

The Piedmont and Western Railroad Club

November 2015



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

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



**ON THE COVER:** Gene Austin photographed the NCTM's October 31, 2015 excursion from Spencer to Asheville in Connelly Springs. Unknown at the time, Gene also captured a full moon on the fireman's side of the train, but we won't reward bad behavior. See page 4 for some **Bill Poteat** shots from the train....



K. Whitford

**The P&W will not be open on  
 Thanksgiving evening, November 26 !**



The Old Fort scrap yard on the P&W.

*Photo by the editor*



Clinchfield Railroad steam lives on in 1/87 scale on the P&amp;W...

*Photo by the editor*

**Christmas in November Show:**  
**Saturday**  
**November 14, 9:00 AM- 4:00 PM**

**Next P&WRRC**  
**Business Meeting:**  
**Thursday**  
**December 3, 2015**  
**at 7:30 PM**

## Piedmont & Western Railroad Club

### November 2015 Minutes

The meeting was called to order on November 5, 2015 at 7:41PM by President Tim Skidmore.

**Members in Attendance:** Tim Skidmore, Gene Austin, Jacob Riley, Bill Poteat, Amy Riley, Josh Garrison, Keith Garrison, Grant Robbins, Jeff Whisenant, Alan Coleman, Larry Weed, Kevin Stine, Dick Miller, and prospective member Jerry Rowan.

**Financial /Membership Report:** Treasurer **Gene Austin** reported that with all 2016 fixed expenses paid or set aside, we have a balance of \$529.80, plus two to three hundred dollars remaining in dues-payable. With the loss of two Senior members in the past year, club dues revenue was down \$150.00 per quarter. Gene repeated his call for new membership recruitment and fund raising; to that end it was great to meet our newest prospective member, **Jerry Rowan**. Jerry's modeling interests include a lifelong love of brass rolling stock.

**Wiring Report:** **Bill Poteat** reported that as part of our rewiring program we need to pull 32 wires into the Murphy Branch, eight of which will be in Bryson. ALL old wiring will be pulled to make life simpler in the club's future, and all the new copper will be well documented. The Digitrax components will be the first ones to be moved from their current layout room location to the middle Rittal cabinet. Once The Murphy Branch is up and running for experience sake, we will then migrate Marshall, Hot Springs, Asheville, etc. to the new system. Due to the complexity of Asheville, we will work on one control panel, 4-5 turnouts at a time.

**Old Business:** The fire inspector has again raised concerns about the open access to the 10 VDC power of the semaphore display. While the electrical codes do not require such low-power systems to be covered, we wish to remain on good terms with the inspector; thus **Tim Skidmore** will pursue adding snubber diodes rather than add a Plexiglas sheet which would obscure the display. We will also look into lengthening the chain which prevents visitor access to the semaphore box.

**New Business:** Faced with the sale of an out-building at home, **Kevin Stine** is going to be selling much of his L&N rolling stock collection...In what is very good news for the club, Kevin will be moving his tools and model railroading work bench to the club work room. Everyone is welcome to use the tools, with the only condition being that once your respective job is completed, everything needs to go back into its proper place. With this move, repairs and adjustments to rolling stock on the layout will now be able to done in-house and ASAP- our thanks go to Kevin.

Nominations for 2016 officers "railroaded" the current folks listed in our masthead for yet another term; the election to be held at the December 2015 meeting per our by-laws.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12PM.

Submitted by Alan Coleman

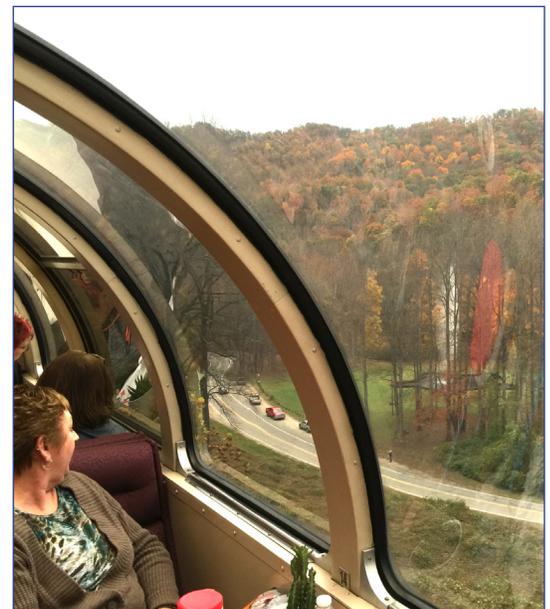


Working the Oyama Yard, NS GP-38-2 No. 5141 was a October 1974 EMD product for the Southern Railway.

# Views from a Dome by Bill Poteat



The wood chip facility in Nebo.



Andrews Geyser outside of Old Fort.

Now back home in West Virginia for restoration by the Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad, former Buffalo Creek and Gauley No. 4, a 1926 Baldwin 2-8-0, masqueraded as Southern Railway No. 604 at the NCTM.



# Snap Shots

wherein the editor scans two of his old prints taken at the North Carolina Transportation during its heyday of steam operation...

One year older than BC&G No. 4, the former Graham County Railroad No. 1925 is a Lima Locomotive Works three-truck Shay. Donated to the museum in 1988, the Shay was restored for operation by 1998. Sadly, No. 1925 has been a cold, static display at Spencer since 2005 due to boiler tube problems.





## Layout Progress Report

Dr. Frank Steele has made some upgrades to his already excellent lumber yard in Hot Springs, adding roof-top signs and more interior details.

*Photos by the editor.*

