

NEXT MEETING:
December 18
 Member Slide Night
 Continued

Season's Greetings
 from your friends
 at the
 ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM



"ALL ABOARD FOR ROCHESTER!" Volunteer Frank Gough helps visitors board the Santa Train at the North Pole for the "long journey" back home to Rochester. Our popular Santa Trains operated December 6 and 20, and will be repeated next season. OTTO VONDRAK PHOTO

Season's Greetings

INSIDE

Santa Trains	2
NYC Flatcar Sold	3
New Security System . . .	3
Volunteer Coordinator . . .	3

I would like to thank all of our members and volunteers for supporting another successful museum operating season! We could not have done this with out all those who helped at both the New York Museum of Transportation and R&GV. This year we had a total 5,810 people come visit the museums, not including attendance from the Santa Trains/Trolleys that are running this month. A great showing for 2014!

Just because the operating season is over doesn't mean we stop working. We will be making preparations for next year's season this winter. Rules classes for all operating personnel will be announced soon. We'll be making changes to our 2015 event calendar as well. Repairs and maintenance of our vital equipment will be ongoing. Construction of our new open-air rider flatcar will begin this winter as well.

We are also still looking for people to help manage and lead departments and projects all around the museum. We are particularly interested in finding someone to lead the Buildings and Grounds Dept. as well as the Track Dept.

Maybe there's something you want to work on? Get in touch with Mark Wilczek or any of our officers. We'll steer you through the process to get your projects off the ground.

Remember we want you to be involved. Think something could be done better, or differently, please let us know! Step forward and get involved. You can call me at (716) 474-2833 or contact me by email at mdow@rochester.rr.com.

Best wishes for a Happy New Year.

—Mike Dow,
 Museum President



www.rgvrrm.org

MUSEUM OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Mike Dow
(716) 474-2833

VICE PRESIDENT

Joe Nugent

TREASURER

Dave Peet

RECORDING SECRETARY

Joel R. Shaw

CORRESPONDING SEC'Y

Don Wawrzyniak

TRUSTEES

Bob Burz
Peter Gores
Jim Johnson
David Scheiderich
Otto M. Vondrak
Mark Wilczek



The official publication of
the Rochester & Genesee Valley
Railroad Museum

Volume 58, No. 4

EDITOR

Otto M. Vondrak
ovondrak@yahoo.com

PRINTING AND MAILING

Dave Peet
Don Wawrzyniak

©2014 Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum. THE SEMAPHORE is published monthly by the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum. It is e-mailed free to all members. First-Class mailing is available for \$7.00 a year. Non-member mailed subscriptions are \$12.00 and run from January 1 to December 31. Member meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, and the Board of Trustees meets the first Thursday of each month. Any items related to the activities of the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum, and regional railroad history and current events are gladly accepted for publication.



All Aboard for the North Pole!

Trying something new, and building upon our Evergreen Express last year, we operated a series of Santa Trains and Santa Trolleys with the cooperation of the NYMT. Santa Trains departed Industry on Dec. 6 and 20, with trains departing on the hour at 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, and 8:00pm. Santa Trolleys departed from NYMT on Dec. 7 and 21 on a similar schedule. All trains were sold out, and volunteers from both museums contributed to the event's success. For more photos, visit facebook.com/rgvrrm.

PHOTOS BY JOE NUGENT AND OTTO VONDRAK



ANOTHER BY-LAWS change

Article II - Membership

AS-IS:

- 2. Acceptance of a membership application shall be by motion at a RGVRRM meeting.

PROPOSED:

- 2. Acceptance of a membership application shall be by motion at a RGVRRM **board** meeting.

This matter will be discussed and voted upon at our January 2015 meeting.

JOIN THE MUSEUM TODAY
Annual Dues: \$25.00
Rochester & Genesee Valley RR Museum
P.O. Box 23326
Rochester, NY 14692-3326

PLAN AHEAD: Next Meeting:
January 15
at 40&8 Club, Rochester, NY



MUSEUM CONTACT INFO

MUSEUM PRESIDENT

Mike Dow

(716) 474-2833 mdow@rochester.rr.com

MUSEUM MANGLER

Mark Wilczek

(585) 721-1377 mwilczek@rochester.rr.com

MOTIVE POWER SUPT.

Joe Nugent

(585) 944-1047 joe.r.nugent@gmail.com

OPERATIONS SUPT.

