

# The Semaphore

Newsletter of the Rochester NY Chapter, NRHS P.O. Box 23326, Rochester, NY 14692-3326; Published Monthly August 2001 Volume 43, No. 12

# Program for Aug. 16:

# Enjoying Our Railroad

Session No. 3

This is our last Chapter meeting at the Rochester & Genesee Valley RR Museum at the Depot on Route 251 for this year.

Again, we will enjoy the results of the tremendous amount of work and effort that our devoted volunteers have done during the past year.

What will be running at this meeting is dependent upon the weather and availability. At the July meeting, we rode the cabooses again. So you will have to come out for a first-hand look!

A brief business meeting will occur.

Start time: about 7 PM and continues till the last one leaves.

# Program Committee

Tom Forsyth (Chairman) 442-0125 Bill Limburg 586-9470 Dan Cosgrove 352-6931 Dave Luca (Board liaison) 288-0318

The Committee welcomes suggestions and ideas for future programs. Contact any of the Committee members.

> Library Hours 7:30 to 9:30 PM <u>Monday</u>, Aug.20 Library Phone: 872-4641

# Still Openings for Track Car Operators

Jeremy has Track Car Operators scheduled until September 9<sup>th</sup>. However, there are five slots left for the remainder of the season. If you want to operate, give Jeremy a call before August 11, when he leaves town.

If you are a certified TC operator, please sign up for a session or two. For weekends, c all Jeremy Tuke, 359-8944, <jnm2k@frontiernet.net>; for weekdays, call Dave Soble, 244-2117.

\*\* It's planned to have a Chapter representative on this ALCO program.

# ALCO Documentary WXXI-TV, Thursday, Aug 9, 9:30 PM & Saturday, Aug. 11, 5:30 PM

"The Iron Horse in Schenectady" is the title of a recent documentary celebrating 150 years of the American Locomotive Company in Schenectady. Historical research and interviews with former employees and their families are used to document this once leading manufacturer of locomotives between 1851 and 1969. \*\*

"George Eastman, An American Snapshot" precedes the ALCO program on the same dates: Aug. 9 at 8:00 and Aug. 11 at 2:30. This biography is told through the eyes of Mr. Eastman's business and personal secretary for 42 years, Alice K. Whitney Hutchison.

Program was filmed in Rochester at the George Eastman House, Eastman's estate and the Genesee Country Village &

# Diesel Days: Aug 18 & 19 Diesel Days "Train Crew" T-shirts are in!

Planning to be a part of the R&GV RR Museum or NYMT crew for Diesel Days this year? Do we have a T-shirt for you! Like last year, we have had new Train Crew T-shirts made up. This year's shirts feature a new drawing of Lehigh Valley Alco RS-3m on the back. The shirts are the same color as last year. So you can buy a new shirt this year or wear your shirt from last year. The goal is to have everyone volunteering for the event in a Diesel Days T-shirt so the public can easily identify the museum volunteers from the general public.

T-shirts are \$10.00 each with the net proceeds going to support the R&GV RR Museum Motive Power Department. Please see Chris Hauf at the August Chapter meeting or any Saturday work session prior to Diesel Days at the R&GV RR Museum if you would like a shirt. You can also call him at (716) 381-8583 or email him at <crhauf@frontiernet.net> if you want to reserve one and make other delivery arrangements. Quantities are limited.

Thanks and we look forward to seeing you out for another great Diesel Days weekend! CH

# **Cruise In To Webster**

Cruise in to Webster on Wednesday nights in your motor cycle, hot rod, muscle car, bicycle, antique car, winter beater, boat, airplane or whatever—**JUST GET THERE!** 

We have important work going on with our Excursion Trainset Cars—interior, exterior, running gear, etc. Bob Miner, Dave Luca and John Stewart will provide direction and expertise.

We are also doing track work to upgrade the storage siding we are using with new track materials and delivery provided by OMID RR, and with track tools and labor provided by R&GVRM, under the direction of Rand Warner.

Please make an effort to support these important activities for your Chapter. The Excursion Train operation is THE critical path item to our financial success for the Chapter.

As of this writing, our Gandy Dancers at Webster have included Bob Miner, Dale Hartnett, Rick Israelson, John Redden and Rand Warner. *RW* 

# Fall Foliage Tickets Sales Helpers Needed

We will be having a meeting on **Septem**ber 5, Wednesday at 7:00 PM at the Library in Webster for anyone who is interested in helping with ticket sales.

