



The Semaphore

Newsletter of the Rochester NY Chapter, NRHS
P.O. Box 23326, Rochester, NY 14692-3326; Published Monthly

February 2006
Volume 48, No. 6

Program for Feb. 16:

Mike's Photo Gallery

by Mike Roque'

The program will include a slide show and discussion of various modern railroad subjects from around Rochester, New York City, and beyond. Highlights include chasing a Livonia Avon & Lakeville train from Lakeville, NY to Genesee Junction and Brooks Avenue Yard, a look at the Lehigh Valley Historical Society and the Adirondack Scenic Railroad, and two historic Metro-North fan trips.

Mike is a member of the Chapter, the RIT Model Railroad Club (www.ritmrc.org), and a graduate of RIT (IT '04). A professional web developer, he maintains the Chapter, R&GVRRM and RITMRC web sites as well as R A I L R O A D . N E T (www.Railroad.net). He is originally from outside New York City, but he came to Rochester to attend RIT and

Future Programs

March 16: *Member's Slide Night*

April 20:

May 18:

June 11: *Annual Banquet*, Newport House

June 15, July 20 and August 17: All meetings and activities are at the Industry location.

Chapter Library

11 May Street, Webster (by OMID Tracks)

Winter Hours in Effect

Hours: 2:00 to 5:00 PM

Sunday, February 19, 2006

Library Phone: 872-4641

NRHS Chaper Election 2006

Candidates Urgently Needed for All Officers and two Trustee Positions

It is election time again, and this is a critical year for us. All officer positions and two trustee positions are up for election.

The officer positions include: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and National Director.

The incumbent President, Vice President and Treasurer will **not** be running for re-election at this time.

We are in need of individuals to help guide the chapter through the next stage of our life as an organization.

If you would like to be considered as a candidate, please contact me via email at: rgvrr@rochester.rr.com or mail to:

John Stewart
86 Bonnie Brae Ave.
Rochester, NY 14618

Track Car Operator Training

Training for train enthusiasts who wish to be Track Car Operators at the local railroad museums will commence on March 25 and continue thorough May 20, 2006. The schedule (Page 2) shows the exact dates, times, the type of training offered. **This training is required for new persons as well as experienced operators.** All modelers and rail enthusiasts are welcome to share in this rewarding, fun, summertime experience. All operators should be members of either the New York Museum of Transportation or the Rochester Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society.

Experience Operators:

Training will consist of one-hour classroom session plus a half-day 'hands-on'

(Continued to next column)

Important!

THIS will be the LAST issue of *The Semaphore* that you will receive if you have not paid your 2006 dues, or renewed your subscription at \$10 per calendar year.

Send you dues or subscription, payable to Rochester Chapter, NRHS to: Rochester Chapter, NRHS, P.O. Box 23326, Rochester, NY 14692-3326

Or see Page 2 for more information.

Track Car Training (continued)

session.

This year we are attempting to make the 'hands-on' training more comprehensive requiring several hours. This training will consist of a minimum of at least one single direction trip with each of two track cars.

New Operators:

Classroom training dates for new operators will be same as the experienced personnel. These are held in the Gallery at the New York Museum of Transportation at 6393 East River Road. Entrance is through the office door at the southwest corner of the building. No appointment is necessary for the classroom sessions.

The 'hands-on' training for you will be more extensive and separate from that of the experienced operators. It will consist of the preparation, start-up and shut-down procedures for each of two track cars plus a minimum of two hours of operation with each.

For all:

To even out the attendance, we have broken the training segments (depending on the first letter of your last name) into what we hope are equal attendance portions. **See Schedule on Page 2. If for some reason, you cannot attend your designated 'hands-on' time, call Harold Russell after March 12th at 427-9159 or e-mail at haroldrussell**

====\$13,600>

Capital Fund Drive Campaign

\$72,000!

