



July – August 2024

# THE PLS GAZETTE

A newsletter of the Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

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## The Wheel Report

Dear Friends:

With the conclusion of the summer picnic this past July 20<sup>th</sup>, we move past the halfway point of our season and look forward to the final events of the Fall meet on August 30, 31, September 1st. and the cooler weather associated for the final run days of September and October.

As always, members (Regular and Associate) help and participation is gratefully needed with getting the property in shape (outside as well as inside bathrooms) for the Fall event including gate duty and the Saturday cookout. Help will also be needed for the remaining run days as well.

**Steve Mallon**, with support from his mom **Bonnie**, continues to provide leadership for these run day events. **Gwen Forsythe** along with the entire Forsyth family continue to offer gracious hospitality for the Fall meet in the form of delicious food including breakfast. To these key people we say **Thank you**.

Trackwork continues with able leadership from **Rick Stoughton**, **Terry Weinstein**, **George Fitzgerald**. Support is added by **Paul Miller** and **Jim Adams**.

- Interested in learning how to make and lay track? **Help and teaching opportunities are always available to anyone on Saturday mornings.**
- Property painting continues by **Jim Adams**, **Theodore Flood** and **Larry Moss**.
- We also welcome new regular members **David Kim** and **Luigi Ricci Moretti**.
- Sincere condolences go out to the Madlinger family and the members at the New Jersey Live Steamers on the sudden unexpected passing of President Gary Madlinger. (see Page 11)

Additional help will be needed on upcoming fall projects including,

- painting of floor for entire clubhouse; installation of floor base molding in clubhouse;
- installation of condensation drains in retaining wall by Building 6;
- tree removal work (chipper party for spring of 2025).
- completion of electrical wiring for outdoor pavilion.
- Donations are now being sought for roof replacement in building 3.

Thank you one and all for your hard work. See you at the track

Patrick J Murphy

President PLS, Inc.

## PLS - Repairs



The Brake on the Bldg.3 Bridge has been replaced with new and better components. Special thanks to Frank Webb who led the effort with help from Jim Salmons.

Please remember the Brake is for momentary use. Also never raise or low the Bridge unless the wings are up.

## Club Membership News

PLS welcomes new Associate members Dave Strouse, Ethan Isajewicz, Donald Way Jr, Jeffrey Knueppel PE, Kerwin Leh, Mark Lemmo, Dylan Romig, Zachary Rose, and George Brennan. David Haring and William Shields have applied to upgrade from Associate to Regular membership.

## Membership Gauge

As of July 31, 2024

- 92** Regular Members
- 10** Probationary Members
- 143** Associate Members
- 2** Honorary Members



## Donation Acknowledgements

PLS wishes to thank the following for their donations: Cheryl Guffey, Bob Blackson, John Forsythe, Larry Moss, Kathy Parris, Paul Miller, the Jerusalem Lutheran Nursery School of Schwenksville and the Delaware Valley Triumphs LDT Car Club.

## 2024 PLS Upcoming Events

- Sun, Aug 25      **Run Day - Members and Guests - 9:00**  
**No Rain Date**
- Fri, Aug 30      **FALL MEET - Members and Guests**
- Sat, Aug 31      **Breakfast & Lunch, Pot Luck Dinner**
- Sun, Sept 1      **Breakfast & Lunch**
- Sat, Sept 21      **Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM**  
**Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM**
- Sun, Sept 22      **Run Day - Members and Guests - 9:00**  
**Rain Date Sept 29**
- Sat, Oct 26      **Board of Directors Meeting - 9:30 AM**  
**FALL CLEAN UP in AM**  
**Membership Meeting - 12:30 PM**
- Sun, Oct 27      **Run Day - Members and Guests - 9:00**  
**Rain Date Nov 3**

## Pennsylvania Live Steamers, Inc.

<b>President</b>	Pat Murphy	of Gilbertsville, PA	<a href="mailto:president@palivesteamers.org">president@palivesteamers.org</a>
<b>Secretary</b>	Paul Miller	of West Chester, PA	<a href="mailto:secretary@palivesteamers.org">secretary@palivesteamers.org</a>
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mark Cahill	of Perkasie, PA	<a href="mailto:treasurer@palivesteamers.org">treasurer@palivesteamers.org</a>
<b>Gazette Editor</b>	TBD - Paul Miller (Interim)		

### Board of Directors

Steve Mallon, mallonmusic@gmail.com - Term Expires 3/25, Events

Paul Rice, ricepaul@verizon.net - Term Expires 3/25

John Forsythe, john@tcsdcc.com - Term Expires 3/26

Peter Brown, peteprivate@yahoo.com - Term Expires 3/25, Buildings

Bonny Mallon, quiltsewladyl@yahoo.com - Term Expires 3/26

Fred Daddi, F\_Daddi@yahoo.com - Term Expires 3/26

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# Remembrance

Of Henry Blanco-White,  
written by Theodore Flood.



