



Not often you see two passenger trains at Industry! On January 15, 2012, we moved our Empire State Express coaches to their new storage siding on the west side of the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville main line. Here we see USA 1834 heading north with the RPO car while RGV 1654 comes down the Hill Block with another coach. See more photos on page 6. PHOTO BY CHRIS HAUF

The Big Move

INSIDE

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| Train Bulletin | 2 |
| Museum News | 3 |
| LV 95100 News | 4 |
| The Big Move | 6 |
| New Email Lists | 7 |

January 15 was a clear cold day; and an important milestone for the Museum. For the past four years, with many hours spent by dedicated volunteers; we were able to successfully relocate our *Empire State Express* train set to the new siding. It has been a long arduous journey for those involved; and I extend a hearty "Thank you!"

The day was long, but fruitful. With gracious help from our neighboring Livonia, Avon & Lakeville railroad; we safely moved all seven ESE cars to the siding; and brought back our NYC PS-2 flat car and recently acquired LV 95100 caboose. The cars moved safely and with no issues; despite the cold weather.

Now, I imagine you might ask, "What next?" An excellent question, without a certain answer. Before the coaches can turn a wheel to earn a dol-

lar, they still need a variety of work completed. Given their new location and the season, there currently are no plans to work on them; at least until warmer weather. However, that doesn't mean there isn't anything to do out at the museum this winter!

Work has begun recently on rehabbing the LV 95100; as it is now in the shop. The Tuesday Night Track Gang has taken refuge within the shop as well; performing repairs to TC-3's trailer. A grass roots effort to cleanup our shop is underway—allowing everyone to work easier and safer—and helping set the stage for pouring more concrete floor surface.

Again, I'd like to thank everyone who has helped get the coaches to where they are now. It was a massive undertaking and we succeeded! I'll be seeing you out at the depot. —D.J.S.



www.rgvrrm.org

MUSEUM OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Dave Scheiderich

VICE PRESIDENT

Joe Nugent

TREASURER

Don Wawrzyniak

RECORDING SECRETARY

Joel R. Shaw

CORRESPONDING SEC'Y

Ron Amberger

TRUSTEES

Bob Achilles

Bob Burz

Peter Gores

Jim Johnson

Dave Peet

Otto M. Vondrak



The official publication of
the Rochester & Genesee Valley
Railroad Museum

Volume 55, No. 6

EDITOR

Otto M. Vondrak
ovondrak@yahoo.com

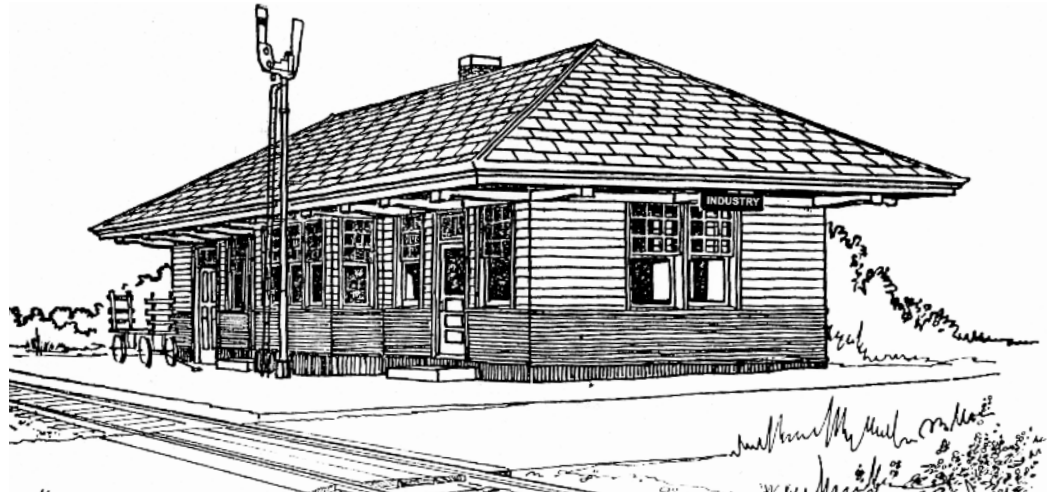
PRINTING AND MAILING

Bob Miner
Don Wawrzyniak

©2012 Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum. The Semaphore is published monthly by the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum. It is mailed free to all members. Non-member subscriptions are \$12.00 and run from January 1 to December 31. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month, and the Board of Trustees meets the first Thursday of each month. Any items related to the activities of the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum, and regional railroad history and current events are gladly accepted.

