

The Piedmont and Western Railroad Club

August 2016



The Bulletin



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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; OUR
OPERATIONS CHAIRMAN POSITION IS OPEN.

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 CITED CONTRIBUTORS.



ON THE COVER: An eastbound train pulled by pair of Southern Railway Consolidations makes its way towards Bryson during the 2016 Waldensian Festival Open House...our coverage continues on page 3.

All photographs in this issue are by the editor.

Piedmont & Western Railroad August Club Minutes

The meeting was called to order on August 4, 2016 at 7:46 pm by President Tim Skidmore.

Members in Attendance: Tim Skidmore, Grant Robbins, Bill Poteat, Gene Austin, Ken Humphreys, Josh Garrison, Frank Steele, Larry Weed, Michael DeVore, Reggie Stroud, Keith Garrison, Jeff Whisenant, and Alan Coleman.

Financial Report: Treasurer Gene Austin reported that our bank account balance is \$4,091.64, with \$225.00 in dues payments and 19.00 in donations since last month. Gene will arrange two \$100.00 floats for the Open House; Ken will be loaning a second cash box.

Grant displayed the tickets for the NS train set we will raffling during the Open House; with the set being valued less than \$300.00 there are no tax collection issues. The \$5.00 tickets will also be good for an adult P&WRRRC admission.

Wiring Report: Tim reported that he had repaired the Bridge and Biltmore turnouts. The Biltmore turnout had a poor IDC (insulation displacement connector) which would heat up under high amperage locomotives and create an open circuit. Tim also re-bulbed the non-working track lights with his donation of \$77.00 of new bulbs and four new fixtures. We will need six additional fixtures.

Scenery Report: Bill reported that the photo backdrops had been installed on the Murphy branch; Forced perspective and many bags of foliage clusters have been used to

date. Alan has placed a fire crew and Power Wagon brush truck at Dick's fire scene. Larry suggested the use of TT scale items for transition scenery rather than N-scale. Discussion followed about a photo and scenery fact -finding trip to Bryson City. Bill concluded his report by reminding members that much of layout's scenery is in need of refreshing or replacing, and solicited everyone's ideas.

Waldensian Festival Open House: Tim has purchased a 10x20 tent, we will need tables for that length. Larry will be bring some standard gauge models; Tim some G gauge Tweetsie® stock. The following items will be part of our requirements: six paint cans filled with cement to anchor the tent; our banner, table and chairs, heavy duty power strip and cords, two laptops for playing videos, cooler and drinks, the tickets, fans, and floats, plus a trash can. We will be staging the outdoor display next Thursday night and transporting everything to our festival site early Saturday morning- Tim suggested everyone be at the ORS by about 7:00am. We will need three people at the tent and six at the layout and museum.

President Tim Skidmore adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm.

Submitted by Alan Coleman

Next P&W Business Meeting: Thursday September 1, 2016 at 7:30 pm

The 2016 Waldensian Festival's Piedmont & Western Open House



The 2016 rendition of our Waldensian Festival Open House was a success by every standard. After last year's financially disappointing event, the club decided to step up its game and return to the streets with a booth (courtesy of club president Tim Skidmore) and a raffle for a Norfolk Southern HO gauge trains set (courtesy of vice-president Grant Robbins). Somehow Katie Skidmore and Larry Weed got talked into manning the outdoor booth for the event- the pair are shown above demonstrating the weight of standard gauge hoppers. Meanwhile back at the Old Rock School, treasurer Gene Austin manned the ticket booth, Ken Humphreys punched tickets, and the rest of us ran trains, took pictures, or otherwise contributed to the event which raised over 500 dollars towards our 2017 fixed expense budget.

Continued on page 5



Summer of '16 Images

Above: a Union Pacific SD70ACe leads a Norfolk Southern eastbound freight over I-40 in Conover on August 6; two very different locomotives which share a May, 1950 birthday pass each other at Spencer; on page 5, NS GP-38-2 number 5084 was captured at Oyama Yard on August 6 around 8:30am.





The Open House *continued...*

Clockwise from above: Garatt Jackson with an unusual visitor; Jonathan Holden won the NS train set raffle; another shot of Grant's 2-8-0 duo; and Dick Miller chaperons some attendees.

