

The PLS GAZETTE



PENNSYLVANIA LIVE STEAMERS, INC.

P.O. BOX 26202, COLLEGEVILLE, PA. 19426-0202

March, April – 2008

Along The Main Line

I send you this, my first article for the gazette with much excitement and humility. Since I first set foot on this property back in 2000, (it was a dark and stormy night according to one person...) this place has become almost a second home for me that offers sanctuary within a park like setting while enjoying the fellowship of many passionate and talented people who all share a common joy of being outdoors and having fun with trains.



While pondering what to say in this note, I am reminded that in just the past 12 months, we have lost 5 highly involved and talented individuals, who shared their passion for this club by giving their time and devotion towards a common dream and vision so that as younger generations enter, they can sense this lasting legacy of pride. Salutes to B. Scott, E. Abate, B. Morewood, F. Watson, and B. Love. It is especially poignant to me to note the passing of our last president, Bill Love whose diligence, leadership, humor and tenacity are traits I most admired even when I may not have agreed with him. He always did his best – Thanks Bill!

Now with the coming of a new administration I cannot help to note the responsibility that accompanies this legacy and the serious challenges for survival this club now faces – both external and internal.

By the time you receive this newsletter an important piece of club policy will have been considered by our membership. The railroads motto of “Safety First” applies to our long standing goodwill policy of inviting the public onto our private grounds. Protection of our guests must be complimented with protection and stewardship of ourselves in the form of waivers of liability. Serious consequences as a result of unintentional mishaps can cease our existence.

The internal challenge for survival is the need for INVOLVMENT from our regular and associate members. Involvement can mean pitching in with projects on work days, helping with the various growing needs on public run days, assisting in the kitchen on meet events and planning administrative policy and future direction within the board. Cutting grass and painting buildings are as important as writing copy for a web site and organizing a library and kitchen.

There are already many of you who contribute every week in quiet but noticed ways. To those humble persons I say THANK YOU for all of your hard work and contributions! This club is not just a collection of handsome buildings and tidy landscaping; it is a community of fellowship for all ages and genders.

In the coming issues of the Gazette I hope to be able to report upcoming projects that are being considered by the board and issues that require your attention. Most important will be the never ending plea for help from our 300 plus members to execute these projects while trying to keep up with the week to week maintenance issues that come with the responsibility of our property.

I am but one person asking all of you to become regularly involved, to pitch in and share the load, to contribute physically, and to contribute your talents and time to make this club what you want it to be.

The past is the past. The future is now and I ask your help to support this field of dreams. See you at the track!

Pat Murphy

Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

President –Patrick J. Murphy–2439 Overbrook Drive-Gilbertsville, Pa.19525 email;PMurphy129@aol.com

Secretary –Lee Nonnemacher- 1474 North Wales Road –Blue Bell,PA. 19422–610-275-6070 email;secretary@palivesteamers.org

Treasurer – Lynn Hammond-439 Fletcher Rd. - Wayne, PA 19087-610-688-0463 lhamm950@aol.com

Board of Directors –John Geib –steamer38@comcast.net , Ron Henderson –ronjhenderson@verizon.net, Buddy Borders-

Borders@physics.upenn.edu, Bill Meyer-wvmeyer@verizon.net, George Cooper – georgecoop@comcast.net,

Bruce Saylor- bgsberk@comcast.net

Gazette Editor – Phil Paskos – 508 Boeing Av. – Reading, PA – 19601-1124 – 610-374-0498 email: philpaskos@verizon.net

Clubhouse Phone – 610-454-0477 **Club Web Site**: <http://www.PALiveSteamers.org>

CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2008

Sunday, April 27

Boiler Testing – 8:30 AM

Sunday, April 27

Run Day – Members and Guests Only, R.D. 5/4

Saturday, May 10

Board of Directors Meeting – 12:30 PM

Saturday, May 17

Membership Meeting – 12:30 PM

Saturday, May 24

Spring Meet

Sunday, May 25

Spring Meet

Saturday, June 14

Board of Directors Meeting – 12:30 PM

Saturday, June 21

Membership Meeting – 12:30 PM Afternoon/Evening Run, Members & Guests Only

Sunday, June 22

Public Run Day – R.D. 6/29

The PLS *Gazette* is published 6 times a year starting in February. Deadline is BOD Meeting
Membership cards will be mailed to all paid up Members with the April Gazette

Notice of elections

PLS annual elections were held during the scheduled membership meeting on Saturday, March 15, 2008 at 12:30 P.M.
The results are as follows:

President - Patrick Murphy

Secretary - Lee Nonnemacher

Treasurer - Lynn Hammond

Board of Directors -John Geib, Bruce Saylor

HELP!