We need people to help with phone orders, ticket sales at the train, processing mailed-in orders, and general record keeping.

Please contact Elaine Redden at 716-388-9124, or e-mail at <ejredden@frontiernet.net>, if interested in helping.

If you cannot make the meeting, we JD

# Notice: Early Input Desired for September Issue

As this editor usually takes a week off to return to Ohio around Labor Day, which is September 3<sup>rd</sup>, input for the September issue should be in the editor's hand by <u>Saturday. August 25</u> including the Program!

# **Depot Tour Guides**

Here is the August and September Schedule for Tour Guides at the Depot. The hours are 11:30 AM to 5:00 PM on Sundays

August 5:

Jim East

Bill Cain

August 12:

Tom & Tony Way

August 19:

Darren Baun Ted Miller

August 26:

Dan Gottler

Tom McTighe

September 16:

Steve Oagley John Becker

September 23:

Alfred Olsen

September 30:

**Bob Achilles** 

## John Matsik

If you encounter a conflict, please trade with one of the other people listed here.

# Hats Off to Our Young Railfans and to Their Parents

This outreach program originated in 1999 by Dale Hartnett, has had very active participation, strong commitment of members, and continues to grow. We all are benefitting.

The original class of 1999 included Brett Hendershott, Nathan Dunn, Kevin Herzog, Doug Vereecke and Matt Stachura. All but Matt are currently active.

In the year 2000 we picked up Jesse Marks, Andrew Slominski and Mark Wieczorek. All three are currently active.

So far in 2001, we have added Michael Downes and Matt Glogowski.

Involved parents have included Mike Dunn, Tom Wereecke, Ron & Nancy Hendershott, Charlie Marks, Barbara Stachura, Joe and Linda Wieczorek, Tom Downes, Michelle Slominski, and Cathy Herzog.

We thank you all very much for all of your participation in this worthwhile activity. The fruits of your efforts and accomplishments are everywhere to be seen, from one end of our R&GVRM/NYMT complex to the other. We hope you all are enjoy >>>>

# Fall Foliage Info:

Here is the schedule for the upcoming Fall Foliage Train Rides between Sodus and Newark using the former Empire State Express coaches.

#### Dates:

Saturdays: Oct. 6 & 13

Sundays: Sept. 16, 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14, 21, 28

Overflow is Sat. Oct. 20 (not advertised)

Times: 11:30am and 2:15pm

Information call: 716-224-0581

### Special days:

**Grandparents Weekend**: Sept. 16 Grandparent 1/2 price with grandchild's ticket.

Special Family Fare day: Sept. 23 Kids are \$3.00

1940's Revisited: Sept. 30

Halloween Express: Oct. 28

**Prices:** adults \$10.00; kids (3-15 years old) \$6.00; under 3 are free if they sit on a lap.

For order forms: Send a self addressed, stamped envelope to:

NRHS Trip Information, PO Box 1161 Webster, NY 14580

# Membership Report

Beth Krueger, Chair Janet Dittmer, Assistant

## 2001 Membership Roster Attached

The 2001 Roster of the Rochester Chapter members is attached to this issue of *The Semaphore*.

Thanks to Dick Bean for getting a lot of the e-mail addresses together.

#### **Any Corrections?**

If any information is incorrect please either e-mail the correction to Janet at <daveluca@frontiernet.net> or mail to: 983 Winton Rd. N., Rochester, NY 14609. **NO** phone calls please!

If the mailing address on the newsletter is incorrect, please send the information to:

Dan Cosgrove, 48 Hillside Dr., Spencerport, NY 14559.

learning.

We look forward to continued and increasing participation and leadership in this program with our most important resou  $RW^{-}$  the youth of today!

# Library Report

#### Charles Robinson, Chairman

The library will be open Monday evening, August 20 between 7:30 and 9:30 PM for general use. Come out and see our collection of rail books, most of which circulate. We have an unusually good collection of railfan periodicals for those wishing to look up something on their favorite rail line.

The library staff has been busy working on the east side of the building. Thanks to Jerry Gillette, Bill Limburg, Steve Oagley and Bob Miner, with an occasional assist from Dave Luca, insulation has now been installed along the entire length of this side. Bill is now working on repairing the northeast side post that contained some rot. Next up is to install the nailer boards for mounting the siding. After that we put on the siding panels and paint them. That leaves a lot more to do, particularly on the cupolas. Thanks to Jerry the plywood on the front platform has been painted.

