



October 2019

<https://pa-trolley.org/operations-department>

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County Fair 2019 Tom Pawlesh photo

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Keep PTM Beautiful

Kevin Zebley-Operations Manager

Calling on all operators and volunteers to help keep PTM beautiful! It takes the contributions of every one of us to preserve PTM and show our guests that it is as great a destination as we already know it is. If you see something that is out of place, please take care of it or bring it to the attention of someone who can. If you see a full trash can, please empty it. If a car is dirty, please sweep it out. If there is old food in the fridge, please throw it away. It takes just small efforts from all of us to keep PTM clean, orderly and attractive.

On that note, we are implementing a policy that the events room fridge must be emptied each night. We all have good intentions of leaving food for the next crew, but more often than not it just goes bad. You are still welcome to use the fridge for your lunch; we just ask that you take everything home with you at the end of the night. Remember, there is also a fridge in the shop parts room for volunteer use. Our pride in PTM shows in the things we do to take good care of everything. If we all do our part, it is an easy job.

Return Operator Training

Saturday March 14, 2020

Sunday March 15, 2020

Friday March 20, 2020

Saturday March 21, 2020

Look for registration materials in
February Two Bells

New Operator Training

Saturday & Sunday

April 18-19 & April 25-26, 2020

Registration materials will be in
Trolley Fare and available from
the Volunteer Coordinator

Education Update

Sarah Lerch-Museum Educator

Thank you all very much for your time, dedication, and hard work you've put into making this summer season a success. On behalf of the staff, I greatly appreciate and value the work you do, both in the public eye and behind-the-scenes, every day.

We had a successful summer and are looking forward to a busy fall. The fall season brings about our family-friendly seasonal events, but also an influx of field trips. We see a lot of preschool and young school age students coming in October for fall fun! If anyone is interested in operating for field trips now or in the future, please let me know. Note that field trip operators are not required to give group tours. You are welcome to work directly with the students or simply operate, both duties are extremely helpful.

I reside in the third cubicle from the Education Room in the office. If you have any questions, comments, or needs, you are more than welcome to stop by my desk and check in. I can be reached at education@patrolley.org or 724-884-0285

Here are some of the Educator's job responsibilities and current projects:

Educational programs (field trips, groups, outreach, classroom programs, Scouts, etc.): research, development, and facilitation; schedule groups and serve as their primary contact

Exhibits (design, research, development, installation): serve as point person with Carnegie Science Center regarding new exhibits

Assist with public programs and special events

Schedule and provide Washington County Courthouse Tours.



New Instructors Named

Operations Manager Kevin Zebley has named Jonathan Muse and David George to the team of Instructors. Both have spent time this season working as Dispatchers for special events and are a welcome addition to the team.

Instructors must have a minimum of 5 years of operating experience. The Operations Manager is responsible for selecting and or removing individuals from the list.

Congratulations to Jonathan and Dave!

Exhibit Note

Sarah Lerch-Museum Educator

Magic Lantern (exhibit company) installed three video kiosks in the TDB on Wednesday, September 25. They are short 1 1/2 – 2 minutes videos that use photographs and video clips to explore topics relating to the Trolley Era. These exhibits are intended to augment the self-guide experience (during special events, etc.) and are an example of future exhibit plans. If you have a chance, stop in the TDB and take a look. Any comments or feedback let me know!

Out of the Mud: From Horsepower to the Electric Age

Location: Horsecar

The Heyday of the Trolleys

Location: Jersey Shore car/Toonerville Trolley

The End of an Era?

Location: near the Johnstown Car

The videos will be muted during regular tours as to not be a noise distraction from the tour guide. We hope to have the videos available on the operations webpage as a resource by mid-October.

Please note that the kiosks are plugged in to the wall outlets using extension cords. Carrie and I ran a cord under the horsecar and Jersey Shore car since they do not regularly move. The kiosks are moveable with locking/unlocking wheels so they can be moved as needed. Please let me know any feedback about the exhibits or their locations.



Volunteer Recognition Update

Thanks to all of you who sent in your volunteer history. We have over 25 volunteers with more than 25 years of service including at least 5 with over 50 years. PTM is a great place to volunteer! The information is now with Kaylee Horvat, Volunteer Coordinator and she is investigating options for pins designating various levels of volunteerism that will be presented next year. She is also collecting information from those volunteers who are not part of the Operations Department. If you know a longtime volunteer in that category, have them contact Kaylee.

Meet the Current Instruction Team

Instructors serve at the pleasure of the Operations Manager



Bruce Wells (90) started volunteering at the museum in 1965. He was named an Instructor by Walt Pilof in 2010.



Bob Jordan (96) qualified as an operator in 1965 and is currently the longest serving Instructor.



Chris Golofski (103) started volunteering at the museum in the mid 1960's and then came back in 2016 after retiring from the Port Authority. He was named an Instructor by Kevin Zebley in 2018.



Dennis Cramer (618) started operating at the museum in 1995 and was named an Instructor by Ray Windle in 1999.



Jeff King (917) started volunteering in 1994. He became an operator in 2000, was named an Instructor in 2011 and then again by Kevin Zebley in 2018.



Kevin Zebley (978) started volunteering in 1995. He became an operator in 2000 and became the Operations Manager in 2017.



Jonathan Muse (1330) started operating at the museum in 2007 and was named an Instructor by Kevin Zebley in 2019.



Laura Wells (1399) started volunteering at the museum at a very early age and became an operator in 2007. She was named an Instructor by Kevin Zebley in 2017.



Alex Bruchac (1473) started operating at the museum in 2010 and was named an Instructor by Kevin Zebley in 2018.



David George (1548) started operating at the museum in 2014 and was named an Instructor by Kevin Zebley in 2019.



David Moffett (1983) started operating at the museum in 2014 and was named an Instructor by Kevin Zebley in 2017.

Thank You Dave & Walt



Longtime Instructor David J Carpenter (512) has decided to retire. Dave came to PTM in 1988. The department was led by Rick Hannegan at that time and Bob Jordan was Dave's first instructor. Dave was named an instructor in 1991 and went on to serve with Operations Managers Ray Windle, Tim Jones, Walt Pilof, Dennis Cramer, Chris Walker and Kevin Zebley. Dave was named Chief Instructor by Ray Windle, a new position in the department and served in that capacity for many years.

Dave was instrumental in developing a strong training program and devoted many hours behind the scenes. Dave also served as a member of the Board of Trustees from the late '90's until 2006. He was incredibly generous with his donation of time and money. He had an infectious smile, was genuinely enthusiastic and had many great memories of electric traction during his lifetime. One of my great pleasures was having dinner with him after a long day of training and listening to his adventures.

Dave lives outside of Cleveland with his wife Nancy and is keeping busy running his outdoor live steam railroad with a locomotive that he built from scratch. I am sure he would love to hear from you.

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Former Operations Manager, Walt Pilof (1079) has decided to retire from the Instruction Team due to his increased involvement with wide variety of projects at the museum. Walt came to PTM in 2002, was named an Instructor by Ray Windle and became Operations Manager in 2008. He served through the end of 2010 and remained an active Instructor until this year. Walt was instrumental in beginning the development of uniform car descriptions and concise documentation.

On a personal note, Walt named me as Assistant Operations Manager in 2008, beginning a 12 year run of producing Two Bells, an increased leadership role and a lasting friendship.

Walt lives nearby with his wife Judy and both remain actively involved in the museum. Make sure to say hello and thank you when you see him around the museum. He does a lot of work behind the scenes that will ensure the future of the museum.