



# The Semaphore

Newsletter of the Rochester NY Chapter,  
National Railway Historical Society

April 1997  
Volume 39, No. 8

## Program for April 17:

### Steam In China

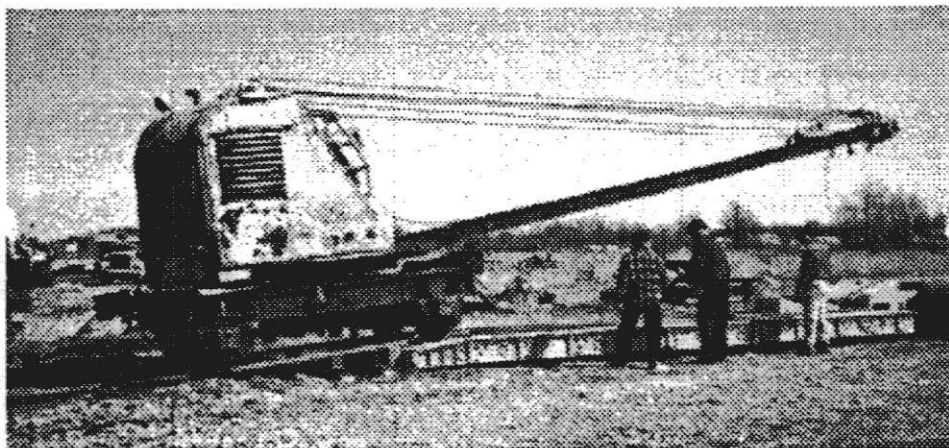
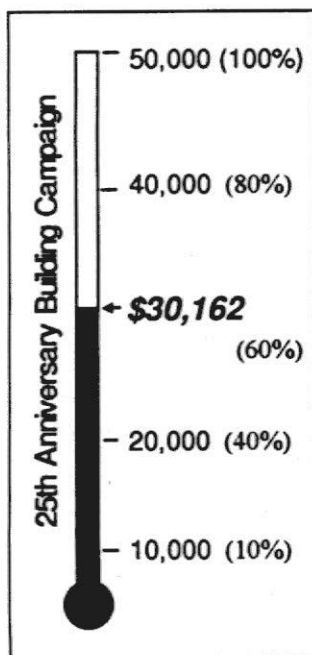
The next membership meeting will be held at the 40 & 8 Club on April 17th.

The program for April, "Steam in China" will be given by Chapter member Ron Amberger. Ron has travelled to China a number of times leading steam locomotive tours and in connection with the construction and delivery of the first "Susquehanna SY". Ron will present a video showing recent operations in China. The famous QJ 2-10-2, JS 2-8-2, SY 2-8-2 will be featured with a glimpse of locomotive shops where locomotives are repaired and built new. The video is mostly steam, but glimpses of diesels, electrics and passenger travel will be presented.

The presentation will be made with a video projector with stereo sound.

### Program Committee

Jack Matsik (Chairman)	442-6269
Bill Limburg	586-9470
Dan Cosgrove	352-6931
Dave Luca (Board liaison)	288-0318



The recently donated Burro rail-mounted crane being loaded onto low-boy trailer at Vitale Construction yard. Note specially built ramp. Looking on: 'Butts' Vitale, George Knab and Brian Pitt.

Bernie Cubitt photo

## BURRO CRANE ARRIVES!

by Joe Scanlon

Over literally the last decade, a number of chapter members have admired a Burro railroad crane which was parked inactive in a contractor's storage yard in Piffard, NY. On numerous occasions the company, Vitale Construction, was contacted by our members wishing to acquire the Burro for our museum operations.

At long last, Mr. Anthony "Butts" Vitale contacted member George Knab this spring and wished to discuss the Burro. In March our negotiations came to a climax with Mr. Vitale agreeing to donate the crane to the Rochester and Genesee Valley Railroad Museum. George Knab and Walter Morey designed a ramp and rail system to transfer and load the Burro onto a standard lowboy tractor trailer. Walter Morey enlisted the help of his son, Brian Morey, a certified welder. Together the three men spent a week fabricating the structural steel ramp system to move the Burro crane.

