

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**March 21**  
**"Hojack Swing Bridge"**  
 A review by **Harold Russell**  
 and **Chris Playford**



**CLASS IS NOW IN SESSION:** Operations Dept. Superintendent David Scheiderich leads the first Rules Class session of 2013 in a classroom at RIT on March 9. These classes are mandatory for anyone operating track cars, trolleys, or diesels, as well as brakemen and conductors. JOE NUGENT PHOTO

# Spring into action!

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Winter is winding down and Spring is just around the corner! As the snow begins to melt away, we're going to be busy getting ready for our 2013 joint operating season in cooperation with our friends at New York Museum of Transportation.

Now is your chance to jump in and get involved with train operations at our museum! We had our first Rules Class on March 9, and soon will follow-up with hands-on training classes for all train crews. Another Rules Class session will be held in June if you missed the March session. Anyone is eligible to take these classes and learn how to safely operate trains at our museum. Please contact **Dave Scheiderich** (boblenon@gmail.com) for more details.

Train crew not your thing? Consider helping out as a Depot Guide and conducting tours at the museum. We are always in

need of outgoing folks to interact with our visitors! We'll show you what you need to know to interact with our visitors and make it a fun experience. Please contact **Otto Vondrak** (ovondrak@yahoo.com) for more details.

In the coming weeks we'll be doing our own version of "spring cleaning" from the depot to the grounds and the trains our visitors will ride. It takes a lot of helping hands to get ready for the next operating season... If you've got a few hours to spare, come on down to the museum and help. Every contribution counts!

Would you like to help out at the museum and you're not sure where to start? Please contact me at (716) 474-2833 or **mdow@rochester.rr.com**. I'd like to hear from you!

—Mike Dow, Museum President



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

#### MUSEUM OFFICERS

##### PRESIDENT

Mike Dow  
(716) 474-2833

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Dave Peet

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The official publication of  
the Rochester & Genesee Valley  
Railroad Museum

Volume 56, No. 5

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©2013 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

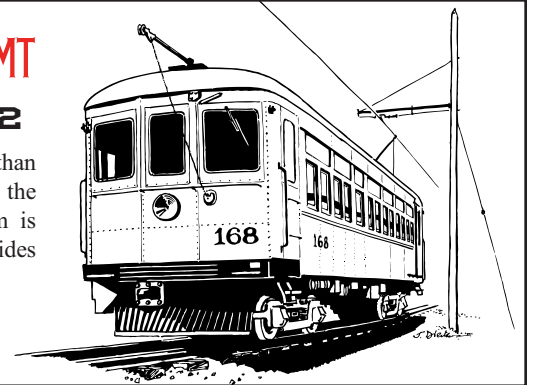
NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM R&GVRRM

## SPRINGTIME TROLLEY RIDES AT NYMT

**SUNDAYS APRIL 7 - MAY 12**

What better way to enjoy springtime in Rochester than with a trolley ride through beautiful countryside at the New York Museum of Transportation. The museum is open 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and the 20-minute rides depart at 12:00, 12:30, 1:00 and 1:30.

**Admission: \$5 adults, \$4 kids under 12**  
Visit <http://nymtmuseum.org/> for details



### R&GVRRM MEMBERSHIP MEETING FEBRUARY 21, 2013

The February Museum Membership Meeting was called to order at the 40&8 Club, 933 University Avenue, Rochester, at 7:30 p.m. Museum president Michael Dow presiding.

**Correspondence Report:** None

**Historian's Report:** Historian Donovan Schilling gave a glowing report of the Genesee & Wyoming Industries' latest activities and acquisition of the RailAmerica family of short lines.

**Membership Report:** Sam Rosenberg reported that there were six new members; **Dave Gardener** of Walworth; and **Ken Gardener** of Rochester; **John Lomenzo** of Penfield; **Chris Jacobs** of Avon; and **Paul Yonge** of Syracuse. A MOTION was made by Sam Rosenberg to accept the candidates as new members. The motion passed unanimously. We are now at an 85% renewal rate!

**Preservation/Operations Report:** Mike Dow announced the fact that there will be no excursions on the LA&L due to their increased business, busy maintenance schedule, and various other reasons. Joe Nugent mentioned the Restoration Building cleanup for the pit area; the pit drawings are to be finalized. The Lehigh Valley caboose has been paint stripped, had sheet metal repairs, etc. performed on it. Dave Scheidrich announced the Book of Rules Classes will be on March 9 (Saturday) as well as on June 2 (Sunday).