Gale Smith has been working on recording and placing new books in the book room. The new book shelves that Bill Limburg recently built are now being used; they are ideal for the oversized books.

Jerry Gillette has completed an inventory list that shows the location of our magazines on the shelves and the holdings. We will have it duplicated and available to members soon.

Be sure to visit the library on the evening

# Good Words from Jeremy ....

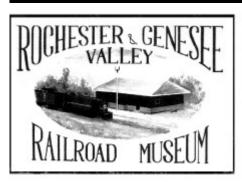
"Fall Foliage Trips are coming up and we have a LOT of work to do getting the trainset ready in Webster, so your help is need as both TC operators on Sundays as well as with FFT work, both on the trains and in preparation for the season.

"We need to be mindful that without FFT trips all of the things we do at the NRHS Museum including TC's can go away. It's the train rides that provide us the funding to keep the Industry Depot Museum operating.

If you can help there are always work parties on Wednesday nites out in Webster. contact John Stewart (687-9185) or Bob Miner (671-3589) if you'd like to help."

# Dinner Train Trip this year?

So far there hasn't been a volunteer to arrange for a trip to Wellsboro, PA to ride the Tioga Central Dinner train. For information, call John Redden at 388-9124 <ejredden@frontiernet.net>. John organized the last trip several years ago, and thanks to John and Jerry Bertoldo we had the whole train to ourselves on an extended trip.



Rand Warner, Director, 425-8587

# Speed Limits

Speed limits on our R&GVRM-to-NYMT connecting railway have always been 10 mph maximum; unless specifically posted slower, for yards and hills and sharp curves which are 5 mph.

These speed limits apply to ALL rail equipment: locomotives, trolleys, track cars, maintenance equipment, TrackMobiles, high rail equipment, etc.

The rationale for these speed limits is very simple: we have a very challenging track route; one of the most demanding museum routes in the Northeast.

Prudent speed limits were established to protect our passengers, volunteers, equipment and track structure.

The kinetic energy in any moving object goes up as the SQUARE of the speed – thus any kind of a mishap or even minor derailment rapidly escalates the probability of dangerous injuries or consequences as we increase track speed.

With many new operators on board now for track car, trains, trolleys, etc. we ALL need to be informed, proactive, and conscientious in our respect for proper speed as a very integral part of safety.

# Picture This ...

A two engined, steam powered freight train blasts out of the Depot, headed north up the hill towards NYMT. At the front, pulling, is our Vulcan #12, 0-4-T saddle tanker. At the rear, pushing, is our Heisler #1 0-4-0F. What a sight for sore eyes that would be!!

As the practicality of getting our two steam locos into the Resotration Building approaches, then the reality of a two-engined steam trains as above becomes a little closer. Let's all work together to make it happen!

# Welcome to Our Newest R&GV RM Volunteers

**Dave Rogers:** Dave, recently retired from Delphi, was recruited by his Dad, Cliff, to work with us on Subway Car #60, and is deep into the restoration effort since joining us. He has lots of capability in woodworking.

**David Dowden:** This Dave, another recent retiree from Delphi, is also working with us Tuesday afternoons on Subway Car #60. He was recruited by Dave Rogers, above. The two Daves used to work together and are long time friends. Dave has experience in many skill areas.

**Rick Guerin:** Rick has electrical experience and wants to help out on trouble shooting diesel locomotives. He also wants to help us with getting all our drawings and schematics into AUTO-CAD format and storage.

*Linda Guerin:* Linda, Rick's spouse, wants to get into restoration of all types of motive power and rolling stock. We certainly have unlimited "job opportunities" in this field of endeavor!

**Michael Root:** Mike, from Alstom Signal Division, is already deeply involved with Don Shilling on staffing and recruiting and scheduling our R&GV RM tour guides.

**David Titus:** Dave from Scottsville area, is a neighbor of our friend Wayne Morrison, and wants to get involved with our heavy equipment and trains.

**Del Jones:** Del's father worked on the Erie and got him interested in railroads. Del has background on Ford Model T's, and is already working with Larry Bocker on the Dansville & Mt. Morris Fairmont track car.

