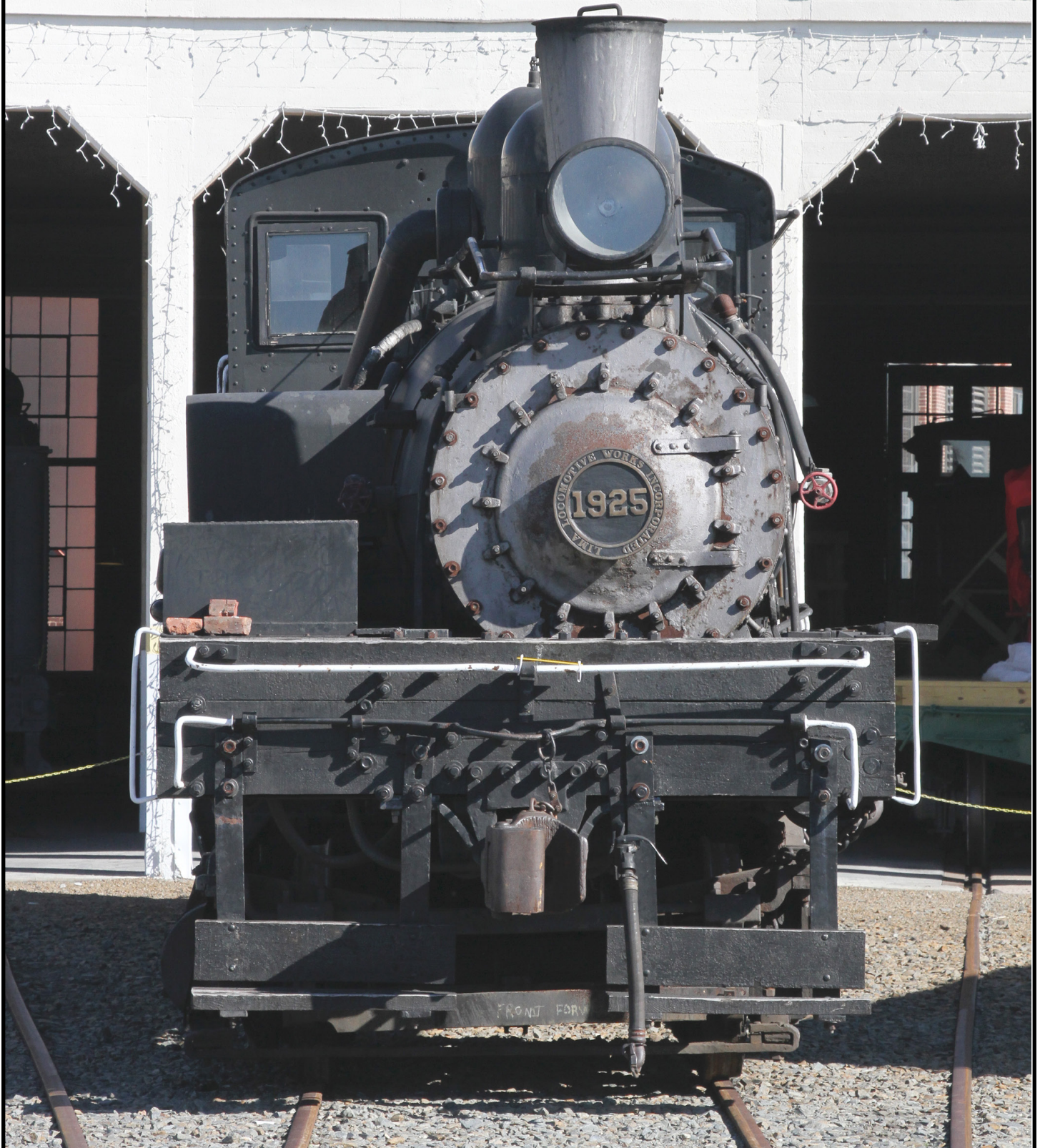


The Piedmont and Western Railroad Club

February 2017



The Bulletin





THE PIEDMONT & WESTERN RAILROAD CLUB
THE OLD ROCK SCHOOL, 400 W. MAIN STREET
P.O. BOX 513, VALDESE, NC 28690

TIM SKIDMORE, PRESIDENT; GRANT ROBBINS, VICE-PRESIDENT;
GENE AUSTIN, TREASURER; ALAN COLEMAN, SECRETARY AND
BULLETIN EDITOR; KEN HUMPHREYS, WEB MASTER; OUR
OPERATIONS CHAIRMAN POSITION IS OPEN.

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 P&WRR. ALL OPINIONS ARE SOLELY THOSE OF THE EDITOR OR
 CITED CONTRIBUTORS.



ON THE COVER: Graham County Railroad Shay No. 1925 soaking up some sun at the North Carolina Transportation Museum.

All photographs in this issue are by the editor.