TRAIN BULLETIN

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM R&GVRRM



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Please join us in welcoming our new members! At January's meeting we voted in **David Boswell** of Rochester, N.Y. David's interests are restoration, construction, and train operations. Please also welcome **Douglas Morgan** of Honeoye Falls, N.Y. Doug is the Lima Town Historian and his interests are publications and historical research, and in our library archive. **Welcome aboard!**

UPCOMING MEETING PROGRAMS

Please join us for these upcoming great programs at our monthly membership meetings (of which you don't have to be a member to attend)! On **February 16, 2012**, museum member Chris Hauf will present "The New York Central's Empire State Express." On **March 15, 2012**, longtime museum member Peter Gores will present "16mm Promotional Films from the Association of American Railroads." Museum member John Stewart will present "Railroads in North Central Pennsylvania" on **April 19th, 2012**. Our Member's Slide Show Night and Elections is scheduled for **May 17**. For June, July, and August, we return to Industry Depot to enjoy rides over our demonstration railroad following the membership meeting. Bring a friend, all are welcome! Please check the listings on our web site for more information.

Fortunately, we have no shortage of programs coming up! The dates for 2012 are completely

filled. Before some cancellations were received, September 2013 was our first open date. Things have changed and I would like to fill the February and April dates in 2013. We will be featuring two separate Lehigh Valley nights in late 2012 and January 2013 where members will be invited to share any Lehigh Valley Railroad memorabilia.

If any of you have a program that you would like to present, please contact me. Call (585) 427-9159 or email haroldrussell@juno.com.

MUSEUM LIBRARY COMMITTEE:

YOUR LIBRARY IS OPEN FOR BUSINESS

The Museum Library has moved to a much bigger room at the 40 & 8 Club, located at 933 University Avenue, in Rochester, the same location where we have our monthly membership meetings. The library is open the first and third Mondays of each month and also before our monthly meetings. A large number of books, tapes and more have been added over the summer for our members to enjoy. Looking to get involved? Any volunteer help is appreciated. Please contact Bob Fleck by email at rcfleck@rochester.rr.com or call (585) 338-7205.

Visit us at www.rgvrrm.org
[facebook.com/rgvrrm](https://www.facebook.com/rgvrrm)
[youtube.com/rgvrrm](https://www.youtube.com/rgvrrm)
rgvrrm.blogspot.com

JOIN THE MUSEUM TODAY

Annual Dues: \$25.00

Rochester & Genesee Valley RR Museum

P.O. Box 23326

Rochester, NY 14692-3326

PLAN AHEAD: Next Meeting:

March 15

40&8 Club - Rochester, NY



ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: WWW.RGVRRM.ORG

MUSEUM CONTACT INFO

MUSEUM PRESIDENT

David Scheiderich

(585) 301-1019 boblenon@gmail.com

MOTIVE POWER SUPERINTENDENT

Joe Nugent

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

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Sam Rosenberg

ALC0251@frontiernet.net

2012 BOOK OF RULES CLASS

As this diet-winter marches on, we will have our first joint Rule Classes for Train, Trolley and Track Cars. *If you plan on participating in the operation of trains, trolleys, or track cars in 2012, you are required take this class.* The first class session will be held March 10 in Room 2240 in the Center for Integrated Manufacturing Studies (CIMS, Building 78) at RIT from 9:00AM to 12:30PM. The Air Brake and Train Handling class will follow from 12:30PM to 5:00PM, and is required for anyone whom wants to be a Conductor, Fireman or Engineer. The best option for parking is in J Lot or T Lot, located at the northwest corner of the campus just off East River Road. Maps can be found at <http://facilities.rit.edu/campus/maps/> Please RSVP to **Dave Scheiderich** by email at boblenon@gmail.com if you plan on attending.

DEPOT GUIDES NEEDED

Not interested in train operations? We are always in need of Depot Guides throughout the year. Depot Guides greet our visitors when they get off the train, and help interpret our many displays. Without them, our visitors show up to closed displays and a shuttered depot. We need your help to keep our museum open to the public. Please contact **Mike Root** by email at mikeroor@clearwire.net.