**Museum Library Report:** Bob Fleck announced that the library will be open from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on the first Monday as well as any of the meeting nights at 40 & 8 Club.

**New Business:** We now have a Property Planning Committee to be headed by Rob Burz. Mark Wilczek will be heading the Freight House Exploratory Committee. The NYMT has agreed to the new ticket price increases we proposed. The Sanitary Pump System is on its way according to Jeremy Tuke. Otto Vondrak has been named head of our Public Relation Department. Sunday March 2 will have a meeting to formulate a Depot Guide Job Description. Otto also has a Depot Project to clean-up and organize things there. There is a Collections Management Committee run by Otto as well; Joel R. Shaw, Jeremy Tuke, Rand Warner and Joe Nugent have agreed to join this team effort.

**By-Laws Change:** The By-Law Change as described on page 5 in the February 2013 Semaphore (Vol. 56 No. 6) was presented in a Cliff's Notes fashion by our President Mike Dow. This would change the election time to insure a better continuity during any officer transitions. There was a MOTION by Dave Scheidrich to accept the changes as described. All were agreeable to this action.

Jeremy Tuke made a motion to adjourn; The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

—Joel R. Shaw, Recording Secretary

## VISIT US ONLINE:

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

### 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 21**

at 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 PRESIDENT

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(716) 474-2833 [mdow@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mdow@rochester.rr.com)

#### MUSEUM MANGER

David Scheiderich

(585) 301-1019 [boblenon@gmail.com](mailto:boblenon@gmail.com)

#### MOTIVE POWER SUPERINTENDENT

Joe Nugent

(585) 944-1047 [joe.r.nugent@gmail.com](mailto:joe.r.nugent@gmail.com)

#### MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Sam Rosenberg

[ALC0251@frontiernet.net](mailto:ALC0251@frontiernet.net)

### UPCOMING MUSEUM PROGRAMS MONTHLY MEETINGS

We have resumed our monthly meetings at the 40&8 VFW Club, located at 933 University Ave., Rochester. Everyone is welcome to attend! The museum store opens at 7:00 p.m., with the general business meeting starting at 7:30. Programs usually start around 8:15 following the business meeting. Bring a friend! Please visit our web site for more information at [www.rgvrrm.org](http://www.rgvrrm.org).

**March 21:** "Charlotte Hojack Swing Bridge In Existence and Dismantling" by Chris Playford and Harold Russell. Chris will share his digital images of the bridge's dismantling from November 2012, while Harold will share his slides made in 2005 while gathering field data.

**April 18:** "Cass State Park Shays, Heislars, and a Climax" by Irene Szabo. Cass State Park is a remnant of the more than 3,000 miles of logging railroads climbed through West Virginia. Today eleven miles remain at Cass, perfumed by the heady smell of working coal smoke.

**May 15:** Members' Slide Night and Museum Elections. Details to follow.

—Harold Russell, Program Co-Chair

### 2013 DEPOT GUIDES WANTED

We need you! As our attendance continues to grow, Depot Guides are more important than ever. Not only do we need Depot



Lynn Heintz performs some work on our REA delivery truck, which is being restored to its original condition in an ongoing project. Lynn has been preparing to relocate the truck from the Restoration Building to temporary quarters so we can begin construction of our indoor inspection pit. Everyone is pitching in so construction can begin this summer. PHOTO BY JOE NUGENT

Guides for regular Sunday operations, but we also need help for our many tour groups that visit us throughout the weekdays. **Without your help, we are forced to close our doors, losing much needed revenue and denying our visitors the full museum experience.**

You do not need to be an encyclopedia of railroad knowledge, nor do you need to be a flamboyant showman like P.T.

Barnum. All you need is a willingness to greet our visitors and help interpret the displays in and around Industry Depot. This year Mike Root and Otto Vondrak will be teaming up to offer training to anyone interested in becoming a Depot Guide.

**This is your opportunity to get involved.** There will be a preliminary meeting for all volunteers interested in volunteering as Depot Guides on Sunday,

March 31, at 2:00 p.m. down at Industry Depot. We'll talk about some of the changes taking place to our museum grounds and displays and talk about training. You don't need to know everything about our collection, and you don't need to work alone. Still on the fence? Come to our meeting on March 31 and find out what it's all about!