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Track Car Training Schedule for 2006 (Updated: 2/3/2006)

All training is at NYMT, 6393 East River Road

Date	Type	Operators	Time
25-Mar	Classroom	Experienced and New	9-10 AM
1-Apr	Classroom	Experienced and New	9-10 AM
8-Apr	Classroom	Experienced and New	9-10 AM
22-Apr	Classroom	Experienced and New	9-10 AM
	Hands-on	Experienced A>H*	9-12 AM
	Hands-on	Experienced I>M*	1-4 PM
29-Apr	Hands-on	Experienced N>S*	9-12 AM
	Hands-on	Experienced T>Z*	1-4 PM
6-May	Hands-on	New	by appointment
7-May	Classroom	Experienced and New	9-10 AM
	Hands-on, make-up	Experienced, A>Z*	9-12 AM
13-May	Hands-on	New	by appointment
20-May	Hands-on, make-up	New	by appointment

* Initial refers to the first letter of the student's last name.

Condolences

The Chapter extends our sympathy to the family of **Anna B. Grover**, wife of the late **Sam Grover**, former Chapter President. She died January 9, 2006.

Anna was a staunch supporter of the Chapter and of Sam's long and heavy involvement with the Chapter. When Sam could no longer drive, Anna would faithfully bring him out to the chapter meetings and special events such as Banquet and Picnic. They were frequent visitors to our Museum to observe our activities and progress over the years.

Anna was from Johnstown, New York and came here to study nursing at University of Rochester. She met Sam here and they had a long and happy marriage.

We will miss Anna's smile, her friendship and her support. May she rest in peace, back with Sam again.
RW

The 2006 Rochester Subway Collector's calendar

Currently, we are sold out. However, Chris can arrange to have more made if there is enough interest.

Please contact Chris Hauf, 28 Candlewood Dr., Pittsford, NY, 14534; (585) 381-8583; crhauf@frontiernet.net.

Jesse Marks Volunteers for Publicity Chair

Jesse Marks, formerly a Young Railfans member, now a Chapter member, has stepped forward to fill the long vacant Publicity Chairmanship. Dave Peet has handled this task on an interim basis, and will assist Jesse in promoting the Chapter activities and Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum.

Jesse already maintains several websites, including www.wagplow.org.

Arizona Railway Museum Website

Dave Luca suggests that we point our browser to www.azrymuseum.org for a look at the collections of the Arizona Railway Museum in Chandler, AZ.

So I took a quick look; very impressive! Their collection has a lot of passenger equipment.

This site is nicely organized and informative. Several of the photographs are "bluish" indicating that the colored dyes have faded in the originals.

Hats with R&GV logo available

Chris Hauf has on hand baseball hats with embroidered R&GV Railroad Museum logo: "The Route to Industry". They are \$15.00 each, plus \$3.00 per hat for postage and handling, or can also be picked up at a Chapter meeting. Checks should be made payable to Rochester Chapter NRHS. Send orders to Chris Hauf, 28 Candlewood Dr., Pittsford, NY 14534.

Membership Report

Jessica Stallone, Chair

Over 75% of you have already renewed your membership. Thank you for your generous contributions and support. This year's membership cards have been delayed from National, but they should arrive within the next few weeks.

For those of you who have not yet renewed, please do so soon. ***If you do not renew by the middle of February you will not get your March The Semaphore (and be absent from the Roster list).*** Renew today so you don't miss out on what's going on with the Chapter!

If you need a membership application or renewal form, please contact me at: membership@rochnrhs.org, by phone at 585-615-4862, or by mail at:

Jessica Stallone
NRHS Membership
60 High Manor Drive Apt 1
Henrietta, NY 14467

Thank you,

Jessica Stallone.

Membership Chair

Membership@rochnrhs.org

Address Changes:

Michael Roque & Jessica Stallone

60 High Manor Drive, Apt 1
Henrietta, NY 14467

Beth Krueger

PO Box 1293
Miles City, MT 59301

Stewart Anderson

7629 Rt. 63
Groveland, NY 14462

Correction in Apt. number: (per USPS)

