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A monthly electronic official newsletter of the PRRT&HS published for the purpose of disseminating information on current issues and events pertaining to the Society's and Chapter's operations and administration as well as other information of interest about the PRR.

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Please send comments and corrections to the Editor at: edwardswain@aol.com

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MEMBERSHIP

As of April 13, 2015, the PRRT&HS membership for 2015 is as follows:

Regular	2,117
Sustaining	309
Contributing	71
International	27
Keystone	122

Total	2,646
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Non-renewals: 286 Renewal Rate: 2,525/2,811=89.8%

The number of new members for 2015 is 121.

RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA GG1 EXHIBIT OPENS

The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania will open its new exhibit “Riveted Jacket of Many Colors: A Photo History of GG1 No. 4800” to the public on Saturday, April 25.

From 1934 to 1943 the Pennsylvania Railroad acquired 139 of what many consider to be the most successful and iconic electric locomotive class ever produced in the United States, the GG1. Probably the most well-known of the class is the first, No. 4800, or as it is affectionately known “Old Rivets”. No. 4800 has had a long history, and has seen many changes to its appearance. This exhibit will survey the career of Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania’s own GG1 Locomotive No. 4800 through photographs and artifacts.

Designed for fast passenger service, GG1 locomotives were an integral component to the Northeast Corridor transportation system, carrying millions of passengers between New York City, Philadelphia and Washington for nearly 50 years. They were powerful, reliable and comparatively easy to operate and maintain.

After extensive testing of the original GG1 – No.4800 – the Pennsylvania Railroad employed famed industrial designer Raymond Loewy to streamline the unique locomotive’s appearance. When Loewy saw the prototype with its protruding rivets fastening the outer sheet metal skin to the frame, he ordered that all future GG1 engines would have a smooth, welded skin, making them appear more sleek and streamlined. As the only GG1 with a riveted skin, the prototype locomotive 4800, was given the nickname “Old Rivets.

No. 4800 has become a national treasure to railroad historians, industrial designers and the general public. The locomotive gained attention for pulling the first electrified passenger train out of Washington, DC in January 1935 and for its subsequent appearances in Pennsylvania Railroad advertising of the era. No. 4800 enjoyed a long career as a reliable locomotive, recording nearly three million miles in passenger service before transferring to freight service in the 1960’s.

Designed and built by the Pennsylvania Railroad, Philadelphia’s Baldwin Locomotive Works and General Electric’s Erie Plant in 1934, No. 4800 served the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Penn Central Railroad and Conrail before it was finally retired in 1979. No. 4800 has been listed as nationally significant and eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. It was also designated a “National Engineering Landmark” by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in 1983.

According to Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania director Jeffery Bliemeister, No. 4800- one of the Museum’s two GG1 locomotives, - is next in line for restoration following the conclusion of the comprehensive cosmetic restoration of the historic E6s Atlantic locomotive No. 460, the Lindberg Engine, which should be completed later this year.

GG1 No. 4800 has been outside in the elements, resulting in significant damage to its exterior components which occurred both during its 45 year service life and its 35-plus year exhibition at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania. In 2004, No. 4800 engine underwent an EPA-mandated remediation for asbestos, lead paint and PCBs. The estimated total cost of the cosmetic restoration of GG1 No. 4800 is \$404,000. The estimated amount of time needed to complete the project is 2 ½ years, which includes 18,000 man hours. Work on No. 4800 could begin in late 2015 or early 2016. Labor to complete the project is expected to include two fulltime paid restoration staff, two fulltime paid contractors and Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania volunteers. Donations to the restoration of GG1 No. 4800 are gratefully accepted via the Museum website, by mail or in person.

Included in the regular Museum admission, the “Riveted Jacket of Many Colors: A Photo History of GG1 No. 4800” exhibit is open during regular business hours and runs through Thursday, December 31.



SOCIETY ON FACEBOOK

The Society has been on *Facebook* since June 2010, we post interesting tidbits there from time to time. Check it out: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Pennsylvania-Railroad-Technical-Historical-Society/136126329733054>

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

The purpose of the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society is to bring together persons interested in the history and modeling of the Pennsylvania Railroad, its subsidiaries and its predecessor companies. Our goals are to promote the preservation and recording of all information regarding the organization, operation, facilities and equipment of the PRR.

