



LAUREL LINES

Celebrating 52 Years!



Vol 53, Issue 3 - March, 2026



A PUBLICATION OF THE LACKAWANNA AND WYOMING VALLEY RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC

The latest additions to the DL roster. The DL 914 & 902 are ex-MDDE (Maryland & Delaware) originally Lackawanna (DL&W). The 902 was MDDE 1202, ex-CR 9926; exx-EL 1040; new as DL&W 902. The 914 was ex-MDDE 1203; ex-CR9942; ex-EL 1052; new as DL&W 914. These were rebuilt by CR with EMD prime movers - they don't sound like Alcos any more.



Mike Bischak photo
Green Ridge yd.
Scranton, Pa.
Nov. 23, 2025

The Chapter Meeting will be held March 12th, 2026
at the Iron Skillet Restaurant at the
Petro Truck Stop in Dupont, PA.
Dinner is a-la-cart at 6:00 PM
Meeting at 7 PM, program to follow.

This Month's Program:
Ben Martin will present
"Northern Tier PA -
Looking Back from 2003-2013"

Mission Statement:

Through fellowship, community and educational outreach to affect rail preservation and appreciation of railroad history focusing on Northeastern Pennsylvania

Presidents Message -

The Moscow Activities Committee has held two meetings and has come up with a number of possible ideas that could be held at the railway station. We are in the process of developing a calendar for events, but are awaiting schedules from Steamtown NHS and the Iron Horse Society to see what dates might include train excursions to Moscow before we can schedule non-train activities. While we would like to have at least one non train activity a month, we do need to keep in mind that parking for the public in and around the station is limited. This is especially true if we want to use the area between the passenger station and the freight house as a display area.

In the past, I have been accused of trying to run a “one man show”, doing the majority of the work myself. I’ve been told I should delegate more. Well, guess what? At the first and second meeting of the activities committee, I asked for someone to be chair of the committee, with zero volunteers. At the second meeting, I asked also for someone to act as secretary to take notes - same response. The Moscow station is not a one man show. It requires a large number of volunteers, whether for established activities such as the holiday trains or any of the new activities the committee will create. Not to mention all the routine maintenance required to keep the property in great shape. No matter if we have any activities at the station or not, the grass and brush keep growing.

This chapter and the Moscow Railway Station run on volunteers (Where have I heard that before?). Please consider volunteering.

Vee Pauli, President

HUMOR ME

How did the Irish Jig get started?

Too much to drink and
too few restrooms.



Did you know sweet potatoes travel by
YamTrack?

NOTE FOR CHAPTER MEETING PRESENTERS!

TO AID US IN FUTURE MEETINGS, WE ARE ASKING ALL PRESENTERS THAT HAVE A DIGITAL SHOW TO **BRING THEIR OWN LAPTOP** IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ON THIS, PLEASE CONTACT VEE PAULI OR KAT BISCHAK FOR FURTHER INFO!

Thank You!

Special Request

Roy Pauli has served as the Moscow Station Coordinator since 2004 and has decided that 22 years in long enough. As a chapter, we have taken on the responsibility of maintaining the buildings and the property at the station, therefore, we are seeking someone to assume this important role. This involves managing the station, which includes maintenance of the buildings and the grounds, scheduling things like grass cutting, station clean-up & staffing for activities at the station etc.. He is willing to mentor the person who steps up to accept this extremely important role. The Moscow station coordinator will report to the Board.

Vee Pauli 570-344-9728

Minutes of the February 12th Monthly Chapter Meeting at 7pm

Iron Skillet Restaurant, Dupont, PA

Chapter **President Vee Pauli** opened the meeting in due form and requests a Moment of Silence for the following members who passed: Roger Seliga, a former member who was very active at Moscow Station, on 1/10/26, and Tony Verbyla, Sr., who was a long time member and also very active at Moscow Station and Sentimental Journey Slideshow, on 1/19/26. In addition, we mourn the loss of Neil Weinberg's Mother, Mildred Pearl Langer Weinberg, age 103, on 2/10/26. May they Rest In Peace.

Pledge to the Flag and approval of the Minutes of the January 8, 2026 meeting as appearing in the February *LL* - Motion by Ed Koehler, Jr., 2nd by Carl Packer. Motion adopted w/o exception.

Treasurer Ed Zech provided a detailed report of the finances of the Chapter with income and expenses. With accounts balanced for the month, motion was made to approve this report by Ken Kertesz, 2nd by Ed. Koehler, Jr. Adopted w/o exception.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chairman Jim Kilcullen reported that the 2027 issue pictures have been digitized and handed back to the Committee. The owner of Rapid Photo has the business up for sale, so lets hope we can continue to take advantage of their services.