**Tom Rhouhash:** Tom is an experienced wood worker and also has access to a machine shop for custom parts work. He'd like to get involved with Bernie Cubitt on RL&B #206, for partitions and doors rework and recreation.

**Otto Vandrak:** Otto prepared the handout brochure for our recent "Trolleys Return to Rochester" Special Event, and participated heavily in the event. He wants to get involved with Gale Smith to work on our *Pine Falls* car.

**Drake Smith:** Drake, of Webster, is a new member and is already helping out with tour guiding at the Depot. He was a participant in "Trolleys Return to Rochester" Special Event.

## Annual Picnic: Saturday, September 8

# Steam Team

Ron Amberger, John Redden and Kevin Klees have disconnected the running boards and air compressor on the Heisler fireless #1, and with help from Art Mummery, the Austin-Western yard crane, and Rand Warner, all items are now off the locomotive.

John Redden and Rand Warner are doing a layout to figure lumber for the locomotive enclosure needed for lagging removal. Bob Miner is arranging for donated cull 2x4's to build the enclosure.

James Dean and Rand Warner are discussing the relocation of the Heisler loco from Track #6 to Track #7, by sliding it sideways on greased rails, pulled by a winch. We have moved cabooses this way.

Our lagging removal contractor has indicated to John Redden that we will not have to remove the cabs on either the Vulcan #12 loco, or Heisler #1 loco, in order to remove the old lagging. This will save us lots of work

We are still evaluating options and alternatives for charging the boiler on the Heisler fireless #1. We are looking into electric, propane, gas and diesel fueled steam generators and boilers.

# **Diesel Doings**

John Redden, Motive Power Supt.

#### RG&E #1941 GE, Neil Bellenger, Foreman

The 45-ton center cab is getting cab sheet metal repair from Neil Bellenger, and air brake system and piping repair from John Redden.

#### EKC #6 GE, Bob Miner, Foreman

In switching, maintenance-of-way and special event service.

#### Army #1843, Fairbanks-Morse, Norm Shaddick, Foreman

In switching and special event service. Norm is putting in lots of time on maintenance activities.

#### LV #211 RS-3m, Dick Holbert, Foreman

Not yet in service; awaiting air brake piping repairs. John Redden is bending up schedule 80 pipe and Dick is installing the pieces.

#### EKC #9 RS-1, Chris Hauf, Foreman

In switching and special event service. Chris has been doing scheduled maintenance.

#### NKP #79 S-4, John Redden, Foreman

In switching and special event service. All checked out.

### Army #1654 GE, Jeremy Tuke, Foreman

To be moved in from Pennsylvania, originating on a Class I carrier. Currently hung up in paperwork.

# Track Foremen/Section Foremen

The following individuals are taking responsibility for our R&GV RM and NYMT trackage:

- John Redden: Depot yard through Switch #6 at top of hill.
- **Jeremy Tuke:** All trackage in and around Restoration Building from Switch #6 on in.
- Rand Warner: Switch #6 to start of "S" curves.
- **Dave Luca:** "S" curves through loop switch at NYMT
- **Dale Hartnett:** Loop switch north through NYMT barn lead switch.
- **Mark Pappalardo:** From barn lead switch at NYMT and around south leg of loop back to loop switch.
- **Randy Bogucki:** NYMT barn tracks and passenger loading track.

We all work together on all the different areas, but each section foreman keeps a special eye on his assigned area to be alert for any problems or potential problems. The arrangement has been in place a couple years now and seems to be working very well. Our section foreman appreciate your support.

# Electrical Dept.

#### Neil Bellenger, Supt.

Expansion of our electrical utilities north from the Restoration Building is the priority this month.

Jim Johnson and Rand Warner laid out plans and preliminary stakes for a conduit trench northward to service outdoor power stanchions between Tracks #6 and #7.

Charles Harshbarger figured up the materials list, got Board approval for purchase, and procured and delivered the conduit and fittings.

Tom Tucker and Scott Gleason dug the trench the first 100 feet with our assorted heavy equipment.

Jim Johnson and Charlie Harshbarger assembled and laid the several conduits in the trench and up the stanchion posts.

Tom Tucker and Charles Harshbarger backfilled the trench and set the wood stanchion posts in concrete.

The job was completed over a Saturday/Sunday weekend by a very dedicated, capable and hard working project team.

Now we have to pull wires through the conduits, using supplies of wire already on

# Track Work & R.O.W.

Rand Warner, Acting Supt.