Jim Otto

(585) 755-8942 jamesotto@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Sam Rosenberg

ALC0251@frontiernet.net

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Jim Ziobro

(585) 889-5316 rgvrr.ziobro@yahoo.com



Tartaglia came to Industry on December 4 to pick up our NYC 40' flatcar and deliver it to the Mendon Foundation and their new park at Rochester Junction. The Mendon Foundation plans to restore and display the 1907-built flatcar for everyone to enjoy.

CHRISTMAS TRAINS

Our Santa Trains and Santa Trolleys were another sold-out special event success! Thanks to the cooperation of volunteers from NYMT and RGV, we transported more than 500 visitors to the North Pole to visit with Santa Claus! Santa Trains departed from Industry on Dec. 6 and 20, while Santa Trolleys departed from NYMT on Dec. 7 and 21. Midway Station was decorated for the season, and every visitor was issued a candy cane and a cup of hot chocolate. Children got their pictures taken with Santa, and we hosted many visitors who had never been to our museums before. We look forward to duplicating this success in the future.

—Otto M. Vondrak, Event Coordinator

NYC 40' FLATCAR TO NEW HOME

We recently sold our 40' New York Central flatcar to the Mendon Foundation, who will restore the car and put it on display in their park at the Rochester Junction station site with other railroad artifacts. This car was first acquired by our museum in 1974 from Kodak, but due to a lack of space it was not brought to Industry until 1981. Since that time there have been no attempts at restoration, and the 1907-built car was deemed too fragile to use on our museum railroad. A few years ago we were

approached by the Mendon Foundation, who expressed interest in preserving the car. An agreement was recently reached and on December 4 a truck from Tartaglia arrived to take the flatcar to its new home.

Some may see this as losing an opportunity, or a failure on our part. Nothing could be further from the truth! We did our job as museum and kept this peice of equipment from becoming paperclips. When an opportunity arose that was in the best interests of the flatcar, your board was willing to listen. Our job is not to hoard everything and do nothing with it. Our job is to do what is best for the preservation of a historical artifact. The future of NYC 497862 is now brighter than ever since our initial rescue 40 years ago.

—Mike Dow, President

NEW SECURITY SYSTEM

A new active security system has been installed at Industry to protect our depot as well as our vintage equipment. You will need to know how to arm and disarm the security system if you are unlocking and entering the depot or the ESE cars. Training is available. If you have any questions about the new security system,

please contact **Dave Shields** at marberth@aol.com or call (585) 315-0123.

—Dave Shields, Project Mgr.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Please welcome **Jim Ziobro** as our new Volunteer Coordinator! Jim will be the liaison between our membership chair Sam Rosenberg and our museum manager Mark Wilczek. If you'd like to get involved with your museum, then Jim will point you in the right direction. He can be reached by email at rgvrr.ziobro@yahoo.com or call (585) 889-5316.

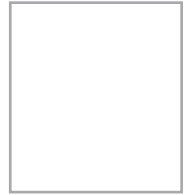
RGVRRM BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Trustees meeting has been rescheduled for **Thursday, January 8, 2015**. Meetings are held at the 40&8 Club, 933 University Ave., Rochester, starting at 6:00 p.m. To get an item added to the agenda, please contact president Mike Dow at (716) 474-2833 or mdow@rochester.rr.com. Remember that any members are welcome to attend, but to address the board, you must be on that meeting's agenda. **S**

WWW.RGVRRM.ORG



THE SEMAPHORE
 ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM
 P.O. BOX 23326
 ROCHESTER, NY 14692-3326



This Month's Meeting:

December 18

7:30 PM at 40&8 Club

933 University Ave., Rochester NY

Next Month's Meeting:

January 15

7:30 PM at 40&8 Club

933 University Ave., Rochester NY



Have you sent in your membership renewal yet?

— Like us on Facebook: [facebook.com/rgvrrm](https://www.facebook.com/rgvrrm) —



Santa Claus greets visitors to the "North Pole" on the evening of December 6, 2014. Trains departed from Industry and traveled to the "North Pole" at Midway so that riders could visit with Santa Claus, get a candy cane, and enjoy a cup of hot chocolate before boarding for the "long trip" home. All trains were sold out, and we look forward to duplicating this event in the future. OTTO VONDRAK PHOTO