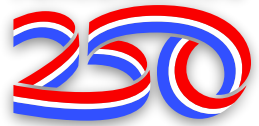




LAUREL LINES

AMERICA



Celebrating America 250!

Vol 53, Issue 9 - **OCTOBER, 2026**

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

DELAWARE, LACKAWAXEN & STOURBRIDGE'S FP7A #9880 COMES INTO BROWN ST.
ON A CRISP OCTOBER DAY IN HONESDALE PA ON OLD ERIE TERRITORY. PHOTO BY KAT BISCHAK



The Chapter Meeting will be held October 8th,
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 will be
presented by**

ROBERT DIMATTEO & C.J. BOYKO ON
THEIR EXPERIENCE AT 2026 RAILCAMP.

Mission Statement:

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

Presidents Message -

At last I can say that we have a new Moscow Station Coordinator! Scott Barrett has stepped up to fill this very important position. Roy will be available during this transition period. Roy and I will be coordinating the 17th Annual Steamtown Holiday Trains to Moscow Station Thanksgiving weekend (November 27th, 28th & 29th) for this year.

As always, Moscow Station runs on volunteers. Please reserve some time to help with these important trains and respond positively when Scott reaches out next year for help with various projects that are required to maintain the station property.

We have learned that Steamtown NHS will no longer be able to supply the porta-pots for the holiday trains which will be an added expense for us. This was not included in the September issue of Laurel Lines. A big **THANK YOU** to those who have already donated to our holiday trains. Donations are still being gratefully accepted.

Vee Pauli, President

[New fleet cars to] "WB&E"

*The Scranton Tribune,
October 20th, 1894*

Submitted by Bob Young

"The Ohio Falls Manufacturing Company has delivered six passenger cars to the Wilkes-Barre and Eastern Railroad. The cars are handsome in design. The exterior is in Tuscan red with black and gold stripes, and the letters, "Wilkes-Barre and Eastern," are in gold letters.

"Two of the cars are combination cars, baggage, mail and a smoker. The coaches have comfortable high-back seats, covered with crimson plush. The woodwork is of quartered oak, diamond finished and highly polished, steam heat is used. The dead car stove has gone to its last reward ground where coal was formerly dumped and burned at night. Mornings the old iron is loaded in cars."



ELECTION NOTICE

November is the Chapters Annual Meeting with the election of officers and directors. The following officers are up for election:

OFFICERS ONE YEAR TERM:

President Vee Pauli
Vice President Alex Strausser
Secretary Ken Kertesz
Treasurer Ed Zech
Historian Neil Weinberg
National Rep. Ed Fortuna

DIRECTORS TWO YEAR TERM:

Norm Barrett
Kat Bischak
Jim Kilcullen

Suzanne Kilcullen has agreed to serve as Election Chair. Anyone interested in running for election please contact Suzanne at 570-961-0121.

Minutes of the September 10th Monthly Chapter Meeting at 7pm Iron Skillet Restaurant, Dupont, PA

President Vee Pauli opened the meeting in due form requesting a moment of silence for the following members: Jim Cornelius, 98 years old, who was a member for many years up to 2024, passing on August 24. Jim assisted in the sales of the Chapter calendar in the Mountain Top area. Also, David Zula, a forty-six member of many years who volunteered at Moscow Station, passed away unexpectedly on August 7. There was also a moment of Remembrance for those who perished during September 11, 2001.

We then conducted a Pledge to the Flag.

At the Annual Picnic at Moscow on August 9th, there was no formal meeting called to order, therefore there are no minutes of the meeting to be adopted.

Treasurer Ed Zech was recognized and proceeded to provide those in attendance with a detailed report of income and expenses for the months of August and September 2026. Having concluded his report, a motion was made by Ed Koehler, Jr and second. By Tony Kolativa to accept this report. Passed without exception or correction for both months.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Calendar Chairman Jim Killcullen was absent account on vacation. Committee member Norm Barrett reported that the 2027 version has been sorted and labeled for mailing. While the Committee believes they have made the BEST EFFORT to have all current members' addresses, the calendars should be sent out before the end of September. When you read this notice and you have NOT received your calendar as a current member, please contact either Norm (normanbarrett248@gmail.com) or Ken Kertesz to search the Chapter's database. If your dues are current, a calendar will be mailed to you. Distribution to vendors will also be made. If you would like to assist and secure a vendor to sell the calendar, reach out to the Committee members listed on the last page of this LL. Norm also reports that consideration is being given to publish an extra edition to the 2028 Calendar. Details forthcoming.

