



The Crusader

“Preserving the Past for the Future”

October 2014



RAiL Event at the RRHM is a Success

The Reading Arts in Local Motion inaugural events were held on October 24th and 26th. The boxcar by the North gate was decorated with six eight foot by fifteen foot art canvases designed and produced by : local street artist “Saint”, Reading High, Wyomissing High , Schuylkill Valley Middle School, Albright College and Yocum Institute for Arts Education under the direction of RAiL artist Andrew Pochan. Contractor Greg Hilbert volunteered his time to build a stage for the performances.

The canvases were “revealed” during a cocktail party sponsored by The Inn at Reading on Friday night. Sen. Argall, Commissioner Leinbach and Representative Knowles attended along with RCT&HS/RAiL members and donors.

On the 26th, Sue Lange directed the performing arts component of the program consisting of seventeen acts including poetry, ballet, Latin dance, acting, storytelling by Charlie Adams and others, and music by several bands including Caroline Reese and Mile Under. About 200 people attended the event, many of whom also visited the museum. The event was covered by the Reading Eagle with a page 2 article on Monday, October 27.

The project was funded through private donations and grants. Three major grants were provided by Pennsylvania Council for the Arts, the Wyomissing Foundation, and Berks Community Foundation.

Membership Renewal for 2015

Watch for your membership renewal form in your mailbox this month. Please help ease the work of the membership committee by returning your renewal promptly. Thank you for continuing to support the RCT&HS.

Support the Reading Railroad Heritage Museum When You Shop Online for the Holidays!



1. Simply start at the ShopforMuseums.com online shopping portal,
2. Select the **Reading Railroad Heritage Museum**,
3. Then use the links to click through to hundreds of your favorite stores.

A percentage of your purchase amount is given back to us as a **FREE DONATION**. Plus save money with hundreds of coupons!

Happy holidays and thank you for your support.

Colebrook Railroad Opens

The Colebrookdale Railroad made its first trip over the nine-mile line from Boyertown to Pottstown on October 18th.

The Colebrookdale Railroad Preservation Trust was formed in 2009, and a large contingent of volunteers, led by trust president Nathaniel Guest, have been working ever since to bring passenger trains back the line, which dates to 1869. It was once a Reading branch line that featured a Saturday-only train in the late 1940's. Since the Reading disposed of it in 1976, it has been through several owners. It was purchased by Berks County in 2009 for \$1.35 million to prevent its abandonment, using funds from a legal settlement rather than tax revenues.

Known as the Secret Valley Line, the Colebrookdale Railroad follows the scenic Manatawny Creek, climbing a long grade from Pine Forge to Boyertown, crossing three wooden trestles along the way. There is a grand opening scheduled to take place in 2015. This fall, trains will operate Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays through Nov. 9.

- excerpt taken from the TRAINS newsletter by Wayne Laepple, October 21, 2014

MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 28th
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

1st Vice President Bill Hodson called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m. there were 5 individuals from the Executive Board and 40 members in attendance. Bill welcomed new member Liz Clark to the meeting. A motion to accept the September 2014 minutes as printed was made by Dale Woodland and seconded by Larry Mundell. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Duane Engle 610-929-5661 rcths.dengle@juno.com

The October meeting of the Executive Board was held at 7PM on October 7th at the RRHM in Hamburg, PA. Major topics of discussion and motions carried are as follows:

- **Financial** – Reviewed the treasurer’s report and fund raising reports (AMTRAK trip)
- **Museum** – Reviewed an update on the RAil event. The board was satisfied with how things were going. A suggestion was made by the Long Range Planning Committee to look into a 50% grant to repaint the Penn Steel sign on top of the foundry building. The board declined due to the poor condition of the building. The board approved the creation of a subcommittee that will focus on the planning and construction of the rail equipment protection building. This subcommittee will be lead by Don Crabtree and operate under the Building Committee.
- **Miscellaneous** – The board heard the FP7 and 1189 report, the Munchkin Rwy report and other minor topics of discussion.

