



January – February 2024

THE PLS GAZETTE

A newsletter of the Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

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The Wheel Report

Dear Friends:

As with any volunteer organization, we are dependent and deeply grateful to everyone whose time is given in the service of PLS. We often cite those who perform Wednesday and Saturday work sessions, but from time to time we must also acknowledge the contributions of those who offer services and time behind-the-scenes. In this I wish to draw attention to just a few outstanding people.

Kathy Parris, our membership coordinator, has been a long and faithful steward, keeping the membership list up-to-date and advising on proper communication issues between members and the Board of Directors. Kathy will someday move on from the organization and a replacement will need to be identified. This is not immediate but for now, we are grateful and **thank her** for her efforts.

Up until the last issue of the Gazette, **Larry Moss** has been the faithful editor of the Gazette, performing his bi-monthly duties in creating a newsletter worthy of this organization. This is a truly thankless job, as it requires the editor to gather, produce and badger individuals to provide well written articles by the given deadline (present party included). As stated in the last issue of the Gazette, Larry has resigned this post due to personal reasons, and we sincerely and hardily say **thank you** Larry for your long service in this task. While it seemed there would be no Gazette until further notice, I am happy to announce that **Paul Miller** has graciously volunteered to serve as *interim editor*. Paul will continue in this task until a long term individual is identified.

Lastly, **Allen Underkofler**, in his quiet and unassuming way, has served as the club photographer and webmaster for many years. His artistic skill sets are excellent and well suited for an organization like ours. He helps provide the face of PLS to the public, who view our organization virtually. **Thank you**, Allen!

Like any other position at PLS, we should never take for granted these individuals who dedicate themselves to the needs of the club behind the scenes. We need members, who have not yet stepped up, to seriously consider offering their talents and time in the tasks of running a volunteer organization, in roles other than manual labor.

Many hands make light work!

In other news, please plan to attend the March meeting to vote on a ***slate*** (for a change) of Board of Directors.

We also mourn the loss of **George Cooper**, a long time and faithful member of the club. George's quiet demeanor veiled his usefulness as keeper of the archives of the club. George will be missed.

Please enjoy the rest of the winter and prepare for the upcoming springtime tasks in preparation for the new season.

Patrick J Murphy

President PLS

Membership Renewals Now Past Due

PLS renewal notices have been sent and were due by December 31, 2023. Please complete the form in its entirety and return with your payment in the envelope provided. Membership cards will be sent in early February. If you did not receive your renewal notice or have questions on completing this form, please Email: secretary@palivesteamers.org

Please keep your membership current. We value your support. Thank You.

Membership Gauge

As of January 31, 2024

- 91 Regular Members
- 8 Probationary Members
- 153 Associate Members
- 3 Honorary Members

Club Membership News

PLS welcomes new Probationary Regular Member Tom Battle and Associate Member Richard Smallenburg.

Donation Acknowledgements

PLS wishes to thank the following members for donations received since November: Henry Blanco White, Ken Chermak, Richard Moore, Richard Poletto, James Stapleton, Vincent D'Amico III, Jeff Guzy, James Larkin, David Staplin, Kenneth Thomas, Robert Blackson, John Caldwell, Patrick Murphy, Rick Stoughton, Jerry Bohlander, Mary Mercer, James Milo, Alan Redeker, William Stone, Carmen Visalli, Deborah Voynar, Robert Freer, Brittany Grimm, K. Ross Magee, Kathleen Parris, Joseph Rohanna, Michael Tillger, Ronald Marburger, Edward Overly, Chris Becker, Marc Carpino, James Miller, Roy Nelson, Doug Brooker, David Bucher, Thomas Diedrich, William Fluck, Russell Fox, David Klotz, Mark Layton, John Morris, Gita Talmage, John Wessels, Dale Woodland, Wayne Baldwin, Ron Drenth, Ed Kabak, Mark Landgraf, Harry Quirk, Jim Salmons, Jared Schoenly, Franklin Webb, Elizabeth Emmert, Penelope Landgraf, Jonathan Acker, Jay Forsythe, Thomas Gmitter, Bruce Barrett, David Laird, Chris Rood, Domenic Zampogna, Stanley Richmond, Bill Shields, Ted Xaras, Paul Nichini, Sue Borders, Paul Rice, James Adams and Michael Yingling.

2024 PLS Upcoming Events

- Wed, January 17 Board of Directors Meeting - 7:30 PM
- Wed, February 14 Board of Directors Meeting - 7:30 PM
- Sat, March 16 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
Annual Elections
- Sat, April 20 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
SPRING CLEAN-UP in AM
Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM
- Sun, April 28 Run Day - 9:00
BOILER TESTING
Rain Date May 5

PLS Elections

PLS Elections will be held during the Annual Membership Meeting on Saturday March 16, 2024 at 12:30 PM. Voting will be by secret ballot to elect a President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Board of Directors.