Kathy Parris will be needing help at the upcoming Spring Meet in the kitchen as well as with baked goods, especially on Saturday and Sunday from 10:00 A.M. until about 4:00 P.M. on both days.

Spring Meet

The spring meet will be held on Saturday May 24 and Sunday May 25 this year. As always, running will begin around noon on Friday May, 23. Guests are welcome to arrive anytime starting on Friday.

Leases

Rental fees are now due for Building #3 and Building #6. The fees are \$48.00 for a short track, \$66.00 for a long track and \$150.00 for a track in the new car barn. For those in Building 3 not moving from one track to another bring your lease and check in with George Cooper to have your lease stamped for 2008. All other lease holders see George to have your lease signed and keys issued after you have paid.

William J. Love II, 1935-2008

Bill was born in Norristown on Christmas Eve in 1935 to the late Williams James Love Sr., and Anna Haines Love.

He was a veteran of the US Army and a well-respected expert in industrial heating systems. Bill's work included several steel plants and NASA, which led to work on the world's first freeze-dried coffee plant.

Bill became an associate member of the Live Steamers on October 26th, 1991, and became a regular member in 1992. His involvement developed even more when he served with passion, dedication and pride as the club president from 2003 until his death in March 14, 2008

Bill worked on the club safety committee and fought to have the club run in a democratic manner to include the voices of all members. He believed in parliamentary rules in all club meetings, working towards order and fairness for all present. He enjoyed recruiting the younger members into the club with his engaging and outgoing personality, encouraging them to work alongside the veterans in its planning and running. His presence at the public run days enticed many new members.

Before suffering his stroke in 1999, Bill was very active in the building and maintenance work of the club, and afterwards, in the administration. His PLS Gazette editorials, "The Prez Sez" were widely read and enjoyed by the members and their families.

Bill was a skilled scientist who loved both reading and writing. He authored many technical articles, had a brilliant mind which could not only understand but also explain anything in the technical realm. He loved the Internet and spent many hours on the computer sending numerous emails to members and former associates.

He is survived by his beloved wife Rose Ann (Hall) Wagner-Love; a son William J. Love III and wife Cathy, of Montana; a daughter Mary Rosasco and her husband Rich of Maryland; a stepson Brett Wagner and his wife Holly of Douglassville; a stepdaughter Greta Wagner of Maryland; two sisters, Susan Lewis of Myrtle Beach, SC, and Mary Schlichter of Pottstown, Pa; and four beloved grandchildren; Erica, Ryan, Delaney and Savanna.

Bill was a treasured member of the Live Steamers, and we will all miss this man who was always there on workdays and run days, and provided interesting and informative conversations outside the clubhouse.

He was a good man and a good friend

Tom Tucker



.Thanks again to Janet Jones for working to bring us these pictures of Bill. His special talents will be sorely missed at P.L.S.

PLS Library Committee report for April 2008

We continue to receive many generous donations from our members of books and video material. Recently, Don Maleta donated several dozen videos from the collection of the late Frank Watson, his grandfather, who was noted for his own photography and knowledge as a rail fan. Included are several of videos highly relevant to the club such as movie footage of the Perkiomen branch of the Reading in the 50's—the roadbed of which you drive over to enter the club.

Bob Kulp continues to give us many books both for our library and to sell on run days when our sales table is out next to the station. The Jack Ogle family has also given many books for both purposes.

Once again, our books and videos are available for monthly loan to associate and regular members. In the clubhouse we have a glass display case where you can see most of our recent additions. Also available in the clubhouse is a library catalog of all our books and videos for your examination. We currently have over 550 books/booklets and around 75 videos/DVD's all on train or train related subjects.

