





Gauge 1 Live Steam Railroad

Kick-off Meeting

Saturday, February 12, 2022

Welcome



Bob Koury

President, Friends of Auburn Heights
General Manager, Auburn Valley Railroad

Steam Team Anniversary



Auburn Heights



FAH Mission

To educate the public firsthand about an American way of life that flourished at the dawn of the automotive age, preserve the technology of historic steam transportation, and serve as advocate for Auburn Valley State Park

FAH Staff

- Susan Randolph
Executive Director
- Allison Schell
Director of Public Programs



FAH Membership

- Benefits
- What it supports

FAH Membership Benefits

- Early-bird registration for the annual Egg Hunt, with 50% off tickets for members based on membership level
- Free Rides Ticket Admission at all Steamin' **Events**
- Free admission to **the museum's weekly open days and Auburn Heights After Hours**
- *Auburn Heights Herald*, our seasonal print newsletter, with articles on local history, member activities and more
- Monthly e-News, with updates on activities and reminiscences from Tom Marshall & Events and Happenings email
- 10% discount in the Museum Gift Shop

FAH Membership Levels

\$40 INDIVIDUAL	Full membership benefits for one
\$50 DUAL	Full membership benefits for two adults
\$75 FAMILY	Full membership benefits for two adults and up to four minor children (great for grandparents!)
\$30 VOLUNTEER	Family-level benefits for volunteers who logged 25+ hours in prior calendar year (free Parks passes to those logging 100+ hours)

Yorklyn Valley Railroad



Mike Gates

General Manager, Yorklyn Valley Railroad



FULL STEAM AHEAD

GAUGE 1 LIVE STEAM RAILROAD

Coming soon to Auburn Heights

 **Marshall Steam Museum**
at Auburn Heights
3000 Creek Road, Hockessin, Delaware
302-239-2385 | AuburnHeights.org

Yorklyn Valley Railroad (YVRR)

- Outdoor Gauge 1 (1:32 scale, 45 mm gauge) elevated railroad

YVRR Mission

To provide a convenient location to operate Gauge 1 model trains as a way to preserve and share the history of **Delaware's live steam railroads and the industries of the Red Clay Valley** at the turn of the 20th century

What has been done so far?

- DE State Parks approval
- Layout plan
- Budget
- Online outreach (Facebook, FAH Gauge 1 web page)
- In-person promotion (Cabin Fever Expo)
- Draft Operations Handbook

