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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

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Not for sale.

If you have a submission for the July E-news PLEASE forward it to me by June 15th. Thank you.
Pauletta Ader Editor of the E-news. pauletta.ader@yahoo.com

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MEMBERSHIP

As of April 24, 2017, the PRRT&HS membership for 2017 is as follows:

Regular	1,935
Sustaining	313
Contributing	78
International	24
Keystone	136
Total	2,486

Non-renewals 386 Renewal Rate $2,402/2,788=86.2\%$

Keystone mailings include 12 gratis copies (museums, libraries, etc.)

The number of new members for 2017 is 84

Submitted by Andy Hart

ARCHIVES

The HOKEY POKEY with Charlie Horan

Put your left leg in, you put your left leg out



Put your right leg in, you put your right leg out



QUICK!!! Someone get two pry bars and a large jar of mayonnaise!!!
THAT'S WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!!!!

Article submitted by Steve Staffieri

Photos submitted by Al Giannantonio

PRR Valuation Maps Coming on DVD

A number of PRRT&HS archive volunteers, spear-headed by Stephen Titchenal, have been working to scan the society's extensive collection of PRR "Valuation" Maps. Valuation maps were required by the Interstate Commerce Commission in the 1916 time-frame to accurately record all of each railroad's "infrastructure." The ICC would then estimate the value of that infrastructure, and use it as part of the basis for setting freight rates. The society has an incomplete set of original "linens" from around 1919, an over 95% complete set of 1949 Blueline prints, and the board of directors recently agreed to contribute to the scanning of what may be a complete set of late 1960's Val maps obtained from Conrail on aperture cards. Each Val map covers one mile of Right-of-Way – for the PRR, that results in nearly 15,000 Val maps for the entire RR. For each year, PRR Val maps show the current RoW – they do not track revision history, so the 1960's set does not document the track and structures previously removed, and the 1960's set is not of the same quality as the prints and linens in the society's archives. So different members will need to use different maps, depending on their era of interest.

One challenge of viewing Valuation maps is the very large computer file sizes. Over one "Giga-byte" of files for one division's main line, and that is just for one format of the data. In the near-term the most labor-effective method to distribute the maps is to publish them on DVD's – with both PDF and jpeg file formats. In addition, the Val maps are indexed as civil engineering documents, and will benefit from other documents to help understand each map's location and context; we plan to include such documents on the DVDs. Given that we are relying on volunteer effort to distribute the maps, we believe that selling DVDs requires the fewest volunteer hours to get the maps out to the members.

During the February Board of Directors meeting, the directors agreed to start the process of making these digital Val map scans widely available. As a trial, the board agreed to sell DVD's,

Below are two examples of small portions of the Pittsburgh Division Val maps. The first is GY interlocking, between Altoona and Horse Shoe Curve. The second is the 28th street engine terminal in Pittsburgh, just railroad east of the Pittsburgh passenger station.

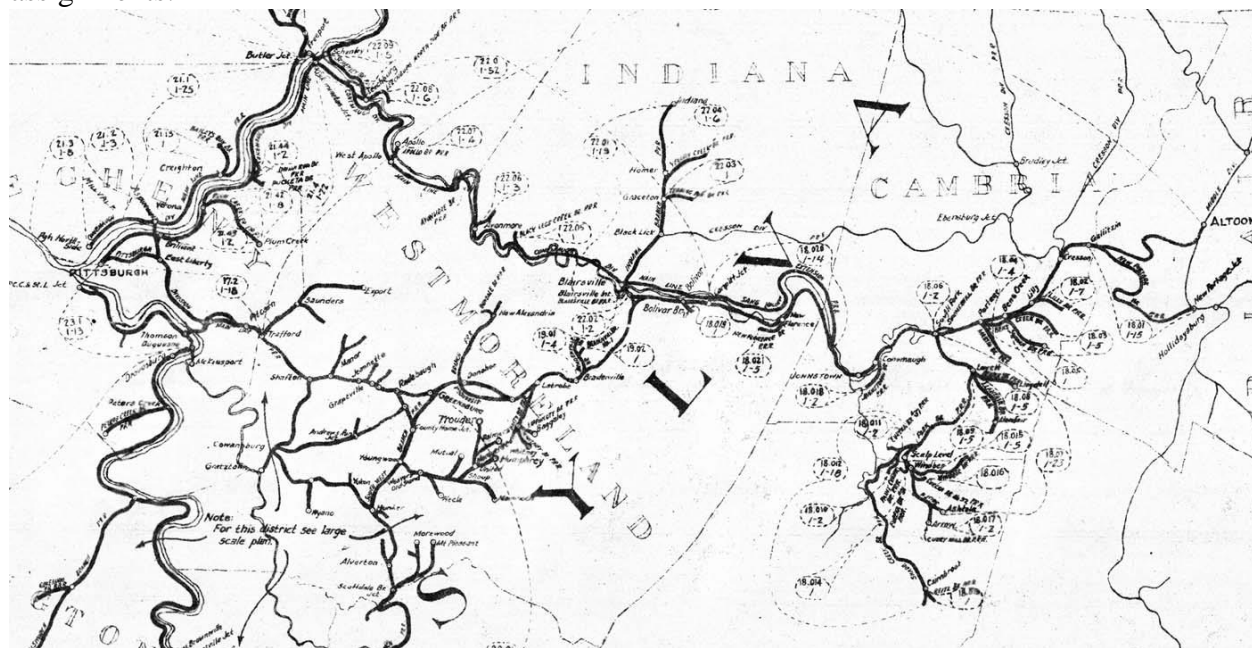
[illegible]