Dave Luca/Janet Dittmer

1633 E. Lakeside Dr., Apt. 161
Gilbert, AZ 85234
480-632-7394

Combined Chapter & National dues

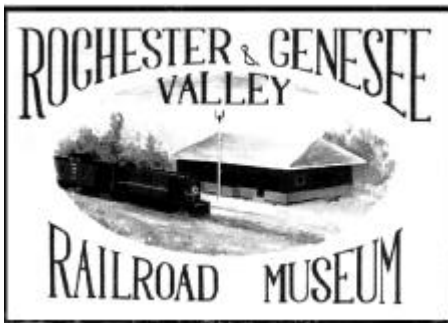
Regular: \$42.00

First family member: \$7.00

Additional family members: \$4.00 each

Local member: \$20.00 (Primary membership in another Chapter)

Subscription to *The Semaphore* only:



Motive Power Report

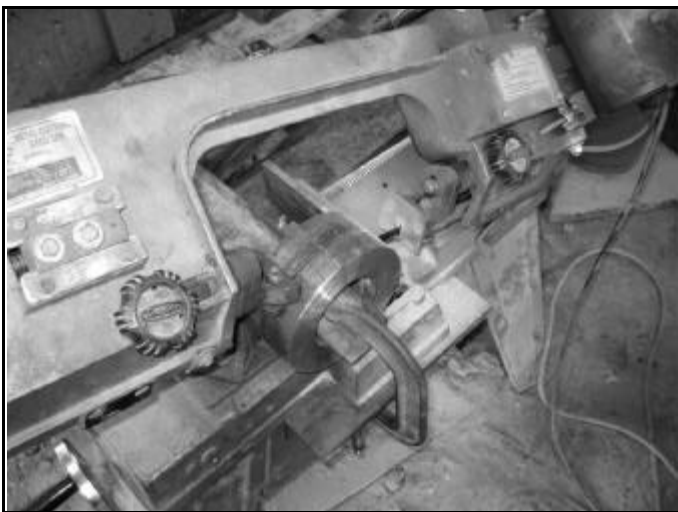
by John Redden

General:

A group of individuals, including, Jeremy Tuke, Norm Shaddick, Ron Amberger, Rand Warner, Matt Glogowski, and John Redden, transported a large portion of the Motive Power parts supply out of the BR&P caboose to its new storage location. This work entailed a lot of heavy lifting and movement of a variety of parts that we've collected over the past 25 years, for our fleet of locomotives. This will allow the continued restoration of the interior of the BR&P caboose, that is currently inside our Restoration Building.

Plymouth Gasoline Locomotive:

Progress continues on the 6 ton Plymouth Model BL locomotive. Servicing of the front axle is nearing completion. The bearings have been cleaned, greased, and reassembled with new seals. An important milestone was reached with the removal of the front pedestal shoes and liners. These were the LAST OLD RUSTY PARTS that needed to be removed. From this point in time, most of



Our Plymouth BL gas mechanical locomotive continues to receive new thrust bearings on its axles. Here the material is being cut on our horizontal bandsaw for the bearings for the front axle. [Chris Hauf photo and caption]

Managers: **Railroad:** (Motive, Rolling stock, MOW, ROW)
Chris Hauf: 381-8583; crhauf@frontiernet.net
Infrastructure: (Buildings, grounds, shops, construction, communications, signals & power, heavy equipment)
Dave Luca: 288-0318; daveluca@frontiernet.net

the effort will be reassembling and painting parts, not removing or cleaning them. New pedestal liners for the front axle have been fabricated and installed, and new axle thrust bearings are about fifty percent complete.

During an unusually warm Friday in January, painting was completed on the rear half of locomotive frame. The front half has been cleaned up and we are waiting on warm weather to paint it.

Also, in an unexpected bit of good luck, the W.W. Williams company of Akron Ohio has donated a set of original blueprints for the engine cowling part of the locomotive. W.W. Williams took over the parts business for Plymouth Locomotive Works several years ago. Many Plymouth locomotives are still being used commercially. The Williams Company has many old drawings and they donated copies of an original drawing that was dated 1920. Since the original engine cowling was missing when we acquired the locomotive, we needed these drawings to rebuild it accurately. This company not only located these drawings, but duplicated and sent them to us, completely free of charge!

