



The PLS GAZETTE

A Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

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Green Signals Ahead

In the February/March Gazette, I mentioned that we need your help with a growing number of PLS "Projects". In just the past month we have added several new projects to the list. Below is a recap of those projects listed by name along with a thumbnail of the status. We have also added the Project Leaders names. Some of these Projects are what we considered new builds, meaning that it is new construction on the property. Some are needed maintenance projects that are required to keep the railroad running safely. Others are continuation of work that in some cases have been going on for years.

An example of a long term project is the improvement and expansions to the signal system. We will be adding signaling to a siding block on the one inch, 4 3/4 gauge siding on the north side of the railroad. A new dwarf single is needed to show occupancy of the siding. The reason for this improvement is simple. As you approach the signal and reach the pushbutton that selects the switch to the siding, the siding is not visible due to a grade change and curve in the track. Also the view is blocked by bushes that prevent the engineer from seeing whether the siding is occupied or not. The ground level dwarf would give the approaching engineer an indication that the block is occupied or not. This helps to keep a train from blocking the mainline and causing a traffic jam until the siding is clear or he or she has an opportunity to back up and reset the switch in order to continue on the main line.

What's involved with this signal improvement? A section of the siding track needs

the addition of rail insulators. The rail is cut and non-conductive plastic rail joiners along with an insulator that goes between the cut in the rail. Wiring is added to this section of the siding and that connects to a signal lamp card that will most likely be mounted in a box near the dwarf signal. Low voltage power will need to be run to the signal card from the closest power source - one of those small buildings you see near the track as you ride around the railroad. The wiring is buried in plastic pipe and usually in the ballast near the track. Since the siding already has an electric switch actuator, spare wire may already exist to power the new signal lamp card and the signal bulbs. When the dwarf signal head is placed next to the track a hole is dug and a small concrete post is placed in the ground with a pipe in the center that allows us to run the wires for the lamps (12 volt light bulbs). The project is not overly complicated, but as you can see by this description there are a number of steps that need to be taken over 4 to 8 Wednesday or Saturday work sessions in order to complete this project.

A Project like the "Porch Extension" is new construction. It is not overly difficult, but involves cylindrical footing holes to be dug for the roofs supporting posts and all the wood and metal roof work along with building the trusses to support the roof. The roof will cover a 20' x 30' concrete slab and the ground will need to be prepared for the new slab. Trimming and painting will round out the project. This is just a brief description of the work that we will undertake, but it should give you some idea of the scope of the project.

Here is our revised project list:

1. **Core Wall Restack** – Status: Started, Completion: 50%, Skills: strong back, Lead: Frank Webb
2. **Porch Extension** – Status: Variance Approved, Completion: 0%, Skills: woodwork, Lead: F. Webb
3. **PLS Main Bldg. Roof Repair** – Status: Not started, but urgent, Skills: woodwork, Lead: Paul Quirk
4. **Yard/Bldg. 3 Switch** – Status: Started, Completion: 95% Skills: many, Lead: Lee Nonnemacher
5. **Switch at Brown Box** – Status: Started, Completion 40% Skills: many, Lead: Ron Henderson
6. **Backhoe Lean-to** – Status: Not started, Skills: woodwork, Lead: TBA
7. **Caboose Paint Restoration** – Status: Not Started: Skills: paint rehab, Lead: Jim Salmons
8. **East Rahns Project** – Status: Not Started, Skills: surveying, track layout, Lead: Pat Murphy
9. **Foot Bridge** – Status: Not Started, Skills: woodwork/repair, Lead: TBA
10. **Dwarf Signal 1" Siding North** – Status, Not Started, Skills: (see above), Lead: Ron Henderson

Without your support we cannot and will not make much in the way of progress on any of these Projects as we get ready for the New Year of running. If you have interest or questions about the about projects, please do not hesitate to contact me and I will tell you what I know and put you in touch with the leaders of the fore men-

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-tioned projects. This invitation is for any and all Associate and Regular Members of PLS. You can reach me at:
president@palivesteamers.org

Please remember we are getting ready for our first run day on Saturday, April 23, 2016. We will be cleaning up the property over the next several weeks and could use your help getting the railroad out of mothballs and getting it ready to run. I look forward to seeing you at PLS in the near future.

