

**Number 185**

**January 2017**

**A bi-monthly electronic official newsletter of the PRRT&HS published for the purpose of disseminating information on current issues and events pertaining to the Society's and Chapter's operations and administration as well as other information of interest about the PRR.**

**Editor – Pauletta Ader**

**Please send comments and corrections to the Editor at: [pauletta.ader@yahoo.com](mailto:pauletta.ader@yahoo.com)**

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**MEMBERSHIP**

As of December 21, 2016, the PRRT&HS membership for 2016 is as follows:

Regular	2,220
Sustaining	309
Contributing	88
International	29
Keystone	137
Total	2,783

Non-renewals 234 Renewal Rate  $2,626/2,860=91.8\%$   
 Keystone mailings include 12 gratis copies (museums, libraries, etc.)

As of December 21, 2016, the PRRT&HS membership for 2017 is as follows:

Regular	35
Sustaining	3
Contributing	1
International	2
Keystone	0
Total	41

Non-renewals 2,748 Renewal Rate  $35/2,783=1.3\%$   
 Keystone mailings include 12 gratis copies (museums, libraries, etc.)

The number of new members for 2017 is 6.

Submitted by Andy Hart

**ARCHIVES**

Retired PRR Engineer Henry Zerbe

On December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Archivist Charlie Horan and PRRT&HS Vice President and Accessions Manager Rich Ader drove to Sodus Point, New York to visit 97-year-old Henry Zerbe, a retired PRR engineer who worked the Sodus Point coal wharf. Henry would push loaded coal hoppers out onto the wharf. Coal would then be loaded onto freighters, that were guided through the narrow channel by tug boats moored into position to be anchored and loaded. After loading, the freighters would then deliver their load to Oswego, Canada and other ports around Lake Ontario.

Henry loves to share his stories with anyone who will listen. He is a true legend in his home town of Sodus Point, NY, the northern most point of the PRR’s Elmira branch. Pictured is Henry

sharing his photo album with Charlie Horan and Rich Ader. He is also pictured with his wife of 62 years Grace.

Written by Rich Ader



Photos submitted by Rich Ader

### Thank You to the Lewistown Mayor

On November 22, 2016 Vice President Rich Ader made an executive decision to donate to Lewistown Mayor Debbie Bargo and borough council an office photo of the “Old Hook and Eye” locomotive, *Belleville*, (Kish Valley Railroad) to be displayed in the council chambers in Lewistown. The photo measures 24in. X 48in. and was given as a token of thanks for Mayor Bargo’s role in obtaining a grant called Paint Pennsylvania Beautiful. The grant is awarded by Home Depot and Behr Paint for beautifying historic buildings in 8 Pennsylvania communities. Mayor Bargo thought the Lewistown Railroad Station was a prime candidate. Thanks to the Mayor our station has been repainted with the assistance of the United Way and church volunteers at no cost to the society.

Written by Rich Ader

ALL PRRT&HS MEMBERS ARE WELCOME TO COME VOLUNTEER THEIR SERVICES IF PRESENT DURING AN ARCHIVE SESSION. CONTACT CHARLIE HORAN [charliehoran@verizon.net](mailto:charliehoran@verizon.net).

### STATION

#### Aviary Roosting Deterrent Device

Installation of the fire suppression system in Lewistown Station created an unforeseen problem that had become an issue this past Summer. Birds of all types and sizes were roosting on the exposed system piping that were installed outside the building under the platform canopy, especially on the north side of the station above the loading dock. Station Agent Rich Ader and Archivist Charlie Horan challenged volunteer Al Giannantonio to come up with a solution that would discourage or completely prevent birds from alighting on the piping and depositing their droppings on the station’s platform, loading dock and walkway areas.

Historically, steel spike strips have been nailed on top of the exposed wooden beams that support the canopy all around the station to keep birds away. These have done a reasonably good job of bird control, but small birds have occasionally nested between the spikes and large birds fill the spike spaces with twigs and nest on top of them. Birds of all sizes continue to use the pipes as their landing areas as they approach their nests. The result is a continual rain of droppings that have become a nuisance and are being tracked into the station archives entrance area. However, steel spike strips can't be attached to the galvanized piping without negative consequences that might endanger the suppression system piping, so some other solution was needed.