Next George Knab, Walt, Joe Scanlon and Art Mummery prepared the crane to be moved. Finally on Good Friday, March 28, 1997, Brian Pitt pulled his Mendon Enterprises tractor trailer into Vitale's yard in Piffard. The Knab - Morey ramp was bolted together and the Burro crane loaded onto the lowboy in an unbelievable one (1) hour's time! You'd think we do this kind of work every day of the week, to see how smoothly and professionally this move went!

Arriving at the depot, Brian Pitt piloted his tractor trailer astride the tracks east of the depot. Rand Warner, John Redden, Norm Shaddick and Neil Bellenger coupled up the RG&E locomotive and smoothly brought the Burro down to a permanent home on our museum rails. As usual with a new acquisition our members immediately inspected the unit, evaluated it and began making plans to bring the unit back to operational readiness. Like so many other pieces in our museum collection, you can watch this decrepit artifact come

Continued on Page \_\_, Column \_\_

**Chapter's Banquet: May 17**

**Guest Speaker: Greg Molloy,  
President of NRHS**

The Annual Banquet will be held again at Shannon's Pub (formerly Rochester Brew Pub) at 800 Jefferson Road, with festivities starting at 6 pm.

Greg Molloy, NRHS President, will present a slide show on the mountainous Gyaquil & Quito Railway located in Ecuador, South America. This railroad climbs 11,000 feet in the Andes Mountain.

See the enclosed flyer for complete details. Just in case you separate it from The Semaphore, here are the pertinent details: Tickets are \$18 for singles, \$35 for couples and includes deluxe buffet dinner and a new collector's mug. Order tickets by May 10 from Mike Byrne, 49 Weiland Woods Ln, Rochester, NY 14626. If you need more information, call Mike at 225-5659.

**Library Committee Reports**

**Charles Robinson assumes Library  
Committee Chair position**

Bonnie Glickman has asked to be relieved of chair-person position of the Library Committee, but will still remain on the committee. Charles Robinson, who is on the committee, has assumed the chair position. Charles has been working at NYMT on a regular basis cataloging the photographic collection. If you are interested in assisting, give Charles a call at 377-4245.

**A Call to Return Archival Material**

The Library Committee is now attempting to catch up on items borrowed from the archives that members may still have on loan. If you have such historical railroad articles that belong to the Rochester Chapter of the NRHS would you kindly call the Library Committee chairman, Charles Robinson (377-4245), so that we can properly record them. Unfortunately, some of the early loans have not been recorded. It is important to the Chapter that these very important historical materials be eventually returned to the archives so that all members can enjoy them and we can maintain the integrity of the collection. Your help would be appreciated.

**Track Car Training Schedule:**

**April 19:** 10 - 11:30; Class Room & 1 - 3; Hands On Training

**April 26:** 9-3; Hands On Training

**May 3:** 9 - 3; Hands On Training

All sessions are on Saturday and at the R&GV Museum. If above times are not convenient, please call Jeremy Tuke at 359-8944.

**100,000**

It's an interesting number that will soon take on a significance for Rochester Chapter members who enjoy machines that burn coal and boil water in order to turn energy into work. "So," you might ask, "what is the meaning of this particular number?"

Well, sometime this Summer, the Rochester Chapter's Steam Preservation Fund will pass the five-thousand dollar mark. We have raised this money through the donations of returnable cans and bottles. A little math will show that it takes twenty cans and bottles to generate every dollar for the fund. Multiply that twenty by the five-thousand dollars, and we get one-hundred thousand cans and bottles! Keep in mind that this number is not exactly accurate because this fund has accrued a little interest over the past several years. But it does give an idea of the amount of work involved over the past decade, or so, in collecting and returning these containers. And the folks who have done the great majority of that work are Janet Dittmer and Dave Luca, our First Lady and President.

If we are able to acquire a steam locomotive (a prospect that seems increasingly likely), it will be partly thanks to the containers that many people have left at the Museum, and the work of Janet and Dave. When you see them, be sure to thank them for their efforts.

**Depot Guides for May**

**Sunday, May 18:**

Ira Cohen (427-7122)

Frank Shepard (427-7105)

**Sunday, May 25:**

Rick Israelson (392-2667)

Gale Smith (544-6221)

**Membership Committee  
Report**

*Welcome to these New Members.*

James R. Stewart  
15 Valley View Dr.  
Penfield, NY 14526  
387-9185

David E. Hawver  
36 Bramblewood Ln.  
Rochester, NY 14624  
462-0429

Abby & John Rodgers  
(Daughter & Son of Alfred Rodgers)

Enclosed with this issue is the current membership list, which is issued every April to our Chapter members. Please retain for future reference.

