

# The Second Section

Minutes from the March 19, 2015 membership meeting

President Bernie Hanmore called the membership meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA.

Attending the meeting were Bernie Hanmore, Dennis Mead, Ed Cronin, Carl and Vanessa Timko, Bill McComas, Jack Sheets, John Snyder, Tom Collard, Al Reibel, Pete Gifford, Ron Stafford, John Nagurney, Jim Saulsberry, and guest Sandy Porter.

Since there was not meeting in February, due to the weather, minutes from the January meeting were reviewed and discussed.

## *Treasurer's Report*

Treasurer Ed Cronin disclosed the financial status of the organization, included were the balances, expenses of insurance and income from donations, sales, and the scrap drive. He also announced that Jim Saulsberry, of Adamsville, is our newest member. Welcome to the FCVRRHS, Jim!

## *Committee Reports* *Museum*

Artifacts and memorabilia were being changed in the glass display cases of the movable exhibits on March 18. The exhibits will be distributed

around the county at various public places. There will be twelve such cases built, with two already in public view; one is at the Crawford County Career and Technical Center, and the other is at the Cochranton Junior/Senior High School.

Work continues at the Cambridge Springs trolley station with the interior lights now wired up. Storm windows are now being installed. It was reported one wall had to be reinforced. It is expected that painting will begin soon.

## *Historical/Archives*

Research by Dennis Mead, Carl Timko, and Sandy Porter turned up some nice photos. Enough photos of train wrecks were found, that a complete calendar could very well be published. Mr. Richard Feidler also stopped by to help with his knowledge of the area.

## *Property/Equipment*

It is only days away as of this meeting until spring. Soon, the weather will be nice enough to start installing a track panel at display site in Pomona Park. It was noted that WNYP president Carl Belke or Trainmaster Brent Hornstrom will need to be contacted to arrange for the track panel to be installed.

The # 518 will soon have its

lettering, striping, and logo painted on soon.

Jack Sheets was asked if Industrial Truck and Crane could wait until May to deliver the B&LE boxcar. It is hoped that the price is still agreeable, should there be a need to wait that long.

There was a discussion at the last meeting about painting the tool car in Pennsylvania Railroad maintenance-of-way yellow with black lettering. Given the number of projects that will be in progress soon, it was decided to wait until the next meeting to discuss any more about it.

## *Public Relations/Education*

Carl Timko asked for someone else to help with designing the new website with Dianne Jones. Carl noted that he cannot continue this project due to the many other duties he has within the FCVRRHS, and his eyesight has yet to improve. He regrets having to step away from this project.

The *Valley Express* Spring 2015 edition has gone to press and is expected to be out soon. One hundred twenty-five copies were ordered. (*editor's note: All members were mailed their copies by the end of March.*)

### **Budget/Finance**

The scrap metal drive continues.

While doing research at the Crawford County Historical Society, members encountered people who wanted to get rid of their scrap metal.

Attention turned to discussing the new shirts that need to be ordered for merchandising. Choices discussed were between a golf shirt or a polo shirt. It was decided that the color of the shirt should be gray, much like the caboose shirt. Vendors still need to be chosen. It was decided that two vendors will be chosen at the next meeting and then decide between them.

A motion was made by Carl Timko to apply for the Tom E. Dailey Foundation Railroad Heritage grant that was advertised in the recent *Trains* magazine. The foundation awards grants of \$1,000 to \$15,000 on a quarterly basis. Carl recommended sending in two applications; one for the maintenance of the equipment on display at Pomona Park, and one for the maintenance of the collections and archives, with the possibility of securing our own headquarters. Bernie Hanmore suggested we go through Maryann Martin, the grant writer of the Heritage Center.

### **Special Events/Programs**

Speakers have been scheduled for the Erie Lackawanna

Historical Society's Fall 2015 meeting. The event is to take place in Cambridge Springs at the Riverside Inn and the trolley station, on September 18 and 19.

A meeting with Mike Connor and Joe Schveder is to be scheduled to go over the details in the near future.

Four train shows in the not-so-immediate area are scheduled during the month of April. On April 12, the Beaver County Model Railroad and Historical Society will host a train show at Center Stage in Monaca, PA. Also on April 12, the Medina (Ohio) Model Railroad and Toy Show is scheduled. The Firelands Model Railroaders Train Show is scheduled for April 18, in Mansfield, Ohio at the Richland County Fair Grounds. The Pittsburgh Model Railroad Jamboree is at the Sewell Center at the Robert Morris College. Attendees must register with the fee being \$35. More information can be seen on the Railserve website at [www.railserve.com](http://www.railserve.com). Search for "train shows".

### **Model Railroad**

The French Creek Model Railroad Club disbanded and the layouts were torn down, due to the lack of interest and income. Other factors were Scott Wilson accepted his new position as president of the Clarion Model Railroad Club, after the passing of Rich Steiner. The health of Scott and his wife, Kim, played a major part, as well as the announcement of the closing of

Tom's Train Terminal. The disbanding of the club was announced the day after Tom Collard announced he will close his train show and move to New Mexicao as soon as he and his wife, Sindi sell their house. The train shop is to be closed no later than the end of April. Thanks, Tom for providing an excellent resource for area model railroaders for the past several years. It is much appreciated. And best wishes to Scott on his new responsibilities with the Clarion Model Railroad Club.

Another sad departure from the Clarion Model Railroad Club occurred the week after this meeting. Bob Hartle, age 67, passed away March 24, at his home while getting his layout ready for an operating session the next day. Bob was visible at the Erie Train Show as the Digitrax DCC expert and salesman. Your editor knew Bob from his days at the H.T. Kerr Skill Center, where we discussed our passion for the Commodore 64 computers. The Erie Train Show will be a lot different now. Condolences to Bob's family and fellow members at the CMRC.

### **Membership**

After welcoming our newest member, Jim Saulsberry, it is expected that new members to be received once the display site is completed. Several applications are still expected, with the potential of two more

interested in joining.

***Next Meeting***

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2015 at 6:30 p.m., in the conference room of the U.S. Bronze Foundry & Machine, Inc., located at 18649 Brake Shoe Road, Meadville, PA.

Work sessions at the display site are expected soon, so please help if you can.

