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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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2015 ANNUAL MEETING

Over 340 members attended the 2015 Annual Meeting at the Penn Stater Conference Center in State College, PA. This was our first meeting in this excellent facility. Thanks to Chairpersons Rich Ader and Don Coulter and the Middle Division and Pittsburgh Chapters for hosting this year's meeting.

During the meeting Rich Ader, Dave Evans, Joe Acri, and Steve Staffieri were elected Directors. Dave Scott nominated Steve Staffieri for President, the Board of Directors offered him the position, and he accepted. Bruce Smith excepted the position of Vice President.

Mark your calendars now for the 2016 Annual Meeting in Camp Hill May 19 thru 21, 2016.

MAY 2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Spring (2nd Quarter) meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical and Historical Society was held Thursday, April 30, 2015 at the Annual Meeting at the Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel, 215 Innovation Boulevard, State College, PA. The following participated: Joe Acri (Director), Rich Ader (Station & Archives Committee), Jerry Britton (President, Northern Central Chapter), Ed Calhoun (Chair of the Fire Suppression Committee), Jack Consoli (Director), Al Doddroe (President, Buckeye Chapter), Dave Evans (Nominee for the Board), Dave Felice (Fire Suppression Committee), John Frantz (Member), Elden Gatwood (Modeling Committee), Andy Hart (Membership Chairman), Carl Izzo (Pittsburgh Chapter and Paint Committee), Rich McCarty (Treasurer), Frank Napoleon (Director), Dave Scott (Director), Steve Staffieri (President, Philadelphia Chapter), Bruce Smith (President and Director), Ed Swain (Vice-President and Director), Jim Trunzo (Possible Northwest Chapter), James Trope (General Counsel), and Ralph Weischedel (Corporate Secretary and Director).

1. The meeting was called to order by President Smith at 8:05 p.m. The minutes of the 1st Quarter BoD meeting, February, 21, 2015, submitted by Ralph M. Weischedel, Corporate Secretary, were unanimously approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

2. Membership

a. 2015 Renewal Status – Andy Hart circulated the membership report and noted that new members are higher this year than last; part of the reason is the effect of the PRR T&HS booth at train shows. He urged accepting payment for memberships at train shows. It was agreed to give those who sign up as new members at train shows the extra Don Wood Memorial booklet. Mr. Trunzo prepared a summary of total donations in 2013, 2014, and 2015. The total in each of 2013 and 2014 was over \$34,000. The total for 2015 may exceed that.

3. Financial

a. Treasurer's Report – Rich McCarty reported bank account balances as of 3/31/2015 as follows:

General Accounts:	\$335,583.54
Station & Archives Accounts:	\$254,715.76

The account balances at January 1, 2016 are estimated to be:

General Accounts:	\$229,483.16
Station & Archives Accounts:	\$145,454.50

The Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously.

4. Publications

a. *Keystone* update – Mr. Blardone. President Smith reported that historical articles have been coming in for *The Keystone*, but that additional articles are needed.

b. *e-NEWS* and *TKM* update. Mr. Consoli reported that *TKM* needs articles. Mr. Trunzo suggested that the recommended donation for *TKM* be increased above \$15. Mr. Swain reported that the *e-NEWS* needs material.

c. CD and DVD Project – President Smith reported that two individuals have volunteered to help in retrieving material. The Society needs a new production facility. Issues up to 2002 are available as pdf. From 2004 on, *The Keystone* issues are all digital; 2003 needs to be scanned. Mr. Scott then volunteered to retrieve the materials from the contractor. An index of *The Keystone* would also be highly desirable online and searchable. Mr. Britton volunteered to look into a searchable index.

d. New books

1) Equipment Series

o Panza, TTX Flat Cars – in progress. President Smith reported that this is moving ahead. The Society has paid the first \$2000 toward production of this book.

2) Blardone, Chicago-Florida Passenger Svc – President Smith reported that Volume 2 should be printed at this time. It is being sold by the Society directly for \$80. Volumes 1 and 2 will each sell for \$80

here, and for \$150 for both together. If someone buys the advertising book and both Volumes 1 and 2 at the Meeting on May 1, the total cost will be \$200.

3) Buchan, Erie and Pittsburgh book. President Smith reported that the book seems impossible to print, due to the size of the book and the anticipated volume of 300 copies. The Society has invested \$9000 in the book so far. It was agreed to ask Mr. Blardone and Mr. Buchan to look for an alternative means through e-publishing.

5. Annual Meeting

- a. 2015 Penn State – Middle Division & Pittsburgh Chapter – Penn State.
- b. 2016 Camp Hill – New England Chapter. Mr. Acri volunteered to help with the hotel. President Smith reminded us that the hotel owed us three free rooms from the 2014 convention.
- c. 2017 No location – No Host.
- d. 2018 No location (no contract with Camp Hill at this time) – No Host.