Al took up the challenge and developed, fabricated and installed a series of aluminum mounting clips above the piping that carry four high visibility (to birds) yellow strands of high strength fishing line at one inch intervals in a vertical row above the piping. The clips are mounted with either stainless steel hose clamps or outdoor electrician's wire ties and are insulated from the galvanized piping so that no metal touches the piping. The strands are tensioned at one end of each straight pipe section with small springs so that any birds attempting to land on the piping are deterred from doing so because of the small diameter of the fishing line and the lack of a flat surface on the pipe. The installed system has no negative effect on any segment of or the operation of the fire suppression system. The result of Al's "aviary roosting deterrent device" has been highly successful. Per Rich and Charlie, the problem has been 95% resolved with no harm to our fine feathered friends. Al will continue to monitor any additional areas in the Spring that may need the device installed.

Written and Submitted by Al Giannantonio



Photo taken by Richard Ader

### **MODELLING UPDATES**

Any modelers out there who would like to share modelling updates and ideas or would like their layout to be featured in the E-news please contact me at [pauletta.ader@yahoo.com](mailto:pauletta.ader@yahoo.com).

### **FUTURE MEETING LOCATIONS:**

2017- Camp Hill Washington Chapter-Host Chapter

2018- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Altoona

2019- Strasburg

Additional and in-depth coverage of the convention will appear in the December (winter) issue of the Keystone.

**RAILROAD HERITAGE DAYS:**

The PRRT&HS will partner with the Railroad Museum of Pa. in Railroad Heritage Days 2017 planned for September 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. More information will follow as the agenda is finalized. Board member Joe Acri will be the contact person for the Society.

Submitted by Joe Acri

**FEATURE CHAPTER:**

**Philadelphia Chapter**

Members-560

President- Steven Staffieri

Vice President- Russell Polo

Treasurer- Thomas Lavin

Secretary- Frederick Monsimer

Corresponding Secretary- Kenneth Rideout

Archivist and Historian- Carl Landeck

Chapter Website- : <http://www.philaprrths.com>

Submitted by Thomas Lavin

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FEATURE YOUR CHAPTER IN A FUTURE EDITION PLEASE CONTACT [pauletta.ader@yahoo.com](mailto:pauletta.ader@yahoo.com) editor of the E-news**

**NOTES FROM THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST:**



Coast to Coast Service in 2016; The Pennsylvania Railroad celebrates 170 years of operation. Photo taken at Rock Island, WA by Jim Trunzo

**CHANGE IN LEADERSHIP:**

Note to all chapters: If your chapter officers or contact individuals have changed for the new year please contact me at [pauletta.ader@yahoo.com](mailto:pauletta.ader@yahoo.com) so the e-news can be kept current.

**NEW GAME:**

This is a new game for the E-News with the locations all being PRR. Rules of the game, there will be a picture posted in each issue of “somewhere on the PRR system”. Please email me with your answer/guess. ([pauletta.ader@yahoo.com](mailto:pauletta.ader@yahoo.com))

**Name the Location Game:**



To enlarge photo: Right click on photo, click on size and position, change height-absolute to 3.5 and click ok.

November 2016 game results



This photo was taken at Renovo, in October 2016.

**If you would like to submit a picture for this game, email me with the picture and location. Individuals submitting photos cannot participate in that issue. *Please send digital pictures or photos of pictures.***

## **PRRT&HS ADVERTISING / PUBLIC RELATIONS**

In an effort to increase the Society's visibility and help promote membership in the PRRT&HS, the Board of Directors initiated an advertising campaign in 2015. Over the past year ads have appeared in both *Passenger Train Journal* and *Classic Trains Magazine*; additional magazines are currently under consideration.