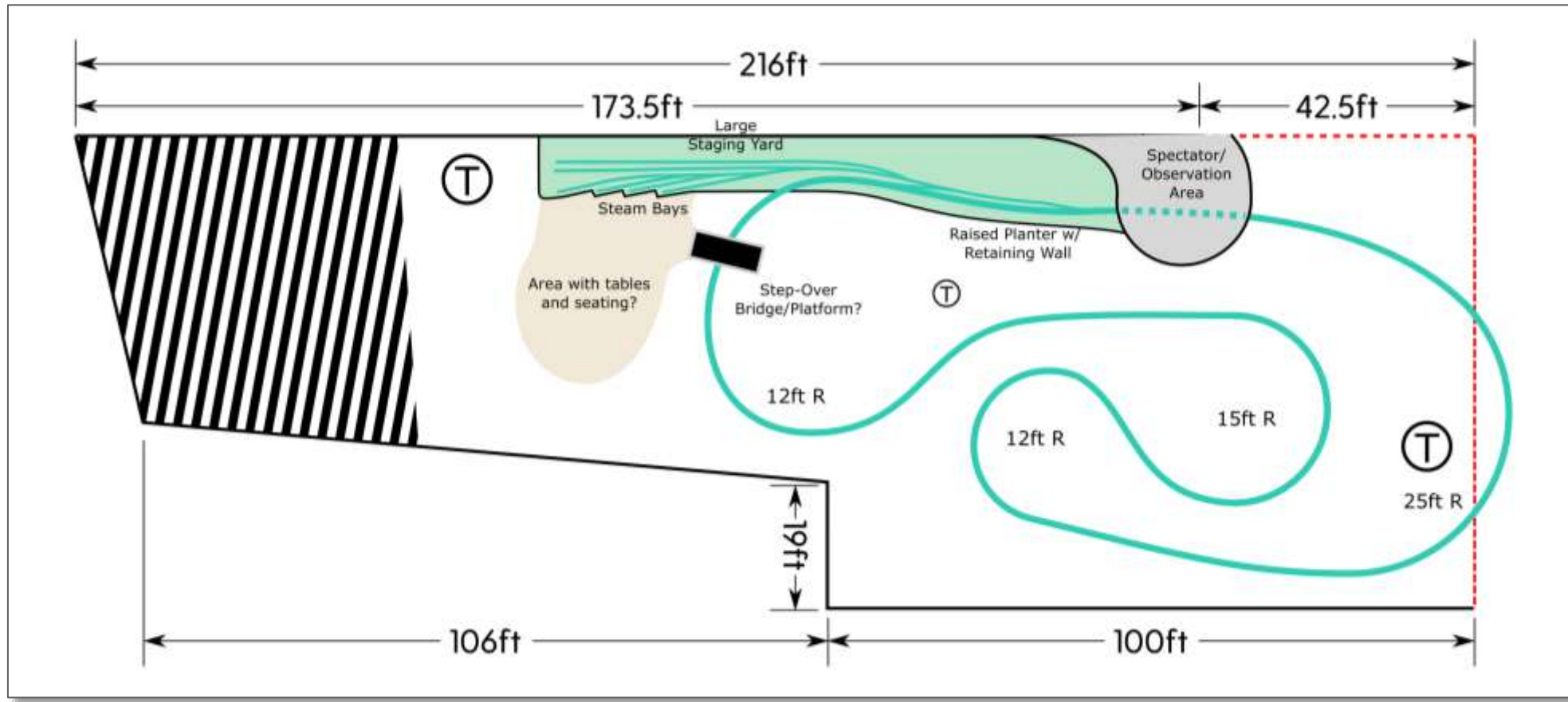
YVRR Membership

- Must be 18 years or older
- Maintain active FAH membership (any level)
- Pay \$25 Annual Maintenance Fee
- Participate in at least 4 FAH events (log 25 service hours)
- Have a love for steam technology!