Frank Webb, President

2016 Spring Meet Information

The Spring Meet will be held on May 28th and 29th this year. As usual, running may start on Friday afternoon, May 27th. Volunteers are needed for gate duty, station duty, and kitchen duty. Just sign up for a time slot when you arrive at the meet. Also, please remember that we depend on your donations of baked goods for Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

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.



2016 PLS Calendar of Events

Saturday, April 16	Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM Spring Clean Up in AM
Sunday, April 24	Run Day - Members & Guests Boiler Testing - Rain Date May 1
Saturday, May 21	Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM Membership Meeting - 12:30 AM
Sunday, May 22	Run Day - Members & Guests •No Rain Date
Friday, May 27	Spring Meet - Members & Guests
Saturday, May 28	Spring Meet - Members & Guests Pot Luck Dinner - 5:30 PM
Sunday, May 29	Spring Meet - Members & Guests
Sunday, June 18	Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
Sunday, June 26	Run Day - Members & Guests Rain Date July 3

Donation Acknowledgements

PLS wishes to thank the following members for donations received during February and March: Mary Spear, Buddy Borders, Jim Connelly, Sharon Connelly, Daniel Sclavi, William Shields, Barry Shapin, and Mary Mercer.

Club Membership News

PLS welcomes new Associate Members Ronald Cicchini, Domenic Zampogna and Michael Pershinsky, Jr.

Storage Track Payments are Due

To regular members who have storage tracks at PLS: your annual fees were due as of April 1. If you have not already paid, please see Bob Morris with your payment or send to PLS c/o the Treasurer.

Membership Gauge

As of March 31, 2016 PLS has:

- 101 Regular Members**
- 174 Associate Members**
- 10 Honorary Members**

Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

President	Frank Webb	77 Roundwood Circle, Collegeville, PA 19426	president@palivesteamers.org
Secretary	Lee Nonnemacher	1474 North Wales Road, Blue Bell, PA 19422	lee_n@msn.com
Treasurer	Robert Morris	3034 Black Swift Road, Norristown, PA 19403	rmorris1171@verizon.net
Gazette Editor	Lawrence Moss	815 Maplewood Drive, Harleysville, PA 19438	LarryMoss@outlook.com
Board of Directors: Peter Brown, peteprivate@yahoo.com; Robert Freer, W3YLT@juno.com; Bruce Saylor, bgsberk@comcast.net; Bob Hillenbrand, RDH7917@comcast.net; Larry Moss, l.moss256@gmail.com; Paul Rice, ricepaul@verizon.net			
Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc. • P.O. Box 26202, Collegeville, PA 19426-0202 • 610-454-0477 • www.palivesteamers.org			

PLS Election Results

Elections were held at the regular membership meeting on March 19, 2016. Frank Webb, Lee Nonnemacher and Bob Morris, running unopposed, were confirmed as President, Secretary, and Treasurer, respectively.

There were four names on the ballot for the board of directors, for which three were to be elected. Those elected were Bob Hillenbrand, Larry Moss and Paul Rice. Rounding out the board with one year remaining on their two year terms are Pete Brown, Bob Freer and Bruce Saylor.

Congratulations and best wishes to those elected.

