



# The Depot Dispatch



Leonard A. Kessler, Editor

## Painesville Depot Fundraiser



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On Monday January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015, the Painesville Depot Museum held their first fundraiser for the restoration of the Depot, the building maintenance and the promotion of model railroading. It was held at the Stadium Grill on Tyler Rd. in Mentor, Ohio. The Grill provided a tasty pasta dish with a tossed salad and bread. The Depot group provided a couple of dessert trays and a table full of door prizes donated by Harbor Freight. There were a half a dozen gifts donated by the

Ohio Lottery for our Chinese auction. Sherrod Brown also donated an American flag that had flown over the Capital in Washington DC for a silent auction. Bob Orlando was gracious enough to play several train videos on the Grill's large screen TV to entertain our guests. Most model railroading groups were represented, but it would have been a lot nicer if more train people would have supported our endeavor to "Save Our Station". We thank all that participated and hope that all of our

friends that share a common bond, model railroading and railfanning, will join us this coming season at special Depot events, on designated railfanning days and future fundraisers. It is our intent to renovate the Depot building and make it a great place to hang out with like minded train enthusiast for a special camaraderie and some great railfanning. If you would like to become a member of the depot, pick up an application form and join this unique group.

*All aboard!*



## About the Painesville Railroad Museum:

**W**estern Reserve Railroad Association (WRRRA), a 501(c)3 non-profit, doing business as "The Painesville Railroad Museum". The WRRRA was formed in 1997 to save and restore the Painesville Depot.

**T**he Depot was built in 1892 and opened in 1893 for the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway. The station was used from 1893 to May 1, 1971. The Depot served many railroads in its time. The most famous was The New York Central Railroad. The Depot stopped seeing passenger trains in May, 1971 when Penn Central was formed into Conrail and Amtrak began.

**A**fter passenger service stopped, the depot became a Greyhound Bus station from 1971 to 1987. After Greyhound, Conrail used the depot for storing signals and equipment.

**T**he depot was eventually sold to Edward Dunlap, who wanted to convert the depot into a railroad themed restaurant. After two years of construction, he determined that the amount of money invested into the depot would not be returned back in five years. Dunlap decided to find a historical society to buy it and restore it back to its original glory.

**T**he Lake County Historical Society looked at it and declined the offer as they had enough other projects they were already working on. The Western Reserve Railroad Association was formed to restore the depot back to her legacy of the New York Central days. The Painesville Railroad Museum plans to restore the depot to its original glory. Today there are still many projects left to be done.

## CURRENT EVENTS at or near THE DEPOT

**Depot Regular Meeting** **February 10**  
Morley Library  
Painesville, Ohio (*meeting starts at 6 pm.*)

**NETS Swap Meet** **February 21**  
First Church of Christ  
422 Mentor Ave. (*10 am to 2 pm.*)  
Painesville, Ohio 44077 (*across from Lake Eire College*)

**Winter Train Meet** **February 21**  
UAW Hall,  
5615 Chevrolet Blvd.,  
Parma, Ohio 44130 (*10 am to 3 pm.*)  
Admission: **\$6.00** each, **\$8.00**, children under 12 **free** and  
parking is **FREE**.

**Division  Railfest 2015** **March 14 & 15**  
Lakeland Community College  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094 (*10 am to 4 pm.*)

**The Militaria Show** **March 20 & 21**  
Lakeland Community College  
Kirtland, Ohio 44094  
*Friday (5 pm to 9 pm.) Saturday (9 am to 3 pm.)*

**Dalton Toy & Train Show** **March 22**  
624 Henry Street  
Dalton, Ohio 44618 (*10 am to 4 pm.*)

## The Painesville Depot Museum

Minutes of the January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Meeting

Meeting came to order on Tuesday January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 6:05 pm at Denny's restaurant in Mentor, Ohio. Barry Uszko called the meeting to order.

**Attendance:** Tom Pescha, Tom Tyliki, Rob Romig, Jim Wendorf, Tom Carr, Len Kessler, Matt Bolyard  
Steve Bolyard and Barry Uszko.

**The minutes** of the previous meeting were read and approved.

**A financial report** was read and approved.

**A Toy Show report** was given by Rob Romig and he reported a \$179 profit was made on sales.

**An election for new officers** was held and the four offices were uncontested. They are as follows:

**President:** Jim Wendorf

**Vice-President:** Tom Pescha

**Secretary:** Len Kessler

**Treasurer:** Barry Uszko

Jim took over the meeting at this point.

**M/S:** That all officers occupy four of the seven seats on the Board of Directors. *Passed.*

**M/S:** That the three remaining seats on the Board be elected by the membership. Term of office be set in new by-laws. *Passed.*

Once the by-laws are complete, an election to fill these seats will be called for.

**M/S:** That the secretary keep a current membership roster. *Passed.*

**A budget meeting** was set for January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the Morley Library at 1:00 *pm*. The by-laws will be reviewed at this meeting.

**Taxes** will have to be prepared for 2014; Barry will take care of securing a tax preparer.

**A Depot work schedule** was discussed and it was decided that it will start on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015 and continue on every other Saturday from noon until 4 *pm*. Tom Tyliki requested that he and his group be allowed to start rebuilding the multi gauge layout that was donated to the museum.