**Your last Semaphore?**

It is if your address label is "hi-lighted".

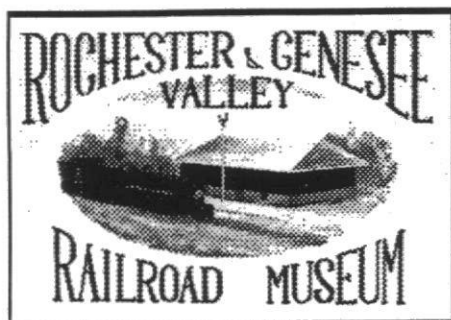
We really would like to have you as a member of the Chapter and NRHS. 1997 is promising to be a most exciting year! So won't you renew?

**Train & Bus Trip filling fast.**

Tickets for the bus trip to ride steam trains at Kane, PA (over the Kinzua Viaduct) and Steamtown are selling fast. The trip is scheduled to depart Rochester at 6:30 am, Saturday, June 21, stay overnight at Scranton at the former DL&W railroad station, now a Radisson Inn, and return to Rochester about 9 pm on Sunday, June 22.

Tickets are: \$170 per person, single occupancy; \$135 per person, double occupancy with NRHS members receiving a \$5 discount. Included in this price is bus, all rides, museum admission, hotel, Sat. lunch, drivers tip, and breakfast snacks on Sunday. Other meals, including Sunday dinner near Corning, are extra.

Make reservations with Mike Byrne, 49 Weiland Woods Lane, Rochester, NY 14626 with a check payable to: NRHS Rochester. Need more information? Contact Mike at 225-5659.



Rand Warner, Chairman, 425-8587

## General

**Evening work parties will be starting in April** with the advent of Daylight Saving Time.

Our 60th Anniversary Year should be a very interesting one in terms of acquisitions in all our functional areas. We have already started with heavy equipment: Northwest crane and now Burro crane. Stay tuned for more exciting news.

Watch for more info on our total calendar of 60th Anniversary Year events -- from Chris Hauf, Chairman.

## EKC #6 Loco Prime Mover Fund

We have considerable interest expressed in an opportunity to replace the bad prime mover in one end of our faithful 80-ton centercab GE switcher EKC #6.

The total project will be \$5,000-7,000 and to date we have about \$2,400 pledged. We have a good Cummins L-6-I prime mover located and inspected, out of state, thanks to Art Mummery.

If you can participate in the project to restore our mainstay R&GVRM loco back to its full 500 horsepower, please call John Redden or Rand Warner.

*Editor's Note: He apologies to Rand for dropping the "Plans" portion in the following write-ups to allow for the inclusion of the membership roster.*

## Motive Power

Supt. John Redden, 594-2227

**Progress:** A fund has been started for replacement of one bad engine in EKC #6 -- see above write-up.

Replacement batteries are being procured for RG&E #1941.

Steam, diesel, gasoline and electric motive power equipment is being investigated for acquisition.

The bad traction motor blower on one truck of LV #211 is going out for overhaul/estimating.

## Visitor Operations

Supt. Don Shilling, 381-3171

**Progress:** Display materials are being gathered for 1997 theme display in Depot south waiting room by Don Shilling & Co.

Dan Waterstraat is cranking out new placard stands for our outdoor exhibits.

Plans are underway for improvements and extensions to loading areas.

Don Shilling hosted Eastman Kodak commercial photographers at the Depot for some new photo art.

## Freight Equipment

Supt. Chris Hauf, 381-8583

**Progress:** The B&O bay window caboose has been turned on the NYMT loop to aid remaining prepping, priming, painting and lettering of exterior.

Arrangements are continuing on acquisition of reefer car and box car, through efforts of Chris Hauf and Rand Warner.

We are also investigating leads for a flat car to go with our newly acquired Burro locomotive crane.

## Passenger Equipment

Supt. Bob Miner, 671-3589

**Progress:** Gale Smith is continuing work on interior panels of Pine Falls.

Bernie Cubitt is continuing rivet work on exterior of Stillwell coach. Chuck Whalen is working on interior. Dave Behnke is making up new metal window sills and Bernie is installing them.