The Society's quarterly illustrated journal, *The Keystone*, has been published continuously since 1968. Each issue of 84 or more pages contains illustrated original authoritative articles, about locomotives, cars, other equipment, facilities and operating practices of the PRR. The Society also publishes its own thoroughly researched books and other materials concerning Pennsy history. *The Keystone Modeler* is also a quarterly special 30-plus page online publication of the Society. These publications are for sale on our website.

The Society meets annually, usually during the first weekend in May, providing an opportunity for its members to get together and learn more about the PRR. Local chapters around the country also provide members and guests with regular meetings that feature PRR related programs, see listing below for chapter events. The 2015 Annual National Meeting will take place between April 30 and May 3, in State College hosted by the Middle Division. We hope to see you there.

Information about our Society may be found on our website <http://www.prrths.com>. To join the Society you may use the e-Store http://www.prrths.com/estore/index_estore.html#membership or send \$35.00 to: PRRT&HS, PO Box 54, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-0054. All memberships are for a calendar year, renewals after February 15th are \$40.00. The additional late dues fee pays to ship any Keystones that missed the normal mailing.

Drawings from Microfilm

Copies of PRR equipment drawings are available from the Society's microfilm collection. To order drawings, you must know the drawing number and title. Ordering information and lists of arrangement drawings are available on the Society's website, www.prrths.com, under National Society, The Interchange. If you require a printed copy of this information, please send your address and a check for \$2.00 made out to PRRT&HS to: Richard C. Price, 779 Irvin Hill Road, McVeytown, PA 17051.

**JOIN THE SOCIETY, MAKE DONATIONS, BUY BOOKS
AND PAST ISSUES OF *THE KEYSTONE***

AT OUR e-STORE

Visit us and shop at

http://www.prrths.com/estore/index_estore.html

CHAPTER MEETINGS

Support your local chapter - become a member.

ARIZONA CHAPTER

Contact: Sec/Treas. Phil Anderson 480-756-4359 ma393@aol.com

MEETINGS

The next meeting will be at 2:00 pm, Sunday May 12 in Phil Anderson's home, 2645 East Southern Avenue, Apt 596, in Tempe AZ. The program will be Bob Brubaker's report on his attendance at the PRRT&HS Annual Meeting.

LINES WEST – BUCKEYE REGION CHAPTER

Contact: Al Doddroe at: adoddroe@earthlink.net

MEETINGS

TBA

CAMDEN & AMBOY CHAPTER

Contact John Kilbride JKTRR@msn.com

Website: www.trainweb.org/camdenandamboyrhistoricalgroup

MEETINGS

TBA

CHICAGO TERMINAL CHAPTER

Contact: President Marv Caldwell at: ld_mlc43@comcast.net

MEETINGS

TBA

GRAND RAPIDS & INDIANA

Contact Jim Winslow at: G5s472@aol.com

MEETINGS

TBA

MIDDLE DIVISION

Contact Rich Ader at: richie0745@yahoo.com

MEETINGS

TBA

NEW ENGLAND

Contact, Tim Garner at: t.a.garner@verizon.net or write to New England Chapter PRRT&HS, c/o Tim Garner, Secretary, PO Box 624, Marlborough, MA 01752-0624

MEETINGS

TBA

NORTHERN CENTRAL CHAPTER

Contact President Jerry Britton at: jerry@pennsyrr.com

Chapter web site: <http://ncchapter.pennsyrr.com>

MEETINGS

TBA

PENN-TEXAS CHAPTER

Contact Secretary Walt Van Arsdale at: varsdale@verizon.net

MEETINGS

TBA

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

Contact: President Steve Staffieri at: interceptor92@verizon.net

Philadelphia Chapter website is: <http://www.philaprrths.com>

MEETINGS

Next meeting will be April 11.

PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Contact: Newsletter Editor Don Coulter 412-372-4221 donald.coulter3@verizon.net

MEETINGS

TBA

WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

Contact: Paul Schulz at: paulschulz@verizon.net

MEETINGS

TBA

WEBSITE www.prrths.com



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