

NEXT MEETING:

**October 21**

*Films from the New York Central  
presented by Peter Gores*



**FEELING BLUE?** Conrail blue that is, as LV 211 enters Industry yard with Erie milk car #6603, Erie caboose #C254 (also in Conrail blue), and EK6 at the north end providing the motive power. This photo dates from 1989, when the mainline only extended up to Switch #6, and the Restoration Building was only a dream. By 1990, LV 211 would be restored to Cornell Red, the Erie caboose would get fresh red paint in 1994, and our Restoration Building began to take shape in 1996. We've come a long way in the last twenty or so years! PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER R. HAUF

## Meeting the New Challenges

Board moves to ensure our organization's survival and relevance

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At a recent Board meeting, we were discussing our current situation and looking ahead to the future. It made me consider what a good position we are in and how much we have accomplished compare to other groups in our region. Not to belittle other Chapters and organizations, but we have managed in our near 75 years of existence to create a substantial museum that actually operates its own equipment — The only such operation in the state! I would argue that what started out as a project of the Rochester Chapter has evolved into the defining characteristic of our group. To better illustrate that point, here

we are changing our legal name to the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum.

We have had an interesting and challenging near 40 years of museum ownership. Those of us today have many thanks for those who have come before; without the countless volunteer hours over the decades, where would we be?

Today though, the landscape of railroad preservation is changing; and we are faced with the same struggles as many other groups, big or small. I am sure that the issues that concern our Board members are also shared (Continued on page 7)



[www.rgvrrm.org](http://www.rgvrrm.org)

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# TRAIN BULLETIN

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM ROCHESTER CHAPTER NRHS

#### UPCOMING MUSEUM EVENTS

There's an exciting calendar of events planned for the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum's joint operations this season. Tell your friends! For a complete listing and details, visit [www.rgvrrm.org](http://www.rgvrrm.org).

#### FALL FOLIAGE BY TROLLEY AND TRAIN:

Enjoy the beauty of autumn in western New York State from the window of an 80-year-old trolley car every Sunday in October. A diesel train will meet the trolley each day for the continuation to the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum. Trolleys depart every half-hour starting at 11:30!

**HOLLY TROLLEYS:** Weekends from November 27 through December 19, come enjoy a ride on NYMT's "Holly Trolley!" Special event fares apply.

#### LIBRARY COMMITTEE

Your Chapter Library will be open for use on October 21 starting at 6:30 PM for the meeting and again on November 1 from 6:30-8:30 PM. The Chapter Library will be moving to a much bigger room. We are currently seeking donations of strong, sturdy book cases to support our ever-growing collection of materials. Any volunteer help is appreciated. Please contact Bob Fleck by email at [rcfleck@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rcfleck@rochester.rr.com) or (585) 338-7205.

#### UPCOMING CHAPTER PROGRAMS

We have many interesting and varied programs scheduled throughout the year as part of our monthly membership meetings. If you are interested in giving a presentation on any railroad subject at an upcoming chapter meeting, please contact Harold Russell at [haroldrussell@juno.com](mailto:haroldrussell@juno.com).

**October 21, 2010:** New York Central films presented by long-time chapter member Peter Gores. A member of the Rochester Chapter for more than fifty years, he is a former Chapter Vice-President, National Director and Trip Chairman. He is a licensed locomotive engineer and a qualified FRA track inspector and a senior board member of the Adirondack Scenic Railroad. He is now retired after

working thirty years for various railroads in many capacities. Peter says that "he would like to use his past experience with the Chapter and in railroading to help continue the tremendous progress made by the Chapter."

**November 18, 2010:** Lehigh Valley Railroad's Auburn Branch by Shelden King, noted railroad author and historian.

**December 16, 2010:** Flying Scotsman's Visit to America in 1971, presented by Peter Gores. This famous British steam engine was brought to America by preservationist Alan Pegler, where a series of promotional trips were run until the engine was returned in 1973.

**January 20, 2011:** Railroads of Livingston County, presented by Douglas Morgan.

#### UPCOMING TRAIN SHOWS

The Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum will have a table at some upcoming train shows to sell merchandise and advertise some of our activities to the general public. It's a great way to reach out to some of our biggest fans, and make new ones! If you're available to help out, please let us know! We'll be at the Batavia Train Show on November 14, and the RIT Tiger Tracks Train Show on December 4 and 5.