Chris Hauf is scoping out new ideas for displays in the DL&W baggage car.

## Maintenance-of-way Equipment

Supt. Norm Shaddick, 865-2773

**Progress:** Track motor car TC-2 is getting lots of attention for the coming season. The motor is out for overhaul or replacement.

Art Mummery and Bob Mader have specked out a 4-wheel drive set-up similar to TC-1, and Rand Warner has ordered parts. This 4-wheel drive arrangement will provide more traction for heavier loads, starting on hills, and wet rails.

The long awaited Burro locomotive crane has been donated and delivered -- see separate write-up.

Norm Shaddick has ordered and received new track car wheels for TC-2 and trailer car #2.

## Track & Right-of-way

Acting Supt. Rand Warner, 425-8587

**Progress:** Siding #7 is being rapidly made operational by track crew of John Redden, Dan Waterstraat, Dave Luca and Rand Warner.

A beautiful new oak track gage has been constructed by Dan Waterstraat just in time to support the new season.

Extended trackage layouts are being developed by Dave Luca, Walt Morey, Rand Warner and Charles Harshbarger.

Track parts data base being expanded by Rand Warner and Charles Harshbarger.

Plans are under way for mass production of panel track sections for new siding construction.

## Electrification

Facilitator: Rand Warner, 425-8587

**Progress:** Charles Lowe and Jim Dierks have arranged purchase of trolley ears for hanging overhead trolley wire.

Rand Warner and Jim Dierks have met with B.O.C.E.S. and Niagara Mohawk regarding availability, hookup and usage of three-phase power.

Rand Warner and Jim Dierks are continuing investigation of all options for portable tag power unit for 600v DC trolley power. >>>>



Neil Bellenger has relocated our auger truck to high and dry ground in anticipation of spring planting -- of poles, that is!

A baseline definition document has been prepared by Rand Warner.

Details on overhead wire parts and car parts were provided by Jim Dierks.

### Communications, Signals & Power

*Supt. Neil Bellenger, 359-9985*

**Progress:** Power wiring at NYMT barn has been reviewed by Jim Johnson and Charles Harshbarger.

Three-phase hookups to NYMT and R&GVRM have been reviewed with Niagara Mohawk by Rand Warner.

Work on signal relay boxes has been continued by Neil Bellenger, Jim Johnson and Mike Dow.

Additional conduit capacity has been added to Depot basement to support signals and communication lines. Thanks to Jim Johnson and Charles Harshbarger.

Dick Holbert is inspecting all radio equipment for 1997 season usage.

### Buildings & Grounds

*Supt. Dave Luca, 288-0318*

**Progress:** Thanks to Bob Mader, Bernie Cubitt, Lynn Heintz and Walter Morey for more information on new, used and scratch built building opportunities.

Bill Chapin, Dee Mowers, Charles Harshbarger & Co. are preparing the next three bad cement apron blocks for removal in front of the Depot. Then we can make another new concrete pour, resulting in much improved safety and appearance.

Steel plates are being used to cover and reinforce broken areas in loading platforms resulting from trolley moves. Wood will be replaced after remaining moves are complete.

### Save this Date: May 17

May 17 is the date of our  
Annual Banquet.

### Thanks to ...

**Jim Johnson** for PA system components.

**Charles Harshbarger** for telephone system components.

**Tony Leib** for transfer files, welding tanks cart, stationery and office supplies, and two drawer file cabinet.

**Dan Waterstraat** for new home made track gage.

**John Weber and Charles Harshbarger** for offer to back stop our EKC #6 prime mover effort.

**John Weber** for offer of (use of) good wye level for surveying.

**Rand Warner** for electrification and signalling reference books, and donation of wood chipper.

### Wanted

- ☐ Good set of freight trucks.
- ☐ Diesel generator set 250-500kw.
- ☐ Rail bonds #4-0 or larger.
- ☐ Feeder wire #4-0 or larger.
- ☐ Gage rods single or double ended.
- ☐ Crushed stone or gravel for parking lot areas.
- ☐ Wood utility poles 35ft long or longer.
- ☐ Good running small 4-cylinder gas engine with clutch and transmission 3-speed or 4-speed.
- ☐ Good roll off frame for our 10-wheel Mack diesel truck so we can put several bodies on it.
- ☐ Blower impeller for Wayne wood chipper.

