

PGRS TRACKIN'



Newsletter of the Piedmont Garden Railway Society – February 2016

Editor: Scott Williams

Greetings Friends

The annual PGRS meeting was held January 30th at the Cottages at Brushy Creek in Greer and was enjoyed by all who attended. Don Watson sent me this report of the meeting which I have cut and pasted in to the newsletter:

The meeting was called to order around 9:30 AM. Approximately 37 members were in attendance.

Club President Bill Huntman began the meeting by covering the Club activities and accomplishments for 2015. These included 4 open houses, a new Summer Train Fest, greatly improved monthly newsletters, and support for the following: Reuter's Children's Outpatient Center in Asheville, NC, NC Arboretum's Rocky Cove RR, and the monthly Train Lover Luncheons.

Treasurer Don Watson presented the treasurer's report. The club's cash reserves increased by about \$500 through 2015 and current available cash is \$2,914.

Fran Monahan presented the club's recent Club Shirt project. Shirts are available through Fran.

The election of new officers was held. The only nominations made were for the current officers. The current officers all accepted their nominations and a vote was held by show of hands. It was a unanimous vote of approval. The officers for 2016 are:

President:	Bill Huntman
Vice President:	Tim Wagner
Sec./Treas:	Don Watson
Directors at Large:	Fran Monahan
	Jon Bole
	Craig Riley

Bill Huntman then led a discussion of future club activities. There was quite a bit of input from the members and, as a result, the following items were proposed:

2016 Open Houses: It appears that there could be as many as 6 open houses during the coming year. Members who have tentatively volunteered are Jim Crawley, Les Knoll, Fran Monahan, Tim Wagner (he owes us one), Tony Potter/JR Snyder, and Don Watson.

Other Possible Club Functions: a Summer and Fall Train Fest, BBQ at the Apple Valley Club in Hendersonville, NC

Possible Clinics at the above functions: Batteries and Remote Control, Weathering of buildings and trains, Landscaping Your RR, How to Get Started in Live Steam, and Building Layouts.

Other recommendations for club activities: Poster presentations, Show and Tell, and club RR-related trips (excursions).

The following members received door prizes:

Jim Crawley
Jerry Bartle
Roger Matherly
John Murray
Roy McEwen
Hank Paulsen
Gary Poague
Jim Redmond
Dave Smith
Larry Williams
Joe Dapkins
Sky Mayo

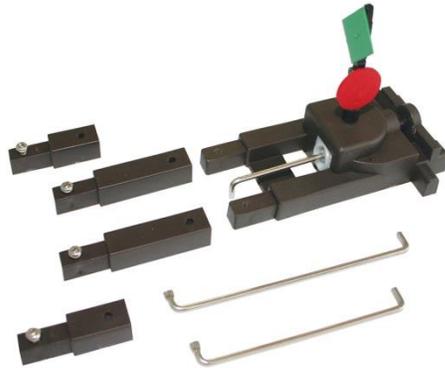
Thanks Doc for the excellent minutes of the meeting for me to include in this month's newsletter.

I would also like to add that I am working with someone on the PGRS website. The work is coming along slowly but steadily and hopefully will be completed in the not too distant future. The website will feature photos and links that will be publically accessible along with a password guarded section for members that will allow club members to view announcements and current and past issues of the club newsletter.

**A reminder from Terry Ketcham that PGRS club members are invited to come by the Apple Valley Model Railroad Club in Hendersonville the last Saturday of each month to run their large scale trains on the club layout from 10 – 2.

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Bachmann Switch Stands



“Scott,

This is the Bachmann Large Scale Turnout Switch Stand. (94648)

The operating lever locks into place which locks the points in place. It can be located on either side of a turnout and comes with a choice of 3 different standoff distances by adding a spacer and a longer throw rod.

We plan to order 10 more for safer mainline operations at the Apple Valley as we have had wheels "pick the points" of some turnouts causing embarrassing situations,

Terry”

Trainworld has them listed for 10.99. Looks like a good mod for manual switches.

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Article on N&W 611 and schedule of public excursions and special appearances.



http://m.mcdowellnews.com/news/steam-excursion-train-to-travel-across-mcdowell-in-april/article_ce6d50fe-ba32-11e5-85ff-93b0735dfc62.html?mode=jgm

Southern Railroad's "Tennessean" Streamliner:



