

February 2017



HAMBURG RAILFEST 2017 Now only 4 months away!!

Plan now to come for the whole weekend, August 11-13. Ticket sales are available at <u>www.readingrailroad.org</u> and clicking on RAILFEST tickets. Plans for the celebration include rail excursions, night photo session, photo contest, banquet featuring the editor of "Classic Trains" magazine, Robert McGonigal, a night photo session, a roundtable for former Reading Railroad employees, display of the amazing RCT&HS modular railroad, "Making a Bee Line" museum exhibit, demonstrations, activities for children, vendors, barbeque, music, and more.

We need you to volunteer! After last month's appeal, several of you called to tell us how you will help. Thank you! But we need many more volunteers each day to staff all the great activities that are planned. Both "standing up" and "sitting down" jobs are available. Especially needed: volunteers who will stay at the Museum overnight, Friday to Saturday, or Saturday to Sunday, to provide security by keeping an eye on things. Also, volunteers to talk about #5308 or #6300 and answer visitors' questions are especially needed. You are already planning to come to the festival, aren't you? So please plan to volunteer some of your time, too. Just let us know—Dale Woodland 215-723-5848 rsa14.5302@gmail.com or Carol Adams 610-777-3764 adamsjimca@comcast.net

RAILFEST PHOTO CONTEST

Plan now to enter the RAILFEST photo contest. Discounts on photo printing and cash prizes are offered. Photos will be displayed in the renovated activity building during RAILFEST so enter early and often. Many categories for both current and past photos. Complete details are available at a link from www.readingrailroad.org



RRHM WORK DAY!

Mark your calendar for **Saturday, April 29!** The Museum grounds need work to prepare them for RAIL-FEST displays and visitors. Jobs include assisting Duane with track building, painting the exterior and interior of the activity building, rearranging and cleaning in the bus barn, spring outdoor cleanup, and other jobs as Duane and Don direct. Plan now to join in the work and the fun, whether you help regularly or this will be your first time. Start time is 8:30 AM. Bring work gloves. Lunch will be provided. Our visitors will be coming from around the nation. Let's make a good impression by having our grounds look great.

Correction: The 2016 Financial Supporters list in the January 2017 Crusader contained an error. In the \$5,000 Plus category Wells Fargo Advisors should be removed and replaced with Robert C. Miller. Bob, thank you for your generous donation.

Reading Main Line Volume 4 book: The RCT&HS benefits from each copy of this book that is ordered through the RCT&HS. If you wish to order volume 4 and have multiple forms for ordering this book, please consider using the form that is enclosed with this issue of The Crusader. In that way, a portion of your order will benefit the General Fund of the RCT&HS.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 28th GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING

President Duane Engle called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. there were seven individuals from the Executive Board, and 24 members in attendance. There were two changes to the January minutes:

- 1. Under New Business, 5th bullet point, the name Bruce Wagner should be Bruce Wesner.
- 2. Adjournment was by 1st VP Tom Brown, not by President Duane Engle.

A motion to accept the January 2017 minutes as corrected was made by Larry Mundell and seconded by Don Crabtree. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

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

- **Financial** Due to the Treasurer having surgery there was no report. An RFE is the amount of \$985 was approved for the repairs needed to make the HVAC system in the all -purpose building operational again. Approval was granted to pay the liability insurance for the society in the amount of \$9290.00.
- **Museum** Carol Adams reported on future events, the 4th St. billboard design, and shared the bids for a mural to be painted on the north wall of the museum. Don Crabtree gave his reports on the museum property.
- Miscellaneous track prospects, donation reports, munchkin railway, Sunbury excursion, and more.

The next regular meeting of the Executive Board will be held at 7PM at the Reading Railroad Heritage Museum in Hamburg, PA on March 7th (first Tuesday of the month). 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 4th quarter 2016 were audited by Tom Brown. The records are complete and accurate.

