

READING SOCIETY  
MODEL ENGINEERS

# THE RSME TIMETABLE

The News Bulletin of the READING SOCIETY of MODEL ENGINEERS

[WWW.RSME.ORG](http://WWW.RSME.ORG)

## *Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!*

Hello everyone! This is the first newsletter since August, and as such I would like to update everyone on the events that have taken place since August. Our October Open House was a success as were the previous two open houses. The public was shown a good time and the society gained some well deserved operating income.

We had elections at the October Annual Meeting, and a new President and Treasurer were selected. The new President is Frank Oese, and the new Treasurer is Phyllis Pyle. Letters from Frank and Phyllis's husband Gene are included in this newsletter. Frank has some interesting ideas for the direction he would like to take the club, and Gene has a message to all members about membership and dues.

Also, Bill Ingham recently ran steam engine #20 and several members were able to see steam running on the Laurel Run. This was the first opportunity I've had since I have been a club member to see #20 steaming and it was a great experience. Bill, as always, emphasized fun during the day and it was a great success. Hopefully, these steaming days can be continued in the future so more members can experience the fun. I will be putting up a page on the RSME web site dedicated to this steaming day. Check back at <http://www.rsme.org> for the new info.



*#20 'popping' off!*

## *A message from our new President*

As the new President of the RSME, I thought that I should introduce myself to you, the members, and tell you some of my goals for my term as President.

First, however, I want to recognize our outgoing President, Mr. Bill Ingham for his contributions to the RSME for the past two years. Bill applied his long experience with the RSME to his term as President, and with the assistance of the Treasurer and the RSME Board, a degree of financial stability has been brought to the Society. Thank you Bill (and the Board).



*Frank Oese, our new President, seated in the middle*

train layouts. I presently have an O-gauge layout that occupies the family room and dining room in our home in Fleetwood (thank you to my wife for putting up with me)!

Before I discuss my goals as President, first I want to tell you a little about myself. I was born and raised in Berks County. My first experience with trains was as a very small boy. My family lived in my grandparent's house on Rosenthal Street in Reading. My grandfather would take me for walks to the Schuylkill Avenue Bridge, where we would stand over the Reading Company's cross line and watch the trains. At that time The Reading was still operating steam locomotives, and nothing could be more exciting to a small boy than seeing these engines in operation. These walks with my grandfather are what hooked me on trains and model railroading. At the age of three, I received my first toy train, a Lionel O-Gauge set, which was set up under the Christmas tree.

Over the years I have had O-gauge, HO and N-scale

I am a chemical engineer by profession, and I have worked for Air Products in Trexlertown for almost 32 years. At Air Products I have been responsible for developing, planning, budgeting and executing capital projects for industrial gas plants, chemical plants, and more recently, electric power generating facilities. These projects have ranged in value from small projects of about \$1 million up to over \$1 billion. I hope to be able to apply some of my experience at Air Products to my duties as President, to the benefit of the Society.

Since October, when I was elected to the position of President of the RSME, I have been working on a list of objectives and an action plan for the Society. As of the beginning of December I officially took office, and, as I write this message, it is the day following the first RSME Board Meeting that I presided over as President. I began introducing some of my objectives at that meeting. I look forward to working with the Board to refine our objectives and to supervise the operation of the Society to obtain those objectives. Here are a few of my personal objectives for the RSME.

- Maintain the financial stability of the Society
- Improve the effectiveness of the monthly General Meetings and shorten the meetings to approximately one hour in duration
- Insure that I and the Board are responsive to the RSME Membership
- Improve the camaraderie and fellowship between our Members so that we can all have

- more fun while progressing the goals of the Society
- Improve the experience of new RSME Members and help them find something within the Society that they can enjoy doing

I want to insure that I am available to any member of the Society, so at the end of this you will find my phone number and e-mail address.

Regards,  
Frank Oese  
President

Phone: 610-944-7195  
E-mail: ese01@ptd.net

## **Open letter From Eugene Pyle,**

### **Membership Chairman**

I want to thank you all for your dues, donations, food items for the three open houses, and all your time and effort which made the past year very successful. No one person can run a club like ours without the help and support of its members.

This year we set a record by adding 62 new members which more than doubled our total membership number of 53 in 2006. We are hoping everyone will renew their memberships for 2008. If you just joined at the October, '07 open house, your dues are good for 2008.

To the rest of our members, your 2008 annual dues can be paid any time during January through March. If possible, we would like them early to give us more working capital with which to pay our heat and utilities this winter since dues are our only income until the May 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> open house.

I would also like to encourage Associate members over the age of 17 to upgrade to the Participating level which requires dues of \$75 annually. This is only \$6.25 a month or \$.20 a day. Please let me know if you would like to upgrade so we can vote your change at the following monthly meeting and I can change your membership status on my records. For new Associate members who joined in October and have already paid your \$25 for 2008, you only need to pay an additional \$50 to become a Participating member. This could be done any time within the next year.