We all know Henry as the one who came every Saturday and Wednesday, the British man who was our own ambassador, as Pat Murphy would say. He was the person who taught me how to drive a tractor and had such a long beard it would sometimes catch on fire. He did everything the hard way and teaching him the easy way was like trying to teach a baby the quadratic formula. Henry was a mix of all personalities: funny, stubborn, a teacher, and the kind of guy who, when you asked for the time, would tell you the history of the clock instead.

I remember on my first workday; he was the first person I met. He showed me around all the items, tools, projects, and basic history of PLS. That same week, we pulled out the work train to get extra tools, and of course, being Henry, he left the brakes on on purpose, making me look like a fool trying to push it into the shed. Even though sometimes I wished I was at home watching TV because of his constant rambling, it was still nice to see him pop up every workday as he showed true dedication to the club. That was the main part. He actually gave me the motivation to show up to every single workday possible and taught me and some other good friends how to work hard.

Especially when he taught me how to operate the tractor, I remember when I was testing the speed in the field. Henry came to inspect because he thought the highest speed was too slow, and while looking over, he accidentally caught his foot in the tractor and made me run over him. Everyone was okay, and we got a good laugh over our clumsiness. The next time, he left and made me go on my own, mastering the controls of the tractor, I remember the smile on his face when I was riding on my own. To be honest, a life without my mentor, the person who looked over me, was the last thing I'd expected. I thought he would at least live to see his own steam engine completed.



# Remembrance

When I heard the news, I never wanted to come back to PLS again. All my motivation was gone. But even then, that's not the right thing to do. The right thing to do is to move on, use his lessons and knowledge and teach new members what he taught us. Even then, it's still hard for me and my friends to continue because of how much he meant to us, but we still push through, even in the harsh Pennsylvania heat. By the time of writing this, it is August 2nd, 2024, meaning today is Henry's 68th Birthday. While he isn't here with us, it gives us many reasons to celebrate his life and to give him what he gave us: the knowledge, excitement, and motivation to come down here and pass it on so the club can become even more popular than it is now. It's what he would've wanted.

The only thing that's left to say, is that I'm glad that we had Henry in our lives, even if we thought he was annoying or boring, I'm grateful that I got to be with someone that really understood me, and the only thing we can say now is thank you. So, thank you so much Henry for making PLS a better place, who gave us reasons to come every single workday.

Happy 68th Birthday, Henry. PLS will always be your forever home.

-Theodore Richard Flood

Editor's Note: Henry was one of our best Ambassadors, and he also led many projects at PLS. Most notable he led the rebuilding project of the Multi Gauge Loop, including two of the Multi Gauge Turnouts.



# PLS Spring Meet 2024 Photos

All Photos by Allen Underkofler



Getting ready



Rush hour traffic



PRR on the 1" Main



All ahead Slow if you Please



Aerial view of the portable Layout



Hungry Yet ?`

# PLS Hosts Perkiomen Community Day

All Photos by Allen Underkofler



The Club train ran all day



Not a workout we are having Fun



A very steady line waiting for a ride



Coming around the corner



No cinders from this one it burns Oil

# Workdays at PLS

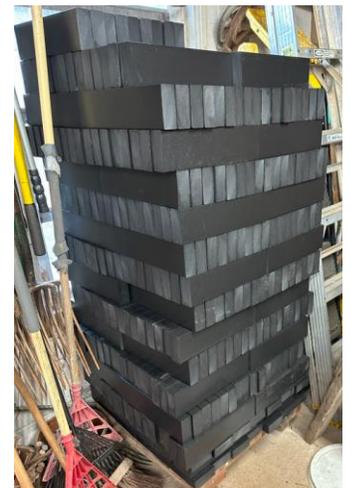


Workdays are every Wednesday and Saturday typically 9 AM to Noon. Work includes Track, Grounds and Buildings.



Bruce Barrett's Project Ride the Pine is now up to 5 benches updated. See Bruce if you would like to donate and get more benches updated.