FUND RAISING COMMITTEE

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

Nothing new to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT Jim Adams 610-777-3764 adamsjimca@comcast.net

Reading Company Technical & Historical Society Profit and Loss

January 2017

		Total
Income		
Admissions		591.00
Donations		4,040.33
Membership Dues		5,222.00
Sales of Product Income		3,948.70
Special Events Income		200.00
Total Income	\$	14,002.03
Cost of Goods Sold		
Inventory purchased for resale - COGS		2,464.68
Sales Expense - COGS		385.24
Shipping Expense - COGS		32.31
Total Cost of Goods Sold	\$	2,882.23
Gross Profit	\$	11,119.80
Expenses		
Member Services		175.00
MP & RE		198.00
Museum		2,469.66
Operations/Administration		10,892.28
Special Events		4,715.24
Total Expenses	\$	18,450.18
Net Operating Income	-\$	7,330.38
Other Income		
Interest Earned		22.88
Sales Tax Discount		8.67
Total Other Income	\$	31.55
Net Other Income	\$	31.55
Net Income	-\$	7,298.83

RCT&HS FUND BALANCE REPORT

2017	1/21/2017
	1/31/2017
General Fund (available)	\$10,120.52
Gen Fd Encumb BeeLine, Operation, Sales, Tax	\$125,247.75
GENERAL FUND SUB-TOTAL	\$135,368.27
Restricted Funds *	
Museum Fund (available)	\$5,662.63
Museum Fund Encumbrance	\$129,117.80
MUSEUM FUND SUB-TOTAL	\$134,780.43
Equipment Preservation	\$18,339.75
Modular Railroad	\$929.09
Endowment	\$2,347.20
Exhibit	\$3,142.15
Transit Bus	\$1,196.04
Archives	\$4,692.09
Munchkin Railroad	\$712.87
New Building	\$16,154.49
Rail Fest	\$5,391.00
RAiL Project	\$2,460.00
SUB-TOTAL	\$55,364.68
TOTAL CASH LESS INTERNAL LOAN OF 6/24/16	\$296,913.38
CASH CHANGE FROM LAST MONTH	-\$7,999.76
TOTAL OUTSTANDING LOANS	\$28,600.00
*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 Don Crabtree, seconded by Larry Mundell. 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 will NOT be attending the Greenberg Show in Edison, NJ on March 18th and 19th due to not enough space available for us to set up. We did attend the Spring Thaw Allentown Meet on February 24th and 25th and did about \$3,470.80 in sales. Greg and Barb Goodridge, Dick Lush, Tom Brown, Charlie Confer, Lynn Engle and Duane Engle staffed this show. Our next scheduled show is at the Laurel Mall with our modular layout May 18th to the 21st and at the Railroad Museum of PA the week of July 4th. If anyone can help with these shows please contact Greg Goodridge or Duane Engle.

Membership

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

As of February 28 we have 15 new members and 734 renewals for a total of 749 members for 2017. The breakdown of members is 489 Individual, Honorary or Lifetime, 89 Family, 92 Contributing, 65 Sustaining, 11 Corporate and 3 Student. We had 22 new members and 713 renewals for a total of 735 members at this time last year. We currently have 871 members for 2016.

Membership dues are \$40 for Individual (\$50 outside the U.S.), \$48 for Family (\$58 outside the U.S.), \$15 for Student (Please provide name of Full-time school), \$60 for Contributing, \$100 for Sustaining and \$150 for Corporate. If you misplaced the renewal form that was mailed to you in November, just write your name and address on a piece of paper. Mail your information with your check or money order made payable to: R.C.T. & H.S. and mail to: R.C.T. & H.S. Membership Committee, PO Box 15143, Reading PA 19612-5143.

If you receive the Crusader by the US Postal Service check your most recent newsletter address label to find your current membership year. Please allow several weeks for us to process your membership if it still shows 2016 and you've already mailed your payment.

Thank you to all who include donations with their membership renewals. Your generosity is appreciated.

LONG RANGE PLANNING TASK FORCE

Carol Adams 610-777-3764 adamsjimca@comcast.net Nothing new to report.

MUSEUM OPERATIONS

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

Our new Reading Bee Line Service exhibit will also focus on what diesel locomotive technology is all about and include a showcase of Reading diesels. Dale met with representatives of the Rotary Clubs at the museum who are thinking about using our site for a regional conference in 2018. On March 24th, the Fleetwood Cub Scouts will tour the museum at 10 AM. On April 22nd, the LV Chapter NRHS will tour at 4 PM and on May 8th, a church group form Gibraltar, Pa will tour at 10 AM.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Don Crabtree DONALDCRABTREEXX@VERIZON.NET

- Work continues to clean out the "All Purpose Building" in preparation for work to be done on March 11th work day. The plan is to grind the peeling paint off the floor in preparation for finishing.
- Rick Bates found the relief valve for our hot water heater leaking and turned off the water and electric to it. The relief valve was replaced, but the new one leaked as well. We found that the reducing valve on the incoming water line was defective and is scheduled to be replaced. It was determined that we had in excess of 140 psi pressure coming into the building and it should have been limited to 50psi. Thanks to rick for preventing a catastrophe.
- A variety of artifacts from the collection of Elvin E. Adams has been donated to the RCT&HS by his son, Robert Adams. Also donated were track tools, electrical cords, a folding table used by the Rainmakers", an electric hoist and other items. Thank you for these donations.

