



PRRT&HS

56TH ANNUAL MEETING



To our colleagues at the Penn Central and Conrail Historical Societies, along with the Friends of the East Broad Top:

The PRRT&HS Board of Directors are pleased to announce that the 56th Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society is being held from Wednesday May 8th through Saturday May 11th, 2024. This event is being held in Altoona, PA at the Blair County Convention Center and is being hosted by the Altoona Works Chapter. We are extending an invitation to members of your organizations to join us in Altoona.

"This year's theme for the convention is The Great Hobo Gathering. The committee thought it was time to try something new and fun. So, we are breaking the mold this year. The PRR wasn't the only Railroad operating in Altoona, so this year the committee has decided to extend invitations to the PENN CENTRAL and CONRAIL historical societies, along with the Friends of the East Broad Top, who have graciously offered meeting attendees an excursion to the East Broad Top Railroad on Thursday, that will include a ride behind one of their restored steam locomotives. The excursion also includes a shop tour and ride on the Rockhill trolley."

Being Mother's Day weekend, we have also altered the traditional Saturday schedule that includes an open house Saturday afternoon at the Altoona Railroaders Memorial Museum where you will be able to visit K4s 1361 up close along with other museum rolling stock some of which also served the Penn Central and Conrail.

The Museum is undertaking a very extensive and professional restoration of 1361 that will ensure many years of operation. But the effort is not inexpensive. Please give serious consideration to including a donation to the restoration when you register for our meeting. 100% of your donation will go to 1361's restoration. Thank-you, Dave Evans, President PRRT&HS & the PRRT&HS Directors

We have accelerated our Saturday schedule to be completed by 6 PM so that some members may make it home Saturday evening for Mother's Day. Announcements from the museum director are scheduled for 3 PM and our traditional evening banquet will be replaced by an old-fashioned B-B-Q held on the museum grounds starting at 3:30 PM (Hence the Hobo Party) with awards starting at 4:30 and our keynote speaker Henry Posner at 5 PM. The schedule will be completed by 6 PM, but members and guests will be able to share each other's company and watch some trains from the yard and the footbridge until 10 PM.

After the 9 AM Business Meeting our compressed Saturday schedule of presentations, the modeling committee session and raffle may make it difficult to find time for lunch before the 3:30 PM Barbecue. So we have arranged for a very filling "extra fare" Saturday morning breakfast buffet to be served before the business meeting with tables arranged for those who choose to enjoy their breakfast during the business meeting, and conventional theater style seating for those that decide to stick with one of those free Hotel "breakfasts".

We hope you will join us for this unique opportunity,
Sincerely, The Officers and Directors, Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society

Members of these societies will need to register by mail and pay by check. The mailing address is provided on the registration form below.



PRRT&HS

56TH ANNUAL MEETING

Excursion and Presentations

East Broad Top Railroad Tour.

Thursday May 9, 2024



.... Steam on the Narrow Gauge!!!

The East Broad Top will present all PRRT&HS tour attendees with an exclusive trip back in time on the oldest operating narrow gauge railroad. Busses will depart in the morning from the Blair County Convention Center and travel east to Broad Top Coal country. Upon arriving at the Orbisonia, PA depot, we will embark on a tour of the railroad's yard and shop complex, view the locomotives and equipment in the roundhouse, and tour the trolley museum adjoining the railroad. Also, presentations will be provided by the Friends of the East Broad Top and the East Broad Top Foundation on how they are restoring and keeping this historic railroad alive. After lunch, we will embark on a one hour, nine-mile round trip excursion that will be powered by the recently restored #16, a 1916 Baldwin built 2-8-2 Mikado, departing northbound from the historic Orbisonia Station along the narrow-gauge mainline, originally constructed in 1872.

Presentation lineup (tentative)

Keynote Speaker – Henry Posner III – Henry started his career at Conrail and has held several leadership positions at railroads and railroad development companies. He will provide a unique perspective on several issues of interest to fans of the PRR. His talk will begin at 5 PM Saturday in the Altoona Railroaders Memorial Museum yard.

