

CONTACT

Ray Grabowski, Jr.

Lake Shore Railway Historical Society
31 Wall Street
North, East, PA 16428

814-873-0679
lsrhs31@live.com
www.grape-track.org



LAKE SHORE RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission Awards Keystone Preservation Grant to Lake Shore Railway Historical Society

North East, PA. May 16, 2013 —The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission (PHMC) has awarded a \$5,000 Keystone Historic Preservation Grant to Lake Shore Railway Historical Society. PHMC awarded 29 grants selected from 70 eligible applications. Grant amounts ranged from \$5,000 to \$25,000 and require a 50/50 cash match. Grants were awarded through a competitive selection process.

PHMS funding supports projects that identify, preserve, promote and protect historic and archaeological resources in Pennsylvania for both the benefit of the public and the revitalization of communities.

Lake Shore Railway Historical Society's Keystone Historic Preservation Grant project is to structurally and historically evaluate the Society's 1869 wooden Freight House and to develop an appropriate, professional plan to Restore/Adaptively Re-Use the National Register of Historic Places Eligible building as a Toy Train/Model Train Museum and as an 1900 era working Freight House exhibit hall.

"Early in the Society's existence, the Freight House was looked on with trepidation, ...what would we do with it? ...how can we fix it?" said Society President Ray Grabowski, Jr. "That trepidation gave way to dreaming and planning, and today, thanks to the PHMC Keystone Preservation Program, the dream and the plan can make a giant step forward." Lake Shore Railway Historical Society has partnered with Kidder Wachter Architecture & Design of Erie, PA, and Stone Consulting of Warren, PA, to both evaluate the building and develop professional plans to see the dream of the publicly accessible museum addition come to life.

The non-profit, all volunteer Lake Shore Railway Historical Society has operated the Lake Shore Railway Museum in North East, PA, since 1970.

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