Diesels:

James Johnson of the Communications, Signals & Power Department has taken time from his work at the NYMT trolley substation, to set up our diesels with individual timers for their battery charging circuits. Historically, we have had several circuits in the Industry yard that ran on timers that were located at the circuit breaker box inside the Depot (these timed circuits, by the way, were also installed by Jim, some years ago). He decided to change the power to the yard circuits so that they are constantly powered on, and set up the diesels with their own individual timers. Our thanks to Jim for taking care of this task for the EK-6, EK-9, 1654, 1941, 211 and 1843.

The sheetmetal and

structural repairs to the electrical cabinet on the 1941 are nearly complete. The floor of this cabinet has been cleaned out, and significant volumes of rust have been removed. It was then sealed with primer paint.

Steam:

Our Steam Team took on the job of dismantling the pilot beam on no. 12. This engine has laminated wood and steel pilot beams, and a large portion of the wood in the front one had essentially turned to dust, due to exposure to the elements. Norm Shaddick, Ron Amberger, Rand Warner, John Redden and others loosened all nuts holding beam to the locomotive frames. Norm and Ron



Here we see the large wood beams of Vulcan #12's pilot beam exposed. There are two beams that make up the pilot, and are badly rotted. The beams are approximately 9.5" square and stacked one on the top of the other. Plans are to replace these large wood beams with three railroad switch timbers. [Chris Hauf photo and caption]

succeeded in removing the front steel plate on the last Saturday in January.

Ron Amberger has cleaned up the frame of the turbo generator for no. 12 and has repainted it. He continues working on cleaning up other parts of this unit for reassembly.

Thanks to: W.W. Williams company for invaluable drawings of the Plymouth Locomotive.

All of our Motive Power Volunteers, and

Returnable cans can help Steam Fund

You can help turn returnable cans into cash for our steam fund by donating them to the Chapter **any time**. There is a receptacle in the Baggage Room at the Museum.

Trolley Electrification

Rand Warner, Facilitator

NRHS and NYMT members met at Jim Dierks' home on January 3rd to discuss plans, priorities, actions and responsibilities relevant to startup of regular public trolley rides on 15 July 2006. Notes have been distributed. The next meeting will be Tuesday evening, 7 February at 7:30 p.m. at Bob Achilles home in Fairport.

We have all the final signoffs from Underwriters Labs on the substation and building hookups.

Ted Strang has cut down the old steel floor plates to fit the substation floor over the trough where underground conduits came in.

Scott Gleason, Dan Waterstraat, Dick Holbert and Rand Warner have relocated/installed two poles and down guy anchors behind the west end of the new NYMT trolley car barn at locations staked out by Charlie Lowe.

Jim Johnson, Dick Holbert and Charles Harshbarger are wrapping up all loose ends in the substation. Checkout without trolley load is complete. Power has been supplied to overhead wire. Insulation testing is OK.

Charlie Lowe is coordinating staging and installation of overhead power to NYMT car barn for operation of trolleys #161 and #168.

Randy Bogucki, Tony Mittiga and Rand Warner are working on rail braces for curve at bottom of hill coming down from NYMT. We also need to add shoulder ballast.

Charlie Lowe, Dick Holbert, and Rand Warner have coordinated on cross strapping concept for ground bonding at switch frogs. Rand will start on this once it gets warm enough to do CAD weld.

Chris Hauf and Rand Warner are looking at options for relocation four R&GVRM freight cars stored on NYMT loop, so we can rehab on south leg of loop, and also do track car training with four wheel drive.

Rand Warner will be ordering another CAD weld kit, to double-bond tracks into NYMT car barn as soon as weather is warm enough. He will also coordinate building permit, inspection and signoff by Town of Rush for substation.

Bob Miner is coordinating trolley #168 prep for operations, with Don Quaint for car #161. We need to get properly set up for ongoing trolley operations and maintenance for #161 and #168 at NYMT location.

We also need to recruit trolley car crew members for motormen and conductors.

Membership Recruitment

by Rand Warner

People are our most important Chapter resource - our members!

If each of our current members would recruit just ONE new member **each year**, we would **DOUBLE** our membership in a year!

If collectively we could recruit one new member **each week**, that would be 52 new members in a year.

Even one a **month** would be 12 new members in a year, a minimum just to break even.

