. Four Mile Run Rd, Austintown, OH has already had two weekends open to the public, the last will be December 1 and 2 from noon to 6 p.m.

* McKeesport Model Railroad Club, located at 2209 Walnut St., McKeesport, PA will be open Fridays (December 7, 14, 21, 28 - 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.), Saturdays (December 8, 15, 22 - 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.), and Sundays (December 9, 16, 23 - 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.)

* The Lakeshore Model Railroad Association in their new location at the Eastminster Presbyterian Church, 2320 E. Lake Rd., Erie, PA will be open only on December 8 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$3 with non-perishable food item or \$4 without a food item.

* Clarion Model Railroad Club will be at the Cranberry Mall in Seneca, PA (between Franklin and Oil City, PA) again. The hours are Wednesdays (November 28, December 5, 12, 19 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.), Fridays (November 30, December 7, 14, 21 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.), Saturdays (December 1, 8, 15, 22 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.), and Sundays (December 2, 9, 16, 23 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.).

There is one train excursion scheduled on the Oil Creek & Titusville for December 1. The Santa Train will depart Perry St. Station at 1 p.m. Fares are \$40

for 1st class, \$22 for adult coach, \$20 for seniors coach.

Next Meeting

The next membership meeting, as stated earlier in this edition, is the Christmas party at the Cambridge Springs Trolley Station, located off U.S. Routes 6 and 19, in Cambridge Springs, PA, at 6:30 p.m. Spouses are invited to attend. Members are asked to bring a tureen to share. See you there! And if you aren't there, hope you have the best holiday season ever!

