



**Electronic Pop Valve No.
410.2
July 2017**

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Publishers: Ted Taylor & Tom Pierson

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Board of Director's Notes

Firstly the Board wants to thank everyone who contributed to the success of the spring open house. Without you we could not have earned as much as we did.

Coupled with a donation for the BTO convention visit the week before we made around \$5,500.

Reminder that the Summer Invitational and club picnic is coming up the weekend of August 4. This is the weekend we get to play and relax so please come on out and enjoy the facilities. Thanks for Janet Pontarelli and Sue Henrichs for taking the responsibility for the picnic which will commence at 5:00.

We still need volunteers for the Labor Day picnic and the Fall Open House dinner. That serves as a reminder to thank Susie Caiazza for the spring open house dinner and Judy Bigelow for the Fourth of July picnic.

Looking ahead at the last business meeting Roger Caiazza threw some ideas out for you to think about. In order to encourage new membership and keep the new members we have available to keep things going he suggested that we develop and implement some policies that document expectations for using the club locomotives, defines exactly what social members can and cannot expect from their membership, revises the on-site storage rules and sets up a policy delineating when the Board should go to the general membership for approval of a large expenditure. He asks that you talk to the Board and get back to him with any suggestions or comments.

Roger and Steve Pontarelli have both also suggested that we get our act together relative to what should get done before the 50th Anniversary. Their draft list of projects is included in an article in this Pop Valve. Plan to offer any ideas at upcoming business meetings.

Long time members remember that Harold Crouch was involved with the initial testing of the NY Central Niagara steam locomotives. Here is a link to an interesting summary of that work that describes what Harold did on those tests.

<https://nycshs.files.wordpress.com/2014/07/roadtestingniagaras.pdf>

2017 Live Steam Calendar

2017							
FLLS Meetings				FLLS Operating Days			
FLLS Events				FLLS Open House			
March	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
April	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
May	30	1	2	3	4	5	6
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	28	29	30	31	1	2	3
June	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
	25	26	27	28	29	30	1
July	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
August	30	31	1	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
September	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
October	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
November	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
	29	30	31	1	2	3	4
	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
December	26	27	28	29	30	1	2
	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
	31	1	2	3	4	5	6

2017 Live Steam Events

7/17 - FLLS Hosts Ottawa Valley Garden Railway Club Picnic

7/22 - FLLS Model Railroader's Run Day. Operating sessions on the One Inch and the Gauge One layouts

8/4-8/6 - FLLS Summer Invitational and Picnic at 5:00 (Public not invited) Operating sessions on the One Inch and the Gauge One layouts at selected times.

8/12 - FLLS August Business Meeting at Noon at FLLS

9/2 - FLLS Labor Day Run and Picnic at 5:00

9/9 - FLLS September Business Meeting at Noon at FLLS

9/22-24 - FLLS Fall Public Open House

10/14 - FLLS Blowdown Run Day

10/14 - FLLS October Business Meeting at Noon at FLLS

11/11 - FLLS November Business Meeting at Noon at FLLS

12/9 - FLLS Annual Meeting and December Business meeting

Operating Sessions

Please keep in mind that on days and times that are designated as Operating Sessions that it is not possible to necessarily use your equipment and let you run your trains without interfering with the operations.

We encourage your participation in these events and will provide whatever equipment is needed.

For example, on the Gauge One we can only handle a limited number of trains or engines, any equipment used in the operating session must have Kadee couplers, and there are no empty sidings where you can park your train during the operating session. Thank you.

FLLS Policies

Roger Caiazza

I propose adopting several policies to explicitly define privileges and expectations as part of an effort to encourage new membership participation, continued membership participation, as well as to encourage more people to work for the club. Outlines of the draft policies for your discussion are attached to this Pop Valve so that we can develop a draft in October, discuss in November and vote via the ballot at the annual meeting. The goal would be to publish them on the member's section of the webpage. Please let me know what you think (315) 529-6711.

I suggest that we consider how we can attract new members, especially younger members. I am not sure how many members we can attract from the traditional railroad interest sector simply because that sector is aging rapidly. The club picked up an influx of members from the garden railway hobby but we have probably exhausted the local supply. I propose that we try to market ourselves to the public via social memberships in hopes that once we get them here outside of the open house they will want to get more involved and eventually join as regular members.

