WEB SITE HELP NEEDED

The Society is looking for a volunteer who would be willing to assume the position of RCT&HS Webmaster. Mike Sakal has asked to be relieved from the duties of web-master as soon as possible. Mike has done a good job for a number of years and we appreciated his work very much. However, Mike’s employment responsibilities have grown and the number of hours in a day has not grown to compensate for his additional duties. The site is built on “Adobe Dreamweaver”. A webmaster is needed who has experience using Dreamweaver software and would be willing to volunteer. This position could be filled by a member no matter where that person lives. He or she does not have to be local to the Reading, PA area.

The most immediate need is a person who can add information regarding sales items (eg, RCT&HS calendars) or upcoming Society events and delete old news after the event has passed. We get many “hits” from the public looking at our web site, but keeping information current has become a challenge. CAN YOU HELP? ARE YOU WILLING TO HELP? Please respond by sending an email within the next week or two to museum@readingrailroad.org. Thanks for considering this position.

DEBT REDUCTION UPDATE: In October, 2010 your Society entered into a commercial loan in the amount of $97,000.00 in order to complete the first phase of site development at Hamburg. In the 26 months since then, through your generous donations, we have paid $24,730.00 on the principal of the loan. We have reduced the loan balance by approximately 25%. Members should be very proud of this accomplishment. Our remaining balance is $72,270.00. If we can maintain this pace of giving we can eliminate our debt in another 6 years. A “Pay-Down-The-Loan” envelope is included in each issue of The Crusader that is mailed to members. For those of you who receive the e-Crusader, donations can be made using PayPal or simply mailing a check to the Society marked on the memo line for Pay-Down-The-Loan. Are you able to help with this project? Can we eliminate the debt any faster? Are you able to offer, or help us secure, some type of challenge grant for reducing the debt? If so, please talk with our treasurer, Jim Adams. Think about the possibilities!

2013 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

We are happy to report that more than 400 of you have already submitted your 2013 membership dues. Renewing promptly not only helps the Society’s financial needs but it also diminishes the work load for Melanie and Jay Zimmerman, our membership secretaries.

The membership renewal form was included in the October issue of The Crusader (distributed in mid November). Jim Adams, treasurer, reports that the first deposit of membership renewal checks averaged $65.00 per check. While the basic membership costs only $35.00 per year, a significant number of members have chosen to support the Society at a higher level of membership or to add an additional donation bringing the average renewal amount to $65.00. THANK YOU VERY MUCH! Your contributions are a great help to furthering the efforts of your Society to preserve and interpret the history of the Reading Company.

If you have not sent in your renewal, please consider doing so today. If you cannot find your copy of the membership renewal form from the October Crusader, simply send a note telling us your name, address, and membership category. Be sure to update your email address with us if it has changed in the last year. Checks should be made payable to RCT&HS and mailed to RCT&HS Membership, PO Box 15143, Reading, PA 19612-5143. You may designate any donation to your favorite project or simply donate to “where needed most”. Dues may also be remitted via www.readingrailroad.org and choosing the PayPal option.

CANCELLATION INFO: If winter weather threatens please call the museum’s phone number for meeting cancellation information.

(610) 562-5513
DECEMBER 18th GENERAL MEETING

President Duane Engle called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. there were 7 officers and 27 members in attendance. A motion to accept the November 2012 minutes as printed was made by Larry Mundell and seconded by Dave Heffner. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE BOARD
Duane Engle 610-929-5661 rcths.dengle@juno.com

The December meeting of the BOD was held at 7PM on December 6th at the Reading Railroad Heritage Museum in Hamburg, PA. Topics of discussion and motions carried are as follows:

- **Financial** – Personal loans borrowed from members for the wood car moving project have been settled as promised. A motion was passed to approve $2,830 for emergency roof repairs at the RRHM. The board agreed that the RCT&HS should raise amount of encumbered money for BEE LINE production from $2500 to $3000 per issue based on increased printing and shipping costs. The 2013 budget was distributed for review. Also discussed were sales and an increase in electricity use.