The next general meeting of the Executive Board will be held at 7PM at the Reading Railroad Heritage Museum in Hamburg, PA on November 4th. For a complete copy of the board meeting minutes please contact Jeff Smith at rcths.jsmith@windstream.net.

BUDGET & FINANCE

John Brown 717-426-2238 JWBROWN929@AOL.COM

The financial records for the third quarter 2014 have been audited. The Society’s records are complete and accurate. Work on the 2015 Budget has begun. Any Committee Chairman who anticipates significant changes next year should contact me. The 2015 budget will be based on 2014 performance.

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

John Brown 717-426-2238 JWBROWN929@AOL.COM

Collecting Redner's tapes is a worthwhile endeavor. This month we received a donation from Redner's based on members purchases for \$638.36. There was a smaller check earlier this year and will be another check before the end of the year. The Redner's donations will total more than \$1,000 for 2014.

Thank you for your support for our Annual Fund drive. The receipts total almost \$10,000. We need just a few

hundred dollars to go over. If you have not yet contributed to the Annual Fund drive, you can make it happen. Please support the Society with a donation.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Jim Adams 610-777-3764 adamsjimca@comcast.net

Reading Company Technical & Historical Society Profit and Loss September 2014	
	<u>Total</u>
Income	
Admissions	1,160.00
Donations	6,771.68
Membership Dues	1,608.00
Non Profit Income	125.00
Sales of Product Income	6,073.92
Special Events Income	990.00
Total Income	\$ 16,728.60
Cost of Goods Sold	
Inventory purchased for resale - COGS	1,873.37
Sales Expense - COGS	135.17
Shipping Expense - COGS	59.40
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$ 2,067.94
Gross Profit	\$ 14,660.66
Expenses	
Member Services	4,190.00
MP & RE	1,977.99
Museum	4,000.69
Operations/Administration	259.20
Special Events	3,078.19
Total Expenses	\$ 13,506.07
Net Operating Income	\$ 1,154.59
Other Income	
Interest Earned	27.78
Total Other Income	\$ 27.78
Net Other Income	\$ 27.78
Net Income	\$ 1,182.37

RCT&HS FUND BALANCE REPORT 2014	
	9/30/2014
General Fund (available)	-\$20,855.12
Gen Fd Encumb BeeLine, Operation, Sales,Tax	\$52,031.50
GENERAL FUND SUB-TOTAL	\$31,176.38
Restricted Funds *	
Museum Fund (available)	\$5,572.43
Museum Fund Encumbrance	\$27,415.48
MUSEUM FUND SUB-TOTAL	\$32,987.91
Equipment Preservation	\$19,412.81
Modular Railroad	\$985.67
Endowment	\$2,112.88
Exhibit	\$3,245.74
Transit Bus	\$1,592.42
Archives	\$4,899.40
Munchkin Railroad	-\$296.74
New Building	\$5,765.12
RAil Project	\$100.00
SUB-TOTAL	\$37,817.30
TOTAL CASH ALL FUNDS	\$101,981.59
CASH CHANGE FROM LAST MONTH	\$814.37
TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS	\$58,700.00
*Funds that can only be used for stated purpose	

A motion to refer the Treasurer's Report to the Finance Committee for audit and vote was made by Larry Mundell and seconded by Lee Schulz. The motion Passed.

SALES

Duane Engle 610-929-5661 rcths.dengle@juno.com (for mail order questions contact Dave Heffner at 717-290-1493 daverj1@verizon.net)

We still have a large quantity of Broadway Limited SW1500s in Reading and Norfolk Southern schemes with sound and the MTH Alco FA/FB sets in Reading, LV and PRR schemes both with and without sound. We still have a good number other model items available that were just released. They are available at the museum store and at sales events or check out the sales flyer that was in a past months Crusader.