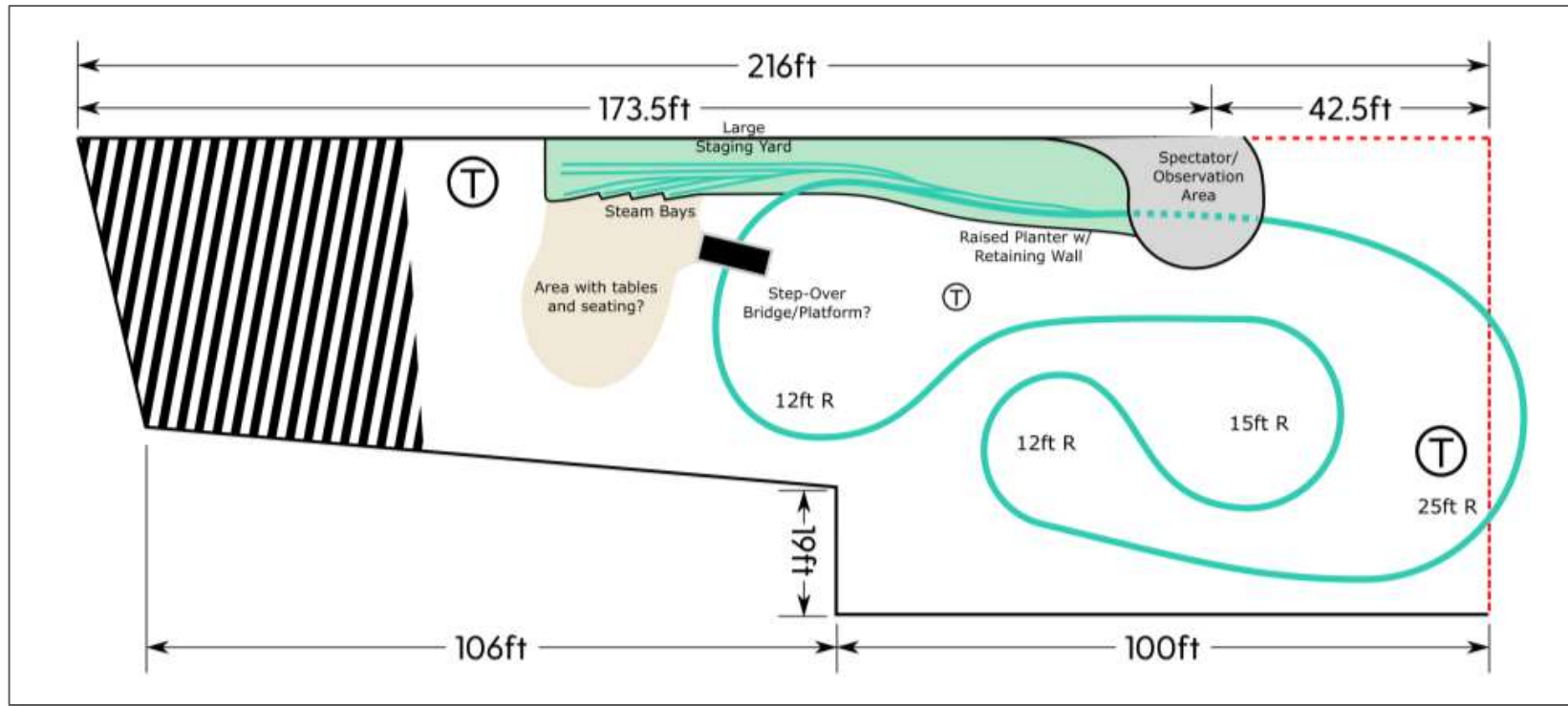
Phase 1: Site Prep & Base Layout



Phase 1b: Base Layout



Layout plan is not final and subject to change



Layout plan is not final and subject to change

- Double Mainline
- Code 250 Nickel Silver track
- Inside loop to not contain points, swinging stubs
- Inside loop to eventually be wired for electrics

Phase 2: Long-Range Vision

- Raised planter section (opportunity to model local industries that were fixtures of the Red Clay Valley)
 - Will have a need for skilled modelers & gardeners
- Signage & historical imagery

Budget

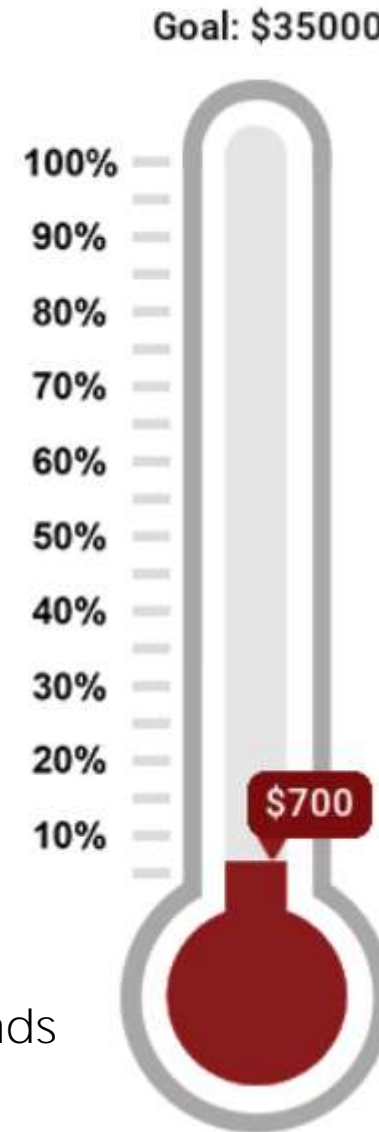
- Phase 1a: \$5,000 (retaining wall & site clearing)
- Phase 1b: \$30,000 (basic structure)
- Phase 2: \$10,000 (signage, landscaping, modeling)
\$45,000

Challenge Gift

First \$5,000 raised will be matched dollar for dollar

Where we are now!