#### BIANTHA HOCKADAY (1922-1910)

Biantha Hockaday, widow of renowned Alco expert George Hockaday, passed away on July 31. She had lived in nearby Sodus for many years, as her husband worked on restoring the venerable Alco fleet for the Ontario Lines. Biantha traveled the country with her husband as he tended to sick Alcos nationwide. After George passed away in 1998, she moved to Rensselaerville to be closer to her sons. A private memorial service was held in August at the Ontario Midland Railroad shops in Sodus.

VISIT [WWW.RGVRRM.ORG](http://WWW.RGVRRM.ORG)

#### JOIN ROCHESTER CHAPTER NRHS

Annual Dues: \$57.00

Rochester Chapter NRHS

P.O. Box 23326

Rochester, NY 14692-3326

PLAN AHEAD: Next Meeting:

**November 18**

40 & 8 Club, Rochester NY





## ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: [WWW.RGVRRM.ORG](http://WWW.RGVRRM.ORG)

### MUSEUM CONTACT INFO

#### MUSEUM MANAGER

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#### FREIGHT CAR SUPERINTENDENT

David Scheiderich

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### MOTIVE POWER DEPT.

Your Motive Power Department has been busy with a number of ongoing projects, including: Preparation for painting the **RG&E 1941** has been going on with Joe Nugent and Mike Walsh wire-wheeling the doors for the engine compartments. Ron Amberger has cleaned up the cooling louver control rods and handles and re-installed them on both engines. Ron also cleaned the batteries and topped up water levels on 1941 and **USA 1843**. Joe installed head lights in 1941 and also the repaired fuel pump on the no. 2 Cummins engine. We have also ordered two new air reservoirs for **RG&E 8**, thanks in part to a generous NRHS and ARS grants.

A reminder that the Motive Power Department meets every first Saturday inside Industry Depot at 9:30am. Anyone is welcome to join us if you have questions about our work or want to get involved!

—Joe Nugent

*Motive Power Superintendent*

### CHAPTER SPONSORED TRIPS

**Pre-Christmas Trip (Thu. Dec. 2-Sat. Dec. 4):** Take Amtrak to New York City for a weekend of shopping, dining and Broadway shows. Includes tickets to the Christmas Show at Radio City Music Hall.

Anyone who has NOT traveled with us before will have to send us a \$75.00 per person advanced deposit on the 2-night trip NYC trip and \$100.00 on the 3-night trip



**TOP:** John Stewart (right) congratulates Dale Hartnett (left), recipient of this year's Fairmont Cup Award, awarded at the September membership meeting. The Fairmont Cup was created to recognize a volunteer for outstanding service to our organization above and beyond the call of duty. **ABOVE:** Visitors enjoy the brisk autumn weather as the NYMT and RGVRRM host "Fall Foliage by Trolley and Train." This scene is at Midway station, where visitors have completed a tour of Industry Depot, and are in the process of transferring from diesel train to trolley. PHOTOS BY DAVID SCHEIDERICH

to New York City in order to hold space. A \$50.00 deposit is required for our fall foliage trip. Please call us at (585) 377-5389. Most of our trips sell out quickly, call right away to avoid disappointment.

—Jim & Dianne East,  
Chapter Tour Guides

### DEPOT DOINGS

The trio of Joel R. Shaw, Dave Peet, and Don Wawrzyniak have buttoned up the South end of the depot to protect the shingling, etc. against the weather and any road salt spray. These volunteers have put in countless hours cleaning, scraping, prim-



Interior finish painting continues inside NYC coach 2567. PHOTO BY CHRISTOPHER R. HAUF

ing, and generally improving that particular end of our hundred-year-old depot. The Southern most portions of the East as well as West end walls have been included in the very dedicated effort. The trio has now turned their attention to the back to *Empire State Express* coach restoration. There is panel replacement, window work, in addition to a host of other activities to be done. They need you to help, if even for one session on a Saturday or Tuesday.

—Joel R. Shaw

## NYC #2567 PROGRESS UPDATE

The crew working on both the interior and exterior restoration of New York Central “Empire State Express” coach #2567 has been working hard over the past month to get the car complete before the truly cold weather sets in.

Our goal is to have the car completed to the point it can leave the shop in the coming few months to make room inside the shop for other projects for the winter.