#### Switch Timbers Replace at NYMT

Mark Pappalardo, Randy Bogucki, Dale Hartnett and Rand Warner are replacing timbers at the barn lead switch and loading track switch, building on work started last year by the Young Railfans. This work is critical with the increased traffic of future trolley operations.

#### Pre-Staging Parts for Switch #8

John Redden, Jeremy Tuke and Rand Warner are rounding up and stockpiling steel and wood for Switch #8, to be installed at the same time as Switch #7, which is already in panel track sections.

# Panel Track North Out of Restoration Building

Under Joe Scanlon's direction, Tom Tucker, Scott Gleason, Dan Waterstraat & Co. have been grading north of the Restoration Building towards the location of future Switches #7 & #8.

Rand Warner ordered stone ballast brought in; Charles Harshbarger loaded it in Tom Webster's 12-wheel Mack DM monster dump truck, and Tom spread it in the newly graded area for Track #7 north out of the barn. Now we will start building track!!

Preliminary staking for utilities, etc. was provided by Rand Warner. Dave Luca and Jack Matsik laid out stakes for Switches #7 & #8. Dale Hartnett surveyed for grade & stakes.

By the time you read this, we expect to have about 100 feet of track installed north out of the barn. This track will allow us to move the BR&P caboose, PRR caboose, and possibly Subway Car #60 OUT of the barn for welding and cutting work, and also to permit moving the two steam locos INTO the barn for lagging removal.

# Thanks to ...

**Bill Vitale** of Geneseo NY for donating literally truckloads of tools, equipment, spare parts, etc. from the former Vitale Brothers Construction Co.

**Paul Henderson** for donation of Farmall Cub tractor and Woods mower, and to **Neil Bellenge**r for assistance with moving.

**Rand Warner** for tools, hardware, meters, solenoid, grinding wheels, cut-off wheels, lumber.

**Bob Mader** for use of double deck scaffolding.

**John Redden** for continual use of single axle trailer.

**Al Pastorell** for donation of assorted 2x4's, doors and building supplies.

# Heavy Equipment

Art Mummery, Supt..

#### International Gas Backhoe Tractor

Dan Waterstraat, Bob Mader and Dick Bean have gotten the unit running, and are now tweaking electrical, fuel and other systems to get a smooth operating machine. We are looking forward to use of this unit.

#### White Diesel 10-wheel Dump Truck

Joe Scanlon and Tom Tucker have this unit on the property and expect painting to start soon. This is a heavy duty work truck and should be moving fill very soon.

#### **Grove Yard Crane**

Dan Waterstraat is attacking the wiring rats nest of this unit. Art Mummery has had the engine running. It also needs some hydraulics attention. This rig has lots of potential on our many projects.

#### For Fork Lift

Art Mummery, Bob Miner and others have this unit back together and in service again. This machine is in use every day of every week that we have people working at the Museum on projects.

#### Army Dump Trucks

Art Mummery has pulled and fixed the hydraulic lift pump on one of our "Fred"/"Barney"/"Bertha" look alikes. Just in time for our big earth excavating jam session.

#### Allis-Chalmers HD-21 Dozer

This HUGE machine, with a blade almost 15 feet across at the bottom, ought to be able to move a mountain, literally. Thanks to Ted Strang for info, and to Luther Keyes for donation of this unit, which is in running condition, needing only minor repairs. Joe Scanlon, Art Mummery and Tom Tucker coordinated inspections and delivery.

**Raymond Dreimiller** for offer of piano for our RPO car or future combine.

**Tom Webster** for renting a neat chain saw tree trimmer, and for bringing out a large capacity Mack DM dump truck.

**Anna Grover** for making more of the late Sam Grover's collection available.

**George Lehman** for donation of a fine BR&P brakeman's lantern belonging to his grandfather.

**Dale Hartnett** for all the "amazing finds" he turns up out there in the bushes.

Luther Keyes of Rush, NY for donation of Allis Chambers HD-21 bull dozer in running condition. A very large machine we can surely use.