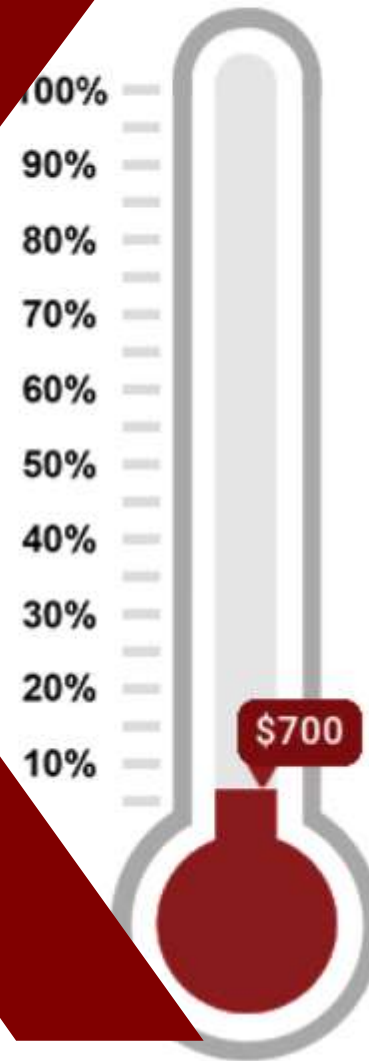
\$350 in donations, \$350 matching funds



Where we are now!

\$350 donations, \$350 matching fu

Goal: \$35000



Where we are now!

\$1,700

(\$850 + \$850 match)

~~\$350 in donations, \$350 matching funds~~



Preliminary Schedule

May 1, 2022	Train Day – Public Campaign Launch
May 19, 2022	Auburn Heights After Hours (Fundraising Opportunity)
July 1, 2022	Fundraising Target: \$5,000
Summer 2022	Clear site and install retaining wall (if \$5,000 raised)
Spring 2023	Begin construction (if \$30,000 raised)
Spring 2024	Begin Phase 2 (if additional \$10,000 raised)

What are the next steps?

- We need an identity
 - Name selection: Yorklyn Valley Railroad
 - Final Operations Handbook
 - Logo design

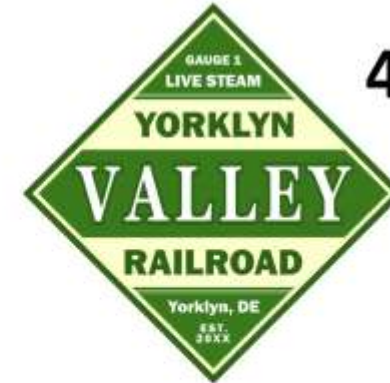
Help us select a logo

Visit AuburnHeights.org/Gauge1
for a link to vote!

1



4



2



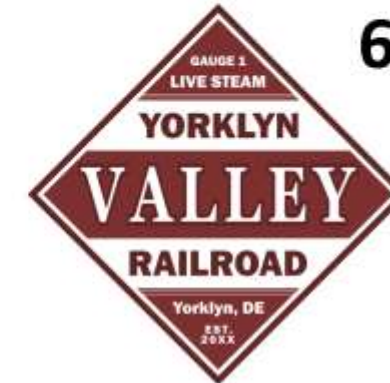
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3



6



What are the next steps?

- **WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!!**
 - To help with fundraising events and efforts
 - To spread the word
 - To assist with physical labor (building the retaining wall & decking structures once Phase 1a is funded)

Become a **Founding Member** to help make the vision possible!