NYMT GIFT SHOP

The gift shop and ticket desk at the NYMT is the front door to both of our organizations. The gift shop is the first thing our



Museum volunteer Lynn Heintz installs one of the two water pumps in our 1939 Ford Railway Express Agency truck on January 7, 2012. Lynn has been working hard to get the mechanical work done and has had the motor running already. Once the mechanical work is complete, the museum will tackle the cosmetic restoration. The museum is seeking photos of similar trucks to aid in our restoration efforts. Please contact us! CHRIS HAUF PHOTO



Our shop's concrete floor supports multiple projects... Our venerable track car passenger trailer (built by museum volunteer Neil Bellinger nearly 15 years ago) has come into the shop for wood replacement and preparation for painting as seen here from the Tuesday, February 7, 2012 work session. The car has been positioned on the new concrete floor for easy access. CHRIS HAUF PHOTO

visitors see, and it's also the place where tickets for our joint trolley and train rides are purchased as well. The NYMT can use our help to staff the gift shop, which can get quite busy between incoming visitors

and folks looking to purchase souvenirs. Please contact **Jim Dierks** by email at dierks66@frontiernet.net if you can spare a Sunday or two to help out. Every volunteer hour counts!



MUSEUM NEWS



ABOVE: On January 15, 2012, our Lehigh Valley caboose was moved on its own wheels into our Restoration Shop. The Museum board has approved a comprehensive restoration plan, clearing the way for our fundraising efforts to restore this car. Work has already begun on restoring and repairing the steel exterior. We'll need additional donations to cover the cost of rehabilitation. Visit www.rgvrrm.org/support to make your donation! JOE NUGENT PHOTO

RIGHT: On February 4, volunteer Jim Bridgen used a borrowed needle scaler to begin the process of removing the old Conrail paint in preparation for grit blasting and priming this coming spring. The Museum is currently working on acquiring several additional needle scalers to aid in the work on LV 95100 and several other upcoming projects. We can now support several air tools at once due to our install in 2011 of a new 80-gallon Ingersoll Rand air compressor and drier system in our shop. CHRIS HAUF PHOTO





ABOVE: On February 4, museum vice president Joe Nugent gets to work on Lehigh Valley Railroad caboose 95100. The frames for the protective window screens added later in the cabooses life are being removed since they are badly corroded. At this time, the plan is to rebuild the caboose without them, however, the best ones removed will be kept as patterns should the museum decide to fabricate and install new ones in the future. **RIGHT:** To help repair some sheet metal on the exterior of the car near the side sill, the caboose's ice box (seen here) has to be removed. The first steps were to remove some wooden trim and angle iron from around the front of it; all of which has been removed in this photo. The ice chest appears to be through bolted to the floor, and we are in the process of trying to understand how those bolts are fastened to the underside of the ice chest. These things don't come with manuals so there is a lot of investigative work that needs to take place during restoration. CHRIS HAUF PHOTOS



Keep up with your museum! Read *THE SEMAPHORE*

Starting with the January 2012 issue of *THE SEMAPHORE*, we are moving to an all-digital distribution as a way to save money and increase timeliness. You can continue to download and read issues of *THE SEMAPHORE* uninterrupted one of three ways. Continue to visit our web site at rgvrrm.org/newsletter and look for monthly updates. Museum members will be automatically added to our new members-only mailing list and receive monthly email notices when the new issue is ready to download (not sure if we have your email? Contact Membership Chair Sam Rosenberg). **If you wish to continue getting a printed copy of *THE SEMAPHORE* mailed to you each month, the rate is \$5.00 a year for members, \$12.00 a year for non-members.** Newsletters will now be mailed at USPS First Class rate. Payment for print subscriptions can be sent to Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum, P.O. Box 23326, Rochester, NY 14692-3326.