The Committee will convene and now add captions. The Committee is now ahead of the time frame for completion for this year

Membership: Ken Kertesz reports that approximately 50 members did NOT read *Laurel Lines*, nor did they look at the Chapter website, because that is how many have not renewed their 2026 membership to date. The Board of Directors chose to not send out renewal notices for 2026 to conserve resources, instead using social media and previous issues of *LL* for renewals. In the genuine interest of maintaining a healthy membership roster, Ken will send 1 reminder only to those who have not renewed to date. This effort will cost the Chapter at least \$40.00, and while it won't break the bank, it takes away from other activities the Chapter might want to

pursue. We do not want to lose any members, but we cannot continue to burn resources since we no longer receive as many trains from Steamtown we once did.

It must be noted that the application for membership shows a student rate of \$16.00 for those up to age 18, however, what appears in *Laurel Lines* did not reflect this rate. If a student wishes to apply without a family member, the rate is \$16.00 each year. If a student family member applies, the family member is \$30.00 and then the student rate is considered a family member and the rate is \$5.00. The Chapter apologizes for this confusion and will make the correction.

NRHS Advisory Council Representative & VP Ed Fortuna reports that the NRHS posted online notices for application to the 2026 Rail Camp without advising him that they did so. In the past, a courtesy notice was sent to Ed. Conversely, of 25 open positions for the Eastern Camp available, 18 have already been filed. We are hoping our two candidates applications will be accepted. Our 2 candidates for 2026 are C.J. Boyko and Robert DiMattio.

Moscow Stationmaster Roy Pauli has provided his 2025 Final Report with total volunteer hours was 601.75 hours. In comparison, 2024 saw 1,161.75 hours, but there were 6 more trains that year. In 2025, Holiday Train hours were 357 and maintenance hours was 244.75. In 2025, we had 34 volunteers. In 2024, there 51 volunteers.

This is Roy's final year as Moscow Station Master. He is resigning due to health reasons, but is willing to advise and guide anyone willing to step up and take this position. His resignation took effect at the February 12th Board meeting. Big shoes to fill. *Who is up to it?*

Thank you, Roy, for your tireless, unselfish dedication to make the Moscow Complex as successful as it has been. You deserve a break, but do not stop being involved.

Laurel Lines Editor Katie Bischak composed the February 2026 issue and had it ready for mailing on January 29. Any information for the March issue must be sent to Katie by February 19th, 2026 to: kbischakphoto@gmail.com

Our new **Program Director Scott Barrett** reports that tonight's program are the 2025 Rail Campers Eli Close and Alex Ferik. The March 2026 program is TBA.

Webmaster Alex Strausser stands ready to post items of interest to the website. As webmaster, he reserves the right to edit, limit or refuse any content submitted. Alex can be reached at: alexstrausser9@gmail.com

OLD BUSINESS

The Board of Directors revised the Bylaws to comply with current changes. Members will be invited to review those Bylaws once they are posted on the website.

The first meeting of the Moscow Events Committee met on 1-19-26 and the second meeting was held earlier prior to the evening's Chapter meeting. Several ideas were generated, but the Committee will accept any suggestions. The Committee will convene each month in advance of the Chapter meeting, so why not come an hour earlier for the Chapter meeting and join in on making the Chapter more active than it has been.

SNHS Liaison Bill McCarthy confirmed our request for Holiday Train dates as November 27th, 28th, & 29th.

NEW BUSINESS

SNHS Railfest 2026 dates are September 4th to the 6th. This year, Labor Day Monday is included. It will be our intention to participate all 3 days, provided we can garner enough volunteers. It's not too early to let Miss Vee know you want to help make this Chapter stand out!

Happy Valentines Day.

Motion to adjourn by Joe Boshek. Yea Joe! You're alive and well! We need you Joe. We miss you Joe.

41 in attendance.

Respectively Submitted by
Secretary Ken Kertesz



DON'T FORGET OUR RAILCAMP RAFFLE!
WE WILL BE HOLDING OUR 50/50 RAFFLE AT THE MARCH 12TH CHAPTER MEETING TO OFFSET THE COST OF SENDING OUR YOUNG RAILROADERS TO RAILCAMP!

A stinky job... but someone's gotta do it!
Submitted by Bob Young
Below is a notice regarding the establishment of the freight rate for manure from Scranton to Elmhurst and Lake Ariel
Issued April 5th, 1901

U. S. A. VS. STANDARD OIL CO. OF N. J. ET AL. 335

Not to be posted.

Erie Railroad Company.
E. R. 2769

This reference must be quoted on each waybill.

Freight Tariff No. E. R. 2769 Canceling E. & W. V. R. R. Rate Order No. 13, Jany. 1, 1896, & No. 51, Jany. 16, 1897.