As an example of our fare, consider the paperback by Martin Evans entitled "The Model Steam Locomotive: A complete treatise on design and construction" which is 208 pages. It describes in great detail how to construct working live steam model locomotives. Even if you're not going to build a steam loco, it is very interesting to browse and gives one a much better understanding and appreciation of the steam locomotives that you see at the club.

Lynn Hammond

Notice – Please Read – New procedure for entering PLS property

PLS will be instituting a new procedure whereby all adult non-members entering PLS property will be required to complete and sign an “Assumption of the Risk, Release of Liability, and Indemnification” form (hereinafter referred to as “waiver.”) This includes spouses and guests of PLS members. In addition, an adult will be required to complete a waiver to take responsibility for all children under 18 years of age. This waiver is similar to the release of liability that members are required to complete annually and will extend similar protection for PLS to *all* persons entering PLS property.

All persons entering the property will need to do so via the main entrance at the front of the property. There will be tables there where PLS personnel will assist in completion of the waiver forms. Wrist bands will be issued to everyone entering the property and anyone without a wrist band will be challenged. A list will be kept of those who have completed the waiver and they will not be required to complete additional waivers for the remainder of the running season, although they will still be required to enter via the main entrance to receive their wrist bands. While most of us know each other, all members in good standing will need to carry and produce their present season membership card upon entry.

This notice has been issued primarily as a “heads-up” to all PLS members. There may be some delay entering the PLS property, as waivers must be completed by and for all family members and guests who are not PLS members.

This will be a learning process for everyone, including the PLS personnel administering the process and our guests. We ask for your patience during the process.



April 2008- New Retaining Wall



Secretary: Lee Nonnemacher



Board Of Directors: Ron Henderson



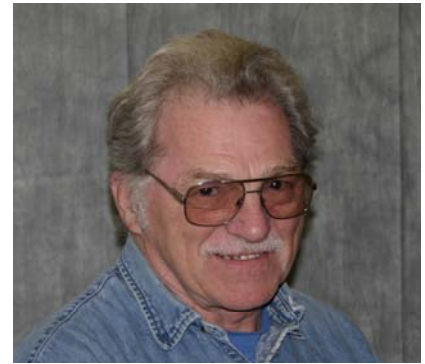
Board Of Directors: "Big" John Geib



Board Of Directors: Buddy Borders



Board Of Directors: George Cooper



Board Of Directors: Bruce Saylor



Board Of Directors: Bill Meyer



Gazette Editor: Phil Paskos

Below: March 2008: Replace ties with stone wall



March- 2008- New Retaining Wall

Editor's Notes

This particular issue of the Gazette is never easy. Getting the updated member list together is always a chore. The delay in getting this issue out was by request of our new president so we could get the membership to vote on the waivers that all non-members will be required to sign before they are allowed on PLS property. Paid up members sign the waiver on a yearly basis when they pay their membership dues. After a lively discussion about how to implement this added work-load on the members, the membership passed this necessary item. People will be needed at the entrance to the property to make sure non-members sign the waivers and all people entering will be required to wear an armband. Special passes will also be issued. The number of lawsuits and subsequent large increases in insurance at several clubs around the country forces us to take these steps. The Spring meet will see the first implementation of these procedures.

By the way, this will be the last Gazette you will receive if you have not paid your dues for the 2008 season. We value your membership and hope you will continue your membership with *PLS*. So if you did not receive a membership card with this Gazette, we have not received your dues for this year. Check with Lynn Hammond, our Treasurer, if this is an issue.

The loss of Bill Love was difficult for me to swallow. I didn't always agree with Bill, but I always respected his views and his engineering background is a talent that will be sorely missed at PLS. His very special sense of humor will also be missed by all who knew him.

Phil.P.

Coal for Sale

I have 50-lb bags of blacksmith #3 pea-sized coal for sale at \$20.00 per bag. It is informally referred to as "pocohontas" and is in clean bags. I can bring to meets if pre arranged or pickup/delivery options are available from Blairstown NJ. Contact me at 973-476-8600.

We picked up a little extra when we made our run this year, so If anyone is interested, they can contact me or my father Charlie.
Thanks- Ken

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FIRST CLASS



Think Spring Meet !!