On the outside, Dale Hartnett has contin-

ued to strip paint from areas of the car that were painted over time revealing the original stainless and a few scars received over the car’s nearly 69 years of service!

On the inside, Rob Burz, Chris Hauf, and Rick Israelson with contributions from Jeremy Tuke and Sam Rosenberg have been painting away on the interior walls and appliances. As of this writing, the new lower walls have their finish paint complete. The panels between the windows have seen their first coat as has the south end walls. Rick Israelson and Sam Rosenberg have cleaned and repainted the toilet retention tank and the inside of the retention tank cover. Going the extra step will add a level of protection to both for many years to come.

In addition, our Window Team of Dave Peet, Don Wawrzyniak, and Joel Shaw have begun the process of removing the temporarily installed reglazed windows, removing the interior gasket, prepping and painting the window openings, replacing the gasket and permanently installing the

windows. This is no easy job, but they are really digging in to help get this car complete and back in service.

As always, we welcome visitors and new hands to help. Our Window Team typically works during the day on Tuesdays and Saturdays while the painting crew is usually hard at work Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings.

We would also welcome additional donations to help offset the cost of the painting supplies and the five gallons of finish paint purchased to complete the job. The car is after all 85 feet in length with the passenger cabin checking in at nearly 80 feet! A lot of surface to have to cover. Donations can be made online at [www.rgvrrm.org/support](http://www.rgvrrm.org/support) or can be mailed in care of the Museum (please mark “NYC 2567” on your check).

We look forward to reporting on much more progress soon and thanks to all the support we have already received!

—Chris Hauf,

NYC #2567 Restoration Manager



## Many ways to interact with your museum on the Web

The Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum has had a presence the Internet for over 15 years, and that presence has only continued to expand. From our museum website at [www.rgvrrm.org](http://www.rgvrrm.org) to our blog at [rgvrrm.blogspot.com](http://rgvrrm.blogspot.com) to our Flickr photo site <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rgvrrm> to our YouTube site [www.youtube.com/rgvrrm](http://www.youtube.com/rgvrrm), we have many bases covered and lots of different things to offer.

We have recently added another way for people to interact with us by creating a Facebook page for the museum. This is just another way we can interact with many different people and help to educate people about all the things our museum has to offer. Log on today and check out our sites! We look forward to your feedback and participation!

—Chris Hauf

To find us on Facebook, visit [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com) and enter "Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum" in the search area. You will need to sign up for a free account to interact and comment on our Facebook page.



## Important By-Laws Change

*Change title of the by-laws to Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum, Inc. By-Laws*

**FROM:**

Article I - Name and Objective 1. The Corporation is a non-profit, legal Chapter of the Corporation known as the NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. (a foreign Corporation), hereinafter referred to as the National or N.R.H.S.

**TO:**

Article I - Name and Objective 1. The Corporation (hereinafter referred to as the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum, or R&GVRRM) is a non-profit, legal Chapter of the Corporation known as the NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. (a foreign Corporation), hereinafter referred to as the National or N.R.H.S.

All references in the current bylaws referring to the Rochester Chapter NRHS will be changed to Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum.

All references in the current bylaws referring to the Chapter will be changed to R&GVRRM.

**FROM:**

Article XX - Date of These By-Laws

These By-Laws are dated November 20, 2008, approved by the membership on November 20, 2008, and are known as the Rochester Chapter, NRHS By-Laws- of 2008.

**TO:**

Article XX - Date of These By-Laws

These By-Laws are dated October 21, 2010, approved by the membership on October 21, 2010, and are known as the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum, Inc. By-Laws - of 2010.

