

**MTTV Meeting**  
**Museum of Transportation**  
**January 28, 2012**

Neil opened the meeting at 2:35 PM

**In attendance:**

Neil Norkaitis	Jon Marx	Bob Leight	Chuck Potratz
Al Weber	Walter Henkel	Andy Sisk	Bill Triplett
Charlie Jones	Bob O'Neill	Carl Horn	Calvin Blanksteen
Noel Moss	Kelvin Wilke	Steve Binning	George Nolte
Ron Gawedzinski	Bill Heger	Alan Feldmeier	Steve Siegerist
Ron Nelson	June Schaefer	Wallace Dittrich	

Guests: Dolph Kraus, MOT Miniature Train Captain  
Kennard "Ken" Jones, Retired St. Louis Streetcar (PCC) and Bus Operator

**Report by Charlie:**

**Thanks to all the dedicated operators who made the 2011 season a big success!** In spite of some blazing hot days and a few stormy ones, museum guests enjoyed great service with only a few cancellations. Eight of our operators worked 15 or more shifts during the 2011 season. Of these, six worked 20 or more shifts. Two of them worked more than 25 shifts: Ron Nelson 27! And, **Walter Henkel, an incredible 46!** Judging by our donations, we had many pleased patrons which means that all of you made them feel good about riding our three cars!

Our Monthly Newsletter, "**MTTV News Loop**" will be continued in 2012. Pictures or other Input from MTTV members is needed and appreciated.

2012 shift scheduling will be about the same as 2011. **Trolley operations will be scheduled on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, beginning on Saturday, March 31st.** Additional shifts on holidays or for special groups will be arranged as needed.

**Training dates:**

Our spring training for streetcar operators will be:  
Thu, Fri, Sat, March 15, 16, 17, and, Thursday, March 22, and Saturday, March 24. Training schedule choices will be sent out sometime soon.

**Fund Raising Auctions:** Last year, I had some small success in auctioning a few things to raise money for MTTV projects. If you'd like to donate something to be auctioned this way, I'll be glad to handle the communications for it.



*(At the end of the meeting, Ron Nelson donated a Kenyon Kenlite oil lamp, a type once used for railroad signaling and as a road danger lamp.)*

**MTTV shirts, caps, etc:** We've not had much discussion about this recently. However, a couple of our members have some ideas that I'll explore this spring.

**MTTV Roster:** Members were asked to review the latest roster to verify that their contact information is correct.

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**Report by Neil:**

**Financial report for 2011:**

Neil went over the numbers for 2011 compared to previous years. It was a good year. Income exceeded expenses, so, we're still financially stable. Farebox and other donations reached an all-time high. The trolley line extension will use a lot of our funds in 2012. So will the PCC restoration.

**Changes in Training:** 1.) Training will be streamlined by using an abbreviated version of the training for the senior operators who are known to be proficient in the operation of the cars. 2.) Operators who don't operate certain cars will not need to train on those cars. 3.) People who do restoration work only will not need to do "on the tracks" training.

**Car #10:** The brake valves on #10 Car have been sent to a commercial shop to be repaired professionally since we did not do a very good job on them last year. #10 will not be in service until these components are received back.

**Ride Program:** Our role in ticket sales is not yet clear. We're waiting for updated information from TMA.

**Fence by the Snowplow:** No materials are available yet. Neil will continue his efforts to get this done to ensure safe passage around the loop.

**Track Extension:** Grading is done. Ballast is there. There is a lot of track bending to be done. Progress is being made!

**Illinois Terminal Sign:** It's up and done. The neon problem on one side has been fixed. The 'on' switch is missing. A solution should be found soon.

**Brochures:** Last year, the cost to print them was \$600. It appears that the brochures had little effect on farebox donations in 2011. Something different and cheaper is needed. Andy Sisk, Noel Moss, Calvin Blanksteen, and Steve Binning have agreed to be the "New Brochure Committee" to study the problem and recommend a solution.

**Future Meeting Time and Location:** Members in attendance agreed that Saturday afternoon around 2:30 works well. So, we'll plan to do it again in 2013.

**Topics from the Floor:** Steve Binning said that the MTTV public website might be improved by adding "Car Running Today" information. There was general agreement on this. Someone asked about the lack of signs directing the public to the train ride. Since the new Visitor Center opens soon, there should be a number of changes in signs as well as other things.

Adjourned at 3:30 PM

Charlie Jones  
MTTV Scheduler