Douglas Nelson - The PRR in Johnstown
Dan Cupper - PRR Archeology - Pittsburgh to Harrisburg
Brad Esposito - PRR/EBT Interchange and Operations
Mike Crosby - Tracking the T1, Part Two
Bruce Smith - Modeling PRR MOW Equipment
Matthew Hurst - PRR Operations around Huntingdon... a modelers perspective.
Lee Rainey – Branchline Operating Patterns
John Pogue - Modeling Bellefonte & the BEV
Jack Consoli – Utilizing CAD and 3-D Printing in Your Modeling
Dave Wilson - Modeling the Pennsy: Rolling stock, locomotives and structures, Oh my!
Joseph DeFrancesco - K4 Restoration Update
Matt Wolff - The Altoona Works, Building Horseshoe Curve
Brandon Sliko - PRR Absorption of the Portage RR, The PRR & The Johnstown Flood
Robert Emerson - Bell's Gap Railroad
Luther Gette - The Tyrone & Clearfield
Mike Froio - Mainline of Public Works, The Blue Juniata
Aaron Heavren - John Prophet's PRR
Jason Johnson - T1 Trust Update
Doug Bosley - Over the Alleghenies - Canal Era
Bob Jans - What to do with your PRR Collection
John Frantz – The PRR's Steel Flatcar Fleet



PRRT&HS

56TH ANNUAL MEETING

Schedule



Wednesday May 8th

EARLY REGISTRATION – Convention Center Lobby – 11 am – 9:30 pm
Layout Tours (State College Area) – 11:30am – 3:30 pm
Vendor Room Setup – 10am – 6:30 pm
Model Room Open Setup – 6:30 – 9:30 pm
Vendor Room Open for sales – 6:30 – 9:30 pm
Hospitality and Quiet Rooms - 2 – 9:30 pm

Thursday May 9th

EBT Tour – Buses Depart Convention Center – 8 am
Registration – Convention Center Lobby – 7am - 9 pm Closed for Dinner 5 – 7 pm
Vendor Room Setup (VENDORS ONLY) – 7 – 9 am
Model Room Open – 8 am – 9:30 pm, Closed for Dinner 5 – 7 pm
Vendor Room Open for sales – 9 am – 9 :30 pm, Closed for Dinner 5 - 7 pm
Presentations (3 tracks) – 9 am – 9:30 pm with Lunch and Dinner Breaks
Hospitality and Quiet Rooms - 8:30am – 9:30 pm
Alternative “modeling” – Making Jewelry 7 pm
PRRT&HS Board of Directors Meeting – 7 pm – till....

Friday May 10th

Alternative Tour Departs – 9:30 AM, returns 4 PM
Registration – Conference Center Lobby - 8 am – 9:30 pm, Closed for Dinner 5 – 7 pm
Model Room Open – 8 am – 9:30 pm, Closed for Dinner 5 – 7 pm
Vendor Room Open for sales – 9 am – 9 :30 pm, Closed for Dinner 5 - 7 pm
Presentations (3 tracks) – 9 am – 9:30 pm with Lunch and Dinner Breaks
Hospitality and Quiet rooms – 8 am – 9:30 pm
Alternative presentations – (TBD) 9:00 am – 9:30 pm
Layout tours – 7 pm – 10 pm

Saturday May 11th

Registration - Conference Center Lobby – 8 am – 12 pm
Breakfast served (Extra Fare) – Business meeting room (ballroom 4) 8 - 9 AM
PRRT&HS Annual Business Meeting – 9 - 10am
Presentations (3 tracks) – 10:15 am - 12:30 pm
Vendor Room Open – After Business Meeting – 1:30 pm
Model Room Open – 10:00 am – 12:30 pm (Meet the modeler)
Modeling Committee Report and Q&A Session – 12:30 – 1:30 pm
Raffle (In Vendors Room) – 1:30 - 2:00 pm
Altoona RR Memorial Museum open to registrants, family and guests only - 1 pm – 10 pm
Altoona RR Memorial Museum announcements – 3 PM
Barbeque (Extra Fare -Altoona RR Mem. Museum) – 3:30 - 5 pm
Awards and PRRT&HS announcements – 4:30 – 5 pm
Keynote speaker – 5 pm – 6 pm

Extra Fare – Saturday breakfast – fresh fruit, scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, custom omelets, juices, tea and coffee

Extra Fare – Barbecue – Select an entre on the registration form, plus smoked mac & cheese, baked beans, garden salad, cake, soda, bottled water and iced teas. Cash bar (beer, wine, limited mixed drinks)



PRRT&HS 56TH ANNUAL MEETING



Local Hotel Information

Courtyard by Marriott Altoona
2 Convention Center Drive
Altoona, PA 16602
(800) 321-2211