Bruce has also started replacing the Deck at the Turntable. Please note the before photo and then the new foundation.



Project Remove & Replace is now well under way. Rick and the crew are working rain or shine. The 1.5" Main going south from Mercer Bridge is now stabilized with new Plastic Ties. Come out and join the fun we have plenty of new Ties with the predrilled starter hole ready to be installed. The goal is to preserve all the Steel Rail we can, especially on our grades.

Tip: when viewing the PLS Gazette electronically you can Zoom In and Out to see the Images in better detail.

# PLS Picnic 2024

All Photos by Allen Underkofler



Live Steam all day long



Even a few Diesel Electrics



Food was great and the lines moved smoothly



Thanks to all that brought side dishes



Looks like everyone enjoyed dining in the shade or out under the sun



# PLS Picnic 2024

All Photos by Allen Underkofler



Running smooth



Full Steam ahead



Looking at the traffic ahead



0-5-0 Switcher ?



RIP Henry, several members told stories and shared memories



# PLS Welcomes the Delaware Valley Triumph Car Club

DVT descended Sunday morning for our annual trip to PA Live Steamers in Rahns, PA. Invited every year for their "Run Day", with dedicated trackside and picnic table parking, 20 DVT'ers attended. Quite the spectacle. Steam engines as intricate, and more so than any LBC. Many steam and diesel (electric) trains running, with rides for passengers (children and adults) on the various cars they pulled.

A beautiful sunny day, perfect for a morning LBC drive there. We had picnic tables by our cars to enjoy our "brown bag" lunches we brought. The PLS members there were as interested in our old cars, as we are in their intricate miniature steam locomotives.

We had three red TR6's, a rare TR5, a TR3, a TR8, an MG, and a Mustang in dedicated parking, and on display for the PLS members to look at. Great time had by all!

Written by Bob DeLucia (Photos also by Bob)



What a lineup



Ready for a cruise ?



The members from both club's share



A different kind of convertible

# Remembrance

Of Gary Madlinger

1950-2024

by Cathy & Adam Madlinger



With great sadness, we announce the sudden and unexpected death of Gary Madlinger of Bridgewater, New Jersey from a heart attack while he was having fun with family and friends on vacation in Ohio. Gary was born in Ohio and shared an idyllic childhood with his parents and four siblings. At the age of 12, Gary's family moved to Piscataway, New Jersey. Gary thrived at Piscataway High School as an academic honor student, multi-sport athlete, and as an actor in the school plays. Whether as a youth or an adult, all who knew Gary know he never shied away from performing to the crowd.

Gary later graduated from Upsala College, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature, while lettering all four years on the school's football team. His passion for reading great books led him to getting a dual Master of Arts Degree in English Literature & Philosophy from Drew University.

During these years, Gary made friends with college roommates Chuck (Judy) and Rich (Linda) who, along with their wives and families, have remained his best friends. Gary was a popular teacher of the advanced English Literature and Journalism courses at West Orange High School, where he was in charge of the school's award-winning newspaper and also coached varsity football. Ever seeking career challenges, Gary combined his many skills and talents while embarking on a 31-year career in sales, marketing, training, and management in the telecommunications industry.

Gary is survived by his wife of 41 years, Catherine, and their son, Adam, all devoted members of the ride-on scale model railroad hobby club the New Jersey Live Steamers (NJLS), which provided Gary with decades of enjoyment and camaraderie. It was truly a family passion for them, as it often is for the Live Steam community, which also brought them to other railroads and Live Steam clubs around the country (and world) on vacations they shared together. As the long-time President of NJLS and Editor of its newsletter, The Whistle Blast, Gary dedicated himself to advocate both for the Club and hobby at large by enthusiastically nurturing a fun and welcoming atmosphere for new and experienced members alike, sharing technical and historical content of broad interest, and setting the Club up for enduring success in the future. He was respected and well-liked throughout his life, and he will be greatly missed by friends from the Live Steam community locally and nationwide. Gary loved good books, good music, history, science, and all things railroading; most importantly, he treasured his family as they treasured him. In addition to his wife and son, Gary is survived by his four siblings: Greg (Chris), Doug (Paula), Deb (Rick), and Matt (Kim); brother-in-law Bill; and by his many admiring nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be scheduled at a future date.



# The PLS GAZETTE

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## FIRST CLASS



Even some of the visiting DVT Car Club members hope to see EBT number 11 running soon.