**** PLEASE SEND IN YOUR NEW MEMBER CANDIDATE NAMES TO OUR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON: Jessica Stallone (585) 615-4862. [See under "Membership Report" for details.]**

History Corner

by Rand Warner

Extracts from Minutes for Chapter Meetings of 19 January 1956:

Meeting called to order at 8:30 p.m. by President Sam Grover.

Members will travel to Buffalo on Sunday 29 January to discuss trip possibilities for 1956 season with Buffalo Chapter.

Treasurer Nick Feeley reported year end (31 Dec. 1956): Income: \$7,765.20; Expenses: \$7,545.11; Cash balance: \$543.95.

The Chapter plans to have one joint trip with Buffalo and also with Syracuse Chapter, each year.

Frank Passero reported on banquet meal quotes per person at Barnard Exempt:

Virginia ham, veal cutlet or chicken for \$2.00

Roast beef for \$2.50

Steak for \$3.00

An excellent sound movie film, obtained by Ward Shafer, provided entertainment.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Work continues on TC-3

Bob Mader and Rand Warner are working on TC-3 updates. Transmission and clutch are removed for starter/ring gear work. Four wheel chain drive and sprockets will be installed similar to TC-1 and TC-2.

Welding/Cutting Equipment

by Rand Warner

Our welding shop operations under the direction of Art Mummery, include the following capabilities:

Recently purchased MIG welder

Recently purchased Plasma cutter

Several sets of acetylene brazing and cutting torch outfits.

Gas engine powered Bee welder generator

Gas engine powered Miller welder generator

Forney welder brazer outfit

Miller welder on rubber - gasoline

Miller welder on skid - gasoline

Please see Art Mummery for information

Fund Raisers

by Rand Warner

Lynn Heintz is at it again. He is currently working on not one but **two** fund raisers for our Museum.

The first is an HO model of our Pennsy hopper car. Proceeds from sales of the model will go towards proper prototype painting and lettering of our real hopper car.

The second is sale of industrial steel shelving from a factory rehab job. Proceeds from sales of this shelving will go towards the restoration, painting and lettering of our 1939 Ford Railway Express Agency truck.

Keep up the good work, Lynn!

Upcoming Anniversaries *by Rand Warner*

75th Anniversaries of Abandonment of Rochester area Interurban Lines:

? Rochester Lockport & Buffalo: **April 30, 2006**

? Rochester & Syracuse: **June 28, 2006**

? **50th Anniversary** of Closing of Rochester Subway for Passenger Service: **June 30, 2006.**

? **2007: 70th Anniversary** of the Rochester Chapter, National Railway Historical Society!

How can we have significant & appropriate recognitions events & celebrations??

WAG Plow Future

by Jesse Marks

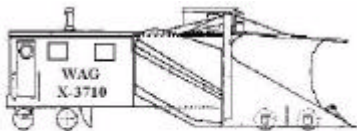
A detailed update on the WAG snowplow will appear in next month's issue of *The Semaphore*.

The wagplow.org site saw a record number of site visits during the month of January at 1832 hits. This brings the overall total of site visits to 12,216 hits from November 2004 to present day. Thanks to all for their continued interest and support of this project.

I would also like to introduce at this time a new website still in the making but soon to be up. It is Rail Trek New York found at <http://www.trainweb.org/railtrekny>. The purpose of this site is more of a personal collection of various railroad photographs (for enjoyment by rail fans) from around the New York area. Spanning from the Adirondack Scenic Railroad, the Finger Lakes Railroad, Arcade & Attica, the CSX mainline, the Falls Line Railroad, and other historical railroad artifacts left behind from old previous lines. I will have a link to this site on wagplow.org for easier navigation.

Looking forward to the 2006 season, good weather, and thanks to all again for the continued support.

Although the 2005 tax season has passed it's never too late to get started on the 2006 season. So instead of giving money to the government how about giving a tax-deductible donation to the WAG Fund. Contributions are always appreciated.



www.wagplow.org

Shows

Feb. 25-26: *Western New York Railway Historical Society Train Show*, Agra Center, Fairgrounds, ~~Hnbg St 105, Sun 104~~

March 11-12: *Rochester Model Railroad Club*, 150 South Clinton (First Universalist Church) Sat. 10-5; Sun. 1-5.