What is a YVRR “Founding” Member?

FAH paid
membership
(any level)

+

\$50
(\$25 YVRR Annual Fee
+
\$25 Founding Donation)

+

25 hours
(of YVRR volunteer
service in 2022)

= Online recognition (YVRR Train of Fame), plaque on YVRR MOW shed, input into layout... bragging rights!

What is Train Day?

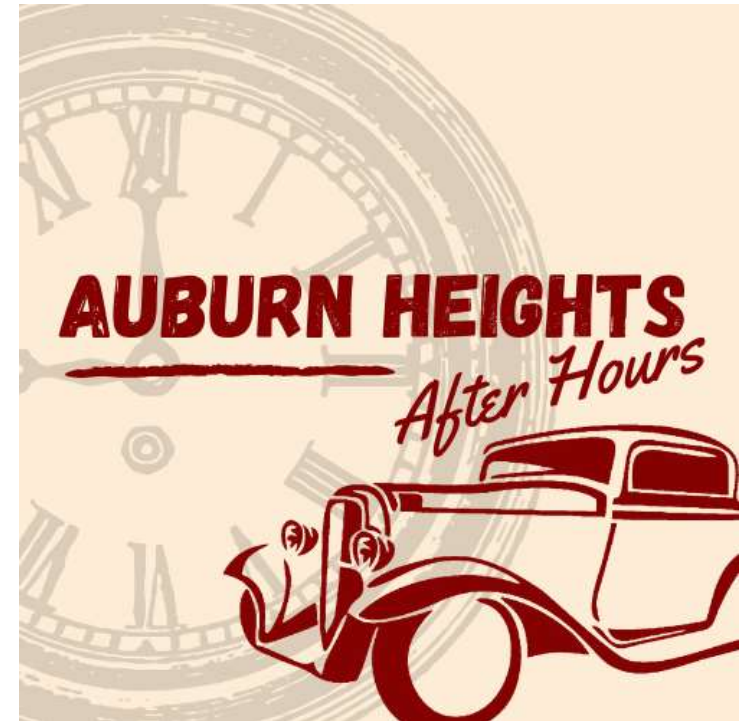
- Public launch of Gauge 1 campaign
- Aikenback Live Steamers (Mike Moore)
- Special 1/8th-Scale Exhibit (Russ Fox)
- Silent Auction benefitting YVRR
- Kids activities & special railroad exhibits

Train Day Volunteer Opportunities

- Silent Auction Assistant (to close out auction benefitting YVRR)
- Helper to hold a 50-50 raffle benefiting YVRR
- 1/8th-Scale Exhibit Attendants
- Parking & Crossing Help
- Train Activities Help

“After Hours” Opportunities

- Entry / admission
- Helper to hold a 50-50 raffle benefiting YVRR
- May 19: Railroad Dining Assistant



Other Activities

- Tabling/promotion at local events (such as the Greenberg Great Train & Toy Show at the Riverfront, Cabin Fever Expo)
- Tabling at our regular Steamin' Days
- Help with a monthly newsletter



Fundraising

- Monetary donations
- Donate items suitable for auctions & raffles
- Host your own mini fundraisers (sell baked goods, sell on eBay, Facebook Marketplace, yard sales)
- Purchase items benefitting YVRR from our Gift Shop
- Volunteer at our events

Reminder

The Friends of Auburn Heights is a 501(c)3 charitable organization, and we will provide a tax receipt acknowledging all monetary donations (as well as all pre-approved in-kind donations) for tax purposes.

Grants & Sponsor Opportunities

- Grants (foundations, railroad organizations)
- Business Sponsors (website & social media recognition)
- Commemorative Donations (In memory/honor of...)

Questions? Thoughts?

Gauge1@AuburnHeights.org

AuburnHeights.org/Gauge1

And now for the grand prize...



Thank you!

Gauge1@AuburnHeights.org

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