- **Museum** – Carol Adams presented the planning committee report. Advertising was discussed and a motion was passed to run 6 radio ads promoting the toy display and holiday features.

- **Car 15** – The storage fees for car 15 have increased by $50 per month to $350 effective immediately. The board is seeking other options for the storage of car 15. We are unable to bring it to Hamburg as the R&N’s Pennsy Line is out of service.

- **Web Site** – The board discussed options for hosting and maintaining the RCT&HS web site. Our volunteers involved with the web site have resigned effective December 31st. A motion to have the web site hosted and maintained by a Mr. Tom Mahoney for $360 a year failed with 2 yes votes and 6 abstentions. More research will be done as well as a search for new volunteers.

- **Other** – eCrusader, train meet, ongoing museum projects, 9001 acquisition, Bee Line production, copper theft from equipment, and security measures.

The next general meeting of the Executive Board will be held at 7PM at the Reading Railroad Heritage Museum in Hamburg, PA on January 8, 2013.

BUDGET & FINANCE
John Brown 717-426-2238 JWBROWN929@AOL.COM

Thank you for your continuing support through the donations that are accompanying the membership renewals. The 2013 budget is being reviewed by the Board with acceptance expected at the January Board meeting.

RCT&HS FUND BALANCE REPORT 2012

11/30/2012

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*Funds that can only be used for stated purpose

A motion to refer the Treasurer’s Report to the Finance Committee for audit and vote was made by John Greene and seconded by Don Davis. The motion Passed.
We had a very busy month. We were at the PA Christmas Show in Harrisburg, Nov. 28th to Dec. 2nd, sales totaled about $3500. Our next show was at South Hampton, December 8th, sales totaled $172 followed by the Fairlane Mall at Pottsville December 13th to 16th, sales totaled about $1600. The following helped this month: Greg and Barb Goodridge, Gary and Linda Saggio, Lee Schultz, Dick Lush, Karen Confer, Ken Reigle, Larry and Steph Curvey, Dave Hafer and myself. No shows are scheduled for January, however we will be doing our annual inventory on Saturday Jan. 12th February will be very busy again with the 3 shows: Timonium, MD train meet Feb. 2nd and 3rd; Greenberg show at the Reading Expo Center Feb. 16th and 17th and the Allen-town train meet Feb. 23rd and 24th. Anyone interested in helping, please contact me.

**NOTE**  - We have ordered HO NS Heritage locos in the Rdg. and CNJ schemes from MTH, Bowser Rdg C630s numbers 5300, 5307, 5308 and 5310 and Rdg 4430s with and w/o sound and some additional freight cars of the Reading and other anthracite region railroads from Bowser and MTH. Watch for a sales flyer next month.

**MEMBERSHIP**
Melanie Zimmerman 717-445-6301 rcths.membership@juno.com
As of December 18 we have 9 new members and 282 renewals for a total of 291 members for 2013. The breakdown of members is 200 Individual, Lifetime or Honorary, 20 Family, 42 Contributing, 24 Sustaining, and 5 Corporate. At this time last year we had 295 members. The total membership for 2012 is currently 945, with 32 less members than 2011. The breakdown of members is 641 Individual, Lifetime or Honorary, 104 Family, 121 Contributing, 56 Sustaining, 18 Corporate, and 5 Student memberships. Thank you to all who include donations with their membership renewals. Your generosity is appreciated. Membership dues are $35.00 for Individual ($45.00 outside the U.S.), $43.00 for Family ($53.00 for outside the U.S.), $55.00 for Contributing, $100.00 for Sustaining, $15.00 for Student and $150.00 for Corporate. Remit your dues to: RCT&HS Membership Committee, PO Box 15143, Reading, PA 19612-5143.