March 26: *Spring Railroad Show*, by RIT Model Railroad Club, Student Union, RIT Campus, 10-3:30.

April 1-2: *Railroad Showcase 2006*, by Niagara Frontier Chapter, NRHS and Niagara Orleans Model Engineers. Kenan Arena, 195 Beattie Ave., Lockport, N.Y. Sat: 10-5; Sun: 10-4.

Construction and Equipment for January 2006

by Joe Scanlon



Last year we tried unsuccessfully to push start the CAT DW-15 pan scraper. This spring we'll do it the right way with an operational pony motor! [Chris Hauf photo]

motor is just about all put back together. Since we have a complete spare diesel engine, complete with pony motor, we are also evaluating it in case we need to transplant it into the grader. The pony motor on the donor engine has already been brought back to life. The diesel motor turns over, which usually means that it will start fairly easily after a little tweaking and coaxing. By the time you get this issue we hope to have the grader running again!

Art Mummery and Dan Waterstraat have outfitted one of our Conex containers for Art to use to rebuild engines. "Art's Engine Shop" is officially open for business, with the diesel engine from the Allied Builders International-Harvester high lift already on the operating table. Member Dick Bean made his personal tool collection available to the chapter at a very attractive price, and those tools are now being put to work in the engine shop.

Headway has also been made to remove the pony motor from out CAT DW-15 pan scraper at Art's request, which will also be put in the engine shop.



Ryan Johnson, Joe Scanlon and Dan Waterstraat are working on a Caterpillar pony motor destined for the Chapter's CAT 12 grader. [Photo by Jeremy Tuke]

The winter mode equipment work reported in last month's issue is moving along right on schedule. The CAT 12 grader project up in the restoration building is presenting some challenges, but we are gaining ground. Chris Hauf and Dan Waterstraat have removed the rotted window frame and doors from the cab. Dan also removed the cab heater and plugged off the water

lines. Chris has taken charge of getting everything lubricated, which is no small task on this machine. Joe Scanlon, Scott Gleason, Art Mummery and Ryan Johnson have been attacking the power units. The pony starting

Additionally, an air filter can which was surplus to the motive power department is undergoing a transformation to be rigged up to our 27-ton Euclid end dump. This spring watch for this monster to be hauling payloads as big as what we haul in our tractor pan!

With mechanical work proceeding under cover at two locations, we're really making unprecedented headway this year! Every pair of willing hands helps us move forward. Please consider coming out and lending us a hand! Spring is just around the corner!

Library Report

Charles Robinson, Chairman

The next session at the library for general use will be in the afternoon, Sunday, February 19 between the hours of 2 to 5 PM. Come on out to the library to see all the tapes and books available for reading and circulation.

James McFarland, a prominent collector of electric railway historical material, has decided to reduce his collection of traction books. He has permitted the library chairman to pick out a number of interesting electric railway books from his collection as a gift to the Rochester Chapter NRHS. Among the 26 acquired from Jim was a book on the 50th anniversary of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western's New Jersey electric commuter service. I am certain that members will remember that the Chapter has one of these electric cars, #2628, down at the depot. Other books include the electrification of the CM&StP&P, a series of books on the Sacramento Northern, the London & Port Stanley and small trolley lines in Pennsylvania. The remainder cover prominent interurban railways scattered throughout the US. At the moment, this collection although stamped, has not been logged in and is not currently available for circulation. Hopefully it will be by the next open hours session on February 19. We appreciate Jim's generosity in making this donation to our library.

Bob Achilles has been working on organizing and identifying our many photographs of Canadian Pacific steam engines, a project that is indeed worth doing. Thanks Bob.

Each time we look in drawers and boxes around the library, we find more photographs. Jerry Gillette and the library chairman are continuing to organize, list and place into albums this large collection of rail photographs. Gale Smith keeps busy assigning call numbers and logging into the computer the newly acquired books along with their donor's names.

All this will be available for your inspection Sunday afternoon February 19 so

Chapter's Biannual Rail Trip

See your December issue for the itinerary of the May 7 thorough 25, 2006, escorted Rail Tour to California and Texas.