Nominees for the open office positions are as follows:

- President: Pat Murphy
- Secretary: Paul Miller
- Treasurer: Mark Cahill

Nominees for the open Board of Directors:

- Fred Daddi
- John Forsythe
- Jim Gotlewski
- Bonny Mallon

Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

President	Pat Murphy	of Gilbertsville, PA	president@palivesteamers.org
Secretary	Mark Cahill	of Perkasio, PA	mark.cahill@verizon.net
Treasurer	Robert Morris	of Norristown, PA	rmorris1171@verizon.net
Gazette Editor	TBD		

Board of Directors

Steve Mallon, mallonmusic@gmail.com - Term Expires 3/25, Events
Ross Magee, mrrmagww@gmail.com - Term Expires 3/24, Grounds
Paul Miller, pava77@comcast.net - Term Expires 3/24

Paul Rice, ricepaul@verizon.net - Term Expires 3/25, Track
Peter Brown, peteprivate@yahoo.com - Term Expires 3/25, Buildings
Jim Salmons, jjishay6@gmail.com - Term Expires 3/24, Leases

Pennsylvania Live Streamers, Inc. • P.O. Box 26202 • Collegetown, PA 19426-0202 • www.palivesteamers.org

PLS Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2024

Income

100 • Donations	
100.10 - Run Day	\$650.00
100.40 - Pot Luck	\$170.00
100.50 - Picnic	\$100.00
100.63 - Books and Magazines	\$115.00
100.90 - Other Donations	<u>\$8,650.00</u>
Total 100 • Donations	\$9,685.00
120 • Dues	
120.10 - Regular Membership	\$11,640.00
120.20 - Assoc. Membership	<u>\$5,285.00</u>
Total 120 • Dues	\$18,495.00
130 • Items Sold	
130.10 – Boiler Treatment	\$0.00
130.20 - Coal	\$20.00
130.30 – Steam Oil	\$0.00
130.40 – Machine Shop Equip.	\$0.00
130.50 - Soda Sales	\$450.00
130.60 - Snacks Non-Run Day	\$160.00
130.70 - Snacks Run Day	\$440.00
130.80 – Kitchen Sales	\$0.00
130.90 - Sales Table Taxable	\$375.00
130.91 - Sales Table Non-tax	\$975.00
130.94 - Sales 75th Taxable	\$75.00
130.95 - Sale 75th Non-taxable	<u>\$100.00</u>
Total 130 • Items Sold	\$2,595.00
140 • Storage Trax Fees	
140.30 - Building #3 Rental	\$5,292.00
140.60 - Building #6 Rental	\$2,748.00
140.80 - Building #8 Rental	<u>\$801.00</u>
Total 140 • Storage Trax Fees	\$8,841.00
Total Income	\$38,046.00

Expenses

200 • Utilities		225 • Sales	
200.10 - Electric	\$2,300.00	225.20 - Snacks	\$300.00
200.30 - Septic Tank	\$1,240.00	225.30 - Soda	\$600.00
200.40 - Portable Toilets	\$1,485.00	225.40 - Table Sales	<u>\$1,000.00</u>
200.60 - Dumpster	<u>\$2,520.00</u>	Total 225 • Sales	\$1,900.00
Total 200 - Utilities	\$7,545.00	226 • Special Projects	
210 • Miscellaneous Expense		225.20 – Building 6 Doors	<u>\$0.00</u>
210.20 - Picnic	\$300.00	Total 226 • Special Projects	\$0.00
210.30 - Pot Luck	\$300.00	227 • Flood Expenses	
210.40 - Security	<u>\$0.00</u>	227.10 – Building #1	\$600.00
Total 210 • Misc. Expense	\$600.00	227.10 – Building #2 -6	\$0.00
220 • Maintenance		227.10 – Bathrooms	<u>\$0.00</u>
220.10 - Backhoe	\$0.00	Total 226 • Flood Expenses	\$600.00
220.11 – Mach. Shop Supplies	\$0.00	Total Expenses	
220.20 - Building #1	\$200.00		\$41,358.00
220.30 - Buildings #2-8	\$600.00		
220.40 - Gauge 1	\$200.00		
220.50 - Track	\$5,000.00		
220.60 - Mower	\$500.00		
220.70 - Signals	\$420.00		
220.80 - Gas Mowing	\$280.00		
220.90 - Gas Track	\$0.00		
220.91- Club Locomotive	\$0.00		
220.92 - Landscaping	\$0.00		
220.93 – Tree Trimming	\$5000.00		
220.94 – Fire Extinguishers	\$400.00		
220.99 – Misc. Maint.	<u>\$300.00</u>		
Total 220 • Maintenance	\$12,900.00		
223 • Communications			
223.10 - Gazette Postage	\$300.00		
223.20 - Gazette Printing	\$720.00		
223.30 - Other Printing	\$240.00		
223.40 - Computer	\$650.00		
223.50 - Internet	\$1,548.00		
223.60 - Community Support	\$250.00		
223.70 - Waiver Sheets	\$75.00		
223.80 - Web Page	\$750.00		
Total 223 • Communications	\$4,533.00		
224 • Corporate			
24.10 - Legal & Prof. Fees	\$1,550.00		
224.11 - Delaware Corp. Tax	\$75.00		
224.20 - Office General	\$270.00		
224.30 - Property Tax	\$5,300.00		
224.40 - Sales Tax	\$70.00		
224.60 - Office Postage	\$305.00		
224.70 - Insurance	\$5,200.00		
224.80 - Corporate Printing	<u>\$300.00</u>		
Total 224 • Corporate	\$13,400.00		





George E. Cooper Jr.