Ken Kertesz of the **Membership Committee** reports that the Chapter will no longer invoice any member reminding them to mail their dues in. Renewal Notices for 2027 Membership will appear in LL issues (please see Pg. 6 of this issue), as well as the Chapter website and Facebook page. If you do not utilize the electronic/internet media applications and wish to renew your membership, or perhaps join or add any family members, the following will govern;

Mail your check or money order made payable to:

**L&WV RHS Chapter
30 Harford Avenue
Shavertown, PA 18708-1243**

Dues for 2027 is **\$30.00** for those eighteen and older, additional family members are \$5.00 each and if a student joins without a family member, those dues are \$16.00.

Chapter Picnic 2026: Ken is pleased to report that this event went off perfectly! Everyone raved about the food & the weather was superb. The Presenter, Dan Troy, offered a fabulous presentation on his experiences of taking rail photos all over North America. The caterer, from a Moscow restaurant, prepared and served the food buffet style. Assuming there will be a 2027 Chapter Picnic, we will use this excellent caterer again.

Chapter Polos: Ken reported that we will work on offering Official Chapter Polos with the Laurel Lines Logo soon. Look for details in LL and website.

NRHS Advisory Council Representative Ed Fortuna was absent, therefore no report. Please keep in mind that this Chapter is honored to have NRHS International President Tony White as a Chapter member.

We stand fully behind and support the NRHS Rail Camp and will strive to offer two candidates for 2027. We know that the tuition will cost more. If you wish to support the Chapter's endeavors in sending students to Camp, please consider sending a donation when you renew your membership.

Laurel Lines Newsletter Editor Katie Bischak concluded the September copy on August 27th. If you wish to submit any items related to the Chapter, be guided by the deadline that it must be received by Katie in the third week of the month to be considered for the next issue. Katie can be contacted at:
kbischakphoto@gmail.com

Meeting Programs: Scott Barrett, Program Chairman, is pleased to report that this evening's presentation is by Member Bill Dixon in the continuation of the Lackawanna in Scranton. The meeting in October will have 2026 Rail Camp attendees - Robert DiMatteo and C.J. Boyko and their experience at the Camp.

Chapter Website: Webmaster Alex Strausser has made the best effort to keep the site current and busy. *Your contribution can make it better.* Contact Alex at: alexstrausser9@gmail.com

OLD BUSINESS

We have a New Moscow Station Coordinator!
Scott Barrett has graciously accepted this position and will make every effort to fill those exceptionally large shoes of Roy Pauli, who slaved unselfishly and with dedication and perseverance from 2004 to 2026. Of course, President Pauli also worked tirelessly to make Moscow Station and Freight House the best it can be. While the pressure is off both resolute sincere members, we know they will both continue to offer time and talent. Both truly "ate, slept and breathed" Moscow Station. Their contribution cannot be measured in words... only in sincere gratitude for a job done well.

Scott will be calling on everyone to step up and maintain the Complex in pristine condition. While aware the Station no longer receives the number of trains it once did, we will exert all efforts to work with Steamtown and the Iron Horse Society to accept as many trains as they are willing to dispatch to us.

**ARE YOU LISTENING TO THIS MESSAGE
STEAMTOWN SUPERINTENDENT JEREMY
KOMASZ AND IRON HORSE SOCIETY
PRESIDENT MIKE RINKUNAS?**

**TO KEEP THE STATION AND FREIGHT
HOUSE VIABLE, WE NEED TRAINS. MOS-
COW WAS "THE" DESTINATION LOCATION,
IS IN EXCELLENT CONDITION. PLEASE DO
NOT IGNORE OUR ABILITY TO SERVE.**

Norm Barrett reports that improvements to the Freight House are progressing by working with State Representatives and County and City Government to -

secure necessary funding.

Much thanks to the 11 Chapter members who staffed the table at Railfest '26!

NEW BUSINESS

Vee met with Amy Belcher, President of North Pocono Cultural Society, to seek ways we may coordinate joint activities and support each other.

Holiday Train update: Some standard handouts have been purchased, and work sessions will be planned. Katie Bischak created the 2026 Flyer and was able to submit it to *Rail Pace* for publication. Thank you, Katie.