This trip is also listed on *American Rail Link's* e-mail newsletter. To subscribe to this free newsletter, send name, address, railroad affiliation and e-mail address to: americanrailink@twcny.rr.com.

BYOT Returns

Bring Your Own Trains (BYOT) returned to the New York Museum of Transportation on Sundays through the Winter months and April.

With paid admission (\$3/adult; \$2/student), patrons may bring their HO scale trains (engines and/or cars) to run on the extensive model HO train layout.

A recently added attraction in the layout room is an N-scale layout of the Rochester Subway. Although still under construction, it is possible to run trolleys from one end (Rowlands loop) to the other (General Motors) with stops along the way.

Collection Management Policy

The Board of Trustees formally adopted a Collection Management Policy to better manage the Chapter's numerous and varied collections. This will impact railroad and construction equipment, our library and other items. The Committee, chaired by Jeremy Tuke, consists of Chris Hauf, John Stewart, Joe Scanlon and John Redden.

Steam Team Meets

This team meets the first Saturday of each month. Anyone interested in 'steamers' is invited to attend. For information, contact John Redden at ejredde@frontiernet.net.

Help Wanted

Museum Education Assistant:

Volunteer position for a self-starter to develop co-curricular educational materials for school groups and youth groups visiting Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum. Ideal for a retired history or science teacher. Need not be a railfan but must be interested in helping young people understand the world around them. Contact one of the Mangers on Page 3

Hojack Swing Bridge

by Rand Warner

"It's never over till it's over"

According to an article in the January issue of *Democrat & Chronicle*:

The issue of the swing bridge future is: to scrap it, use it, make a restaurant, run a trolley across it, etc; is still being discussed.

Discussions have now out lasted the whole duration of our Fast Ferry Project - the Ferry has been conceived, built, delivered, operated, cancelled, and now put up on the block for sale.

We will have to wait and see what happens - *"The fat lady still has to sing"* on this one.

Excerpts from NRHS News Extra, Jan. 2006

1. All 2006 dues bills have been shipped. However, at least one major processing error occurred. Chapter membership personnel are instructed to inspect each bill for incorrect dues amount.

The National will NOT issue new bills. The problem arose from trying to combine several databases, which were developed by volunteers over time, but without adequate documentation.

Added to this complication is that 39 chapter bills packages were shipped to incorrect addresses.

2. Bulletin Annual Activities Issue

Submission of Chapter Activities Report for 2005 has a firm deadline of March 31, 2006. Those received after that date will be ignored.

In addition, these reports are **to be submitted only to the NRHS website**. Faxes, e-mails and mailed reports will NOT be accepted.

The address is www.nrns.com/chapter_reports/index.html (*note underline character*).

3. The 2006 Railway Heritage Grants, totaling \$34,000, will be announced at the Summer Board of Director's meeting on July 21st in New Philadelphia, OH.

The deadline for return of completed applications will be May 19 at 3 PM Eastern time.

4. The NRHS National Convention, "Buckeye Rails" will be held in New Philadelphia, Ohio July 18-23, 2006. The National is sponsoring this convention rather than a chapter.

Planned activities include steam and diesel trips on the Ohio Central Railroad, diesel trips on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad, tours of the Ohio Central Shops, the Dennison Railroad Depot Museum and Warther Carvings Museum (many are carvings done in ivory); night photo session, seminars and non railroad activities.

See www.buckeyerails2006.org for information. There is a fee for advance notification.

Contributors to this issue

Chris Hauf, Jeremy Tuke, Jesse Marks, John Redden, Charles Robinson, Harold Russell, Joe Scanlon, Jessica Stallone, John Stewart and Rand Warner and various publications as indicated.

Ted Miller recently donated this Fairmont track car



The R&GVRRM rosters several different track cars including this little Fairmont MT-19 which was donated to the Museum by Chapter member, Ted Miller. Bob Mader has recently completed the install of a new engine to replace its seized original. He also rewired the entire unit and has it running again. Dale Hartnett recently did some painting on the unit to seal up some new steel and once the better weather returns to Industry, the goal is to give the car a complete cosmetic restoration. It will then be placed into service on the R&GVRRM's demonstration railroad for special events and operations around the museum. [Photo and caption by Chris Hauf]

NYSR History on CD

In the 1920s, *Transportation News*, a company magazine of the New York State Railways, published a series of articles about its street railways and interurban lines. "The History of New York State Railways" covers the horsecar days of 1860s through the creation of NYSR in 1909 and into the 1920s.