We Greg G. and Jim Adams attended the Reading Modelers Meet in Hamburg. Karen and Charlie Confer and Duane attended the Steel Wheels Festival in Cumberland, MD which was more of a PR event than a sales event and Greg and Barb Goodridge, Bill Bubeck, Tom Brown and myself handled our Train Meet in Leesport on Oct. 4th. Our next shows are the Allentown Train Meet on Nov. 8th and 9th, our big show at The PA Christmas Show at Harrisburg the week after Thanksgiving and at Fairlane Village Mall in Pottsville the week before Christmas. If anyone can help with these shows please contact Greg Goodridge or Duane Engle.

*Please note For Members shopping at the company store/online store, at checkout enter the code **Member10** to receive your member's discount on your purchases.*

MEMBERSHIP

Melanie Zimmerman 717-445-6301 membership@readingrailroad.org

As of October 28 we have 45 new members and 828 renewals for a total of 873 members for 2014. The current membership breakdown is: 571 Individual, Lifetime or Honorary, 106 Family, 118 Contributing, 55 Sustaining, 18 Corporate, and 5 Student memberships. We had a total of 948 members at this time last year. We also have 15 members for 2015.

We will be sending renewal forms by US Mail in the next few weeks to all members.

We are accepting renewals for 2015. Dues are: Individual - \$40 (\$50 outside USA), Family - \$48 (\$58 outside USA), Contributing - \$60, Sustaining - \$100, Corporate - \$150, and Student - \$15.

LONG RANGE PLANNING TASK FORCE

Carol Adams 610-777-3764 adamjimca@comcast.net

As noted in the Executive Board report, the responsibility for the rail car storage building has been transferred from Long Range Planning to the Building Committee.

A new Annual Report is being developed. One of the important assets that we want to include is a best estimate of the total volunteer hours during 2014. Committee Chairs, please complete the questionnaire that you received from Carol Adams so that your committee can be included in the Annual Report.

MUSEUM OPERATIONS

Dale Woodland 215-723-5848 RDG803@yahoo.com

The RAil group event last weekend attracted visitors to the museum. We had 15 Munchkin Railway riders during the event. A big thank you to Eric Quimby, Jim and Carol Adams, Tom Brown, Fred Phillips, John and Sue Funk, Barb and Greg Goodridge, Karen Confer, Duane Briscoe, Don Davis and Duane Engle for making the weekend successful. On Friday evening we were able to show off the museum to several area politicians and received nice comments.

The Passenger Train Exhibit ends Sunday November 2nd. The Trees, Trains and Gingerbread and O Gauge Exhibits open Saturday November 29th.

We have a bus company tour with 48 people this Saturday at 2:30PM, we need six docents.

We hung a new American flag on Sunday which was donated by the Patriotic Order Sons of America through John Funk. A high school student working to get community service hours will be at the museum this coming Sunday.

- **Artifact Curator (Karen Confer):** Inventory and cataloging of the RCT&HS artifacts has begun.

- **Munchkin Railway**

Bill Hodson 215-723-8292 wrhodson66@gmail.com

The Munchkin Railway operating season is April through October, so our final operating weekend was this past weekend. Tom Schucker has been busy moving artifacts and adding colorful pieces made from railroad parts. Also, he has donated and planted more plantings. Donations of small trees like honey locust would be welcome.

We had major accomplishments this season including getting licensed by the state, training a member to be a state inspector, operating off-site at Litzitz, installing a safety fence, building the station, installing storage tracks and a transfer table in the station, adding topsoil and sod, beautifying the area with more plants and flowers, adding artifacts and decorations, and training 17 operators.

Special thanks to the regular volunteers: Carl Rettstadt, Fred Phillips, Mike Stehman, Tom Schucker, Paul Payne, Sam Herb, and Tony Sleva, and thanks to many, many others who made this possible through their volunteer efforts, loans of needed equipment, and contributions.

Tom Schucker had examples to share of his colored "flowers" made from RR insulators, spikes, rail bolts, and aluminum.