**Ted Strang** and **Rand Warner** for implementing the bulldozer donation.

# R&GV RR Museum "blitz project" creates big dividends on PC 18526

## by Chris Hauf

Continuing with the R&GV RR Museum's "blitz project" concept, a number of volunteers under the leadership of Freight Superintendent, Chris Hauf, restarted work on Penn Central Railroad transfer caboose (class N-11E) 18526 on July 21. The interior restoration has been nearly complete for two years leaving the exterior to be restored to complete the project. With needle scalers, angle grinders, and wire brushes in hand, the crew of volunteers including John Stewart, John Redden, Rand Warner, Chris Hauf, Dick Luchterhand, Jeremy Tuke, and others managed to get all of the paint off the west side of the car. Since the paint had failed in so many different spots, the decision was made to remove all of the paint instead of simply sanding out the bad spots. Care was taken to document any findings buried in or under the paint along with keeping paint samples.

That evening, Chris Hauf primed the west side of the car preparing it to receive a final coat of PC green.

With the momentum rolling, John Stewart donated a two day rental of a large, sand blast unit. On July 27th and 28th, the team of Chris Hauf, John Stewart and Jeremy Tuke each took turns at removing the rest of the paint from the caboose's ends and east side with additional touch up by new members, Charles Woolever and Drew Sauer. Chris Hauf ended the successful two days by



priming the newly cleaned steel Saturday evening. Thanks also needs to go out to Chapter member, Otto Vondrak, for lending his help to Chris Hauf to help prepare the necessary computer artwork for the lettering of the car.

Work remaining includes the clean up of the roof to prepare it for paint, the clean up of the undercarriage to prepare it for paint, a few small welding repairs, a good interior cleaning, a finish coat of PC green with yellow grab irons and black trucks, and new Penn Central lettering. No small task, but the goal is to have the caboose completely restored for the Chapter picnic on September 8<sup>th</sup> and maybe even for Diesel Days!

Help is still needed! The cost of the exterior restoration is going to top out around

\$2500, and the museum could use your help to offset the cost of the restoration. Any donations are welcome! Those who donate over \$25.00 will receive a free coffee mug featuring PC 18526 and for those who donate over \$100.00, they will receive a pair of coffee mugs and a special T-shirt featuring the caboose! For any single person willing to donate the entire \$2500.00 restoration cost, they will receive a custom made, limited edition, R&GV RR marked Adlake Kero brakeman's lantern!

Please send your donations to: PC 18526 Restoration, c/o Rochester Chapter NRHS, P.O. Box 23326, Rochester, NY 14692-3326. All donors will be sent acknowledgements of their donations for tax purposes.

# **Professional Painters**

## Tom Tucker

Tom is continuing his streak of one piece of construction equipment every weekend. The last one was Joe Scanlon's Bay City Model 20 backhoe shovel—with authentic silver roof, orange cab, and black boom and running gear. "What a Difference A Day Makes"...

#### Chris Hauf

Chris is completing exterior painting of the Penn-Central transfer caboose. A small army has been helping to scrape, grind, wire brush and prep the car. John Redden, Rand Warner, Jeremy Tuke, John Stewart, Chris.

Chris tried out a new demo sand blaster and it worked real fine. The car looks great in Penn-Central green.



*Above:* Tom Tucker applies a coat of silver paint for the window frames for the Bay City shovel. A picture of this shovel appears on Page 7.

*Right:* Chris Hauf is applying a coat of primer to the Penn-Central caboose. Yep, the same caboose as pictured above! Gale Smith photos



# Passenger Equipment

## Bob Miner, Supt.

#### DL&W Baggage Car, Chris Hauf, Foreman

Chris has finished the very fine timetable display boards, and has recently built nice replica wooden packing crates to add realism and at the same time provide needed storage space for equipment.

# Erie Stillwell Coach, Chuck Whalen, Foreman

Chuck has been continuing interior and exterior rehab, with help from Bob Miner. Chris Hauf has repainted the trucks and other underbody details black.

# **Pine Falls Sleeper-Lounge**, Gale Smith, Foreman

Gale has kept the car clean and orderly for all our season visitors. He continues to work on overhead light fixtures, and has started scraping interior body panels, prior to refinishing.

# Landscaping

#### Lawn Care

Bill Chapin, Jeff Carpenter and Dave Luca have been mowing our grounds and right-of-ways.

#### Shrubbery

Randy Bogucki and Tom Webster are mounting up an attack on over-hanging trees and encroaching shrubs and weeds along the trackage.

#### Weeds on R.O.W.

Ted Strang of NYMT has sprayed our main line connecting trackage, using the NYMT weed sprayer outfit.