Charlie Lowe, of NYMT, has reproduced the complete set of articles on compact disc, adding an introduction and table of contents.

This CD is available from the NYMT's Gift Shop at \$13.99 plus tax. [Headend, Fall 2005, pg.4]

Knox & Kane Railroad is embargoed

The railroad has ceased operations and all equipment is for sale, which includes two steam engines, two diesels and over a dozen passenger cars. [American Rail Link, Issue #241]

Ohio Railway Museum to focus on trolleys

The museum's trustees voted in December to emphasize their trolley collection. One rail expert told the 11-member board that they had the finest collection of interurban streetcars and trolleys in the U.S. and should concentrate their efforts in preserving and showing these items.

Some residents don't like this idea expressing their interest in railroads in general.

The museum plans to either sell or scrap the railroad equipment. Their engine 578, a N&W steam engine that pulled passenger cars, during the Depression is being sold to a restore in Coshocton, and two Pullman cars to another in Dennison, Ohio. [Van Wert Times Bulletin, Jan. 19, 2005]

Sorry, ran out of space. This series will be put in our Library. Just a summary does not do it justice!

Bombardier to close Auburn plant

Bombardier Transportation expects to close the plant where components were made for railroad cars. About three years ago, the plant had a \$2 million retooling for the construction of bogies, which are undercarriage frames for railroad cars. The bogies are sent to another facility in Plattsburgh, where they are assembled with wheels, braking and propulsion systems. The Plattsburgh plant makes coaches, locomotives and rapid-transit cars. The company lost a long-term contract to construct railcars for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey to Kawasaki.

The plant at one time also made aerospace parts. The factory had several owners over its 120-year history. (If my memory is correct, it was owned by American Locomotive Company (ALCO), which used it to manufacture diesel engines for their locomotives.) [Democrat and Chronicle, Feb.

Former Foster Wheeler Dansville plant adds another tenant

One is American Motive Power who will rebuild diesel locomotives. Genesee & Wyoming made its first delivery since 2001 on January 30, by pulling dead-in-tow blue EMD SD40-2 with CFEX markings, one of a fleet of 600 diesels owned by CIT leasing. At present some components will have to be sent out for rebuilding, but AMP expects to do all the work in house in the future.

Joseph Fearon is Chief Operating Officer. He came out of retirement. He was a founder of Morrison Knudson Corporation of Boise, Idaho, the first re-manufacturer of railroad locomotives in North America. [Livingston County News, Feb. 2, 2006]

Livingston County RR History

A three-part series appeared in the *Livingston County News* January 12, 19 and 26, entitled "Forgotten Railroad" The reporter was Howard W. Appell.

The series was well researched and written as he outlined the various railroads that crossed this county from their arrivals until they departed.

The principal one was the Erie, which grew by acquiring Buffalo & New York City (1852) crossing a small SW section of the county, and Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad which in 1853 only reached Avon, but was extended by Genesee Valley Railroad to Geneseo and Mount Morris to near Sonyea by January of 1859 but was bankrupt by December of that year.

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Chapter Meeting & Program:
Mike' Photo
Gallery
 by Mike Roque'
 7:30 PM
 Thursday, February 16, 2006
 40 & 8 Club
 933 University Ave.

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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: (585) 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. Also can send by e-mail to: gale299@frontiernet.net. **Deadline: First Day of Each Month.**

Restoration Building Floor Fund

by Dave Luca

One of the Chapter's major goals for 2005 was the installation of the inspection pit and concrete floor in the east side of the Restoration Building. Chapter volunteers will perform the pit excavation and the slab grading. Pre-qualified concrete contractors will perform the concrete placement work. The estimate for this is \$75,000. Recent donations in **BOLD**.

Help "cement" together a great project! Each block represents \$3,000.

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