### OUR VERSATILE RAND!

Did you see the picture of Rand Warner in the *Democrat & Chronicle* several Sundays ago?

Besides running his consulting business, and spending 'oodles' of time for the Chapter, he finds time to repair bicycles to give to the needy! This is one of his church activities besides helping with their food program.

Rand reports that the article brought forth a 'flood' of bicycles for this attention.

### Burro Crane *(Continued from Page 1)*

back to life and become a valuable addition to our historic fleet!

Our sincere thanks to all our members who helped make this event happen, along with Mr. Brian Morey and his expert welding and Brian Pitt and Mendon Enterprises.

Our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Anthony "Butts" Vitale for making sure that this crane finally got to become part of our historic collection!

#### Added notes by Rand Warner:

It is a Burro Model 30, with gas engine drive, mounted on a 4-wheel single truck, and has a capacity of 7.5 tons. The prime mover is not stuck, so we're hoping to hear it run soon

Thanks to George Knab, Joe Scanlon, Art Mummery, Walt Morey, and Rand Warner for investigation, and preparation for transport by Mendon Enterprises low-boy trailer.

On Saturday, March 29, we had a beehive of activity on the Burro including George Knab, Charles Harshbarger, Bob Mader, Dick Bean, Steve Huse, Rand Warner, Dick Holbert, Chris Hau-sler and Norm Shaddick.

The Knab and Morey team also made up a new heavy tow bar to replace the one damaged in moving in the Iowa trolleys. This new ramp and tow bar will surely get more use before this year is over.

#### "Trains", May issue ...

... Both NYMT & R&GV RR Museum are listed in special insert: "1997 Guide to Recreational Railroading".

... Under "Preservation Points", page 103, you'll find a picture of Car 168 taken by Charles Lowe with article about NYMT acquisition of Cars 161 & 168.

#### Central NY Rail Conference: May 2

A full-day conference on ways to strengthen passenger and freight railroads in central New York state. Fee \$25. Send to: Carolyn King, SMT Council, 100 Clinton Sq., 126 N. Salina St., Suite 100, Syracuse, NY 13202.

**A Video Review****D.W. Griffith Collection**

A Video Tape from Video Rails

Reviewed by William K. Heron

As railroad tapes go, this one is something quite different. The very highly regarded pioneer movie maker D. W. Griffith used trains in a number of his movies. Many other movie makers back in the early days of the business also did so. It has been said that this practice reflected the great interest in and fascination with trains then current among the general public. One could ponder as to what it signifies that the last great movie about railroading was Cecil B. DeMille's "Union Pacific", produced shortly after WWII.

This very interesting tape shows three short Griffith movies in their entirety plus a few clips from a fourth. All, of course, are in black-and-white and are silent. Typical of the time, the "acting" is stylized and exaggerated. But that is part of the charm. Another characteristic is that one never has any doubt as to who are the villains and who are the heroes; no confusing subtleties here!

The first film is "A Romance of the Rails". As in the other two films, the essence of the plot is boy and girl like one another, there is trouble, the good side prevails and boy and girl are ready for the altar. Railroad-wise this film shows a branch line, an interesting tricycle rail scooter operated by "arm-strong" power, a steam locomotive, (unfortunately the wheel arrangement can not be determined), and a short string of wooden sided cars.

The second film is "The Lonedale Operator". It was produced in 1911 and features A T & SF #4, a Baldwin 4-4-0 built in 1888. The girl seems to be filling in for her father, a station operator, when two villains sneak off an arriving train with intentions of stealing a money bag. After telegraphing for help, the brave girl staves them until help arrives via #4. One of her rescuers is the engineer of #4, previously established as the girl's romantic interest.

Last is "The Girl and Her Trust", a Biograph production from 1911. Inter-

estingly, singly, the "girl" seems to be an operator at a small station. It surprised me that a female would be allowed to do that in 1911. The star of the show is A T & SF #802, a 2-8-0. While the freight agent takes a break, two persons identified as "tramps" enter the station and try to get to the girl who has the key to the strong box. She, however, thwarts their dastardly efforts, so they run off with the box as well as the girl who has pursued them. The

tramps try to make their escape on a hand car, but the girl has telegraphed for help and, after picking up the freight agent, #802 speeds after the hand car. A successful denouement ends the film.