#### Flowers

Jan Dittmer's assorted flowers have sprouted well along the track and at the Depot. Look for day lilies now. The daffodils and iris are gone by now. See what else you can recognize that Jan has been planting.

#### Equipment

Bob Mader has been working on repair of our John Deere tractor, mower outfit, also the International Cub Cadet.

Paul Henderson, Bob Mader, Rand Warner and George Bauerschmidt are moving in the Farmall Cub tractor mower donated by Paul, using John Redden's trusty trailer.

Dick Bean has rehabbed and repainted our Gravely walk-behind tractor and brush cutter mower, donated many long years ago.



Bob Miner has installed new floor runners in the hallway and kept the electrical systems in order.

(Interestingly, one of these two carpet runners has "legs"; it will creep at least a foot within two hours, mobilized by visitors feet!)

#### MU Power Car, Bob Miner, Foreman

Chris Hauf & Co. have buffed out the oxidized olive drab paint on a large portion of the car. What a huge improvement in the appearance of the car. Bob Miner and others are keeping the car clean for our many visitors. Bob is maintaining the electrical items.

#### Pennsy RPO Car, Chris Hauf, Foreman

Major attention has been given to rearranging all the interior areas; some for storage and some for non-storage. We may also be putting up some long linear workbench project areas in this car, temporarily.

# Railway Express Truck

We are continuing the search for replacement body and mechanical parts to restore our 1939 Ford V8-60 1-ton REA truck back to operation.

Dick Bean, Lynn Heintz and Rand Warner took a road trip to inspect a parts truck in Wayne County in the Spring.

Dick, Lynn, Bob Mader, John Redden and Art Mummery have all been looking for parts and parts trucks on the Internet, in junk yards and elsewhere.

We are looking for front fenders, grill, and possibly a hood, or a whole front clip assembly. We also need two replacement axles for the rear end. Axles for Ford 3/4 ton to 1-1/2 ton from 1937 to 1942 or later will fit.

This truck is complete, intact, and all in reasonably good shape for 60+ years old. It will make a great piece to use in conjunction with our Depot, parades, RPO cars, and Special Events.

Can you help us turn up the missing parts? Call Dick Bean (293-2131), Lynn Heintz (768-6984) or Rand Warner (425-5886).

# Construction

#### Joe Scanlon, Supt.

Joe has been giving plenty of thought to our upcoming major earth excavation project north and eastward from the Restoration Building. This project, involving excavation and hauling of many yards and tons of dirt, will provide many benefits:

1. Space for new yard tracks north of Restoration Building.

2. Fill for extending yard tracks south of Restoration Building.

3. Improvements to overall drainage system, in concert with our Master Drainage Plan.

Joe has also provided guidance and direction to our trenching, grading and other work north of the building so we do things right, and also in the right order.

Rearrangement, cleanup and grading of the area west of LA&L RR is continuing as time permits. We are working hard towards the weekend of Aug. 10-12 when the big Antique Construction Equipment Show is in Canadaigua.

Joe has recently engineered another major donation of construction and railroad tools, equipment, materials and supplies from Bill Vitale and VB Builders Corporation. More on this later. This is the second major batch of items through Bill and VB Corp. We sure appreciate the generosity.

# DUMP TRUCK ACQUIRED

#### By Joe Scanlon

In order to ensure that we have sufficient hauling capacity for our upcoming "BIG DIG" earthmoving project, the chapter took advantage of an opportunity to acquire a fully operational ten-wheel dump truck from VB Builders in Geneseo NY. Mr. Bill Vitale offered this truck to us at an extremely low price and we agreed to buy it.

What we got in the bargain is a 1968 White tandem axle dump truck with a 160 Cummins turbocharged diesel engine. The only thing that the truck needs to join our ready line is a set of batteries.

Member Tom Tucker has volunteered to "adopt" this truck. Look for a few changes to it later this year. In the

Remember the Annual Picnic on September 8 at the Depot starting at 1 PM.

See the flyer enclosed with this issue for details. If misplaced, call your reservation to Rand and Marge Warner at 425-8586.

# **CONSTRUCTION NEWS**

#### By Joe Scanlon

Our members have really gotten creative excavation this summer:

Dick Bean has finished refurbishing the chapter's GRAVELY tractor, complete with snow plow blade and rotary mower, delivered to the restoration building by Chuck Whalen.