Photos from the "Big Move" – Jan. 15, 2012

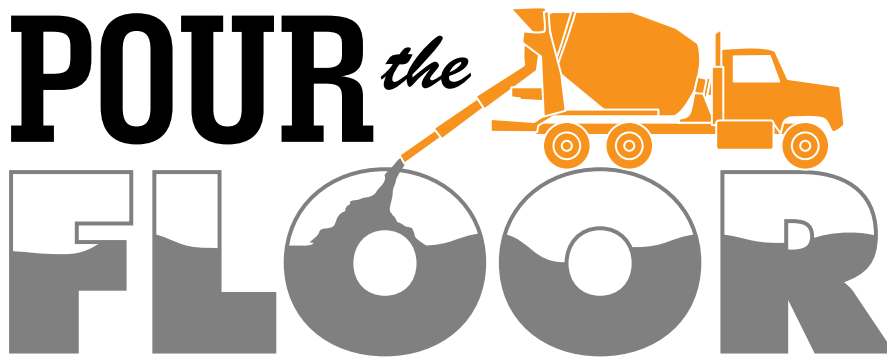


With the help of our friends at the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad, we were able to move our former New York Central *Empire State Express* coaches over to their new storage siding on the west side of the LAL main line. At the same time, we moves our LV caboose and our NYC flatcar over to the Industry depot side. Here are just a few photos from volunteer from this very productive day of switching. For more photos, visit our Facebook fan page at www.facebook.com/rgvrrm



TOP: Our former Army Fairbanks-Morse switcher holds the main with the *Alonzo P. Cornell*, one of two Railway Post Office cars built for *Empire State Express* service. **MIDDLE LEFT:** The Lehigh Valley caboose and New York Central 50' flatcar were left south of the switch in front of the depot while the passenger cars were switched out. **PHOTOS BY CHRIS HAUF** **MIDDLE RIGHT:** USA 1834 heads north with the *Alonzo* while RGV 1654 comes down the Hill Block with another coach. **ABOVE:** At the end of the day, USA 1843 leads all seven passenger cars, preparing to place the set on the new storage siding at right. Many volunteers plus assistance from the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville made this move possible! **PHOTO BY DUNCAN RICHARDS**

You can help! Visit www.rgvrrm.org/support



Pour The Floor! Our fundraising goal is \$75,000.00. These funds will allow us to complete the entire flat floor and completely install our inspection pit with all of its necessary components including stairs, railings, power and lighting. A complete shop floor will help expand and enhance our restoration and maintenance abilities.

DONATE A TON...



**...TO FILL OUR CARS
& BALLAST OUR SIDING!**

EACH FULL CAR REPRESENTS 10 TONS OF STONE

Donate a Ton! The Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum has completed a new storage siding west of the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville mainline to house its six-car ex-New York Central *Empire State Express* stainless steel passenger car set. At a minimum to hold that train, the museum needs six hundred feet of tangent siding. Our largest expense is purchasing crushed stone to ballast the siding. 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 www.rgvrrm.org/support to donate today!**

YAHOO! GROUPS New groups take effect in February

In an effort to streamline our communications, we are moving our old email distribution lists to new Yahoo! Groups! Joining the new groups is easy, plus it gives you more control over how you communicate with others.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rgvrrm-friends> - This announcement-only list is open to anyone interested in the activities of our museum. Intended for the general public and event promotion.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rgvrrm-members> - This list is open to all members in good standing, and is provided so that members can communicate with each other on a variety of railroading topics.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rgvrrm-volunteers> - This list is intended specifically for the discussion of museum projects and improvements.

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/rgvrrm-operations> - This list is intended for discussion amongst members of the Operations Department, including engineers, conductors, brakemen, students, and track car operators. Crew calls will also go out through this list.

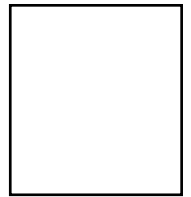
Not sure where you belong? Contact Otto Vondrak by email at ovondrak@yahoo.com.

MATERIALS SUBMISSIONS: We welcome your contributions to The Semaphore! Any materials related to the activities of the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum, as well as the history of Rochester's railroads are welcome for publication in the *Semaphore*. All written materials should be submitted as Microsoft Word or plain text documents, and all photographs as high-resolution JPEG files. Materials and inquiries should be emailed to the Editor at ovondrak@yahoo.com or call (585) 820-2341.



THE SEMAPHORE

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



This Month's Meeting:

February 16

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

Next Month's Meeting:

March 15

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



— find us on Facebook: facebook.com/rgvrrm —



Hard to believe that this caboose was sitting in a scrap yard just a few months ago. Now she's inside our restoration shop to be returned to its original Lehigh Valley appearance. The LV 95100 made the trip on her own wheels on January 15, 2012. PHOTO BY JOE NUGENT