The PRRT&HS has a portable display available to any member willing to promote the Society. Train shows are an obvious venue, but please consider other events such as those sponsored by a local historical society or rail museum; especially in areas where the Pennsylvania Railroad had a strong presence. The following are the current committed dates for the display:

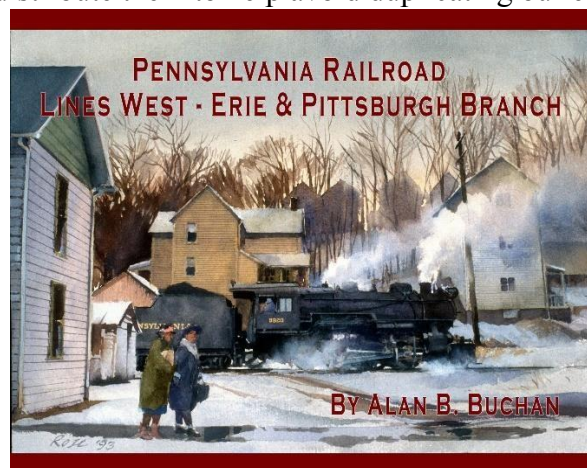
February 4, 2017; Great Scale Model Train Show, Timonium, MD (Jerry Britton)

April 8, 2017; Great Scale Model Train Show, Timonium, MD (Jerry Britton)

Any member interested in the display can contact me at [frank.napoleon@verizon.net](mailto:frank.napoleon@verizon.net) to make arrangements. This would be a great project for each local Chapter to undertake in helping to promote the Society over a broad geographic area.

Another way members can help promote the Society is to ask permission and place copies of the PRRT&HS Membership Brochure in hobby shops, museums, local historical society's, etc.

Contact me at [frank.napoleon@verizon.net](mailto:frank.napoleon@verizon.net) to request copies of the brochures and please let me know where you plan to distribute them to help avoid duplicating our efforts.



Finally, the Erie and Pittsburgh book, authored by past PRRT&HS president Al Buchan, is now available for sale. An advertisement and order form were included with the autumn *Keystone*. If

you have an interest in the book, act fast; as only five-hundred copies have been printed. Check the eStore located on the PRRT&HS website for additional Society publications.

Respectfully submitted by Frank Napoleon

## **SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP**

The purpose of the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society is to bring together persons interested in the history and modeling of the Pennsylvania Railroad, its subsidiaries and its predecessor companies. Our goals are to promote the preservation and recording of all information regarding the organization, operation, facilities and equipment of the PRR.

The Society's quarterly illustrated journal, *The Keystone*, has been published continuously since 1968. Each issue of 84 or more pages contains illustrated original authoritative articles, about locomotives, cars, other equipment, facilities and operating practices of the PRR. The Society also publishes its own thoroughly researched books and other materials concerning Pennsy history. *The Keystone Modeler* is also a quarterly special 30-plus page online publication of the Society. These publications are for sale on our website.

The Society meets annually, usually during the first weekend in May, providing an opportunity for its members to get together and learn more about the PRR. Local chapters around the country also provide members and guests with regular meetings that feature PRR related programs, see listing below for chapter events. The 2016 Annual National Meeting will take place between May 19 and May 21 at Camp Hill hosted by the New England Chapter. We hope to see you there.

Information about our Society may be found on our website <http://www.prrths.com>. To join the Society you may use the e-Store [http://www.prrths.com/estore/index\\_estore.html#membership](http://www.prrths.com/estore/index_estore.html#membership) or send \$40.00 to: PRRT&HS, PO Box 54, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-0054. All memberships are for a calendar year, renewals after February 15<sup>th</sup> are \$45.00. The additional late dues fee pays to ship any Keystones that missed the normal mailing.

### **Drawings from Microfilm**

Copies of PRR equipment drawings are available from the Society's microfilm collection. To order drawings, you must know the drawing number and title. Ordering information and lists of arrangement drawings are available on the Society's website, [www.prrths.com](http://www.prrths.com), under National Society, The



Interchange. If you require a printed copy of this information, please send your address and a check for \$2.00 made out to PRRT&HS to: Richard C. Price, 779 Irvin Hill Road, McVeytown, PA 17051.