Piedmont & Western Railroad February Club Minutes

The meeting was called to order on February 5, 2017 at 7:40 PM by club president Tim Skidmore.

Members in Attendance: Tim Skidmore, Gene Austin, Frank Steele, Larry Weed, Dick Miller, Keith Garrison, Joshua Garrison, Michael DeVore, Reggie Stroud, Jeff Whisenant, Grant Robbins., and Bill Poteat.

First Order of Business was the **FINANCIAL UPDATE** by Treasurer Gene Austin. Our current balance is \$2,529.64. The rent has been paid, so this is a true balance with the exception of additional Dues Payments that were received at but prior to the start of the meeting.

Gene mentioned that Morissa Angi, Director of Community Affairs & Tourism, had contacted him to confirm our operation of the layout and museum during the upcoming APRIL Craft Market on Saturday April 8th. He told Morissa that we would be in operation all day, and Tim reminded everyone that we would need to confirm a general operation schedule to be sure the layout AND the museum were adequately staffed for the day- and the schedule would allow those members who wish to have time to attend the Hickory Train Show that will be held on the same Saturday, April 8th. The members in attendance agreed that we need to continue to be open and well-represented in support of the Town and Old Rock School events.

Gene was also able to contact ARLENE KOSKI regarding the club's wish to take over the financial responsibilities for our PWRR.org web hosting. Arlene said that she wants to continue this much-appreciated contribution to the club.

TRACK AND WIRING

Tim reports that Wiring is progressing - that he and Bill have been in the layout working on connections. The two computers should be in good order now. 'Connecting Murphy' is about to begin with a goal to have Murphy completed this Spring.

SCENERY

The Scenery Committee expressed a concern over communications of near-term projects and long term goals regarding the larger Scenery projects. Tim said that he had hoped the re-introduction of the Committees within the club would alleviate that issue across several project areas. The Scenery Committee plans to get together and work on a meeting or other production discussion in order to identify immediate and layout-wide scenery projects and goals.

ROLLING STOCK

Grant, Michael and Gene are planning to generate a new Inventory Listing of all freight, passenger, and power equipment

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on the layout. With all of the changes, additions and removals of equipment since the previous Inventory, it will be much simpler to start a new list rather than try to match up items to the old list.

All Rolling Stock will be removed from the layout and taken to the workroom for inventory and storage. Each piece will then be cleaned, weighted, and repaired to NMRA standards before they are introduced back onto the layout.

UPCOMING/OTHER PROJECTS

Bill Poteat mentioned the upcoming NARROW GAUGE CONVENTION that will be coming back to Hickory in 2020. We have a LOT of work to do on the layout, museum, and general “grounds”. Tim discussed the need for a few “Saturday Workdays”. Grant suggested that we set a specific Saturday each month for that workday. As we meet every Thursday with the first Thursday of each month set aside for Business, everyone in the club is aware that someone will be there each Thursday (except for holidays or other special events). Following that line of thought, Grant suggested a “second Saturday of each month” consistency would allow members to easily remember the workday schedule and be able to schedule their time well in advance to increase attendance at these critical workdays.

The upcoming Saturday Workday Schedule is:

Saturday, February 11, 8AM-4PM

Saturday, March 11, 8AM-4PM

Saturday, April 8, 8AM-4PM (Note that the April Workday will correlate with the Valdese April Craft Market).

Proposed Projects for this Saturday, February 11:

- Clean Out Workroom...ALL ITEMS to be removed from the workroom...nothing will be returned into the room without a specific, use, or other compelling reason for its return. All other items will be offered to members in attendance, marked for public sale, or hauled to the recycling center.
- Paint Back Door...off-white color
- Install Hand Rail...Dick Miller to speak to Mike Sr and Mike regarding the handrail stanchions [the new railing is captured below- well done, Museum Committee !]
- Clean Out HVAC Room...we have a large amount of lumber in the room, and the Fire Marshall and ORS have requested we remove the materials before they must be disposed of

CLOSING COMMENTS

Club Member Jeff Whisenant will be of limited availability to the club for the near future as he cares for his Mother. She injured her hip, and Jeff will be taking care of her as she recovers. We wish Jeff well as he takes on this responsibility.

President Tim Skidmore adjourned the meeting at 8:30PM.

Submitted by Grant Robbins

Next P&W Business Meeting:
Thursday March 2, 2017 at 7:30 pm



Next P&W Workday:
Saturday March 11, 2017, 8:00 am- 4:00 pm



PORTRAITS OF THE P&W



A local behind a GP-38 gets ready to drop a pulpwood rack off at the mill in Sylva.



Freshly-painted derrick 903014 awaits the call at Asheville.



PROTO PHOTOS

The NCTM's former Duke Power 25-ton GE pulled VMT's 611 outside for some cylinder work on February 21; the week before Graham County Shay No. 1925 rested outside the roundhouse.