—Otto Vondrak

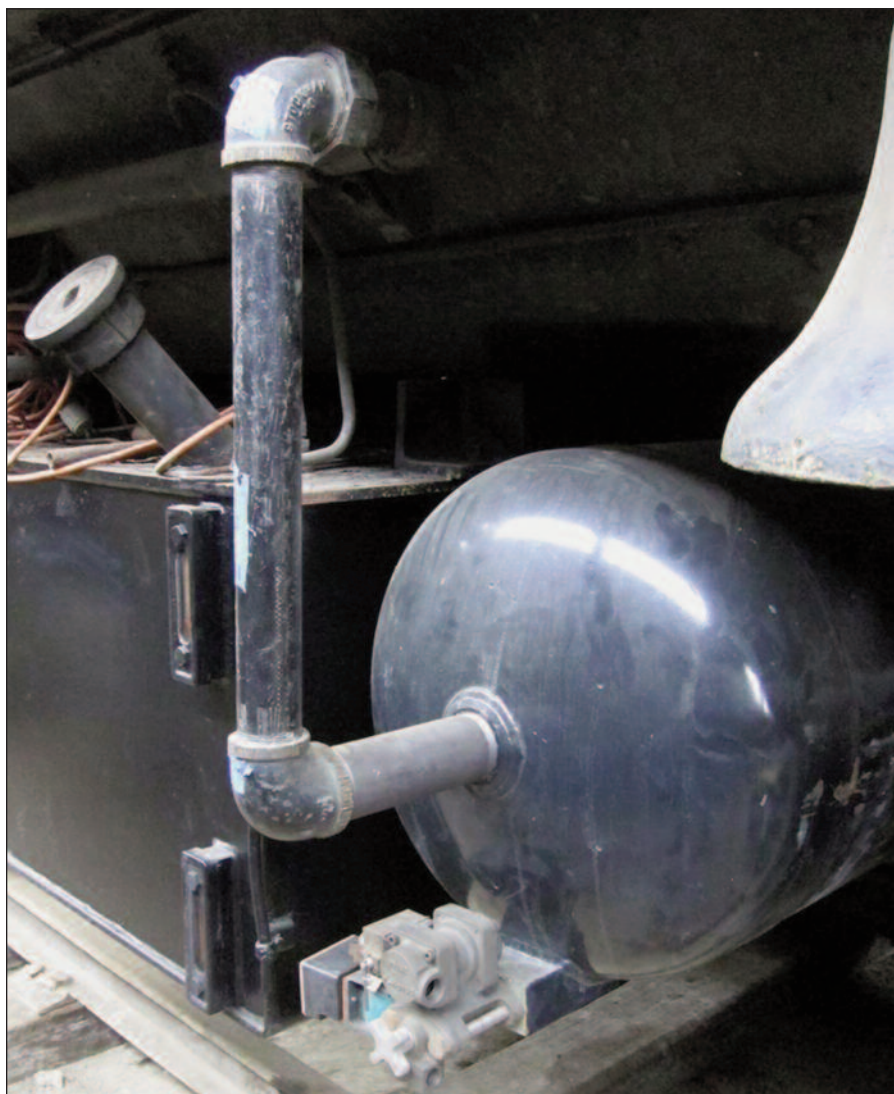
### SPRING CLEAN-UP CONTINUES

Volunteers will be working through the next few months to prepare our property for visitors as well as clearing out the Restoration Building so we can begin construction of our new indoor inspection pit. We need everyone's help to make this project a success. Please contact Joe Nugent ([joe.r.nugent@gmail.com](mailto:joe.r.nugent@gmail.com)) and let him know when you can help out.

# LEHIGH VALLEY 95100

## PROJECT UPDATE

Work has continued through the winter months on the restoration and repair of Lehigh Valley caboose 95100. Window plugs and heaters installed in the fall make for more comfortable work space in the dead of winter!