How many times have you heard guests say that they come out to all the open houses and look forward to coming to the next

one? What if we could give them flyer extolling the benefits of a social membership where they could enjoy the club away from the crowds. Those benefits could include coming out to our picnics and run days as well as learning how to drive a locomotive. I recommend that we develop a policy explicitly defining what social members can do and cannot do so that we can develop a brochure for that specific audience at the open houses. This effort should also include ways to encourage new social members to maintain their memberships. Monte May pointed out that we get a bunch of new memberships every year that do not renew.

Because that policy could include use of club locomotives I think we should also develop a policy for use of the locomotives. Use of the locomotives is a privilege and not a right. Training is necessary before you can run them. Because the locomotives are getting more difficult to maintain and unrestricted use endangers their future availability and stresses the roadbed we should have limitations on use. What if we say members get to operate the locomotives 30 minutes a year but any operating time greater than that requires two hours of club support for 30 minutes of operation? Those are wild guess numbers and should be developed based on input from everyone.

I believe another policy is needed for storage at the club. If we have club members with equipment and no place to store their equipment we run the risk of losing already committed people. In the past there hasn't been an issue but now we do have people waiting for storage space at the same time there are storage spots that could be better utilized providing them with storage. The availability of storage at the club is a huge benefit and that resource should be managed in the best interests of the club as a whole.

Finally, I recommend a policy for decision making. For any purchase over \$2,650 (10% of the annual budget) the Board should present a proposal to the general membership and a vote to proceed should not be held until a subsequent meeting after an explanation in the Pop Valve. I also recommend that we incorporate long term planning in this decision policy.

FLLS 50th Anniversary Goals

Roger Caiazza

As part of the long term planning process I think it is appropriate to consider what we want to get done before the 50th. I also would like to ask that anyone who wants to be involved in long term planning to please let me know so I can update my files.

This is an opportunity to show off the club grounds to visitors who have not been here in a while so it gives us a goal. Please think

about what tasks should and could be done in each area so we can start the budgeting and implementation process.

Frankly, I have been remiss in this effort inasmuch as there are only a couple of working seasons left. I also strongly recommend we temper our enthusiasm so we don't bite off more than we can reasonably do. The last thing we need to do is to over-extend ourselves with new big projects.

Steve Pontarelli made some suggestions in this regard:

"If you look around our facility I see many small projects that need and should be addressed to prepare for our 50th. The question comes to mind is how many projects can we manage with limited labor resources and money in the next two years? Also what do we want to have completed and wrapped up? My thoughts in no particular order":

1. New car Storage Building underway.
2. 1 ½" track expansion started last year.
3. Signal system on the 1" track.
4. Club house exterior paint and trim.
5. Seed and establish grass in areas that will be needed for our 50th. Water tank area and old red shed area.
6. General property house cleaning. Remove trash behind containers in weeds, hedge row and club house.
7. Seal 1 ½" engine house block.
8. Ditch and drainage out front.
9. Drainage from club house roof. This should be addressed ASAP as the water

along the foundation will start to damage the east wall foundation if let go.

10. Switches on the 1", smoother operation.
11. Pavilion/picnic area.
12. Tree trimming and removal of dead trees and diseased branches.
13. General painting/ staining around the grounds

I think this is a good start for a list of projects. Please let me know if you have any other suggestions.

Finally, please let me know if you want to stay involved or get involved in long-term planning. Among the items that I pushed aside while I was getting the Gauge One ready for the BTO convention visit was long-term planning. Consequently we did not have any meetings this year and I am not sure who is still interested in this effort. I would like to get that process moving again and get all the plans updated this winter.

New Car Barn

The tremendous progress made on the track work for the new car barn should be noted. Dave Pierce can sit all day cross legged so he has been able to assemble all the switches and track that Bob Fruitt and Jeff Baxter have built. Dave Wierowski and Jim Henrichs welded the car barn track using the steel that Jack Wylie picked up. Others have also pitched in to help. In fact so much work has been done that Dave was able to run his train down to the car barn on June 30, 2017.



On July 4 enough steel rail had been laid in the car barn so that Dave could run a test train inside.



On July 12 Dave took this picture of the front with the doors installed.



All pictures were taken by Dave Pierce

Volunteer Task List

The purpose of the task list is to document tasks that need to be done. If you see something that needs to get done, please fill out a sticky note describing the project and your name so you can be contacted if there is a question. If this is something that affects safety please contact the Board of Directors so that they are aware of the problem. If you are out at the club and want to help but don't know what has to be done then please find a task on the board go to work. The following people have volunteered to coordinate specific tasks. Please volunteer to take on one of the open items.