# Our New Logo Highlights Museum

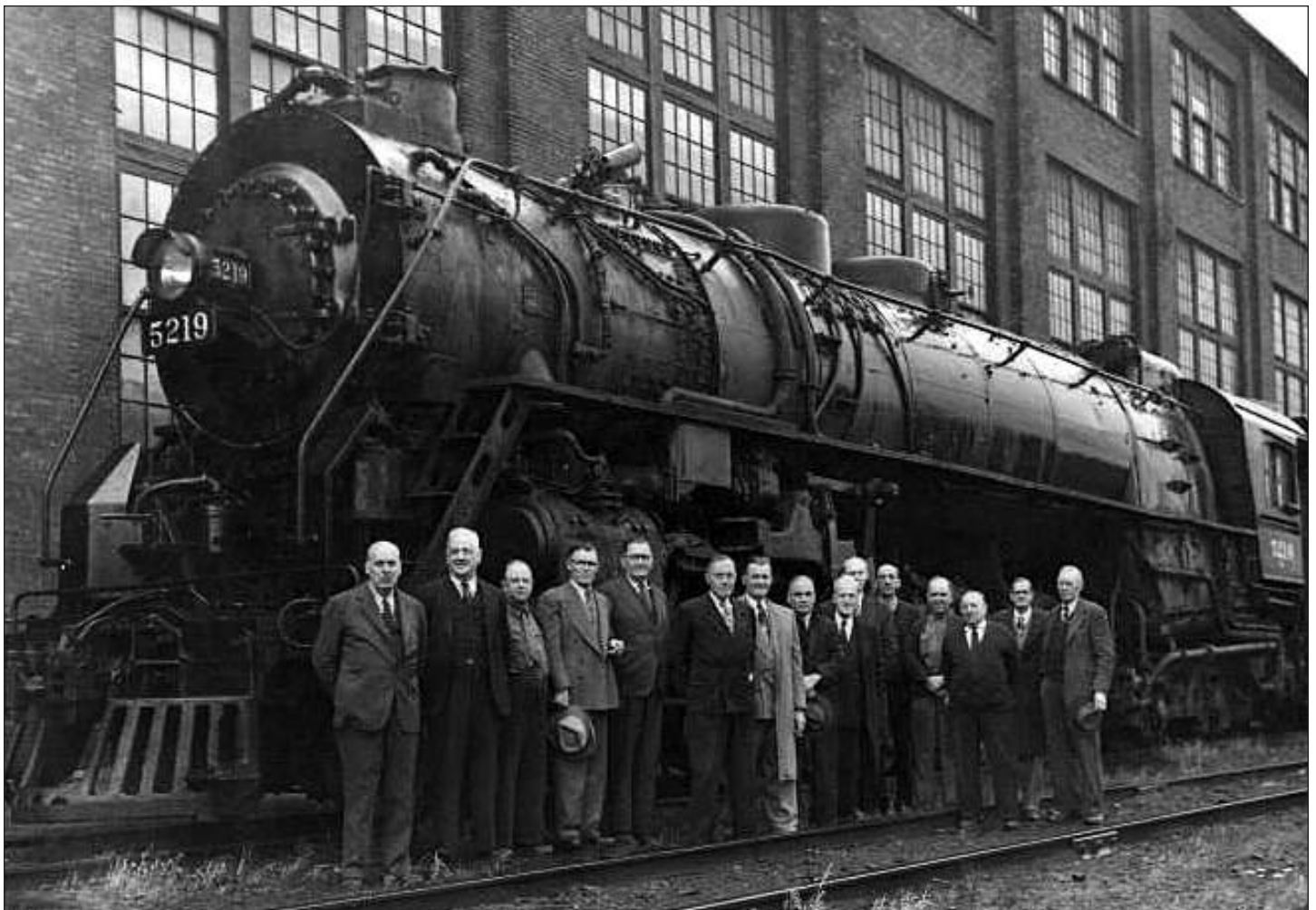
When you've been around as long as we have, you're bound to go through a few changes. As we move to unify all of our preservation activities under the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum banner, it is important that we maintain a strong connection with the public, as we will be depending on them for their support.

Building upon the earlier work by volunteer Chris Hauf, our new logo is a variation that has roots in the diamond logo of the old Erie Railroad. This is a nod to the history of our depot at the tracks that now carry the trains of the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville. The bold "RGV" initials of course stand for Rochester & Genesee Valley, the name of the original company that built the railroad from Rochester down towards Corning.



The words "RAILROAD MUSEUM" are displayed big and bold in an unfurled ribbon, quickly and clearly explaining what we are. Our primary promotional colors will remain yellow ochre and black, though this logo is equally effective when rendered in black and white. It is a very flexible design. You'll start to see our new logo emerge on everything from signage to letterhead to new shirts and hats in the coming months. This is the first step in a bold new marketing program that will help raise awareness of our preservation efforts as we work towards improving the museum experience overall.