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AND PAST ISSUES OF *THE KEYSTONE***

**AT OUR e-STORE**

**Visit us and shop at**

**[http://www.prrths.com/estore/index\\_estore.html](http://www.prrths.com/estore/index_estore.html)**

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**CHAPTER MEETINGS**

**Support your local chapter - become a member.**

**ARIZONA CHAPTER**

Contact: Sec/Treas. Phil Anderson 480-756-4359 [ma393@aol.com](mailto:ma393@aol.com)

The next meeting of the Arizona Chapter will be in:

Fred and Mozelle Stout's Private Car *Silver Star*

Arizona Railway Museum

2:00 pm, Sunday, January 22, 2017

**LINES WEST – BUCKEYE REGION CHAPTER**

Contact: Al Doddroe at: [adoddroe@earthlink.net](mailto:adoddroe@earthlink.net)

**CHICAGO TERMINAL CHAPTER**

Contact: President Marv Caldwell at: [ld\\_mlc43@comcast.net](mailto:ld_mlc43@comcast.net)

**GRAND RAPIDS & INDIANA** Contact Jim Winslow at: [G5s472@aol.com](mailto:G5s472@aol.com) 1872 Lakeview Drive, Zeeland, MI 49464

**LONG ISLAND**

PO Box 648

Riverhead, NY 11901

**MIDDLE DIVISION**

Contact Rich Ader at: [richie0745@yahoo.com](mailto:richie0745@yahoo.com)

## **NEW ENGLAND**

Contact, Tim Garner at: [t.a.garner@verizon.net](mailto:t.a.garner@verizon.net) or write to New England Chapter PRRT&HS, c/o Tim Garner, Secretary, PO Box 624, Marlborough, MA 01752-0624.

Saturday, January 28, 2017 – Informal Chapter Meeting  
Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show – West Springfield, Mass.

The annual two-day event at the Eastern States Exposition (The Big E) is the biggest train show in the northeastern US. It has become a tradition for Chapter members to meet briefly at noon on day one by one of the roll-up doors in the Stroh Building to say hello, swap stories, and compare purchases so far. You can buy admission in advance to save lines. Visit [www.railroadhobbyshow.com](http://www.railroadhobbyshow.com) for details on the show.

March 2017 – Spring Chapter Meeting  
Specific Date to Be Determined  
North Shore Model Railroad Club, Wakefield, Mass.

Hosted by our Vice President Andy Miller, this operating session will give us a chance to run a variety of PRR equipment on the club's sizeable HO layout. We'll arrive between 11:00 and noon at the club to drop off equipment, move upstairs to Brothers Restaurant for lunch and our business meeting at noon, then return to the layout for the operating session for the rest of the afternoon. Layout can run DCC and DC. Members running DCC equipment should de-consist their locomotives before running them on the layout. For directions to the club, visit [www.nsmrc.org](http://www.nsmrc.org).

## **NORTHERN CENTRAL CHAPTER**

Contact President Jerry Britton at: [jerry@pennsyrr.com](mailto:jerry@pennsyrr.com)  
Chapter web site: <http://ncchapter.pennsyrr.com>

## **PACIFIC NORTHWEST**

Contact President Jim Trunzo at: [jetrunzo@gmail.com](mailto:jetrunzo@gmail.com)  
The Pennsylvania Railroad Technical and Historical Society Has Formed a Pacific Northwest Chapter.

## **PENN-TEXAS CHAPTER**

Contact Secretary Walt Van Arsdale at: [varsdale@verizon.net](mailto:varsdale@verizon.net)

## **PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER**

Contact: President Steve Staffieri at: [interceptor92@verizon.net](mailto:interceptor92@verizon.net)  
Philadelphia Chapter website is: <http://www.philaprrths.com>

## **PITTSBURGH CHAPTER**

Contact: Newsletter Editor Don Coulter 412-372-4221 [donald.coulter3@verizon.net](mailto:donald.coulter3@verizon.net)

**WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER**

Contact: Paul Schulz at: [paulschulz@verizon.net](mailto:paulschulz@verizon.net)

**PLEASE CONTACT CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE FOR MEETING DATES AND TIMES**

**WEBSITE** [www.prrths.com](http://www.prrths.com)



**SOCIETY SERVICES**

See our website [http://www.prrths.com/newpr\\_r\\_files/newPRRSocietyServices.htm](http://www.prrths.com/newpr_r_files/newPRRSocietyServices.htm)

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