MUSEUM BUILDING COMMITTEE

Don Crabtree DONALDCRABTREEXX@VERIZON.NET

A Secondary catch pan for under the AC unit has been obtained and will be installed this winter. Roof repairs where made.

TRACK & GROUNDS

Duane Engle 610-929-5661 rcths.dengle@juno.com

Track work is still ongoing when possible on the Canal track behind the museum as time permits. Mowing, site beautification and general site cleanup are also ongoing as

usual. We also worked on the site around our 60 foot boxcar in preparation of the RAIL event. The following helped in the past month: Don Crabtree, Mike Smith, Bill Sharmin and Duane Engle.

Anyone that can help with any of this work, please contact Duane.

EQUIPMENT RESTORATION AND MAINTANANCE RESTRUCTURING

Paul Payne papayne@ptd.net

Baggage Car 1715: Project Leader: Don Crabtree

2014 Goals - Have entire car in primer by season end.

Continue to work final coat as weather permits.

Caboose 94074: Project Leader: Carl Rettstadt

2014 Goals – Finish window repairs; Install finish flooring.

Exposed metal inside being wire brushed and painted.

Remaining glazing (2 windows) ready early Nov.

Finished flooring delivered. To be installed when interior painting completed.

Caboose 92938 (Hershey Caboose)

Project Leader: Carl Rettstadt

2014 Goals – Seal roof, patch side, re-attach steps.

Working roof leaks. Tarp will be needed.

Steps being cleaned and painted.

LEMTU Roof: Project Leader: Rick Bates

2014 Goals – Clean to metal, triple prime.

Entire roof has been sanded, primed, and finish coated in black enamel paint.

Will re-coat east side of roof in silver paint in spring or when that side gets repainted.

MU Cars: Project Leader: Mike Huber

2014 Goals – Window repairs; Close roof openings.

Septa "F" end painted.

Septa "B" end and 1/5 of the Canal Track side remain

Car 1189: Project Leader: Paul Payne

2014 Goals: Move car to Hamburg, via rail.

All fixed completed (in July).

UMLER registration remains a hang-up.

FP7 900 Nose Painting

Project Leader: Rick Hoffmeister

2014 Goals: Clean, prep and paint the nose portion.

Painting finished for this year.

NW2 103: Project Leader: Paul Payne

2014 Goals: Continue, if not complete rewiring.

Battery box patched, cleaned, primed, and painted.

(Three coats of black battery box paint)

FP7s at Steamtown - No news.

Misc. - Some patching and crack sealing done on wooden roof of #1675 (R. Bates).

General

Weather on our side of late, but painting will soon cease until Spring.

Candidate 2015 Projects:

1. Finish any incomplete 2014 projects.
2. LEMTU painting
3. GP7 & GP30 painting
4. Re-install GP7 power assemblies
5. Return NW2 #103 to service
6. MOB wants
7. Caboose 92938 outer resurface (Hershey Caboose)
8. Others as resources and priorities allow.

Committee Restructuring

Project Leader: Paul Payne (papayne@ptd.net)

Committee staffed: Don Crabtree, Charles Murphy, Paul Payne.

Proposals under review within committee.

NEEDED: Project Leaders, Project Helpers (both skilled and unskilled). If you want to assist with any of the above projects, please contact the Project Leaders directly, or the Committee Chairman.

WANTS & IDEAS: Got ideas or want something special restoration work done? Send your thoughts to the chairman.

PASSENGER OPERATIONS

Dale Woodland 215-723-5848 RDG803@yahoo.com

There will be an R&N trip in the Spring of 2015 with the newly Reading Company inspired painted GP39RN locomotives. More information later.

ACQUISITIONS

Steve Schwartz 610-434-1289 schwartzsj@juno.com

No report.

ARCHIVES AND PUBLICATIONS

Rick Bates 610-647-9359 rbates261@verizon.net

Archives - We received several Archives donations during October 2014. Thanks to all of the following for: some railroad VHS tapes from Sandy Quinn; a Conrail Reading Division employee timetable from Guerin Goldsmith; a collection of various AAR publications from John Greene; and some Reading RR magazines, Annual Reports, and dispatcher sheets from Dale Woodland.