**FUND RAISING COMMITTEE**
Mike Stehman mke90362@comcast.net
Nothing to report.

**SALES**
Duane Engle 610-929-5681 rcths.dengle@juno.com  (for mail order questions contact Dave Heffner at 717-290-1493
daverj1@verizon.net)
We still need more contributions from the membership for the exhibit “Members Treasures” which will follow our current exhibit. This will be a showcase of items from the personal collections of RCT&HS members and could include model trains, photos, paintings, art, memorabilia, related to the Reading Railroad. Submit your list of possible contributions to Dale. The exhibit will begin in March 2013 and run to November. Suggestions for ways to celebrate the museums 5th anniversary in 2013 are welcome. Paul Troutman has tutored Dale in the process of creating displays.

We regret to announce that Paul Skvarla will no longer volunteer as a docent due to time constraints in his schedule. Paul has been a faithful volunteer and will be missed. We will need other people to step up and fill the void. So far the new docent system seems to be working well. I would like to get to the point where the schedule can be made up for three months at a time. We always welcome new volunteers, it ain’t rocket science folks!

The RSME will hold its monthly meeting at the museum Saturday February 9, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. Looking into hosting another night photo session at the museum in 2013.

**LONG RANGE PLANNING TASK FORCE**
Carol Adams 610-777-3764 adamsjimca@comcast.net
Thank you to the members who assisted with the Elm Street Mixer held at the RRHM on December 3: Jim Adams, Paul Troutman, Duane Engle, Carol Adams. There were 45 members of the community who came to enjoy the exhibits and the activities.

The Long Range Planning Committee will send a survey this month to all members as the first phase of the museum plan revision. Please take time to return the survey with your thoughts, ideas, suggestions, and comments.

**MUSEUM BUILDING COMMITTEE**
John Corbit 610-781-1939
No report.

**TRACK & GROUNDS**
Duane Engle 610-929-5681 rcths.dengle@juno.com
We did some grading work to allow for the installation of temporary fencing on the south end of the museum property. We will be installing the temporary fencing in the near future. We have begun installing ties in the canal track that runs along the rear of the museum and getting things ready for constructing a track next to it. Plans are to separate the canal track at the north end of the property, move it over and build a track moving south between the canal track and our retention pond. The freight cars that have been in the trees north of the museum will then be pulled into the museum property. Anyone that can help with any of this work, please contact me.

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**Passenger Operations**
Dale Woodland 215-723-5848 RDG803@yahoo.com
Nothing to report.

**Acquisitions**
Steve Schwartz 610-434-1289 schwartzsj@juno.com
No report.

**Motive Power and Rolling Equipment**
Tim Weidner 610-780-0497

Current Areas of Activity:
Fishbelly and Offset hoppers 66418 and 63921
- Lettering and numbering in progress.

NW2/#103 Rewiring continues.
- Control cabinet cleaned, prepped and repainted.
- Large cables in Control cabinet area covered with shrink tubing.
- 3 Main contactors cleaned and repainted. To be installed 12/20/12.
- Numerous NW2 spare parts donated by Lukens Steel.
- Relay rebuilding restarted.
- Large component panel being cleaned and rewired.
- Installation of new protective systems continues. All parts acquired.
- Current target to restart the locomotive remains Spring of 2013.

94074 Caboose
- Metal work being finished up.
- New sub flooring acquired awaiting window installation.
- Windows to be sent out to glass shop then installed.

Security
- Theft off locomotives and rolling stock has occurred.
- Security options under study (Fencing, security system, sensors)
- Funding expected to be a major problem. If we can raise $15K in one year to move one car, can we raise $5K to 10K to protect all of our assets?

GP7/#621 Cylinder gasketing replacement and cylinder liner cleanup
- On hold pending, given emphasis on NW2.
- RS3/#485 Undercarriage painting
- Effort suspended due to focus on #103.