*—If you need a copy of the new logo for any promotional purposes, please contact Otto Vondrak at [ovondrak@yahoo.com](mailto:ovondrak@yahoo.com).*



**END OF AN ERA:** On December 12, 1952, a gloomy early winter day, the last of the Lehigh Valley's steam locomotives have been consigned to scrap at Bethlehem Steel. The T-2b class Wyomings were built in 1943 by American Locomotive Co. The Lehigh Valley management wanted diesels but the War Production Board denied them. These were modernized versions of the original T-2 class of 1931 and although similar weigh substantially more due to the unavailability of certain alloys which are earmarked for the war effort. The entire class was stored serviceable during the summer of 1951 with empty hopes of a return to service which never came or a sale of these nearly new locomotives. One by one they were pulled out of line and sent to scrap until just the 5212, the 5217 and the 5219 were left. A photographer was called in to snap this image for posterity with the 5219 and the supervisors of the Sayre steam shops. From left to right are Arthur Hickey, Edward Fohl, Sidney Kinner, Walter Varner, Jesse Childs, John Maloney, Charles Fuller, Alexander Birney, Harry Mory, Harold Peterson, George Voest, Frank Roney, Howard Ritz, Jack Schoonover, and William Hyland. PHOTO COURTESY RICHARD PALMER

# ★★ HELP WANTED ★★

## We need Depot Guides

**We need your help to keep our museum open to the public.** Without tour guides, our visitors will arrive at a closed depot, without opportunity to visit our exhibits. Please take a moment to review this schedule and see if you can contribute a couple of hours. We need at least two people to cover each day, but extra help is always appreciated. Please contact Mike Root at [mikeroot@clearwire.net](mailto:mikeroot@clearwire.net).

## Join our Train Crews

**Increased train operations demands more train crews.** We are the only operating railroad museum in New York State! We need your help to keep the trains rolling for our visitors. You are invited to sign up for the train crew opportunities listed below. For more details or to sign up for the Operations Department e-mail list, please contact Mike Dow at [operations@rgvrrm.org](mailto:operations@rgvrrm.org).

### "DONATE A TON"

We have been working very hard on the construction of a new siding west of the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville. The goal is to use this siding for the storage of our passenger car set, which requires the construction of a 600-foot siding. We are starting a new fundraiser called Donate-A-Ton! For every \$20.00 you donate, the museum can buy one of the three hundred tons of ballast we need. Where else can you donate \$20 and know you have purchased a TON of material? **Please visit [rgvrrm.org/support](http://rgvrrm.org/support) for more info.**

(from page 1) by our members. Today's economy is tough, donations and grants are more elusive than in the past. Membership, and especially active volunteers, are not as plentiful as they could be. The NRHS National Directors are pondering some of the same issues we have here locally.

What can we do so that we are still here in 40 years? How do we stay relevant in the eyes of the public? We have preserved an interesting collection of railroad history, how do we ensure its continued survival? How do we increase public attendance and raise awareness? What will be our future source of income for our many activities? These are the questions that have guided the Board to pursuing a change of our legal name. We have not left the NRHS, but the change better identifies us with the public, and how we interact with them. I am sure many of you have had to explain our duality to the public in the past... Not any more! Down the road we will undoubtedly be making more changes, as an organization that does not evolve and adapt will never survive in this ever-changing environment. I welcome input from you to help better shape our organization for the years to come.

—David Scheiderich  
President, R&GVRRM

## The Long, Strange Journey

Some of you recently have undoubtedly noticed that *The Semaphore* has arrived very late in the month. Part of the problem is changes in the handling of bulk mail. The Post Office has started processing some of our bulk mail subscriptions in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. If you live outside of the 144, 145 or 146 zip codes, your copy of *The Semaphore* is making a very long journey just to get back to our area. We are going to move forward with increasing digital distribution. While some of the details have yet to be worked out, we plan to be completely converted over to digital by the end of 2011; only mailing *The Semaphore* to those that have paid extra for a subscription (at First Class, no less). This should help us all receive this newsletter in a timely fashion. —Otto M. Vondrak, Editor





**THE SEMAPHORE**

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Chapter Meeting:

**October 21**

7:30 PM at The 40&8 Club  
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**November 18**

7:30 PM at The 40&8 Club  
933 University Ave., Rochester

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