Both images displayed here are at one half of the resolution of the maps to be included on the DVD's.

Val Map Update

The Val map team is working hard to generate a DVD with the Pittsburgh Division's 1949 Val Maps, hopefully in time for sale at the annual meeting. We hope (but are not 100% certain), that this will be a two DVD set that includes the Pittsburgh Division branches.

The challenge is which branches to include? As mentioned in the last e-news, the late 1930's, through late 1940's appears to be the "most stable" organizational period for the PRR – divisions and branches remained pretty much unchanged – possibly for the longest stretch in PRR history. But during the early Val maps, the PRR was organized differently (in fact in 1915 the "Lines West" reorganizations and consolidations had not yet occurred.) For the Pittsburgh division, a big change from 1918 to 1940 was moving the Southwest branch from the Pittsburgh division to the Monongahela division, and the incorporation of much of the Cresson division into the Pittsburgh division. Below is the 1918 Val map overview showing the earlier division branch assignments:



In addition to producing the Pittsburgh division Val Map DVD, the team is also working to finalize the process to generate Val Map DVDs for all PRR divisions. More on this in the July edition of the e-news.

Submitted and written by Dave Evans



Stephen Titchenal and Ed Klein scanning Valuation maps.
Photo submitted by Pauletta Ader

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

STATION

Nothing new to report.

MODELING UPDATES

Steve Staffieri's HO Model Railroad Pennsy's Elmira Branch 1948

NOTE: For the true Elmira Branch Fans:

My railroad is a "close" representation of the Elmira Branch, 1948. It is point to point railroad, the thick removable wood bridge you see on the videos connects the two "off railroad" staging yards to create a loop.

Some buildings and areas are as close as I could get using what prototype photos I could find along with the Bill Caloroso book.

The scenery is not complete and you probably noticed the lack of trees, more people signs etc. (that's the 10%, maybe more like 15% that needs to be done!)

Three of the towers are Bob Strong towers and are as close to the actual towers I could find. And yes, for those looking really close, I haven't changed the original signs (Lyndon, Wawa and Elmora, which will become Kendall, Newberry, and Dense respectively) To the best of my knowledge I do not believe Bob ever made towers for the Elmira branch, and frankly, I am fortunate to have these three.

I gave the Susquehanna and New York RR another 8-10 years of life (The railroad was dismantled in 1942 and the rails used for the war effort)

Maybe if Bill Fagan ever returns to my railroad, I can get him to show the switching on Sodus Point and operations on the S&NY.

Check out the following You Tube links:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G9DM6ShvBKg>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FLYMrZ8B_R4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IeYSGerkVAo>

Submitted by Steve Staffieri

2017 ANNUAL MEETING:

Camp Hill Washington Chapter-Host Chapter Invitation

The Washington DC Chapter of PRRT&HS is proud to host the 2017 PRRT&HS Annual Meeting at the Radisson in Camp Hill, PA

A full program schedule and list of presentations is provided at the end of this e-news, along with the registration form.

Update to 2017 Annual Meeting

The DC chapter of the society has been hard at work collecting registrations and getting the last few tasks completed for the Society's Annual Meeting, May 18-20. The train ride is sold out, but we still have space for you at the annual meeting and banquet, starting with a presentation on the Shamokin Branch Thursday evening.

URGENT - 2017 Annual Meeting – Safe Harbor Dam Tour

If you plan to participate in the Safe Harbor Dam tour, please contact Greg Petrick at gkpetrick@comcast.net. In addition to needing a count of people visiting the dam, we also need to provide the visitor names to the dam's operator in advance. If you are bringing a minor child along, they also need to know their age (for insurance purposes.) We would also like to know if we need to set up car pools. If you have any interest in car-pooling, either as a driver or a rider please let Greg know. If you are interested in driving, please include how many riders you can accommodate.

URGENT – PA State Archive Tour Canceled

We were informed by the PA State Archives that they cannot support an archive tour this year - there is renovation work being done within the archives, and because of a genealogy convention, they expect the archives to be crowded. You are still welcome to visit the state archives on your own. We apologize for the inconvenience.