Thanks to the efforts of volunteer, Mike Walsh, ex-Rochester Gas & Electric GE 110-tonner #8's new air tanks are now plumbed in. He even found a spare electric condensation spitter in our spare motive power parts. #8 has two air tanks, however, so we need a second one. Anyone out there have a spare? PHOTO BY CHRIS HAUF





**TOP:** The east side of the Lehigh Valley caboose has had all its damaged steel removed from the sill area, and will soon be replaced with all new steel. **OPPOSITE:** Rob Burz uses an angle grinder to remove rusty and rotten metal from the sill of the Lehigh Valley caboose. **ABOVE LEFT:** Thanks to the window plugs and heaters installed over the winter, we have a warm space to do work inside the caboose! Dave Peet scrapes paint from the interior metal surfaces inside the caboose. **ABOVE CENTER:** Jeremy Tuke uses a heat gun to soften and help remove paint from the wooden ceiling of the Lehigh Valley caboose. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Mark Wilczek uses an orbital sander to sand down the surfaces of the stripped wooden interior and prepare it for primer and fresh paint! Work will continue through the spring so we can get ready for painting and finishing throughout. We can always use your help, and your monetary donations are always appreciated as well. PHOTO BY JOE NUGENT

# Amtrak projects move forward in Rochester, Schenectady

Amtrak and New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) executives joined federal and local officials to announce an agreement that calls for the state to manage the Rochester Intermodal Transportation Center project and for Amtrak to assume a lead role in the operation of the new \$23 million facility. Amtrak will continue to own and operate the intermodal center, which will be built at the site of an existing Amtrak station at 320 Central Avenue in Rochester.

Now that the facility's ownership has been determined, final design and construction will be led by NYSDOT, state officials said in a prepared statement. The state will pursue a design/build procurement to advance the project, said NYSDOT Commissioner Joan McDonald.

NYSDOT, Amtrak and Rochester city officials, and U.S. Rep. Louise Slaughter (D-N.Y.) will form a steering committee to oversee the work. Designed to complement the architecture of nearby buildings, the facility will replace a 35-year-old, "temporary" station that lacks certain modern amenities, state officials said. The project also includes track improvements and a new high-level platform to improve accessibility for people with disabilities and help reduce train delays.

"The grand new facility will serve as a gateway for our Empire Corridor passengers, and enhances our ability to provide improved reliability and accessibility across the state," said Amtrak President and Chief Executive Officer Joseph Boardman.

NYSDOT and the Federal Railroad Administration provided \$3.5 million in funding for the project's preliminary engineering and environmental phase. The intermodal center will be funded by a \$15 million Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery grant, as well as \$7.5 million from the state and \$500,000 from the city.

—*Progressive Railroad*

## New Schenectady Station

The proposed Schenectady Intermodal station project is located at 332 Erie Boulevard, Schenectady N.Y. along the New York State Empire Corridor. The project will demolish the existing Amtrak



Rendering of the proposed Rochester Intermodal Transportation Center.

station and rebuild an intermodal center on the same footprint to create a central hub for the residents of the City of Schenectady and surrounding Schenectady County to access many modes of transportation. The new center will provide an Amtrak passenger rail ticketing counter, new restrooms, new rail platforms and canopies, as well as a realigned staircase that is compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for passenger access to the trains. In conjunction with the proposed new station, the site surrounding the center will be improved with new landscaping, lighting, improved traffic and parking flow, increased security, safe pedestrian and bicycle movements throughout the site.

Another component of this project will repair the waterproofing membrane located beneath the existing tracks in order to prevent continued water infiltration into the station building. The current station exhibits signs of extensive water damage due to poor drainage from the tracks into the station building, and this problem requires remediation prior to construction of a new, water tight station. The Schenectady Intermodal Station project supports the development of high speed intercity passenger rail service by

improving the structural integrity of the Schenectady Amtrak station building, track platforms, and other track structures, while improving passenger access to and from bus, rail, and other modes of transportation. The station building will

also provide ADA compliant passenger access to Amtrak train platforms for intercity passenger rail service.

The total cost to build the intermodal station projected to be \$14.15 M. Currently CDTA has received and is drawing down \$1.1M received from the Federal Transportation Administration for preliminary engineering. For the needed \$13.05 million for final design and construction, CDTA applied for two grants in the summer of 2010, one through the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) for the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail (HSIPR) grant, and the other through the TIGER II grant. For the HSIPR grant, CDTA applied for \$10.4M to the FRA with NYSDOT to match \$2.6M. In the TIGER II grant application, CDTA requested \$8.55M with \$4.5 million dollars from STP-Flex to be used as match. CDTA received STP Flex (Federal) money from CDTC, in the amount of \$4.5 million to build this project several years ago. In September 2010, CDTA was awarded \$4.2 million from the 2005 State Rail Bond funds also to be used for construction activities for

this project, bringing the total amount of available funds to \$8.7 million. This leaves a shortfall of \$4.3 million needed to fund final design and construction activities for the Schenectady Intermodal Station.

