



## TWO BELLS

The occasional newsletter of the  
Operations Department of the  
Pennsylvania Trolley Museum

August 2010

<http://ptmops.org>

Operations Schedule  
Museum Calendar  
Operating Policies & Procedures  
Operating Orders  
Operations Department Forms



DFCramer-photo

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Please join me in welcoming  
two new Instructors  
to the department:

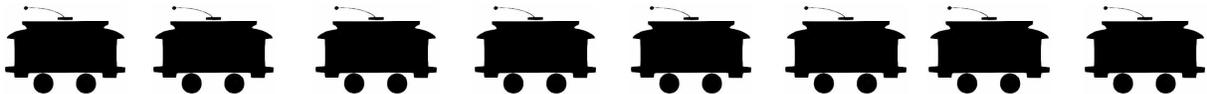
Doug Kirkpatrick  
Bruce Wells

## 2010 Requalification

You should send back the ANSWER SHEET and CONTACT INFORMATION SHEET as soon as possible. If you are required to submit a visual acuity form, send that along in the envelope provided.

Take the instruction sheets for 4398 and 1758, punch them with a three hole punch and place them in your OPERATORS MANUAL at the end of the Operation of Cars section. Bring the manual with you when you come to qualify on the cars. Please realize that both of the cars are still undergoing testing and may not be available. You want to make sure there will be an Instructor available and the cars you wish to qualify on can actually get out onto the railroad.

Our goal is to qualify as many Operators as possible before the end of the season. If you do not qualify this year, you will be qualified when we go back to group instruction for the 2011 Operating Season. We do appreciate your patience and enthusiasm for these projects, but please realize the volunteers in the shop are doing everything they can to make sure the cars operate in a safe and consistent manner.



### 600 VOLTS

Our museum utilizes 600 volts, more or less, of Direct Current in several capacities. The most obvious use to an operator is to run the cars and throw the electric switches. **WE MUST INSIST THAT YOU HAVE ONE HAND/ARM COMPLETELY FREE OF METAL JEWELRY.** Our cars were designed in a different era and are safe as long as you know where the voltage is exposed and respect it. Examples: Turning off heaters in cars throws an arc and you should only use the non-metal hand/arm to do that. Throwing knife switches in cars throws an arc and there again, only use the non-metal hand/arm to do that. Do not grab poles while throwing any switch in any car. PCC 2711 has a battery switch that requires caution. The black switch box at the end of the yard throws an arc.

**Be aware of where you are putting your hands at all times!**

Keep the tracks clean in the barn, so you do not lose rail contact and create a hazardous issue when you leave the car.

**Shield your eyes anytime you are opening or closing  
an exposed electrical contact.**

Treat our overhead with the same respect. Know where your pole is and where it will arc on the wire. Go slowly through overhead frogs and contactors with the **POWER OFF.**

## Washington County Fair

Fair Week is August 14-21, 2010 and we hope you have a great experience during the busiest week of the year at the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum. We also hope you and all the visitors to central Washington County have a safe event. Operators must remain vigilant at all points along the line; especially at loading points and crossing the highway.

We utilize personnel on the ground during evening operations and the car crew must coordinate very carefully with those on the ground handling passengers or dealing with fairgoers crossing the trolley tracks, either on foot or by vehicle. Do not sound your gong until you are actually ready to depart and coordinate with the ground personnel before you do so.

As you can see in this image from 2008, the crossing at Fairgrounds Siding gets very busy. These folks are not used to looking to streetcars or having someone blocking their way. They want to get to the fair or get to their car! The operator must maintain visual contact with the ground person to make sure we continue to operate in a safe manner.



In this picture it is obvious the pick-up truck ran the flashing lights. Start your crossing horn signal sooner and make each long a little longer. Be prepared to stop and watch for traffic stopped on the tracks.

Watch for people walking the tracks. Remember, most of the visi-

tors to the fair have no experience with railroads or rail vehicles. They are distracted by the traffic, looking for a place to park and a myriad collection of fair activities other than us. Be vigilant, safe and communicate with your fellow crew members, on the car and on the ground. Have a great day at the fair!

## Fair Week and Crossing Main Street

A Nachod based system to turn the Main Street crossing signals on and off is now in operation. The crossing signals are turned on and off by the trolley pole passing a contactor. A car outbound from Richfol to Fairgrounds will turn the crossing signals on when crossing the contactor that is located just beyond the sidewalk at the outbound end of the Richfol platform. When passing this point, look for the LUNAR WHITE crossing signal indicator near the crossing to go on and the signals to be flashing. A outbound car will turn the crossing signals off when crossing the contactor located on the outbound side of Main Street.

A car inbound from Fairgrounds to Richfol will turn the crossing signals on when crossing the contactor that is located at the inbound Nachod signal between Fairgrounds and Main Street. When passing this point, look for the LUNAR WHITE crossing signal indicator near the crossing to go on and the signals to be flashing. A car inbound will turn the crossing signals off when crossing the contactor located on the inbound side of Main Street.

### NOTE THIS SECTION FOR EVENING OPERATION

This paragraph applies to operating two or more cars in the same direction.

A second outbound car CANNOT LEAVE RICHFOL PLATFORM until the preceding car has passed through Main Street and the crossing lights have turned off.

A second inbound car CANNOT PASS BEYOND THE INBOUND NACHOD SIGNAL (between Fairgrounds platform and Main Street) until the preceding car has passed through Main Street and the crossing lights have turned off.

When short turning a car on the inbound side of Fairgrounds platform, DO NOT PROCEED PAST THE INBOUND NACHOD SIGNAL (between Fairgrounds platform and Main Street); otherwise the car will turn on the crossing signals. If the signals are turned on, the car must proceed through Main Street to Richfol platform before the car can be reversed and returned to Fairgrounds platform.

If a car leaves Richfol and turns on the signals, this car must proceed through Main Street and past the inbound Nachod signal before this car can be reversed and returned to Richfol.

**The mechanism does not count cars. A car crossing the ON contactor turns the signals on and a car crossing the OFF contactor turns the signals off without regard to whether or not there is a following car.**



# ABC

Always Be Careful