TRACK & GROUNDS

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

We had another good Saturday to work on the switch this past month and we were able to connect the rails and install the ties ahead of the switch and install the missing timbers. We also have all of the rail laid out and bolted together on the switch. Our next step is to spike the rails to the timbers. We have plans to continue working as much as possible on Saturdays that we do not have other events going on, weather permitting of course. Anyone that can help with any of this work, please contact me.

MP&RE

Mike Huber brothermike25@gmail.com

Winter weather has shut down most of the projects at the museum. Paul Payne has been working on battery sets for both our shop crane "Dino" and the 103. He is confident that he'll be able to bring both sets back to usable conditions.

PASSENGER OPERATIONS

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

We will offer two trips on the R&N for our August Railfest celebration. Saturday morning August 12th a trip will run up the Little Schuylkill Branch to New Ringgold and back. Sunday afternoon a trip will run south from Port Clinton toward North Reading on the former RDG Mainline. Both trips will consist of five coaches pulled push-pull by two R&N GP39RN locomotives in a faux RDG paint scheme. We will also have a trip on the Allentown & Auburn Railroad Friday evening August 11, 2017 as part of the Railfest celebration.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Technical and Historical Society, the Friends of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, and the Reading Company Technical and Historical Society are jointly sponsoring a rail excursion from Sunbury to Yellow Hill with a stop in Shamokin. The trip will be on Thursday, May 18, 2017. Unfortunately, the trip is **sold out**. We apologize to our members who missed out. We e-mailed trip flyers to members who are on our e-mail list and made them available to members who attended the February membership meeting, but were unable to mail it with the last Crusader due to delays in obtaining approval of the trip flyer by the rail line owner.

Acquisitions

Steve Schwartz 610-434-1289 schwartzsj@juno.com Nothing new to report.

ARCHIVES AND PUBLICATIONS Rick Bates 610-647-9359 rbates 261@verizon.net

• Archives: Thanks to the following for their recent donations of archives and artifacts: telegraph call sign "JA" from Dave Augsburger; a G3 photo from Jim Brazel; some books and magazines from Paul Kutta; a collection of signal drawings from the Philadelphia Chapter NRHS, this facilitated by Ken Thomas; several artifacts and P&R paper items from the late Jim Rothermel, this donation handled by Dave Heffner and Jim Adams; and some nice RdgRR photos and equipment diagram books from Jeffrey Stoudt, from the collection of his late brother John.

The Archives has accumulated a large quantity of railroad books and other paperwork surplus to our needs, consisting of non-RDG material and also duplicate RDG material. We have started to sell some of it via eBay to raise funds for the archives, but we need more people to help with this. It is the sort of thing one can do from home, and on your own schedule whenever convenient. Anyone who would like to help us on this, please contact Rick Bates or Jim Adams.

• **Publications**: Work continues on the next Bee Line. We've received a couple of complete articles which will greatly help in moving things along.

CALENDAR

Dale Woodland 215-723-5848 RDG803@yahoo.com John Greene 215-721-3006 jgreene@netcarrier.com

Dale has found a new printer as our former printer has gone out of business. We are keeping the spiral bound format.

Modular

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

Duane Engle reported that the modular committee has purchased a new trailer for transporting the modular to shows. The Edison, NJ, show is canceled. Bill Bubeck reported that the show at the Laurel Mall in Hazelton will be on May 18-21 with set up on May 17.

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

Duane Briscoe

No report.

EVENTS - READING MODELERS MEET V

Hello! Here is a monthly update on the Reading RR Modelers Meet V!! Yes, we're up to our 5th event and hoping that all of the RCT&HS members that are model railroaders, would attend this event! We're still a bit on the small side, but we do keep increasing attendance each year. Let's make the MEET V the big break-out and reach 100 participants!! Registration will open in late March... watch our website for the official flyer (and we should have some at the next RCT&HS meeting, we hope!). In the meantime... here are our event highlights....

- * displays of Reading Railroad modeling efforts
- * Reading Railroad inspired layout tours
- * clinics on Reading Railroad modeling & history
- * event t-shirts for sale (pre-order only)
- * social hour to meet-greet your fellow Reading modelers
- * vendors selling Reading Railroad & other items
- * optional Saturday lunch (pre-order only)
- * Certificate Awards for popular vote models
- * Door Prizes!!
- * make great new Reading RR friends!
- * ride on the Allentown & Auburn Railroad, includes lunch and Reading RR presentation by Dave Ausberger!