—CDTA

**Volunteer! Visit [www.rgvrrm.org/volunteer](http://www.rgvrrm.org/volunteer)**

### **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. Make our guests feel welcome so they come away with good memories. We need your help to keep our museum open to the public, and we'll show you everything you need to know and make it fun! Get involved! Please contact **Otto Vondrak** by email at [ovondrak@yahoo.com](mailto:ovondrak@yahoo.com).

### **NYMT GIFT SHOP HELP WANTED**

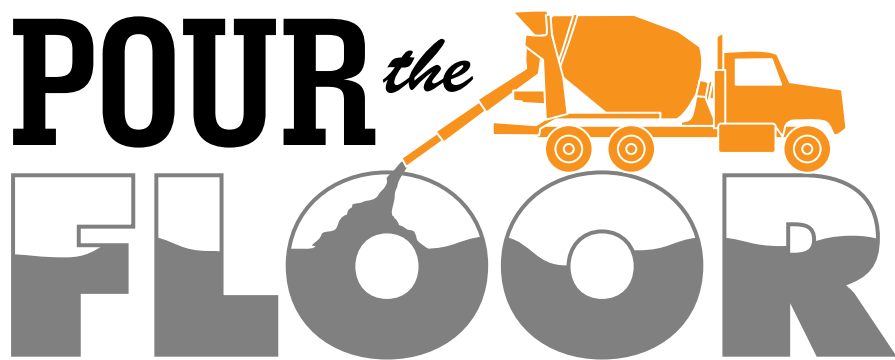
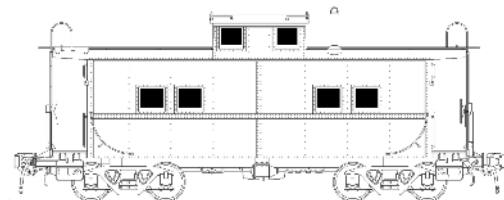
The gift shop and ticket desk at the NYMT is the front door to both of our organizations. The gift shop is the first thing our visitors see, and it is also the place where tickets for our joint trolley and train rides are purchased as well. The NYMT can use our help to staff the gift shop, which can get quite busy between incoming visitors and folks looking to purchase souvenirs. Please email **Jim Dierks** at [dierks66@frontiernet.net](mailto:dierks66@frontiernet.net) if you can spare a Sunday or two to help out.

**Giving just an hour a week helps your museum grow**

**You can help! Visit [www.rgvrrm.org/support](http://www.rgvrrm.org/support)**

## **Help us complete our LV caboose!**

**You can help us return a historic Lehigh Valley Railroad caboose to the rails!** We are trying to raise \$2500 to help pay for continued restoration of the body as well as preparation for painting and finishing. As of February 11 we have raised \$1400. **Your donation in any amount will help!**



**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.

**JOINT MUSEUM OPENING DAY**  
**MAY 19**

**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](mailto:ovondrak@yahoo.com) or call (585) 820-2341.

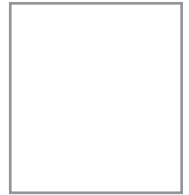


**THE SEMAPHORE**

ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

P.O. BOX 23326

ROCHESTER, NY 14692-3326



This Month's Meeting:

**March 21**

7:00 PM at 40&8 Club

933 University Ave, Rochester NY

Next Month's Meeting:

**April 21**

7:00 PM at 40&8 Club

933 University Ave, Rochester NY



— find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/rgvrrm](https://facebook.com/rgvrrm) —



The New York Central purchased diesels from a variety of builders in the postwar era, some of which had converted from manufacturing steam locomotives. The Baldwin DR-4-4-15 was a 1,500-horsepower diesel locomotive built for freight service by the Baldwin Locomotive Works between 1947 and 1950. They were built in two body configurations, nicknamed "Babyface" (shown above), and the "Sharknose" (which resembled the later more well-known RF-16's). Nos. 3200, 3300 and 3201 pose outside the Baldwin works in October 1947. These units were soon passed over in favor of newer high-horsepower diesels from EMD, and were stricken from the roster by the 1960s. NEW YORK CENTRAL SYSTEM HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTO - NYCShS.ORG