



The Second Section

Minutes from the November 17, 2016 meeting



Secretary Carl Timko called the membership meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA.

Attending the meeting were Carl Timko, Ed Cronin, Bill McComas, Jack Sheets, John Snyder, Stan Niwa, Al Reibel, Chris Manning, and John Nagurney.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Ed Cronin read the monthly financial report of the organization. Balances, income and expenses were disclosed, including a large donation by an anonymous source. Other income included membership dues, an insurance rebate due to the dropping of coverage on the #3378 bell, recycling of some batteries and the Erie train show. The main expense was to Vickey Graphics for the publishing of sixty calendars.

Budget / Finance

The board learned that once again the Thomas Dailey Foundation declined giving the FCVRRHS a grant. The board can try again for the grant.

Susan Yosten donated \$25 toward eight 25 second spots on WQLN radio. The spots will be used to advertise the layout at the Downtown Mall in

Meadville.

Members can now purchase a polo shirt with a pocket for \$21. Anyone wishing to order a shirt should contact Carl Timko at blebuddy@yahoo.com to do so. The pocket polo shirts will be posted on the website merchandise page very shortly. If the purchaser needs it shipped by mail, please enclose the appropriate shipping fees. In this case the shirt would ship by Priority Mail.

Membership

The Christmas dinner will be at the Downtown Mall Bistro on Saturday, December 17 at 5:00 p.m.. The entree choices are baked cod and stuffed chicken breast. The sides will be mashed potatoes and buttered sugar corn. The dinner also comes with a choice of salad, cole slaw, potato salad or macaroni salad, and bread and butter. The menu was voted on by the entire membership. Those that did vote indicated they would attend the dinner. Each party (individual or couple) will pay for their own meals.

It was recently learned that member Wayne Brown was to undergo triple by-pass surgery on November 18. No word as been received yet as to his condition.

Model Railroad

The big news learned at the Erie train show was that non-member "Shorty" Parker will be dismantling his model railroad layout soon. Many have remarked how his layout was one of the best in the area. The news started discussions of visiting the more popular layouts before they, too, are gone. It also shows a need to recruit younger members to keep all facets of the hobby alive.

Property / Equipment

The final job of the year on the Bessemer and Lake Erie Railroad wooden boxcar (#80412) is to remove one of the doors to rebuild at the U.S. Bronze. The opening will be covered. All available usable wood siding boards have been used. The estimate is about 22 of the boards still needed to complete this phase of the project. The rest of the hardware also still needs to be mounted. Lettering will be painted on in the late spring.

John Snyder thanked John Nagurney for the use of his scaffolding. It made the project go a lot easier.

The secretary received an email from Randy Gustafson assuring that the snowplow does belong to the FCVRRHS. Mr. Gustafson was instrumental in



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getting the ownership question resolved.

Public Relations / Education

By the time you read this, the layout will be operating at the Downtown Meadville Mall. It is located in the Local Artisans Holiday Shop, the site of the former John's Hallmark card shop. This year it is located directly in the back as you walk in. The first day of operation is Friday November 25, starting at 11 a.m. It will close that day at 4 p.m. The rest of the schedule is Wednesdays and Fridays 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., with the reservation of starting early if a member so chooses. Saturday hours will be 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.. The last day of operation is Christmas Eve, opening at 10 a.m. and closing at noon. The train set raffle drawing will be at 11 a.m. The train set, a Bachmann HO set featuring a Norfolk Southern F7 and caboose, was donated by member Vanessa Timko.

If all goes according to plan, Santa Claus will arrive aboard a special train on the WNYP Railroad at Cambridge Springs and Meadville on Saturday, December 10. Everyone's favorite elf will arrive at the trolley station in Cambridge Springs at 2:30 p.m. and depart at 3:30 p.m. He will arrive in Meadville at 4:30 p.m. and leave around 5:30 p.m. Santa

will greet children and have candy to give out to them at both locations. The WNYP Railroad asks that a security line be set up in both places to prevent any accidents from happening. Volunteers are requested to help with that endeavor. The Santa Train is a concerted effort between the Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad, area fire departments and volunteers, and the French Creek Valley Railroad Historical Society.

Special Events / Programs

There are plenty of train shows and open houses to visit within the next month. The Clarion Model Railroad Club is having their open house at the Cranberry Mall in Seneca, PA, located along Route 322 East, between Oil City and Franklin, PA. Their first day is Friday, November 25, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Their hours are then Wednesdays 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Fridays 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Saturdays 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sundays 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Their last day is December 24 and their hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The Beaver County Model Railroad & Historical Society is having their open house at 416 Sixth St., Monaca, PA. They will be open from Friday November 25 through December 23, and December 30 and 31. They will be open

Fridays 5 p.m. to 9 p.m., Saturdays noon to 5 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Youngstown Model Railroad Association's open house is located at the intersection of Four Mile Run Road and Raccoon Road in Austintown, Ohio. They already have had two weekends and will have one more on December 3 and 4 from noon to 4 p.m. Admission is \$4.

The Tri-State Train and Toy Show is Saturday, December 3 at the South Franklin Volunteer Fire Department Social Hall on Route 18 South, Washington, PA. The hours are from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is \$5.

The Lake Shore Railway Historical Society is having their annual Christmas at the Station, with the last weekend being December 3 and 4. The LSRHS is located along the CSX tracks in the former New York Central depot in North East, PA. They will have a Dinner in the Diner and speeder and caboose rides.

December 4 is the date for the Medina (Ohio) Model Railroad and Toy Show. Other shows include the Tiger Tracks Train Show at the Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, N.Y. on December 10 and 11. The Christmas Train and Toy Show at the Lakeland Community College in Kirtland, Ohio is Sunday, December 18.



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Next Meeting

The next membership meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 15, 2016 in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA.

Hope to see you there or at the layout!