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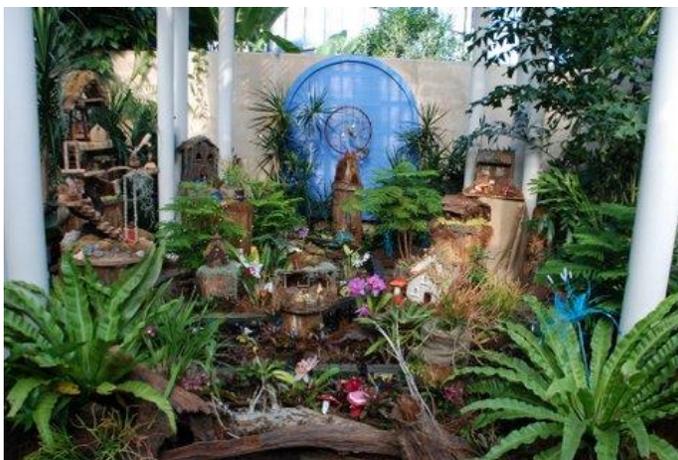
Trivia Question:

What is a track pan, water trough, or water scooping referring to?

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Member Photos:

Pete Gendron sends some photos from Stowe Botanical gardens:





Fran Monahan discovered you don't need a snow plow when you have a 2 year old around.



Bill Huntman took this nicely detailed Caterpillar tractor from a base coat of gray paint and weathered it with rust colors to this beautiful patina to create a very realistic flat car load. He is going to secure the tractor with chains from "Michaels" craft store to complete this excellent model.



The new 'Bunkhouse' at the Apple Valley Model RR club.

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Membership:

Please feel free to share this newsletter with friends who might be interested and if they wish to become members ask them to contact the PGRS Secretary/Treasurer for a membership form.

Don Watson

125 Mistletoe Trail
Hendersonville, NC 28791

docwatson@morrisbb.net

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Train Lover Luncheons:

The current luncheons are:

Columbus Area: Meets every Third Thursday of every month at Larkins Carolina Grill, 155 West Mills Street in Columbus, NC 28722. @ 1:00 PM. Contact Gary Poague 828-712-3429

gpoague@windstream.net

Greater Greenville Area: Meeting the first Tuesday of every month - at 12 noon. It has been moved to Mutts in Greer as it is more centrally located for the greater Greenville area. Contact Ken Majchrzak at: kemajchrzak@gmail.com or call Ken at: 864-385-4951

Asheville Area: Meets the 4th Thursday each month. We meet at 11:30 AM at Gondolier Italian Restaurant and Pizza located at 1360 Tunnel Road, Asheville 28805. Contact Tim Wagner timwagner2012@gmail.com

The location is on the east end near the VA hospital, so it is recommended that you access Tunnel Road from I-40, exit 55. Take a left at the first light after you exit and a left at the next light. The venue will be on the right a few hundred yards from the intersection.

Winston Salem luncheons are currently being planned by Tony Potter and J.R. Snider.

Charlotte luncheons are currently being planned by Hank Paulson and Dave Smith.

We encourage members to use the local network created by the TLL coordinators to casually invite folks by to share your layout and train projects, what we call a "Mini Open House", either on the day of a TLL or just any day in the month that you would like to have some company to talk or run trains

If you are interested in starting a "Train Lover's Luncheon" in your area, call a couple of friends and agree to meet. The next month everybody invites another friend, etc.

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Trivia Answer:

Water on the fly. Steam Locomotives needed lots of water and to avoid stopping to take on water, track pans and water scoops were utilized to replenish tender water.

A *scoop* is fitted to the underside of the locomotive's tender (or the locomotive itself in the case of tank locomotives) in such a way that it can be raised or lowered, by a hand operated screw or a power mechanism. The scoop feeds into a vertical pipe that discharges into the water tank.

The scoop needs to be lowered at speed at the correct location - shortly after the start of the trough - and raised again when either the tank is full, or at the end of the trough. Lineside indicators are provided to assist engine crews in determining the location; in the UK it was a

large white rectangular board with a black horizontal zigzag marking. On American railroads, illuminated trackside signals were employed for night-time usage, to indicate the start and approaching end of the track pan.

Venting on the tender needed to be free to allow a high rate of release of expelled air from the tank. Tank locomotives were generally fitted for picking up in either direction, but tender locomotives generally picked up in the forward direction only.



NY Central Empire Express takes on water from a track pan in 1905.

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Business Related to Our Hobby

Any Member who has a business related to our hobby is welcome to submit an entry for inclusion in PGRS Trackin' each month.



Peggy Keyes
Owner / Chief Conductor
RightTrackTrainMuseum@gmail.com
828/625-5551

The Right Track Toy Train Museum
A non-profit museum to benefit Pancreatic Cancer research
2414 Memorial Hwy (Rte 64/74)
Lake Lure, NC 28746
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Gary L. Poague 828-712-3429
www.locomotionworks.com



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Jim Hendley

Etowah, North Carolina 28729

*Lionel, MTH, USA Trains, PIKO, LGB
Bridgwerks Power Supplies, Bachmann
Split-Jaw Rail Clamps, O & G Gauge Track*

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