Publications - Bee Line 2011 #3&4 is at the printer. Have begun work on the remaining issues for calendar year 2012.

CALENDAR

Dale Woodland 215-723-5848 RDG803@yahoo.com

John Greene 215-721-3006 jgreene@netcarrier.com

The calendar is now on sale for \$12.95 (members price \$11.65). Color advertisement in November 2014 Railpace Magazine.

MODULAR

Jonathan Barket 570-366-1533 jono1920@aol.com

No report.

MODELING -John Greene 215-721-3006 greene@netcarrier.com

No report.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Steve Gilbert 610-781-2100 SGRDG179@aol.com

No report.

MAILING

Ken Riegel 610-777-4555

No report.

SAFETY

This committee is in need of a chairman. If you are interested, please contact President Duane Engle.

TRAIN MEET

Tom Brown 717-279-6783 mjtsbrown@comcast.net

We had a very good train meet on October 5. We took in \$3,248 for table rentals and admissions and netted, after expenses, \$2,185 for the Society. This does not include money taken in by RCT&HS Sales. Many thanks to all who helped make this meet a success, including Duane Engle, Bill Bubeck, Paul Skvarla, Armand Paoli, Jonathan Barkett, and John Messersmith for setup, Don Davis and Duane Briscoe for admissions, and Duane Engle, Bill Bubeck, and Greg Goodridge for sales. We could not have done it without the help of these Society members. Thank you one and all. Our next train meet will be held on April 12, 2015. Mark your calendars.

I am looking for volunteers to join the Train Meet committee. So far, we have Don Davis, Duane Briscoe, and me. If any other Society members are interested in joining, please contact me.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE

John Greene 215-721-3006 jgreene@netcarrier.com

We are planning to hold the event in April as usual and in Blandon as last year.

WEBSITE AND CORRESPONDENCE

Norman O. Mueller 610-446-6651 rcrhs.questions@verizon.net

Mike Martin 215-681-7428 michael.s.martin26@gmail.com

Nothing to report.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Lee Schultz 610-845-2414 and Rick Bates

The committee is looking for nominations for 1st VP, Treasurer, and 2 Directors. These positions are currently held by Bill Hodson, Kim Adams, Jonathan Barkett, and Steve Gilbert respectively.

ENTERTAINMENT

Dale Woodland (215) 723-5848 RDG803@yahoo.com

Tonight Mike Smith - Donald Wise slides 50th Iron Horse Ramble; Nov. - Olev Taremae- The R&N ; Dec - Dale Woodland, Railroading in the Winter of 2013-2014. As always we are looking for suggestions for new programs.

OLD BUSINESS

- Liz Clark reported that the Reading Arts in Local Motion inaugural events were held on October 24th and 26th. (see front page)
- John Greene reminded the membership that the AMTRAK fall foliage Trip over the Reading for which we are selling tickets for will be on Saturday November 8th. The bus from Reading is sold out and we will meet at Boscov's East at 7AM. We still have 19 tickets for boarding in Philly still available. We will all meet at 9AM on the main concourse of 30th Street Station prior to boarding. Individuals will not get tickets. We will board together as a group.