Hotel Status:

The hotel informs us that the hotel is completely sold out for that Thursday night. Rooms are still available, as of April 27th, for Friday and Saturday night. Other hotels within 15 minutes of the Radisson still have rooms available for all 3 nights.

Program Update

There are two additions to the program, Gus Minardi will be presenting how to model complete Pennsy Freight Trains in HO scale such as a 40 car Coal Drag, or a 50 car Ore Train, a 20 car Tructrain or a 40 car mixed freight train. Gus will be displaying examples of the trains. Should be impressive!

Bill Wright, who has been very active in the recent restoration of Union Station in DC, which was built primarily by the PRR over 100 years ago, will provide a presentation on the station. If you get to DC, you should stop by the station - the grand hall has been cleared of the retail and restaurants in the middle of the hall, restoring it to its original appearance. Very impressive. Bill is an expert on the station and should have an interesting presentation.

To support a model railroad open house on Friday night, two of the previously scheduled presentations were swapped – see the revised schedule at the end of the e-News.

Hope to see you in Camp Hill!

FUTURE ANNUAL MEETING LOCATIONS:

2017- 50th Anniversary Altoona

2018- Strasburg

RAILROAD HERITAGE DAYS:

PRRT&HS will be an active participant at the Railroad Museum of Pa. Railroad Heritage Days, September 9th and 10th. Once all the activities have been finalized, updated information for this event will be placed on the Society web site.

Submitted by Joe Acri

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

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)

Name the Location Game:

Where is this located?



March results:



Emporium, Pennsylvania

Submitted by: Brad Bender

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.*

TCA NATIONAL CONVENTION INFORMATION

Christopher DiCianna and George Starz, Co-Chairmen of the TCA National Convention which will be held in Pittsburgh in June. The TCA has had many great and successful conventions in Pittsburgh in the past and this year's will be no exception. Typically the Convention is open only to TCA members and their guests but this year we have one major exception to that rule and one significant announcement.

On Sunday, June 25, 2017, the TCA is organizing a **WONDERFUL** train excursion experience! Tour participants will begin their journey on-board a privately chartered, TCA SPECIAL AMTRAK train from Pittsburgh to Altoona and have a first-hand experience riding the rails through the World-Famous Horseshoe Curve. After arrival in Altoona, buses will shuttle

visitors to the Horseshoe Curve visitor center and funicular and the Altoona Railroaders Memorial Museum. Lunch will be provided during the trip while in Altoona and the train will have a Café Car for Pay-as-you go snacks and beverages. We will have special events on the train as well. More information can be found on www.tcaconvention.org

The second big announcement (and this will be of special interest to anyone considering the Amtrak trip) is that the TCA is, for the first time, offering Trial Memberships where an individual can pay \$25 and receive full membership benefits for 6 months. This would include the ability to attend the TCA Convention AND the Eastern Division Train Meet in York, PA in April. Most importantly if you become a TCA member you can ride the TCA SPECIAL at the TCA member rate. The member's guests and family will be eligible for the TCA rates for the trip. If you look at the schedule of Rates for our Amtrak tour there is a real advantage to become a Trial Member and attend the convention and take the trip with us and be able to take the trip to the **Age Of Steam Roundhouse in Sugarcreek Ohio** which is not normally open to the public for tours.

PRRT&HS PUBLIC RELATIONS

One way for members to help increase the Society's visibility and promote membership in the PRRT&HS is to host the portable display in their area. For those unfamiliar with it, the portable display contains sample issues of *The Keystone*, *The Keystone Modeler* and *The Keystone e-NEWS*, as well as membership brochures, membership applications, information on the Lewistown Archives and a list of PRRT&HS publications available for purchase on our website. Book samples are available to those hosts willing to display them. While train shows are an obvious venue consideration should be given to events sponsored by local historical societies and railroad museums; especially those in areas that had a strong PRR presence.



The Pittsburgh Chapter hosted the portable display at the RPM-EAST Meet held on March 24 & 25 in Greensburg, PA. The display gave the 206 attendees an opportunity to browse all the current PRRT&HS publications and learn the benefits of membership. Many existing members stopped by to converse and our presence reminded some to get their 2017 renewals completed. The following are the current committed dates for the display:

May 17 - 20, 2017; PRRT&HS 49TH Annual Meeting, Camp Hill, PA

June 23 & 24, 2017; The 2017 St. Louis RPM Meet, Collinsville, IL (Bob Flores)

The portable display gives the PRRT&HS exposure to those unaware of our existence and the potential to attract new members; please consider hosting it. An increase in membership is beneficial to us all. Table cost and shipping charges are covered by the PRRT&HS.

Another way for members to 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.