This tape is lots of fun and nice change of pace to show to people who are not particularly interested in trains. Of course a rail fan would like more time spent on trains, but in this case I guess we must be glad for what we do have.

**Round and About**

The Lancaster Chapter, NRHS, is sponsoring a Panama Canal Adventure: 12 days (Oct. 22 through Nov. 2) on board The Crown Majesty. Special rail excursions are being planned along with the normal 'tourist' activities. The announcement noted the New York Times in the November 10, 1996 issue reported that the canal may close to all ships after 1999. (Editor: There was a recent announcement that a company is planning constructing a railroad across Central America.)

Prices range from \$1,599 to \$2,049 from Lancaster (substantially below brochure prices). Deadline is June 15. For information, write: Lancaster Chapter, NRHS, 72 Stuart Run Road, Quarryville, PA 17560; phone: 717-786-7932 or 717-299-6405.

The Tennessee Valley Railroad has published their flyer for their 1997 trips. I counted 20 specials, plus daily operations between April and October.

Information from: TVRM, 4119 Cromwell Road, Chattanooga, TN 37421-2119 or call 423-894-8028.

**Lockport Show: April 26 & 27**

The 11th Annual "Railroad Showcase" show at the Kenan Arena in Lockport, NY is set for Saturday and Sunday, April 26 & 27. This show is cosponsored by the Niagara Frontier Chapter, NRHS and NOME (Niagara Orleans Model Engineers).

**Buffalo's Central Terminal May be saved**

The NYC's Central Terminal, a marvel

of Art Deco architecture, was recently in the news. It is projected that it will cost \$55 million to restore the complex for light industrial use. To secure the building for future restoration would cost \$4.5 million (\$3 million alone to remove asbestos). The 'best' news is that it would cost \$16 million to tear it down! (Source: *The Empire State Express*, Niagara Frontier Chapter, NRHS newsletter, April, 1997).

**East Rochester Plans Trip**

At the Edgerton Train Show, there was a notice on the board that East Rochester 100th anniversary committee is anticipating chartering an Amtrak train from East Rochester to Albany and back. The approximate cost is \$100. For information, call the Village Hall at East Rochester, 586-3533.

**"The Little Railroads"**

On Sunday, March 30, the *Democrat & Chronicle* featured the ten local short line railroads in the "Business" section.

The principal one covered was the Livonia, Avon and Lakeville. Others were: The Rochester Southern, The Arcade & Attica, The Danville & Mount Morris, The Finger Lakes, The Genesee & Wyoming, The Ontario Central, The Ontario Midland, The Depew Lancaster and Western, and The Fall Road Railroads. Do you know where each one is located?

*An Interview:***Chris Hauf****Place of birth and early residence**

I was born in Teaneck, New Jersey on June 29, 1971 and lived from the time I was 1 year old in Upper Montclair, NJ. I am currently 25 years of age.

**Education**

I attended Montclair public school until going to Rochester Institute of Technology in the fall of 1989. I graduated in the spring of 1993 with my Bachelor of Science degree in Imaging Science and in the spring of 1995 with my Master of Science degree in Color Science.

**Occupation**

I am a Color Scientist with the Eastman Kodak Company in their Systems Platform Center Advanced Development Group. I have been with Kodak for over 3 years as both a co-op student and for the past year and a half as a full time employee.

**Moved to the Rochester area**

I moved to the Rochester area in September, 1989 to go to RIT. I became a permanent New York resident last July with the purchase of my house in Pittsford, NY.

**Early interest in railroads**

I always had an interest in and a love of trains as a child and my parents always took my sister and I to different railroad attractions. One of my favorite memories was in the summer of 1976 when my Dad grabbed my sister and I and took off in the family car. The Erie's



**This Month's Mystery Photo.** This one was submitted by Dan Cosgrove and is in Monroe County, but where? Answer on Page 7.

Greenwood Lake Division which is now NJ Transit ran right through Montclair. The American Freedom Train with ex-Reading 2101 was on a ferry move and came whistling through town. My Dad managed to get us to a grade crossing just in time to watch the big Northern and the Freedom Train coming rolling through town at speed. I would see the train 2 days later parked in Morristown, NJ, but seeing the train that day still stays with me. Might be why Reading's T-1 Northern's are my favorite steam locomotive!