Moscow Borough sent a note of thanks for supporting their National Night Out.

Lackawanna History Fair is scheduled for October 3rd at the Viewmont Mall.

Lastly, revered Chapter members Al and Terri Rybarchyk send best wishes from Arizona.

Thirty-two in attendance.

Motion to adjourn by none other than our member Joe Boshek.

Respectfully,

Ken Kertesz - Secretary



HUMOR ME

*How do you know when you're being
ghosted?*

The Poltergeist doesn't text back.

What is a zombie's favorite language?

Latin. Being dead and all.

A Remarkable 2026 Railfest



VICE PRESIDENT AND NRHS REP ED FORTUNA GAVE US A LITTLE LOOK AT RAILFEST 2026, FOR THOSE WHO MISSED IT. LABOR DAY WEEKEND AT STEAMTOWN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE WAS PACKED WITH FAMILIAR FACES, A GREAT LINE-UP OF EQUIPMENT, AND BEAUTIFUL WEATHER ALL-AROUND. SNHS MADE SURE TO CELEBRATE AMERICA 250 IN STYLE WITH THEIR SPECIALLY PAINTED LEHIGH VALLEY CABOOSE, AS WELL AS OTHER ENGINES ADORNED WITH FLAGS AND BUNTING.

ABOVE: MATTHEW, RYAN, CHRIS, NRHS PRESIDENT TONY WHITE, ELI CLOSE, ALEX FERIK, & ED FORTUNA.

RIGHT: VEE & ROY PAULI TAKE THEIR TURN MANNING THE L&WV NRHS TABLE ALONGSIDE OTHER LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS & CHAPTERS

LEFT: ERIE LACKAWANNA ALCO'S C-425 #2462 & #2452.

Trains to Moscow Station

We are pleased to announce the 17th Annual Steamtown Holiday Trains to Moscow Railway Station. These three trains are a major support for the Moscow property.

We are the only train ride that comes to Santa, where the children have activities and giveaways.

To continue this tradition we ask for your support:

Santa - \$300.00

Cookies \$100.00

Coloring books \$70.00

Ornament Kits - \$75.00

Crayons \$50.00

Tattoos - \$20.00

Porta-Pots - \$400 (Estimate)

Any donation large or small is greatly appreciated. If you chose to donate, please send check payable to L&WVRHS to:

Roy Pauli
708 Stafford Avenue
Scranton, PA 18505-2516

Thank you for your Support!

2027 CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE# _____

EMAIL: _____

DUES ARE \$30.00 - FAMILY MEMBERS ADD \$5.00 EACH
STUDENT RATE W/OUT FAMILY JOINING - \$16.00

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

REMIT PAYMENT BY DECEMBER 31, 2026 PAYABLE TO:

L&WV RHS Chapter
30 Harford Avenue
Shavertown, PA 18708-1243

If you wish to donate any additional amounts, please specify below:
(Unrestricted for Chapter use, Rail Camp, General Operations, Moscow Station, etc.)

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

KEN KERTESZ - MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The following 2026 Train Shows will be held at the Taylor Hose and Engine Company No.1, 614 Union Street, Taylor, PA 18518, from 9am to 1:30pm each day.

Halloween Train Show
Saturday, October the 31st

Christmas Train Show
Saturday, December the 5th

Last Chance Before Christmas Train Show
Saturday, December the 19th



NOVEMBER MEETING ENTERTAINMENT

L&WV Chapter member Ed Koehler is also the Vice President of the Long Island Chapter of the PRR Technical and Historical Society, in this capacity he recently created a presentation about books on the Pennsylvania Railroad. Scott Barrett asked if he could bring this show to our Chapter, to which Ed readily agreed. It was originally entitled *One Enthusiast's Book Collection on the Pennsylvania Railroad: A dive into one Railfan's book collection on the Pennsylvania Railroad*.

This collection was amassed prior to the 1990's, so it should be an interesting blast into the past (although there are some more recent additions). Ed realized that the Pennsy is not a big player in Northeast Pennsylvania, so he has added thirty panels covering some of the books written on the rails of our NEPA area. This will not be a static show; your comments will be welcome on the various volumes and after the main body of the presentation you will be asked to comment about your favorite Northeast Pennsylvania rail related volume or on a Pennsylvania Railroad book.

**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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Kat Bischak - Editor of LL**

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



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