Our current membership breakdown is as follows:

77 Associate Members  
22 Participating Members  
19 Active Members  
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118 Total Members

My wife, Phyllis, officially is the new treasurer for the next 2 years, which she has been doing unofficially since 2005. I will continue to be in charge of memberships. You can give your dues and donations to either of us at any meeting or open house if you want to save the postage. We will take

cash but checks are easier for the record keeping and give you a record in your checkbook. Be sure to make all checks payable to RSME. If you wish to mail dues or donations, send them to RSME, PO Box 13011, Reading, PA 19612 or to us at 27 Cemetery Road, Fleetwood, PA 19522.

We hope you and your family have a wonderful Christmas with a train under every tree and a healthy and prosperous New Year!

The following are the limits and privileges that were printed on the backside of your membership application, in case you didn't take time to read them. Feel free to call me any time with any questions at my home at 610 944-9663.

### **RSME Limits & Privileges of Membership**

**Associate** members shall enjoy the privilege of using the facilities of the Society. They shall have the privilege of a voice at meetings, but shall not have the privilege of a ballot at meetings. Associate members may not operate locomotives on the "Laurel Run" railroad. Their use of shop equipment is limited to only the times when they are supervised by an Active member. Application for Associate membership shall be accepted by persons at least 13 years of age. Annual dues \$25.00.

**Participating** members shall enjoy the privilege of using the facilities of the Society. They shall have the privilege of a voice at meetings, but shall not have the privilege of a ballot at meetings. Participating members may operate locomotive #10 in work service on the "Laurel Run" railroad and are permitted to be crew members in passenger service after being trained and qualified by the safety committee. Application for Participating membership shall be accepted by persons at least 17 years of age. Annual dues \$75.00.

**Active** members shall enjoy full privileges of Society facilities. They shall have a voice and ballot in all matters pertaining to the activities and welfare of the Society. Only Active members may be officers or chair committees of the Society. Only active members shall have keys to society buildings. Active members wishing to operate locomotives on the fifteen-inch gauge "Laurel Run" railroad are required to be trained and qualified by the safety committee. Upon acceptance to Active membership they shall pay a one time \$150.00 participation fee. Application for Active membership shall be accepted from Participating members of one year or more and at least eighteen years of age. They shall have fulfilled a one-time ninety hour work requirement. Annual dues \$125.00.

## ***Future RSME Events***

The next newsletter will not be printed until around Spring Open House. Any new events that the club becomes involved with before then will be communicated via our website. Please visit periodically to see any updates that may have been posted. As always, feel free to email or call myself or a BOD member with any questions or suggestions for events the RSME may be able to get involved with during the winter.

Thank you to everyone who has given of their time to make the RSME successful in 2007, and I encourage everyone to get even more involved in 2008. I truly believe 2008 can be a great year of growth for the club if we all decide to volunteer some of our free time to improving the club. There are many ways this can be done. If you want to get involved but are not sure how, give a call to anyone in the following contact listing.

## ***RSME CALENDAR***

Membership Dues	Due each January
Monthly Meeting	Second Saturday of each month (2:00 PM)
Annual Meeting / Elections	October Monthly Meeting
Spring Open House	<b><i>May 17th and 18th 2008 , 12 PM-5 PM</i></b>
Summer Open House	<b><i>Aug 2nd and 3rd 2008, 12 PM-5 PM</i></b>
Fall Open House	<b><i>Oct 18th and 19th 2008, 12 PM-5 PM</i></b>
Laurel Run Operating Days	First Sunday of Month 12 PM – 5 PM (June – November)
2ND Floor Meeting	Monday Evenings (7:30)
HO Venture Crew Meeting	First and Third Mondays (7:30)

## **RSME BOD CONTACTS**

President	Frank Oese	610-944-7195	<a href="mailto:eseo1@ptd.net">eseo1@ptd.net</a>
Vice President	Eric Peffel	610-916-5095	<a href="mailto:mechep@aol.com">mechep@aol.com</a>
Treasurer	Phyllis Pyle	610-944-9663	<a href="mailto:phyllispyle@msn.com">phyllispyle@msn.com</a>
Secretary	Richard Wiswesser	610-779-4095	<a href="mailto:rewhazmat@aol.com">rewhazmat@aol.com</a>
Member-At-Large	Nathan Kline	610-693-6315	<a href="mailto:rsmeliterailer@hotmail.com">rsmeliterailer@hotmail.com</a>

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Don't forget to visit [WWW.RSME.ORG](http://WWW.RSME.ORG) for more information and additional content!

(Any submissions, comments, or corrections can be emailed to the editor at [tweetiebird94@yahoo.com](mailto:tweetiebird94@yahoo.com) or see me directly at a club function. You may also mail the submission to the club address C/O Newsletter submission: RSME P.O. Box 13011 Reading, PA 19612)