(Adjacent to Convention Center)
\$134 per night (85 rooms max)
Group Code: PRRTHS
Expires: 4/24/24

Altoona Grand Hotel
1 Sheraton Dr
Altoona, PA 16601
(814) 946-1631

(1.3 miles from Convention Center)
\$120 per night (51 rooms M-Sat, 36 thru Sun)
Group code: PA RR Technical & Historical Society
Expires: 4/8/24

Hampton Inn Altoona
180 Charlotte Drive
Altoona, PA 16601
814-941-3500

(2.1 miles from Convention Center)
\$149 per night (30 rooms)
Group code: PRRTHS
Expires: 4/17/24

Fairfield Inn and Suites
2915 Pleasant Valley Blvd
Altoona, PA 16602
814-946-0422

(3.3 miles from convention center)
\$144 per night (34 rooms)
Group Code: PA RR Technical & Historical Society
Expires: 4/24/24

Townplace Suites
2915 Pleasant Valley Blvd
Altoona, PA 16602
814-946-0424

(3.3 miles from convention center)
\$154 per night (16 rooms)
Group Code: PA RR Technical & Historical Society
Expires: 4/24/24

Holiday Inn Express & Suites Altoona
115 Convention Center Drive
Altoona, PA 16635
(814) 693-1004

(Across the road from the Convention Center)
Were not able to secure a group rate
due to nearby college graduations.

Other Hotels that do not offer group rates, but had vacancies as of 2/18/24:

Comfort Inn (2.3 miles away)
130 Patch Way Rd
Duncansville, PA 16635
717-496-02570

Rodeway Inn (motel, 2.3 miles away)
1500 Sterling St
Altoona, PA 16602
814-902-7026

Super 8 by Windham (2.8 miles away)
3535 Fairway Dr
Altoona, PA 16602
814-201-6909

Wye Motor Lodge (motel, 2.5 miles away)
200 N. Plank Rd
Duncansville, PA
814-695-4407

Travelocity lists more in the Altoona area, but they are further away.



PRRT&HS Registration Form (Sheet 1)

56th Annual Meeting: May 8-11, 2024

Charges:



EVENT	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
PC/CR/EBT Member Registration (Per Family)	\$ 65		
You are also welcome to join the PRRT&HS Includes 1 Year PRRT&HS Membership (\$40) & Registration for Annual Meeting New members receive a free gift of three society books (our choice)	\$ 105		
VENDORS			
Vendors Table - 8 Foot with skirt & cover	\$ 35		
Electricity for Tables (Additional, all tables)	\$ 35		
K4s Restoration Donation – please consider making a donation to the K4s 1361 restoration fund!	Donation:		
East Broadtop Excursion – Limited to Member and five Family members – lunch available for purchase from several food trucks – per person	\$ 75		
Saturday Breakfast in the Convention Center Served 8 to 9 AM only (menu on schedule) – per person	\$ 26		
Barbecue at Altoona Railroad Memorial Museum Served 3:30 to 5:00 pm only (menu on schedule)			
➤ Pulled Pork main entre – per person	\$ 55		
➤ Barbecue Chicken main entre – per person	\$ 55		
➤ Barbecue Pork Ribs main entre – per person	\$ 55		
➤ Fish main entre – per person	\$ 55		
TOTAL ENCLOSED:			

Full payment must accompany registration form and be in U.S. funds.

<p>To pay please complete both sides of this form and mail with your check to:</p> <p>PRRT&HS P.O. BOX 640515 PITTSBURGH, PA 15264-0515 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</p>	
--	--



PRRT&HS Registration Form (Sheet 2)
54th Annual Meeting: May 8-11, 2024
Registrant Data:



NAME _____

GUEST SOCIETY: _____ MEMBERSHIP NO. _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP CODE _____

SOCIETY TITLE (if any) – _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER (w/area code) _____

E-mail ADDRESS _____

If spouse and/or children attend, please list names for their badges. Please indicate if you plan to buy a ticket for them on the EBT excursion:

_____	_____
_____	_____

I will volunteer one hour or more in the Model Room. YES _____

**VENDORS: I am willing to donate a door prize. YES _____

Complete and Include both Registration sheets with your Check
Mail to:
PRRT&HS
P.O. Box 640515
Pittsburgh, PA 15264-0515