6. Marketing and Sales

a. PR Report – Ed Swain. President Smith reported that Fred Frietas is resigning effective July 1. Mr. Scott volunteered to take over those wholesale marketing responsibilities. The Society needs a marketing director who can orchestrate marketing to individuals. Mr. Swain suggested advertising in free press such as *Model Railroad Hobbyist*.

b. Web site – web master. President Smith has been updating the website. Al Buchan and Chris Baer have helped re-create the PRR Chronology for the website. The marketing material needs to be updated for the book discounts. Mr. Britton has offered to provide consulting for the web site. A web master must still be identified, one who can improve the web site.

7. Committee Reports

- a. Long Range Planning – Don Harper. President Smith recommended that the committee be re-constituted.
- b. Paint – Carl Izzo reported that little progress had been completed. He added that they are looking at additional colors, such as dark orange sash, metallic roof brown, and cab roof color.
- c. Modeling – Eldon Gatwood reported that many projects are underway and that many high end manufacturers are coming regularly to the Committee.

8. Station and Archives Operations – Rich Ader.

a. Quarterly Report. Mr. Ader reported that the outside scales have been redone; position light signals are due to be delivered within a year. Lee McNair, who handled maintenance, has passed away. Gary Hoyt of the Middle Division has been identified to replace Mr. McNair; he will be given a gratis membership, since he is donating his labor free of charge.

b. Fire Suppression Project – Mr. Calhoun reported on progress, since 2010. They are in the final stage of recommending what should be done. Mr. Felice described a double interlock reaction system, which are typically used in operating rooms, computer rooms and MRI rooms. When two smoke detectors are triggered, water is introduced into the pipes and the fire department is notified; only when the temperature signals a problem would water be released. A dry system would be used externally and in the basement. Aqautek has bid \$320,000. DC Goodman has bid roughly \$147,000; Digital Security would also be required at a cost of roughly \$4100 for a total of roughly \$152,000. All portions of the station would be protected. Mr. Frantz suggested that the bidders be contacted about giving a discount and claiming a donation. The recurring expenses of testing the system annually might be \$1000 per year. A conventional wet system would cost \$110,000, but would protect only the structure; thus, the remainder is to protect the archives. It was agreed unanimously to accept the DC Goodman bid and to authorize Mr. Trope to negotiate a contract with DC Goodman.

- c. Relocation of publication inventory to KPC. Nothing to report.

9. Legal.

a. A lawyer had contacted the Society for testimony regarding the authenticity of a document in a property rights case in a rails-to-trails plan.

10. Chapters.

a. Possible Northwest Chapter. Mr. Trunzo reported that 10 members meet four times a year. The Board of Directors encouraged him to support application as a new chapter. Mr. Trunzo suggested bringing this to his group at their October meeting.

b. Possible Long Island Chapter. President Smith reported that 10 individuals are interested in starting a Long Island Chapter.

11. Succession Planning

a. Potential future directors – President Smith reported that he is resigning as President and that Mr. Swain is resigning as Vice-President. President Smith volunteered to help with many responsibilities, such as the web site, and serve as Vice-President. Mr. Staffieri volunteered to serve as President, should he be elected to the Board at the business meeting. A brief meeting of the Board will be held after the Business Meeting, May 2, for the election of a President and Vice-President.

b. Officers. Nothing to report.

12. General

Mr. Acri suggested that the Society donate \$4800 to the restoration of GG1 4800 at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania. A suggestion was made that that amount be made available as matching funds. Mr. Acri will communicate the idea of matching funds to Al Giannantonio who served on the Friends of the Railroad Museum.

13. New Business. None.

14. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 p.m. The time and location of the next Board of Directors Meeting will be determined.

SOCIETY TRADE SHOW BOOTH

There is growing interest in taking our booth to local train shows and prototype modelers meets, etc. As was discussed at the board meeting (see above) we are generating interest in the society and new members as a result of this exposure. The Officers and Board are also exploring how to sell books at these events.

HELP IS NEEDED: The NMRA Midwest Region has invited us to participate in their 2015 eduTRAIN Education program conference, September 11 and 12 in South Bend Indiana. They will provide space at no charge and are encouraging us to sell books at the conference. If you are in the area, or know someone who might be able to host this meeting, please let me know as soon as possible at edwardswain@aol.com, or (513) 779-8211.

The following are the current committed dates for the display:

August 8 and 9, St. Louis Prototype Modelers Meeting (Bob Flores)

August 22 and 23, Greenberg show in Chantilly VA (Dave Evans)

September 11 and 12, NMRA eduTRAIN conference South Bend IN (NEED HOST)

October 24, Jerry Britton

February 6, 2016, Jerry Britton

April 9, Jerry Britton

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 2016 Annual National Meeting will take place between May 19 and May 21 at Camp Hill hosted by the New England Chapter. 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

TBA

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

Saturday, June 13, 2015 – Summer Chapter Meeting

Conway Scenic Railroad – North Conway, New Hampshire

Advance reservations required – \$52 per person. Includes pre-excursion tour of "Gertrude Emma", former PRR Pennsylvania Limited parlor observation "Libertas"; 21-mile, 1:45 hour round trip Bartlett Valley excursion; three-course private lunch for up to 24 chapter members in the dining car "Chocorua"; and a behind-the-scenes walk through the museum's collection and roundhouse.

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 June 27 at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania.

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



SOCIETY SERVICES

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