**Power Distribution (for Battery Charging and local power)**
- 103 will be first done. To be added as part of rewiring effort.
- AC panel mount fabricated and in place (on 103), conduit system yet to be run.

**Box Car Re-organization**
- Shelving expanding as materials become available.
- Lukens NW2 parts stored.

**Shop Talk (online MPRE newsletter)**
- Writing/editing of 3rd issue (on #103 relay rebuilding) underway.
- To sign up, email mpre.rcths@att.net if you want to sign up for shop talk.
- Note: No funds for paper copies at this time.

**FP7’s - Winterized.**

**Fork Lift**
- Main cylinders leaking less severely. Reseal kit has been ordered.

**Key Obstacles:**
- Information
  In need of good photos of HTss, HTv, HTc hopper cars. If you can help please contact us at 610-780-0497 or email us at mpre.rcths@att.net
- Volunteers
  If anyone is interested in helping please contact us at 610-780-0497 or mpre.rcths@att.net. We have a large variety of projects for any range of skill sets to be able to help contribute.
- Funding
  Will add list of small project and parts costs to Shop Talk as a means of soliciting small donations.

**Archives and Publications**
Rick Bates 610-647-9359 rbates261@verizon.net

- **Archives**
  Many thanks to all of the following for Archives donations during December: a large carton of paperwork and photos from Bob Gottschall; some magazines and books from Paul Kutta; and a locomotive photo from Eric Weiss. We also thank Duane Briscoe for helping with some of the recent sorting in the Archives. We handled about 11 requests for information in December.

- **Publications**
  The next Bee Line didn’t make it to the printer in December but should be going shortly. Another one for after that is being worked on simultaneously. Submitting articles that are complete with photos, drawings, and accurate text will help get the Bee Line caught up.
The theme for 2014 calendar will be the photos of Wilmer Hendricks. Wilmer covered the Reading between the mid-1960’s and 1976.

We hope everyone had a great holiday season! We had a great time at Harrisburg and Pottsville shows in December. Our next shows will be at Timonium MD for the Great scale train show. We will be setting up on Friday February 1st starting at 12:00 Noon. Show will be Feb 2nd 9AM - 4PM and Feb 3rd from 10AM - 4PM. This show will depend greatly on weather conditions. If you are able to help out please let me know. This is a great opportunity for our lower PA and MD members to get out and give a helping hand as well as see our ever growing detailed layout.

Our second show will be at the Reading expo center with setup being Feb 15th around 9AM and the show Feb 16th and 17th from 10AM - 4PM. Again, please let me know if you are able to assist with either setup, teardown, or even during the show. I hope to see some new faces!

With the winter season upon us, there is not much work going on. We continue to update the computer program and add more detection and signaling. We are also planning a meeting sometime in January. Date is to be determined at this point. We will be setting up our 2013 schedule and any other important information. If anyone has idea's for places to set up for 2013, please pass them along. Hope to see you there!

Bowser has announced Reading C430 models in HO scale to be produced in 2013.

Nothing to report. We are looking for a chairman for this committee.

Mike Sakal will be resigning as our web site and eCrusader coordinator. The RCT&HS needs a replacement and would prefer a volunteer over paying a professional. See the front page for details.

We are taking nominations for the RCT&HS board of directors. The 2013 elections will include 1st VP, Treasurer, and two directors. These positions are currently held by John Brown, Jim Adams, Jonathan Barket, and Karen Confer (filling in for Tom Brown) respectively.


The coal bucket contained $81.00 plus 10 pay-down-the-loan envelopes.