On
Manure, Carloads,
(Minimum weight, 40,000 Pounds)
From
Scranton, Pa.,
To
Elmhurst, Pa.at 40c per net ton.
Lake Ariel, "at 50c " " "

This rate must not be exceeded to an intermediate point on any like shipment.

Rubber stamped as follows:

Under this tariff when freight is to be loaded by consignor or unloaded by consignee, one dollar (\$1) per car per day, or fraction thereof, for delay beyond forty-eight hours in loading or unloading will be added to the rates named herein and constitute a part of the total charges to be collected by the carrier on the property, except, however, when in conflict with Car Service Association or local regulations at shipping point or destination; in which case such Car Service Association or local regulations shall prevail.

Issued April 5, 1901. Taking effect April 5, 1901.
This tariff does not expire with the calendar year, but remains in force until revoked.

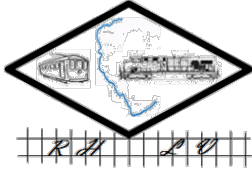
R. M. PARKER, Aast. Gen. Frt. Agt., New York, N. Y. Issued by JAMES LEEMING, General Freight Agent, New York, N. Y.

H. B. CHAMBERLAIN, Eastern Frt. Tffc. Mgr., New York, N. Y.

HELP SUPPORT OTHER CHAPTERS!

OUR FRIENDS ON THE LEHIGH VALLEY CHAPTER ARE RUNNING
THEIR RAILROAD EXPLORER VI EXCURSION

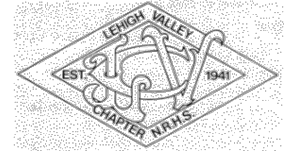
Two groups...



Railroad Historians of the Lehigh Valley

...one mission!

and the
Lehigh Valley Chapter, NRHS
www.lehighlines.org



-ANNOUNCES-

The RAILROAD EXPLORER VI

A Railfan R.D.C. Branchline Excursion

SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2026

Ride the Reading & Northern's RDCs starting at The Nesquehoning Regional Railroad Station. Travel past Lake Hauto and over the Hometown High Bridge on the Reading Division Main Line. Branching off at Carbon Junction experience rare mileage along the Hazleton Branch to Oneida Junction. More rare mileage awaits on the return trip exploring the Delano Running Track and the Morea Running Track all the way to the end of the line at Skytop! This scenic journey will include several photo stops and run-bys as well as a tour of the Nesquehoning Campus upon return.

** The Railroad reserves the right to substitute motive power.*

Boarding begins at 8:30. Train Departs Nesquehoning promptly at 9:00

Nesquehoning GPS Address is: 1 Iron Horse Way, Nesquehoning, PA 18240

- A route map will be provided -

Your choice of Turkey, Italian, or Ham Hoagie *
Please list your choices on the Ticket order form, below.

SNACKS, SODA, & WATER WILL BE AVAILABLE ALL DAY AT AN ADDITIONAL COST - SOLD BY THE RAILROAD



All are welcome, membership not required!

FARE: \$ 99.00/per Rider

Includes train charter over rare mileage, limited seating, photo-stops, run-bys, and lunch.

PLEASE RESERVE BEFORE APRIL 1, 2026

Information or questions- KGJR1554@earthlink.net

Mail checks to: Kermit Geary Jr, 1266 Riverview Drive, Walnutport PA 18088

Make checks payable to: Lehigh Valley Chapter- N.R.H.S.

*** ALL Tickets will be held for pickup the day of the Trip . ***



clip

RIDER NAME(S)	1.	2.	3.
*FOOD CHOICE	Hoagie	Hoagie	Hoagie

ADDRESS: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \$ _____ .00 TELEPHONE: (____) _____ EMAIL: _____

Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley
Railway Historical Society, Inc.
Chapter, National Railway
Historical Society, Inc.
P. O. Box 3452
Scranton, PA 18505-0452

**Non-Profit
Organization
PAID
Scranton, PA
Permit #245**

Change Service Requested

DATED MATERIAL - PLEASE DELIVER PROMPTLY

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Laurel Lines is published monthly except for July by the
Lackawanna and Wyoming Valley Railway Historical
Society, Inc. Chapter NHRS.

Visit us online: <http://www.lwvrhs.org>

**PLEASE DON'T FORGET
TO RENEW YOUR DUES!**

SEASONAL REMINDER

IF THE SCRANTON SCHOOL DISTRICT IS CLOSED
FOR A SNOW DAY OR GOES TO VIRTUAL CLASS
BECAUSE OF BAD WEATHER,
THE CHAPTER MEETING IS CANCELLED.

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT -
VEE PAULI - 570-344-9728

MARCH 2026 VOLUME 53 ISSUE 3 LAUREL LINES - L&WV RHS