**Current interest in railroads**

My current interest and first love is steam. With my father, I have ridden around the Northeast behind a number of large and small steam locomotives and have logged the most miles behind ex-Reading T-1 #2102. It excites me to no end with the proposition that our museum may be getting steam soon. My next love has become railroad preservation. It allows me to relive the grand past of railroads in some small way and is very satisfying. Plus, I have met so many great people! As for railroads, I have grown an interest in the Erie Railroad from my work in our Erie caboose #C254, the Lehigh Valley, the

Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh, and the New York, Susquehanna & Western. But, just about every railroad past and present has something of interest to me! I also greatly enjoy railroad photography and especially night photography. I am always looking for people to go out and do a little railfanning with. Although I have been in Rochester for almost 7 years, I must admit I have seen and photographed very little of the railroad action around Rochester & western New York and would like to change that. There seems to be an awful lot of railroad action around these here parts and most of it is still new to me.

**When did I become a member of the NRHS**

I joined the Tri-State Chapter of the NRHS in New Jersey in 1987. I also joined the Jersey Central Chapter of the NRHS in New Jersey in 1988. I joined the Rochester Chapter in the fall of 1989 and dropped my memberships in Tri-State and Jersey Central in 1991.

**Past Chapter Activities**

Led the team to restore our 1946 Erie Railroad caboose inside and out. Worked in all facets of our museum

*(Continued on Page 7)*



## National NRHS News

**Elections and Appointments:** All seven incumbent officers were reelected for 1997 as well as 15 Regional Vice Presidents. Clement Heilen was elected Sunshine Region VP to fill a retirement. Dr. Willis A. Cude was appointed Director of Chapter Development and Edward D. Thronton as the Associate Director.

### VP Hodges advances to National Secretary Position

Bruce Hodges, our Regional Vice President, is stepping up! Bruce has been appointed as interim National Secretary and all correspondence should be directed to him instead of the retiring Dave Ackerman. Dave will devote his new freedom towards Ontario & Western Chapter's extensive archival collection, and remain as National Director to that chapter.

**Convention News:** Charlotte (1996) presented a \$4,000 check to National as its initial share of the Convention surplus.

**Chapter News:** Perryville Chapter in Perryville, MD was granted a charter, bringing us to a record 174 chapters. Central New York Chapter and Midwest Chapter were awarded 50th Anniversary commemorative certificates; New Orleans Chapter and Tampa Bay Chapter received 25 year certificates.

### Graffiti painters create havoc for freight shippers

Conrail Police Department is requesting the public for help in apprehending 'taggers'. When taggers cover all or part of the car number, DOT information and/or testing data, they effectively make it a violation of federal regulations to move the rail car. Recently, one shipper had to repaint 15 to 18 rail cars at a cost of \$1500 each. If you see a tagger in operation, or even see spray paint cans along the tracks which might contain fingerprints, all Conrail Police at 1-800-272-0911. (From NRHS News)

### NRHS Dates to Remember:

1997

**June 25-29:** National Convention - Salt Lake City, UT

Registration packets were mailed. If you have not received yours and wish to register and attend, contact:

1997 Convention Committee  
Promontory Chapter, NRHS  
1965 W. Lindsay Drive  
Taylorsville, UT 84119

or phone (801) 355-5871 between 9 AM and 1 PM Mountain Time. Trip tickets are selling fast.

**Oct. 2:** 62nd Anniversary, NRHS

**Nov. 7-9:** Fall Board of Directors Meeting - Dearborn, MI

**The Library at NRHS** is no longer the Library of American Transportation; they are the NRHS Library. Earl Finkbinder and Hugh Gibb are no longer associated with the Library. Chapter newsletters should be addressed to the NRHS Library, P.O. Box 58547, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8547.

### Special Note:

The Rochester Chapter will be celebrating its 60th Year in 1997! Any ideas to commemorate this milestone are welcome; contact Chapter President Dave Luca at 288-0318.

