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# LINES WEST - BUCKEYE REGION CHAPTER

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## PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD TECHNICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

\*\*\*\* VOLUME 10 NO. 2    MAY 2013    SPRING 2013    NEWSLETTER \*\*\*\*

### ==NEXT CHAPTER MEETING==

**Sunday June 9, 2013 Marion 'Union Station' Marion, Ohio.**

**Mark Sunday, June 9, 2013 on your calendar, for the next meeting of the Lines West Buckeye Region Chapter of the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society. We will meet at 1 p.m. with the business meeting called to order by President Al Doddroe at 1:30. The business meeting will include reports by officers. Our schedule there is from 1pm till 5pm.**

**Member Russ Thompson plans to share with us some 35mm slides that he has recently acquired.**

**Russ always has interesting PRR history to share so don't miss this 35mm slide program.**



**Marion Union Station and "AC" tower. 6/2010**

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Photo by Ron Widman

**Elections were held at our last meeting on March 24th in Columbus. All former Buckeye Region officers have been re-elected by acclamation for the coming months of 2013. Thanks to all officers for staying on for another year. Your active involvement is most appreciated.**

**A big thanks and a long blast of the steam whistle goes out to our former newsletter editor and member Gene Stibbens, for his hard work in compiling our quarterly Buckeye Region newsletter. Gene's creative efforts over the years as newsletter editor have not gone unnoticed and his timely e-mail and USPS mailings have kept all members up-to-date with our region business and current events. Thanks again Gene for keeping all of our membership updated and well informed.**

**Speaking of the newsletter, your ideas, photos and written history material is always welcomed for review and placement into the newsletter. Our membership will appreciate reading any efforts that you have to share the Pennsylvania Railroad history and to include your history contribution into the newsletter. Send them to the editor's e-mail: [lineswest@columbus.rr.com](mailto:lineswest@columbus.rr.com)**

**A brief highlight of our last March meeting brought history author Albert J. Churella to the podium as he discussed his new in-depth 946 page book "The Pennsylvania Railroad Volume 1, Building an Empire 1946-1917". Members in attendance were given a in-depth history lesson on the very early days of the Pennsylvania Railroad. A question and answer session brought a lot of history discussion, knowledge and insight about the early, formative years of the PRR.**



**One of the largest member attended programs is**



under way. Two P.R.R.T. & H.S. members from the Pittsburgh area also attended. Photo by Ron Widman



Mr. Churella holds a captive audience of Buckeye Region members. Very early P.R.R. history was this topic. Photo by Ron Widman



Buckeye Region Chapter members focus closely

on author Churella's P.R.R. history program.  
Photo by Ron Widman



**Albert J. Churella, Ph. D. (U.S. History Ohio State University) has written a number of books on railroad history. His latest book on the early P.R.R. history contains 946 pages of first-rate documented information.**

**Photo by Ron Widman**

**After the meeting, a number of members opened their homes to all members to see and visit their personal model train layouts, located in different parts of the Columbus area.**

**Special thanks to all member/hosts who opened up their homes and shared their love of model railroading with all of us. It is interesting to see the railroads in operation and to know about the long hours and "labor of love" that each member devotes to his particular layout.**





**Buckeye Region member Chris Walsh opened up his P.R.R. HO scale layout to members. Scene: Cadiz Junction train meet and switching empty's for loads of coal.**  
Photo by Ron Widman



**Chris's fine detail and craftsmanship show best in his New Lexington Coal Mine and tunnel modeling.** Photo by Ron Widman



Chris has spent countless hours planning and constructing his P.R.R. layout. The detail of the PRR J1, the Baldwin Centipede, along with the track work and scenery add nice focus to this scene. Both J1 and Centipede (with sound) are from Broadway Limited. Photo by Ron Widman

Other members, in addition to Chris Walsh, who welcomed visitors to see their model railroad empires, were: Dick Briggs, Howard Smith and non-members Darrell Logan and Michael Yoakam.

In the past issues of "Trains" Magazine and "Classic Trains" Magazine, two of our illustrious and historical minded Buckeye members have been featured in print.

Pete White, Tower Operator, with his photo taken in AC tower at Marion in a recent past Trains issue. The Summer 2013 issue of Classic Trains features Ryan Hoover's memory about his past reminiscences of the "PRR Sandusky Branch" during the steam days. Titled: "Pennsy Dinosaur Tracks in Ohio", as you will read...Ryan's recollection from the 1950's is just like he saw it yesterday. See the magazine issue for the full story. It is most interesting to know that both Pete and Ryan were featured in "Trains" and "Classic Trains" magazines.

**\*\*\*Don't get left behind, send in your membership dues today!\*\*\***

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In addition, the February 2013 "Trains" issue feature story titled "Inside America's Newest Roundhouse", 'Ohio Central's Jerry Joe Jacobson builds a private home for his steam stable' is another classic story from Ohio. Kevin P. Keefe wrote, "...that gave Age of Steam a unique status among contemporary steam facilities: the first true operating roundhouse built in the U.S. since 1951." This in-depth 8 page feature story is real history in the making right in our own backyard. Our Ohio railroad news is spread far and wide and all of the up-to-date information is found in "Trains" and "Classic Trains" magazines.

The PBS Film Documentary "Secrets of the Dead" aired on May 8, 2013 in the Central Ohio area over our PBS WOSU-TV station. 'Death on the Railroad' examined the mysterious deaths of 57 Irish immigrants hired to lay railroad tracks in Pennsylvania in 1832.

Our membership will know that this documentary refers to the "Duffy's Cut 57" and specifically the 57 Irish immigrants who worked on mile 59 of the Philadelphia & Columbus, 20 miles west of Philadelphia, back in 1832.

Our PRRT&HS 'Keystone magazine' has featured a number of articles on the "Duffy's Cut" story. The most recent article was printed in the Keystone Volume 45 Number 2 issue, Summer of 2012 and found on pages 24-26. See your past Keystone magazine issues for more on the story. It is always good to see further developments of our past railroad history being studied and researched.

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As you have come to the end of the newsletter, the parting exposure takes you to the rear end of the coal drag and the PRR cabin car. *The way it used to be.* Buckeye Region member Dan Adair hosted our September 2012 meeting and shared with members his splendid and creatively modeled HO Scale layout. Of course it is all genuine...Pennsylvania Railroad!



Photo by: Editor of Buckeye Region Chapter Newsletter, Ron Widman. September 2012.