Matt reported on the **Museum Facebook Page** and it was decided that he and Tom Pescha will manage a new page.

**The Pasta Fundraiser** was discussed and Tom Pescha reported that an American Flag that has flown over the Capital was donated for a silent auction. The Ohio Lottery has also agreed to donate a fifty lottery ticket basket to raffle off. There will also be a 50/50 raffle at the event along with door prizes from Harbor Freight. Bob Orlando will be asked to set up a computer with railroad video to be played on the large screen TV.

Jim reported that he and Tom Pescha met with **the Painesville City Planner** and they are planning on making the Depot area a **Historical Site**. Hopefully this will open the door to future grants. There are also other grants that Jim and Tom are pursuing.

**M/S:** That the current locks on the museum doors be changed immediately due to the fact that doors have been left unlock recently. *Passed.*

The February meeting will be held at Denny's next month on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 @ 6:00 pm. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 *pm*.

Respectfully submitted,

Leonard A. Kessler

# A New Years Message from the Vice-President



With the New Year already underway, it has brought many good changes to the Painesville Depot. Starting with new officers, we have made great progress in just a short time. We already had our first successful fundraiser and are planning more. We are working on a grant for the installation of new bathrooms in the building and an

additional grant for rebuilding the caboose. The city of Painesville has approached us about making Railroad Street and the Depot property a Historic Site. This will open the door for more grants to improve this historic structure and its grounds. I have also been in contact with the "2015 Lincoln Funeral Train" re-enactment. They are planning on doing a recreation of the original

funeral train on its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, which would be in late April or early May. We would like to have a *special event* at the Depot to participate in that re-enactment. So as you can see, **2015** will be a very busy and impressive year for The Painesville Railroad Museum, **be part of it!**



## The Painesville Depot Museum

Minutes of the January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 BOD Meeting

**Meeting came to order** on Sunday January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 1:15 pm at Morley Library in Painesville, Ohio.  
Jim Wendorf called the meeting to order.

**Attendance:** Tom Pescha, Tom Tyliki, Rob Romig, Jim Wendorf, Len Kessler, Matt Bolyard,  
Steve Bolyard and Dennis Marano.

This was the first meeting and there were **no previous minutes**.

**Old Business:** The recent **fundraiser** was discussed and it was deemed a success. Jim Wendorf reported that we have earned a cocktail party (*three hors d'oeuvre and a cash bar*) that can be used as a private fundraiser.

**New Business:** Jim and Tom Pescha reported that there will be a "*Historic District meeting*" town hall on Thursday January 29<sup>th</sup> @ the Elm Elementary School.

It was reported that a re-enactment of Lincoln's funeral train will take place in the near future. It was suggested that the Depot should plan some kind of an event on that specific day as the train will be on the CSX tracks.

One of the main reasons to convene this meeting was to go over the Depot financing and prepare a budget for 2015 to be able to secure future grants. Unfortunately the treasurer did not attend so the budget was postponed to another meeting. It was suggested that we have our first audit soon.

The next item on the agenda was to modify the by-laws that will govern this organization. We agreed on the first third of the by-laws but due to a time restraint, this project will have to be taken up at the next BOD meeting. A time and place will be set at the next regular meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Hopefully when the BOD meets again, there will be **no time restraint**.

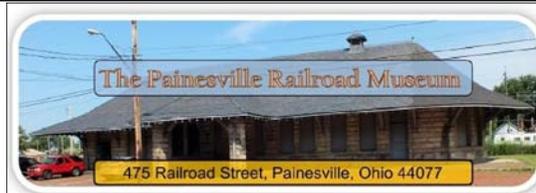
We have a lot of work to accomplish and time is running out. It is very important that when the weather breaks we are ready, not just starting to plan for the **2015 season**. We only have a small window in which to prepare, *let's not miss it!*

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 *pm*.

The February regular meeting will be held at **Morley Library** next month on Tuesday February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 @ 6:00 *pm*.

Respectfully submitted,  
Leonard A. Kessler

# The Painesville Depot Newsletter



**February, 2015**

Electronic Version

Depot Membership  
as of January 1st, 2015



**15**

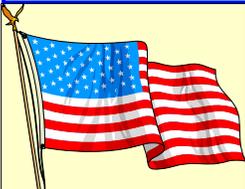
## The Depot Dispatch

*The Depot Dispatch* is an official publication of The Western Reserve Railroad Association, Painesville Depot, Painesville, Ohio. It is published approximately once a month and is posted on the on the Depot Website free of charge. An electronic version of the newsletter will be emailed to members and a hard copy

will be available at the Depot. Information regarding *The Depot Dispatch*, Depot activities and events may be obtained by writing to 3257 Center Road, Perry, Ohio 44081 or sending an e-mail to [cyberlen@roadrunner.com](mailto:cyberlen@roadrunner.com). The Depot Dispatch and Depot activities and special events are

funded by open houses, contributions, donations and annual fundraisers. All comments and opinions are welcome. Those views expressed in *The Depot Dispatch* do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of the Western Reserve Railroad Association.

## The Western Reserve Railroad Association



[www.painesvillerrailroadmuseum.org](http://www.painesvillerrailroadmuseum.org)  
A 501(c)3 non-profit educational organization



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