

Piedmont and Western Railroad Club

October 2014



# The Bulletin



## Club Calendar:

**Christmas in November  
Open House**  
Saturday, November 8

**Waldensian Christmas  
Parade Open House**  
Saturday, December 6

**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, WEBMASTER, KEVIN STINE, OPERATIONS CHAIRMAN.**

**THE BULLETIN IS THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE P&WRRC. ALL OPINIONS ARE SOLELY THOSE OF THE EDITOR OR CITED CONTRIBUTORS.**

## Piedmont and Western Model Railroad Club and Railroad Museum October Business Meeting Minutes – Thursday, October 2, 2014

In Attendance: Tim Skidmore, Ken Humphreys, Jacob Riley, Dick Miller, Frank Steele, Arlene Koski, Amy Riley, Eugene Austin, Kevin Stine, Larry Weed, Joe Bost, Bill Poteat, Mike Outen, Sr., Grant Robbins

President Tim Skidmore called the meeting to order at 7:33 PM.

**ELECTRICAL REPORT:** Tim reported that the rewiring will begin in earnest after Christmas. Bill Poteat noted that we will begin pulling wire well before, i.e., ASAP. Bill discussed what nights are work nights and what night we will run trains to get things done. Group referred to website and agreed that existing “Fourth Thursday” will be operations night...2nd, 3rd and 5th (when applicable) will be work nights.

Ken Humphreys had already told Barbara that we’d run on 4th Thursday for “public awareness.” Tim we will pre-wire as many blue connectors as possible, and prewire as much as possible before PLC is moved to reduce time system is down. Tim reminded all that this would be a MAJOR UNDERTAKING but that everything (track, signals, etc.) will be fully functional upon completion. Tim wants to put in the PA system before Christmas Open House.

**BUILDINGS & SCENERY REPORT:** Bill wants to decorate Bryson City as a Winter Scene – to represent the North Pole for the kids at Open House. Larry Weed asked if we wanted a scale correct Bryson City Station or if a plastic Walthers Kit would be sufficient as a stand-in. General consensus was kit was ok. Bill mentioned the Yancey/Black Mountain RR group on Facebook and said it was a good group with lots of rare photos and interesting information coming up every week. Tim rewarded Frank’s stellar performance in completing the new Hallway Farm Scene with his new task – the “Urban Renewal” of Hot Springs. Bill said he will purchase a motor for the Asheville turntable.

**FINANCE REPORT:** Treasurer Gene Austin’s Update:– Balance is \$4,242.04 / \$3,624 in expenditures coming up VERY soon for the “Big 4” expenses (Rent, NMRA and Liability Insurance, PO Box Rental, etc.).  
OUT: \$125.00 for dehumidifier, \$34.77 for lock on Station Door, \$110.00 NMRA Dues.  
IN: \$183.40 from OldFort Train Days, \$54.00 from Hall Contributions.

4th Quarter Dues are due from several members – please forward asap to cover upcoming expenditures. Gene reported that we are starting the year with 17 Full-Time Members. Bill commented that we need to get pamphlets out to area Museums, Chambers of Commerce, etc. to attract new members. Ken stated that Barbara does a good job of distributing the pamphlets already – has sent many to area tourist stops (and continues to do so).

*Continued on Page 3*



**GENERAL TOPICS, WRAP UP:** Tim stated that the November Business Meeting will include nomination for 2015 Officers. Next Year IS THE FINAL YEAR he wants to be President, so someone else needs to step up and prepare to take on the role. Tim reported on several upcoming project: Step One is to clean out the first metal cabinet in the work room (the tool box) as that is the one he wants to use for the new wiring plan. Bill talked about the club car project with Tichy. Tim commented we need to determine what kind of car, how many to order, and what reporting marks should be on the cars. Bill said he and Alan would investigate with Tichy to see what is available/possible and report back to the club at next business meeting. Bill discussed the possibility of three cars: box, open hopper, and a flat car. Kevin suggested a refrigerator car as an option to investigate.

President Tim Skidmore adjourned the meeting at 8:12PM

Minutes submitted by Grant Robbins

**Photo Section:** To make up for not being at the October business meeting, the editor has been chasing trains... ON THE COVER: Amtrak P42DC # 200, a 2001 General Electric product, awaits its turn to pull the November 1 and 2 Autumn Train excursions from Spencer to Charlottesville, Virginia and Tocoa, Georgia. The editor rode the trips with Bill and Ginny Poteat.



The Caldwell County Railroad exercised its former Family Lines GP-10 # 1747 in Hickory on October 28... the unit normally serves as a backup to GP-10 # 1811, which started life as ACL #111. Both units began life as high-nosed GP-7s.

Our friends at the South Eastern Narrow Gauge & Shortline Museum have moved their 3-foot gauge Carolina and North-Western box car # 401 to the museum in Newton.



On October 23, a Norfolk Southern track crew was working on a turnout in the Biltmore yard in Asheville.