Project	Coordinator
Planning responsibility for August Invitational picnic	Sue H and Janet P
Planning responsibility for Labor Day picnic	
Junior Engineer Program	Bill Miner
Power supply requirements	Bob Fruitt
Club house proposal	
Rehabilitate the 7 1/4" wooden steaming bays	
Kitchen coordination for Fall open house	Judy Bigelow
Planning responsibility for Fall open house dinner	
Parking lot coordinator for fall open house	
Take bottles & cans for club deposits	Sue Henrichs
Boy Scout merit badge coordination	Fruitt & May
Planning responsibility for Model Railroader Run Day	Ken Cameron
Plan 1" car storage buildings	Steve Pontarelli
Contact Finger Lakes Tourism to see if groups would want to visit	Tony Mesollela
Junior member responsibility	Wayne Henning
Clean engine house blocks and seal them	Jack Wylie
Plans for permanent pavilion or tent on east end of clubhouse	Paul Pontarelli
Planning responsibility for Ottawa Valley Garden RR Visit	Roger Caiazza
50th Planning Coordination	Susie Caiazza
Safety video script	Tom Pierson

FLLS Business Meeting July 8, 2017 Marengo

Attendees: John Spencer, Ed McConnell, Tom Aselin, Tony Mesolella, Rocco Scaptura, John Wylie, Wayne Henning, Kathy Henning, Judy Bigelow, Richard Donovan, Dave Pierce, Ted Taylor, Hank Mastalski, Roger and Susan Caiazza, Monte May, John Rogers, Peter Hart, Guy Wicksall, Alan Francis, Mike Walsh, Paul Pontarelli, Barbara and Tom Pierson, Donna and Jeff Baxter, Steve Vaughn, Brian Tilden Ken Cameron Tim Guenther, and Jim and Sue Henrichs

Status

Good and Welfare: Bob Hoffman's leg is not healing well. Contact him at Brighton Manor 989 Blossom Rd Rochester NY 14610. Jim spoke to Mel Bragg's cousin who said Mel has Alzheimer and it has progressed quickly. Melvin knew nothing about Mel's kidneys.

Pop Valve: Roger Caiazza – Electronic before the social media day.

Pop Valve Publisher; Ted Taylor/Tom Pierson – n/r

Website; Tim Guenther – added photos, changed dates for Sept. Meet

Education; Wayne Henning – Badges & Posters for open house – They were used, did not hear many comments regarding them.

7 ¼ Track; Jeff – 2 switches were added on the inner loop north and south end. During open house we only had 2 de-rails.

Switches; Dave Pierce – all good

4-3/4 Track; Guy – good shape

One Inch Facilities; Steve Pontarelli – n/a

Gauge One; Roger – Hosted the Big Train Operators and had all kinds of compliments. Next up model railroaders and then Ottawa Valley.

Grounds; Jack W. – Driveway and track needs spraying. Jeff said it had been done and with the rain it's been tough. Dave P said he will get to it.

Long Term planning; Roger – What do you want accomplished around the club before the 50th anniversary?

Old Business

- Rehash the meet – No comments regarding the June open house. For the September open house 4 workers will need to be in the parking lot no later than 9:30 am. We need to put up stakes and ropes with handicap signs in the lot by the clubhouse for 4 spaces. We need someone to chair the September banquet; decide on meat to serve, order it, get it cooked...etc.
- Thank Dick & Judy for July 1st chicken BBQ
- Hank expansion- the foam guys are to be out the week of July 10(hopefully)



New Business

- We need volunteers to handle the picnics which we have during the year. We need several people to arrange for meat and food for these events. We will be eating at 5 pm on the Saturday of the holiday weekend. You do not have to be at the event, it just needs to be organized. You would need to choose a meat purchase the meat or contact Reggie to get the meat, check supplies, purchase and get them to the club: plates, silverware and napkins.
- August invitational/club picnic -- Janet Pontarelli and Sue Henrichs are co-hosting. Sue would like an idea of those coming to the picnic; email shenrichs@verizon.net in the subject line you can just put i.e. yes 2 people august picnic. **PLEASE** remember a dish to pass or a dessert. **Suggestions** – potato salad; mac salad; toss salad& dressing; pasta salad; baked beans; jello; sliced tomatoes; relish tray; rolls; or desert.
- Labor day. Need someone to plan



Passenger train loading on Saturday (Ed McConnell)

Open from Floor

- Model railroaders run day and social media day is on July 22. Syracuse Chapter NRHS is having their picnic here again and will start arriving after 10 am. Tom Pierson will put out on social media that people interested in model railroading are welcome to come to visit and ask questions from 1 pm to 4 pm.
- Roger drafted policy outlines for this edition of the Pop Valve. Plan to finalize at the November business meeting and vote on them at the annual meeting:
 - What do we offer people for joining as a social member?
 - Revises engine house policy
 - Board of directors policy that anything over \$2000 needs to be brought to the membership at a business meeting and be voted on at the next business meeting.
 - Club locomotive use.
- John Rogers suggested that the club start a mentor program so a new member has someone to guide him through club procedures and for example John wants a steam engine so the mentor could help him with things regarding the steam engine.
- 50th anniversary if there are an ideas that the membership would like to bring to the committee please contact that chairperson and they will bring it to the next meeting. The only chair spot still open is the person who will get and

work with the volunteers on the weekend of the anniversary.