George 93, passed away peacefully on December 13, 2023. George was a long serving member of PLS, having joined with Lee Nonnemacher about 1980. George was the go-to person for archives and general membership knowledge of the club. George was part of the “Phoebe Snow” syndicate and could be seen from time to time at the throttle of the spiffy 4-4-0. He was a sergeant in the United States Marine Corps during the Korean War.

Lift Bridge @ Building 3 – Operation & Safety



The painted Yellow drop wings on the Building 3 Lift Bridge have been damaged twice in the last running season. Photo shows repairs to the East drop wing including welding the cracked and twisted frame in July 2023. The drop wings have forks (just below the welds) that help lock them into place when connecting to other tracks. The damage made it impossible to lock the drop wing properly in its down position so heavy equipment could be moved. When the forks got bent it also cracked the frame. The drop wing was removed so the forks could be straightened and was then replaced after the welds cooled. This happened again later in the season, the difference this time the frame was not damaged. The repair of the forks was completed during the 1-1-2024 Run Event. We will need to watch the repaired forks; they may need to be replaced.

Operating the Lift Bridge @ Building 3 we should all follow some simple Guidelines. First the Lift Bridge should never be moved without the Yellow drop wings being the locked in the upright position. This includes rolling or moving the Bridge up and down. The only time the Yellow drop wings should be put into the down lock position is just before making contact with the desired track you are going to. Once the equipment is moved to its new track return the Yellow drop wing to the upright locked position. Also, if something gets damaged it should be reported. This could help prevent injuries to us and our equipment in the future.

Respectfully

Phil L. Smith

PLS Calander of Events

January

Saturday Jan. 20 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM

February

Saturday Feb. 17 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM

March

Saturday Mar. 16 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
Annual Meeting-12:30 PM

Annual Elections

April

Saturday Apr. 20 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
SPRING CLEAN-UP in AM
Membership Meeting –12:30 PM

Sunday Apr. 28 **BOILER TESTING**
Run Day – Members & Guests
(Rain Date May 5)

May

Saturday May. 18 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM

Friday May. 24 **SPRING MEET** - Members & Guests

Saturday May. 25 **SPRING MEET** - Members & Guests

Sunday May. 26 **SPRING MEET** - Members & Guests

June

Saturday Jun. 1 **Perkiomen Community Day**
Run Day – Township Residents

Saturday Jun. 15 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM

Sunday Jun. 23 Run Day - Members & Guests
(Rain Date June 30)

July

Saturday Jul. 20 **Annual PLS Picnic - 12:00 Noon**
(Train rides will be available from
Noon until 3 PM)

(Rain Date Sunday July 21)

Note no Meetings in July.

July Continued

Sunday Jul. 28 Run Day – Members & Guests
(Rain Date August 4)

Note: No meetings in July

August

Saturday Aug. 17 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM

Sunday Aug. 25 Run Day - Members & Guests
(No Rain Date)

Friday Aug. 30 **FALL MEET-** Members & Guests

Saturday Aug. 31 **FALL MEET-** Members & Guests

September

Sunday Sep. 1 **FALL MEET-** Members & Guests

Saturday Sep. 21 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM

Sunday Sep. 22 Run Day - Members & Guests
(Rain Date September 29)

October

Saturday Oct. 19 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
FALL CLEAN UP in AM
Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM

Sunday Oct. 27 Run Day - Members & Guests
(Rain Date November 3)

November

Saturday Nov. 16 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM
Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM

Friday Nov. 29 Turkey Trot Run – Gauge 1 only

December

Saturday Dec. 14 Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM

Note: Rides may not be available at afternoon/evening run days following membership meetings due to possible limited participation by equipment owners. All Members and their guests are welcome to attend with the understanding that rides are not guaranteed at these events.



The PLS GAZETTE

P.O. Box 26202
Collegetown, PA 19426-0202

FIRST CLASS



First ride of the new year was enjoyed by Steve Mallon, Jim Gotlewski, Paul Miller, Henry Blanco White, John Kelly, Joe Gotlewski. Standing; Jay Forsythe, Bruce Saylor, Pay Murphy, Jeff Dolhanczyk and family. Three cheers to John for firing up his Locomotive.