### "The Merger"

Mary Hamilton-Dann sent pages on Conrail, CSX Corp. and Norfolk Southern (NS) financials from the most recent *Value Line Investment Service*. All were dated March 21 but by different analysts. NS received a Timeliness rating of '1', the other two: '3'. NS is considered to be one of the better-run, more financially sound Class 1 railroads. A potential barrier to the merger may be the dissent of unionize workers.

CSX would gain Conrail's route from St. Louis to Boston and New York, passing through Cleveland, Buffalo and Albany.

NS would get the route running from New York, thru Binghamton to Buffalo connecting with NS there; also the Chicago, Pittsburg to Philadelphia via

### Hauf Interview (Cont'd from Page 6)

operation. Helped to create the R&GV RR/NYMT Souvenir Tour Guide

### Current Chapter Activities

Currently hold the Freight Superintendent position at our museum and oversee our collection of freight cars and cabooses. I am the Chapter's "official photographer" who is now getting some welcome help from our Editor and others! I have designed, created, implemented, and continue to grow our website on the Internet. I am active in our new Development committee and look forward to working towards even more growth at our museum in our second 25 years! Not to mention getting our restoration building built, so we have an indoor facility to work on our equipment year round.

### Other memberships

I am member of our sister museum, the New York Museum of Transportation. I am an active in the New York, Susquehanna & Western Technical & Historical Society. And I just joined the Illinois Railroad Museum after a wonderful visit to their site in Union, Ill.

### Other interesting tidbits

I am one of the youngest active Chapter members and continue to work on ways to attract more of my peers to join our Chapter and work at the museum. I am an active collector of railroad lanterns, switch keys, switch locks, and other misc. railroadiana. In Rochester, I am also a member of the Rochester Theater Organ Society and a member of the George Eastman House.

### Mystery Photo Identification

This photograph was taken at East Rochester's Washington Street crossing before the street underpass was constructed. The editor will guess that the train is eastbound, otherwise the 'piano works' would be visible on the left. Correct?

Photograph was submitted by Dan Cosgrove from his collection.

Cleveland, one of Conrail's busiest routes.

The Semaphore is published monthly by the Rochester, NY Chapter, National Railway Historical Society. It is mailed free to all Chapter members. Non-member's subscriptions are \$5.00 and run from January 1 to December 31. Chapter meetings are held the third Thursday and the Board of Directors meets the first Thursday of each month.

#### Rochester Chapter NRHS Officers:

*President:* Dave Luca  
*Vice President:* John Weber  
*Treasurer:* Ira Cohen  
*Recording Secretary:* Jeremy Tuke  
*Correspondence Sec.:* Don Shilling  
*National Director:* Bob Miner

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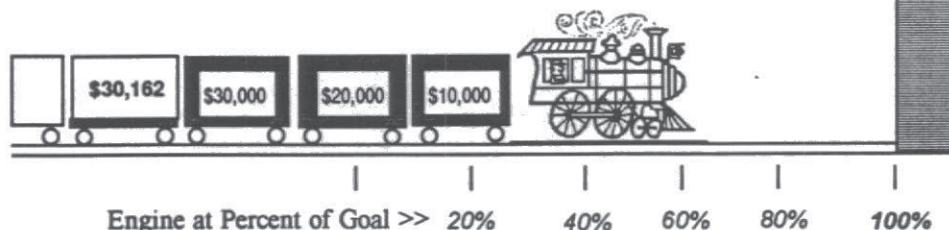
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<http://www.rochester.ny.us/railmuseum.html>

Contributions to **The Semaphore** are welcomed and encouraged from all readers. They should be mailed to: Gale E. Smith, 299 Seneca Park Avenue, Rochester, NY 14617-2433. Phone: (716) 544-6221. Contributors using a computer are asked to send their submissions on any MS-DOS diskette in ASCII format, as well as a printed copy. **Deadline: The first of each month.**

This new graphic, which replaces the 'Partners in Panels' one for the Stillwell Coach, represents the status of our Restoration Building Fund. It may change, as the present one is too difficult to update. The object is to have the engine enter the new building. Each car, when filled, represents \$10,000 in the fund.



## The Semaphore

Rochester Chapter

National Railway Historical Society

P.O. Box 664

Rochester, NY 14603

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#### Chapter Meeting & Program:

**"Steam in China"**

*by Ron Amberger*

8:00 PM, Apr. 17 1997

40 & 8 Club

933 University Ave.