- Channel 3 Syracuse was out at videotaped us July 1st. Once it is edited they will (and the Rochester sister channel most likely) call us to let us know when it will be televised.
- We had an email from WNYR radio wanting to set up a table at the open house. They set up their prize wheel and for a \$1 you spin it for a prize. Usually prizes are water bottles, hats; t-shirts; mouse-pads; sunglasses etc.... The proceeds would come to the club. They cannot make September 2017 so Sue will send the 2018 dates to them.
- Paul Pontarelli will bring proposals to the August meeting for a canopy or pavilion for the east end of the clubhouse. If you have any ideas or suggestions get them to Paul for consideration.



The kitchen was busy both days (Ed McConnell)

FLLS Work Appreciation

The intent of this column is to thank those people who have been working at the club. Because we have no tradition of tracking work done and very few people have been either documenting work done on the task board or adding tasks, this is incomplete. The task board documented the following work: Dave Pierce put the task board up, Ken C. cleaned the gutters, Tony, Tom, Rocky, and Ed put the sink backsplash up, Susie C. cleaned the clubhouse for the open house and cleaned out the refrigerator.

In addition, Jim Henrichs repaired the gauge one wall and steps, Ken C started work on drainage by the containers.

Please let your editor know if you did some project that I was not aware of so I can credit your work.



Jeff Sweet's trains with David Wasson (Ed McConnell)

Finger Lakes Live Steamers, Inc.

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Good & Welfare / Engine House / Safety / Ed McConnell / emcconnell@rochester.rr.com

50th Anniversary / Susie Caiazza / sue.caiazza@gmail.com

Membership Applications are available on our website.



FLLS Draft Policy Outlines

Social Membership

- Benefits
 - Picnics
 - Run days
 - Learn to drive locomotives
- Opportunities to work
 - Want to ride the trains – become conductor
 - Want to run trains more – do work towards run time credit

Club Locomotive Use

- Everyone who operates must be trained
- Training session is a benefit of a social member
- Additional operation is earned by two hours of work towards 30 minutes of run time
- Consider how long the run is on the track and how many ‘laps’ is considered normal. Example: 1” loop to loop is 12-15 minutes when a group is running, so that’s only 2-3 times around. What is a fair return on investment of work?

On-site Storage

- Publicly available waiting list
- Storage priorities
 - First priority is for railroad equipment used to support club activities such as the open house
 - Second priority is for railroad equipment used at the club
 - Third priority is for railroad equipment stored but not used at the club (Note the Pennsylvania Live Steamers has strict rules in this regard so this would not be unique.)
 - Fourth priority is for anything else
- Using the priorities
 - If anyone on the waiting list wants space to store their railroad equipment for use at the club then storage space being used for lower priorities should be vacated for their use
- Distinction between engine house and car barns
 - Is it appropriate to make a distinction in some way?
 - Any policy needs to cover all ‘leased spaces’. While rates and method of measuring space will differ, all other issues need to be consistent for everything.

- Rental
 - Because of the major benefits the price should be raised to \$10 per month
 - That money could go towards developing additional storage for the lower priorities

Decision Making

- For any purchase over \$2,650 (10% of the annual budget) the Board should present a proposal to the general membership for approval
- Alternative: a 5% cap and clause about 'non-emergency' issues so the Board has the discretion to respond to emergencies.
- General membership vote no sooner than the next business meeting and a summary in the Pop Valve.
- Long Term Planning
 - Layout projects within the borders of the respective layout are at the discretion of the layout users subject to Board approval of the budget
 - Layout projects outside the borders of layouts have to be presented to the general membership for a vote no sooner than the next business meeting and a summary in the Pop Valve
 - Project Approval Criteria
 - At the discretion of the Board, projects must be agreed to by either directly affected members or general membership
 - A budget for the project must be submitted to and approved by the board
 - Project approvals expire each year if there has been no progress or specific request for an extension