We hope you will support this great event!! www.readingrrmm.com

WEBSITE AND CORRESPONDENCE

Norman O. Mueller 610-446-6651 rcths.questions@verizon.net Mike Martin 215-681-7428 michael.s.martin26@gmail.com No report.

ENTERTAINMENT

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

Tonight, a video of a trip from Tamaqua to Shamokin on Jim Hertzog's fantastic HO scale layout. It is as real as it gets.

OLD BUSINESS

- Question about the status of the L.V. caboose nothing new to report, no recent contact with the buyer.
- Question about the status of the Rail Car Protection Building. We need money. The building fund has

approximately \$16,000 and the estimated cost is \$200,000 to \$250,000.

New Business

- Karen Confer, Carol Adams and Greg Goodridge had an informational meeting with the Mayor of Reading. It was a general meeting with no specific discussion items. There was an agreement to stay in contact with each other. It was also noted that in a recent television (channel 69) appearance the mayor had models of Reading RR box cars and a caboose displayed behind him.
- Dale Woodland reported that the only industry along the Venice Industrial track was discontinuing rail service, and the track would be abandoned.
- Bruce Wesner reported that Direct TV on the RFD channel runs a one hour documentary about railroads each week.
- Kent Herzer reported that because of the mild weather he opened the Lititz Caboose during the recent Fire & Ice Festival in Lititz. A new record was set for one day's attendance with 1,009 visitors.
- Steve Schwartz reported that the Allentown Train Meet had approximately 4,500 visitors which is average, and bucks the trend of decreasing attendance at other train meets.

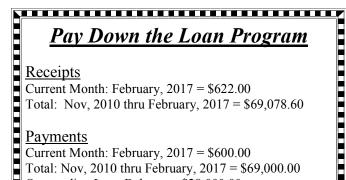
CLOSING

Dale Woodland made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Don Crabtree seconded the motion. The motion passed and President Duane Engle adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

The next Meeting of the RCT&HS, Inc. will be held at:

Trinity Bible Fellowship Church Rt. 73, Blandon, PA

from 7:30 until 10:00 p.m. on: March 28th



Payments

<u>r a jinents</u>
Current Month: February, 2017 = \$600.00
Total: Nov, 2010 thru February, 2017 = \$69,000.00
Outstanding Loan Balance = \$28,000.00

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~ Hamburg Museum Track Fund

Ś Receipts

Current Month: February, 2017 = \$20.00 Total: May 2007 thru February, 2017 = \$37,767.70

Payments

- Current Month: February, 2017 = \$0.00
- Total: May 2007 thru February, 2017 = \$33,988.90
- Current Fund Balance = \$3,778.80

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<u>RCT&HS Corporate Members</u>

- 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
- Health Insurance Solutions, Inc., Tom and Nanette Poserina, Health Brokers (215) 721-2220
- Lancaster Chapter, NRHS, Christiana, PA (610) 593-4968
- Masano Architects Group, Inc., Wyomissing PA (610) 376-4699
- Municipal & Financial Services Group, Annapolis, MD (410) 226-9101
- **PENNVIA Private Railcars, Inc.**, Passenger Dome car charters in the US and Canada, West Lawn, PA (610) 678-3604
- **Reading and Northern Railroad, Co.**, Andrew Muller Jr., CEO, Port Clinton, PA (610) 562-2100
- Reading Berks Historic Transportation Assoc., Inc., Reading, PA
- Town & Country Newspaper, Pennsburg PA, (215) 679-5060

In the News

The Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee of the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia has inducted the Reading Terminal Train Shed at 12th and Market Streets, Philadelphia into their Delaware Valley Engineering Hall of Fame.

- Engineers Week, Feb. 2017

Mark Your Calendars

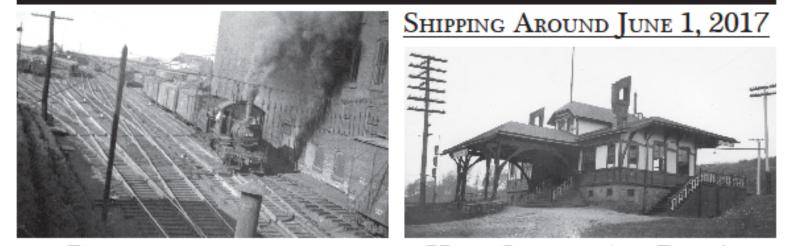
- March 28: General Meeting of the RCT&HS at Trinity Bible Fellowship Church, Rt. 73, Blandon, PA
- April 29: RRHM Work Day, Hamburg, PA
- May 18-21: Modular and Sales at the Laurel Mall in Hazelton, PA
- August 11 14: 2017 RailFest at the RRHM (You don't want to miss this one!)