Rick Israelson is patiently plugging away at the FWD snow blower truck and has the rear power unit ready to be removed. Rick won't rest until he has the truck moving under its own power.

Tom Tucker's grin was from ear to ear when he drove the ATC mini bulldozer out of the restoration building under its own power and began moving dirt with it. Tom also just finished a superb paint job on Joe Scanlon's BAY CITY Model 20 backhoe. Tom spent a lot of hours on this project and it shows!

Art Mummery has had his magic wrenches flying, with the FORD forklift sporting a new hydraulic pump, and the CATERPILLAR D7 replacement engine sitting on the shop floor next to the old engine, ready for accessory swaps and installation. The Army dump trucks are getting a lot of attention, with Art determined to have operational dump trucks lined up and ready to go for a planned BIG DIG in August being orchestrated by Scott Gleason.

Dan Waterstraat replaced battery cables, installed a new start switch and proceeded to fire up the GROVE hydraulic yard crane. It won't take much more to get this unit operational. Dan and Bob Mader have also been tinkering with the INTERNATIONAL-HARVESTER 3414 tractor-backhoe, and have that running as well!

Joe Scanlon and Rand Warner brought back truckloads of items donated to the museum by Mr. Bill Vitale of Geneseo.

Tom Webster purchased a MACK DM model tri-axle dump truck for use in our

efforts and had it delivered to the museum. Tom is determined to get the Manitou MACK air brake problem fixed and get that truck in use with a flatbed body.

Bernie Cubitt is making plans to letter the R&GV RM BLUE BIRD bus #1.

Charley Harshbarger has been wheeling the Diamond Reo Raider road tractor all around and up and down moving trailers in and out of tight spots, and making it look easy.

There's a lot of names and a lot of accomplishments—but there's still room for

# May I Introduce You To Alice? (ALLIS)

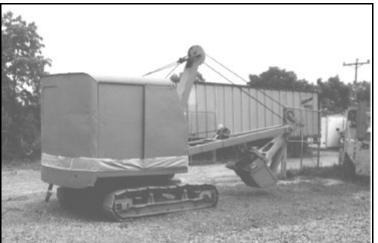
## By Joe Scanlon

Alice is a recent donation by Mr. Luther Keyes of Rush NY. Mr. Keyes owns a contracting firm and felt that Alice was too good to go under the scrapper's torch. Mr. Keyes was in contact with Ted Strang of the NYMT who passed the information along to Rand Warner, who contacted Joe Scanlon. Joe, Art Mummery and Tom Tucker inspected the machine. Mr. Keyes agreed to donate Alice to our museum.

One phone call to Robin Pitt at Mendon Enterprises and the move was scheduled. Since Luther Keyes yard is in Rush, we have made one of the shortest equipment moves in our history!

That's a good thing because Alice is no slouch. Alice is a 1953 Allis-Chalmers bulldozer. We may have bulldozers, but we have nothing that compares to Alice. Alice weighs 42 tons, and sports a bulldozer blade that is 14 feet 6 inches wide. Alice is equipped with a rear double drum power unit, which can be used to pull a pan scraper. The power train consists of a Detroit Diesel 6-110 engine coupled to a three-stage torque converter. Art Mummery will need to do a little work on the torque converter next winter before Alice starts moving dirt. Alice is parked in our upper equipment yard, and is a welcome addition to our collection.





The Bay City Model 20 shovel has received its coat of primer. Tom Tucker has applied masking tape in preparation for orange paint to the cab section.

Gale Smith photo

Rochester Chapter National Railway Historical Society **The Semaphore** P.O. Box 23326 Rochester, NY 14692-3326

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Chapter Meeting & Program:

Enjoying <u>Our</u> Railroad

Session No. 3 August 16, 2001

R&GVRM/Depot NYS Route 251 at Industry

**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.

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InterNet (World Wide Web) address: http://www.rochnrhs.org/ 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 or TXT format, as well as a printed copy. Deadline: First Day of Each Month. For September issue only: Saturday, August 25.

## Pouring the Restoration Facility Floor!

The Restoration Building is up and running! Now we need to provide it with a concrete floor. We raised the dust to finish the space. Now we've faced with dust all over the place. One hundred dollars will buy a batch of concrete. The estimate for the floor is \$25,000; we'll need 250 batches (!). Help "cement" together a great project. Maybe we'll even let you write your name and date in a slab! [Don Shilling]