Down Sizing

For Sale

Steel, Aluminum, Brass

Bar Stock • Drill Rod • Sheet

See or Call: Walt Mensch 610-323-4365



FOR SALE - Van Norman #12 Mill

\$1,500

Vertical or Horizontal Configuration

34" x 8" Table, Travel: X=19", Y=6.5", Z=11.5" Vert, Z=17.4" Hor, Head travel Y=12"

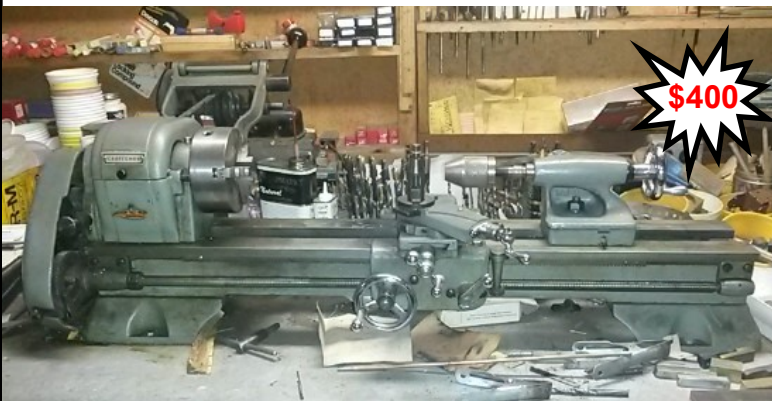
- Clean, good condition, normal "darn it's" in table
- Head rotates 90 degrees • Complete set of collets 1/16" to 3/4"
- Variable speed motor in addition to normal gear selection
- Shooting Star 3 axis digital readout • Power feed on X axis
- LED lights around spindle for work illumination
- Spare collet set for most sizes • Kool Mist spray cooler/lubricator
- Tools, carbide facing mill, horizontal milling bar and tail stock
- On dollies now, no steps - flat to driveway

Contact: Ron Henderson 610-767-5767 ronjhenderson@verizon.net

For Sale at prices shown or best offer

JET-15 Drilling/Milling Machine (cutters sold separately)

Craftsman Model 101.21400 6" Lathe with 3 Jaw Chuck Automatic Feed



\$400

Bed is 30" long with about 18" of work space. Good shape.

Benchtop old-school heavy duty with table vice.

Located in Broomall, PA

Contact: Jim Lord
404-271-8242



\$750

Montreal Live Steamers 2016 Annual Meet

July 1-3, 2016 / All Live Steamers Invited / 4,000 ft. 7¼" track on ground / Info at: montreallivesteamers.com




The PLS GAZETTE

P.O. Box 26202

Collegeville, PA 19426-0202

FIRST CLASS



Are You Hungry?

Because of the positive response to meet our kitchen staffing needs at the Spring and Fall Meets, we do not plan further limiting of serving hours or menu offerings. However, PLS needs you to continue volunteering and hopes others will join us. Just one hour of your time will allow the PLS kitchen to function smoothly.

The kitchen will be open until 3 PM on Saturday and 2 PM on Sunday. Below is a sample of activities where help is needed.

Sample of Activities Where Help is Needed

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Friday | 9 AM | 1 or 2 people, set up, etc. | 7. Saturday | 3 PM - 4 PM, | 2 people clean up |
| 2. Saturday | 9 AM - 10 AM | 1 person kitchen prep. | 8. Sunday | 9 AM - 10 AM | 1 person kitchen prep. |
| 3. Saturday | 11AM - Noon | 2 people serving & 1 cashier | 9. Sunday | 11 AM - Noon | 2 people serving & 1 cashier |
| 4. Saturday | Noon - 1 PM, | 3 people serving & 1 cashier | 10. Sunday | Noon - 1 PM | 3 people serving & 1 cashier |
| 5. Saturday | 1 PM - 2 PM | 3 people serving & 1 cashier | 11. Sunday | 1 PM - 2 PM | 3 people serving & 1 cashier |
| 6. Saturday | 2 PM - 3 PM | 3 people serving & 1 cashier | 12. Sunday | 2 PM - 3 PM | 2 people clean up/tear down |

Please contact Kathy Parris via email at parrisk415@gmail.com with any questions and to indicate your availability for volunteering.