Save your Redner's Tapes

www.readingrailroad.org



Reading Railroad Book 4 MAIN LINE: Douglassville - Oley Street, Reading



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This publication is the most extensive photographic essay ever produced documenting the route of Reading Railroad Main Line between Douglassville and Reading. Coverage will stop at Oley Street.

Several hundred illustrations depict stations, trackage rights-of-way, valuation maps, improvement projects, towers, yards, industries, engine facilities, and many other railroad-related structures. Authored by Reading Railroad Historian Benjamin L. Bernhart.

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	Downtown Grade Crossing
Lorane / Exeter	Seventh Street Cut
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ADDRESS

READING RAILROAD BOOK 4

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Make Checks Pavable to: RCT&HS PO Box 15143 Reading, PA 19612-5143

SHIPPING AROUND JUNE 1, 2017

ORDERS RECEIVED AFTER JUNE 15, 2017 \$125

Reading Railroad Book 5: Reading Shops SHIPPING LATE FALL 2017

Sales Items from the RCT&HS

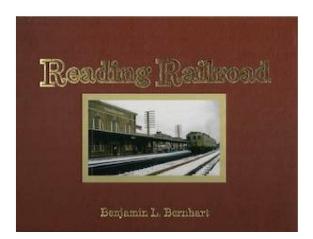
Rapido RDC Models

We have in stock the new Rapido Budd RDCs. Available in DC or DCC and in four different numbers 9151, 9153, 9157, and 9162. DC Models are \$199.89 while DCC with sound sell for \$289.89. The details are extremely accurate and the sound is quite realistic. Please give us first and second choices for road number.



Bernhart Books

From Ben Bernhart, "The Reading Railroad – Mainline from Valley Forge to Douglasville". This is volume 3 of a series of 5 books. Besides the mainline it also covers the Richmond Branch and tugboats. Available for \$125.00.



We also have an extremely limited quantity of volumes 1 and 2 available. Contact Greg Goodridge at <u>sales@readingrailroad.org</u> for availability.

Next month's flyer will include:

- Athearn GP39-2 Locomotives. Road Numbers 3416 and 3420 are available in DC (limited quantity) and Road Numbers in DCC/Sound 3412, 3416, 3419, 3420. Price for DC is \$166.00 and \$263.00 for DCC.
- Video "The Kantner Collection Volume I" by John Pechulis Media

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

PLEASE USE THIS HANDY FORM TO ORDER YOUR ITEMS TODAY!

RAPIDO RDC DC only	
Member Price for PA resident (sales tax included)	QTY @ \$190.69 ea. \$
Member Price for out-of-state residents	QTY @ \$179.90 ea. \$
Non-Member Price for PA resident (sales tax include	ed)QTY @ \$211.88 ea. \$
Non-Member Price for out-of-state residents	QTY @ \$199.89 ea. \$
Shipping & Handling	QTY @ \$15.00 ea. \$
TOTAL	\$
Road NumberFirst ChoiceSec	cond Choice
RAPIDO RDC DCC/Sound	
Member Price for PA resident (sales tax included)	QTY @ \$276.56 ea. \$
Member Price for out-of-state residents	QTY @ \$260.90 ea. \$
Non-Member Price for PA resident (sales tax include	ed) QTY @ \$307.28 ea. \$
Non-Member Price for out-of-state residents	QTY @ \$289.89 ea. \$
Shipping & Handling	QTY @ \$15.00 ea. \$
TOTAL	\$
Road NumberFirst ChoiceSec	cond Choice
Reading Railroad Volume 3	
Price for PA resident (sales tax included)	QTY @ \$132.50 ea. \$
Price for out-of-state residents	QTY @ \$125.00 ea. \$
Shipping & Handling	QTY @ \$6.00ea. \$
TOTAL	\$
ke check or Money Order payable to RCT&HS	
If paying by credit card, please check one: () VISA	()MC ()Discover ()AMEX
rd Number: 3 digit security code	
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City	State Zip

Please print your information clearly SEND TO: RCT&HS P.O. Box 15143 Reading, PA 19612-5143

Please allow 2-4 weeks for delivery.

Thanks for your support!