NEW BUSINESS

- Bill Bubeck reported that Sam Bolton's mother Catherine has passed away. She worked for the Blue Mountain Reading and Northern's passenger department, lived in Hamburg, and made donations to the RRHM.
- Mike Smith announced that there will be Santa Claus train trips out on Minersville, PA on November 29th and December 14th with steam locomotives #425 and #113. Tickets are \$12.
- It was announced that Railroad Day at Valley Forge will be held on Nov. 1st from 11-3.
- Tom Schucker proposed that we extend our operating season for the Munchkin Railway from April to October to include the holiday season. Bill Hodson stated that we can open with a 15 day notice to the state. Paul Payne added that in order to inspect the track it must be free and clear of all snow and ice which a volunteer will need to remove.
- Kent Herzer reported that the Lititz Caboose Museum closed on Sunday, October 26 after another successful season. Members Dave Heffner, Kent Herzer, and seven other volunteers welcomed 10,243 visitors throughout a 136 day schedule. Information about the RCT&HS and museum was distributed around the world as we encountered tourists from France, Germany, England, Russia, Israel, Egypt, and other countries. We also had visitors from most of the 50 states. We sold 35 calendars and received donations this year for the society's New Protection Building in the amount of \$537.91. Since 2003, the Lititz Caboose Museum has raised \$5187.94 for the RCT&HS.
- Duane Engle announced that the A5a was judges the best float in the Hamburg King Frost Parade.
- The Coal Bucket tonight contained \$125 plus 9 pay down the loan envelopes

CLOSING

Dale Woodland made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jay Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion passed and President Duane Engle adjourned the meeting at 8:48 PM.

Hamburg Museum Track Fund

Receipts

Current Month: October, 2014 = \$0.00

Total: May 2007 thru October, 2014 = \$33,589.70

Payments

Current Month: October, 2014 = \$0.00

Total: May 2007 thru October, 2014 = \$31,016.71

Current Fund Balance = \$2,572.99

Pay Down the Loan Program

Receipts

Current Month: October, 2014 = \$369.00

Total: Nov, 2010 thru October, 2014 = \$38,673.59

Payments

Current Month: October, 2014 = \$526.72

Total: Nov, 2010 thru October, 2014 = \$38,526.72

Outstanding Loan Balance = \$58,173.28

RCT&HS Corporate Members

- **Russell & Julia Angstadt**
- **Bethlehem Car Works**, John Greene, CEO, Telford, PA (215) 721-3006
- **C&C Tax Service, Inc.**, Reading, PA (610) 796-9330
- **Centralia Coal Sales Co.**, Wilkes-Barre, PA (570) 822-4135
- **Doll and Train Museum**, Harrisburg, PA (717) 233-3099
- **G&K Hobbies**, Bill Krug CEO, Reading, PA (610) 374-8598
- **Health Insurance Solutions, Inc., Tom and Nanette Poserina**, Health Brokers (215) 721-2220
- **Lancaster Chapter, NRHS**, Christiana, PA (610) 593-4968
- **Municipal & Financial Services Group**, Annapolis, MD, 410-266-9101
- **PENNVIA Private Railcars, Inc.**, Passenger Dome car charters in the US and Canada, West Lawn, PA (610) 678-3604
- **R Y Models/Richard D Yoder**, Wyomissing PA, (610) 678-2834
- **Rabenold, Koestel, and Scheidt, Attorneys at Law**, Wyomissing, PA (610) 374-2103
- **RackAbility, Inc.**, Ephrata, PA 17522 (717) 917-7403
- **Reading and Northern Railroad, Co.**, Andrew Muller Jr., CEO, Port Clinton, PA (610) 562-2100
- **Reading Berks Historic Transportation Assoc., Inc.**, Reading, PA
- **R. Harris Russo, MD, Neurological Surgery**, Kalamazoo, MI (269) 343-3939
- **Security First Inc.**, Shillington, PA (610) 777-8890
- **Suzan and Mike Duvall**, Harrisburg, PA
- **Town & Country Newspaper**, Pennsburg PA, (215) 679-5060
- **Vreeland & Linda Wood/V J Wood Towing & Recovery LLC**, Hamburg PA, (610) 587-1335

Mark Your Calendars

- November 8th: AMTRAK excursion between Philadelphia and Harrisburg via Reading

Sales at the First Frost Train Meet in Allentown, PA

- November 18: General Meeting of the RCT&HS at Trinity Bible Fellowship Church, Rt. 73, Blandon, PA

- December 3 - 7: Modular and Sales at the PA State Christmas Show in Harrisburg, PA

Save your Redner's Tapes

www.readingrailroad.org

