



PENNSYLVANIA LIVE STEAMERS, INC.

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

July, August - 2009

Along The Main Line

Change..., Growing pains..., Maturing... In one way or another, these words all point to the same meaning or emotion. All are an important part of life that we often associate with some misgivings while realizing that they all represent a forward motion towards a common good.

Last month the membership voted 3 to 1 to cease regular public run days at PLS starting in 2010. They will be replaced with membership run days instead. (see more on this within this issue of the Gazette). This decision did not come easily or quickly. A full year of contemplation by the membership had passed with most active members having a chance to reflect and discuss the situation and options. In a democracy the chance to be heard, to agree or rather to agree to disagree, is an important element that defines the culture of club and country alike. The experience of coming together over this issue, to discuss and reach a resolve and then to share at the PLS picnic a very fine meal organized by a dedicated few, and prepared by many, exemplifies what we as a club are becoming. This change in attitude does not come without some observation of melancholy as change has once again taken place.



The fact that we can overcome differences, share good fellowship and have fun all in the same wonderful summer afternoon is a testament to maturing of a group organization. As always it is good to see the growing number younger members participate, those who may someday carry on with the duties of this club. As I pass through the midway point of my commitment as president, I am very proud of the entire membership for this day and the manner with which we arrived at this moment.

Many thanks to "Big" John Geib and his family, Fran and Christina, for helping to organize the club picnic complete with a "Live Steam" Ice Cream machine. A big THANK YOU to the unknown and unseen persons also pitched in for this event.

Thanks also to Kathy Parris, John Geib, Sue Borders, Walt Mench, Jack Reed and George Cooper who have produced a fine membership brochure aimed at future recruitment for our club.

I regret to inform you that Jack Reed has unexpectedly resigned as Treasurer of PLS. Walter Mench will perform the duties of the Treasurer until the current term expires next March.

There is an acute need to identify PLS members who can perform regular data entry into the club computer with regards to membership and other related club needs. I would welcome any guidance or suggestions from anyone in the membership.

Don't forget the important upcoming FALL MEET - September 4-6th.

Also note that help will be needed for the upcoming Perkiomen Day, Sunday September 13 (rain date September 20). See you at the track!

Pat Murphy

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2009

Saturday, August 15 **Membership Meeting – 12:30 PM**

Sunday, August 23 **Public Run Day – 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

Friday, Sept. 4 **FALL MEET – Members & Guests**

Saturday, Sept. 5 **FALL MEET – Members & Guests**

Sunday, Sept. 6 **FALL MEET – Members & Guests**

Sunday, Sept. 13 **Perkiomen Day**

Saturday, Sept. 19 **Board of Directors Mtg – 9:30 AM – Membership Meeting – 12:30 PM – Afternoon/Eve Run**

Sunday, Sept. 20 **Perkiomen Day Rain Date**

Sunday, Sept. 27 **Run Day – Members & Guests**

Sunday, Oct. 4 **Run Day Rain Date**

Saturday, Oct. 10 **Board of Directors Meeting – 12:30 PM**

Saturday, Oct. 17 **Membership Meeting – 12:30 PM**

Saturday, Oct. 24 **Fall Clean Up**

Sunday, Oct. 25 **Run Day – Members & Guests**

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

Fall Meet Information

The Fall Meet will be held on September 5th and 6th this year. As usual, running may start on Friday afternoon, September 4th. Volunteers are needed for gate duty, station duty, and kitchen duty. Please sign up for a time slot when you arrive at the meet. Your donation of baked goods is always appreciated.

Please note: during the meet, the clubhouse refrigerators are used for food and drinks sold by PLS throughout the weekend. Should you need refrigeration for either personal use or items brought for the pot luck dinner, please use your own cooler if at all possible. Thank you.

PLS to Eliminate Public Run Days

The PLS regular membership, at its July 18, 2009 meeting, voted overwhelmingly to no longer admit the general public to the June, July and August run days. Safety and liability concerns were the primary factors that brought about the change. It will take effect beginning in 2010. So, the August 23 run day will be our last that is totally open to the general public. We will continue to have run days in June, July and August, as well as the rest of our normal schedule, for the enjoyment of all of our members and their guests.

Check out the PLS Website

The PLS website has been updated recently with two excellent photo spreads taken at the picnic in July and at the Spring Meet in May. The photographer for both was Allen Underkofler, who is also our webmaster. There is also an excellent YouTube video of the picnic made by PLS member Dave Sclavi. They can all be found in the Gallery section of the PLS website here: HYPERLINK "<http://palivesteamers.org/gallery.html>" \o "<http://palivesteamers.org/gallery.html>" <http://palivesteamers.org/gallery.html>. Enjoy! And be sure to check out the website regularly for news and updated features

Donation Acknowledgements

The club is grateful for recent donations from Kate Gulian and Ruth Morewood. Thanks also to Jim and Sharon Connelly for our new PLS donation boxes, which they custom made.

Also, our sincere appreciation goes to Ben King who used his steam traction engine to make the ice cream donated to the PLS family picnic by Jonathan Riehl. It was fun to watch the process and, of course, even better to eat the delicious results.



Roof truss crew hard at work. Much progress has been made since this photo was taken by Bruce Saylor. Rich Falzone has access to a machine that sets the posts and trusses in position. He kindly supplied the machine to PLS along with a competent mechanic who set the trusses for us. This saved a tremendous amount of time and back braking work. Next time you see Rich,thank him

Steaming Bay Roof Workers.

Walt Mensch, Frank Webb, Sue Boarders, Bruce Saylor, Lee Hart, Rose Ann Wagner, John Bortz Jr., Dick Speak, Jim Salmons, Dave Laird, Ken Evashaw, Bob Small, Bob Freer, Henry Blanco White, George Cooper, Buddy Borders, Ron Henderson, Sharon Connelly, and Jim Connelly

Club Membership News

PLS welcomes new Associate members Roger Kain, James Robinson, Mike McLaughlin, Jeffrey Sniden, Michael Condax, Edward Stenz, Brett Kerbel, Robert Heidenreich, and also new Minor member Bryan Freedman.. Mike Moore, Dave Sclavi, and Jim Connelly have been voted into Regular membership.

Persons wishing to help out on a committee should see the lead person for instructions.

Track Committee	Signal Committee	Safety Committee
Bruce Saylor-Lead	Ron Henderson-Lead	Bruce Saylor-Lead
John Bortz Jr.	Lee Nonnemacher	Pete Brown
Lee Nonnemacher	Frank Webb	Buddy Borders
Paul Rice	John Forsythe	
Bob Freer	George Cooper	
Jim Miller		
Ron Shupard		
Henry Blanco White		



FOR SALE BY P.L.S.
FROM THE ESTATE OF FRANK HARTMAIER
3/4IN. SCALE HUDSON 4-6-4 NOT COMPLETE
\$500.00 OR BEST OFFER

NOTE: Includes Drawings and instructions (Cat.) covering "step by step" method of constructing the 3/4" scale steam locomotives by Martin Lewis for Little Engines



There has been a lot of progress made on the Steaming Bay roofs. Those not familiar with the steaming bay area may not appreciate how difficult that area is to work with. It's very rocky and is loaded with old tree roots. The engineering needed to design a roof of that type was not easy either. The project is now nearing completion.

The decision to eliminate the public run days starting next year was driven by a lot of factors. Your editor thinks the decision was one that had to be made. It's a sad commentary on the times we live in.



The PLS Gazette
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FIRST CLASS



Think Fall Meet!!