John Greene made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Larry Mundell seconded the motion. The motion passed and President Duane Engle adjourned the meeting at 8:20PM.
### Hamburg Museum Track Fund

**Receipts**
- Current Month: December, 2012 = $180.00
- Total: May 2007 thru December, 2012 = $31,119.70

**Payments**
- Current Month: December, 2012 = $414.75
- Total: May 2007 thru December, 2012 = $24,206.25

**Current Fund Balance = $6,913.45**

### Pay Down the Loan Program

**Receipts**
- Current Month: December, 2012 = $2,030.00
- Total: Nov, 2010 thru December, 2012 = $24,743.72

**Payments**
- Current Month: December, 2012 = $2,030.00
- Total: Nov, 2010 thru December, 2012 = $24,730.00

**Outstanding Balance = $72,270.00**

### RCT&HS Corporate Members

- **C&C Tax Service, Inc.**, 842 Lancaster Ave., Reading, PA (610) 796-9330
- **Centralia Coal Sales Co.**, Wilkes-Barre, PA (570) 822-4135
- **Municipal & Financial Services Group**, Annapolis, MD (410) 226-910
- **G&K Hobbies**, Bill Krug CEO, Reading, PA (610) 374-8598
- **Health Insurance Solutions, Inc., Tom and Nanette Poserina**, Health Brokers (215) 721-2220
- **Jonathan L. Shalter III**, Conservationist-Naturalist-Historian, Temple, PA
- **Lancaster Chapter, NRHS**, Christiana, PA (610) 593-4968
- **PENNVIA Private Railcars, Inc.**, Passenger Dome car charters in the US and Canada, West Lawn, PA (610) 678-3604
- **R. Harris Russo, MD, Neurological Surgery**, Kalamazoo, MI (269) 343-3939
- **Rabenold, Koestel, and Scheidt, Attorneys at Law**, Wyomissing, PA (610) 374-2103
- **RackAbility, Inc.**, 332 N Reading Rd, Ephrata, PA 17522 (717) 917-7403
- **Reading and Northern Railroad, Co.**, Andy Muller Jr., CEO, Port Clinton, PA (610) 562-2100
- **Reading Berks Historic Transportation Assoc., Inc.**, 842 Lancaster Avenue, Reading, PA
- **Security First Inc.**, Security, access control, surveillance systems, 107 W. Lancaster Ave., Shillington PA (610) 777-8890
- **Stackhouse Bensinger Inc.**, Civil Engineering, Landscape Architecture, Land Planning Services, Traffic and Planning Engineering, Storm Water Infiltration, Municipal Engineering, Surveying/GPS, and Recreation Planning & Design, Sinking Spring, PA (610) 777-8000
- **Town & Country Newspaper**, Pennsburg PA, (215) 679-5060
Mark Your Calendars

- January 22: General Meeting of the RCT&HS at Trinity Bible Fellowship Church, Rt. 73, Blandon, PA
- February 2 - 3: Modular and Sales at the Great Scale Train Show in Timonium, MD
- February 16 - 17: Modular and Sales at the Greenburg Train Show in Reading, PA
- February 23 - 24: Sales at the Spring Thaw Train Show in Allentown, PA
- April 6: RCT&HS Annual Slide Show in Hamburg, PA

Save your Redner’s Tapes
Reading Company Technical and Historical Society
8th Annual Convention

Saturday April 6, 2013

Featuring:
Kurt Bell - Doylestown Branch
Dale Woodland - Reading RS3’s
George Losse - Reading 50 Ton Hoppers
Tom Poserina - Post Cards of Reading Stations
Carl Rose - Sleepers on the Reading and CRR of NJ

The American Legion BINGO Hall
650 Chestnut St., Hamburg, PA

8:30 AM Doors Open 9:00 AM Programs Start

Admission: $20.00 ($10 student) Museum Admission Included
Lunch: $10.00 (preorder only)
Dealer Tables: $20.00

| Name: | [ ] |
| Address: | [ ] |
| City/St/Zip | [ ] |
| Phone | [ ] |
| Company (If Vendor) | [ ] |

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TOTAL

Please make payment to: RCT&HS
Send Check or Money Order to: RCT&HS, PO Box 15143, Reading, PA 19612-5143