To arrange for use of the portable display or to request copies of the Membership Brochure contact Frank Napoleon at frank.napoleon@verizon.net.

THE WILKINSBURG TRAIN STATION RESTORATION PROJECT



As noted in the March 2017 issue of the e-NEWS the Wilksburg Community Development Corporation (WCDC) is leading the effort to restore the former Pennsylvania Railroad station in Wilksburg, PA and have selected the Pittsburgh architectural firm of MacLachlan, Cornelius & Filoni to complete the \$3 million restoration of the 1916 Beaux-Arts style station.

Building stabilization was undertaken last fall and environmental abatement work (asbestos and other hazardous material removal) began on April 3. The station is scheduled to open to the public in the summer of 2018. For additional information on the project visit the campaign

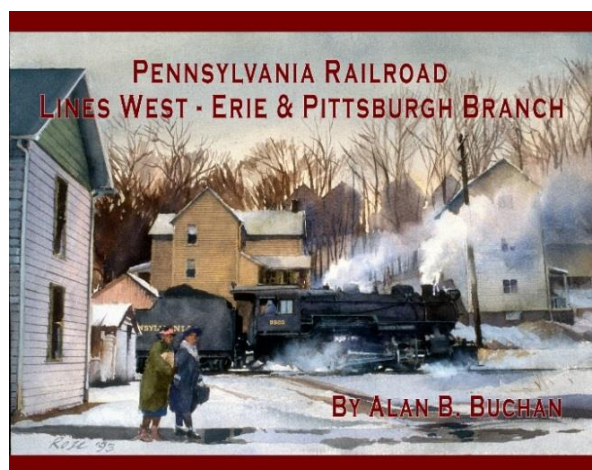
website and video at <http://www.wilkstation.org>. Updates on the restoration project can be found on their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/WilkinsburgTrainStation>.

The Wilkinsburg Community Development Corporation is looking for people to promote the project, make a monetary donation, volunteer on a committee, and/or provide other resources - including photographs and stories as the Wilkinsburg Historical Society plans to publish a commemorative book highlighting the station and restoration project. Though the 1916 station will be the primary focus of the publication they are interested in any pertinent information such as railroad documents, plans, timetables, photographs and personnel reminiscences related to the Pennsylvania Railroad's presence in Wilkinsburg over the years.

To date, the PRRT&HS has assisted the project by providing scans of drawings from the Lewistown Archives, directed the WCDC to additional sources of documentation and have made them aware of the Society's color drift cards. Four PRR structure colors and two colors appropriate for signage have been identified for possible use.

If you have relevant materials to share or have an interest in assisting with this project, contact Marlee Gallagher, Communications & Outreach Coordinator, at 412-727-7855 or marlee@wilkinburgcdc.org.

ERIE & PITTSBURGH BRANCH BOOK - SOLD OUT



The *Erie & Pittsburgh Branch* book is **SOLD OUT**. If you missed the boat and still want a **copy**, please call 610-683-7341, extension 1005 to be placed on a list of those interested in a (possible *Second Edition* reprint). Also, check the E-store located on the PRRT&HS website for other available Society publications.

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.

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 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 15th 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, 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.

JOIN THE SOCIETY, MAKE DONATIONS, BUY BOOKS

AND PAST ISSUES OF *THE KEYSTONE*

AT OUR e-STORE

Visit us and shop at

http://www.prrths.com/estore/index_estore.html

CHAPTER MEETINGS

Support your local chapter - become a member.

ARIZONA CHAPTER

Contact: Sec/Treas. Phil Anderson 480-756-4359 ma393@aol.com

LINES WEST – BUCKEYE REGION CHAPTER

Contact: Al Doddroe at: adoddroe@earthlink.net

CHICAGO TERMINAL CHAPTER

Contact: President Marv Caldwell at: ld_mlc43@comcast.net

GRAND RAPIDS & INDIANA

Contact Jim Winslow at: G5s472@aol.com 1872 Lakeview Drive, Zeeland, MI 49464

LONG ISLAND

P.O. Box 1620, Ronkonkoma, NY 11766

MIDDLE DIVISION

Contact Rich Ader at: richie0745@yahoo.com

NEW ENGLAND

Contact, Tim Garner at: 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.

NORTHERN CENTRAL CHAPTER

Contact President Jerry Britton at: jerry@pennsyrr.com

Chapter web site: <http://ncchapter.pennsyrr.com>

PACIFIC NORTHWEST

Contact President Jim Trunzo at: 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

PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

Contact: President Steve Staffieri at: 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

WASHINGTON DC CHAPTER

Contact: Paul Schulz at: paulschulz@verizon.net

PLEASE CONTACT CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE FOR MEETING DATES AND TIMES

WEBSITE www.prrths.com



SOCIETY SERVICES

See our website http://www.prrths.com/newpr_files/newPRRSocietyServices.htm

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