



Our Industry Depot looked a lot different 100 years ago. The former Oatka passenger station was moved north of the new depot and repurposed as the freight house. Maybe someday a replica will take its place? See page 4 for details. PHOTO COURTESY STEAMTOWN NHS ARCHIVES

Spring Into Action

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It always seems like we are always short of volunteers to help complete the many tasks we have down at the museum. Even if 100 new volunteers showed up on our doorstep tomorrow, where would we direct them? What would they work on? Who would help teach them our policies and procedures while working safely? Who would encourage them to return?

The truth is, we can't just expect people to show up, hope they end up in the right place, and then find something to do. **We are in desperate need of project leaders to help organize volunteers and manage their resources.** Without project leaders, we have no point of contact to direct our volunteers to. Without project leaders, no one is keeping track of the work and making sure projects are completed in a reasonable amount of time.

No special experience is required to be a project leader, other than a willingness to be available on a regular basis. We have many volunteers who are eager to help, but we have no where to send them. The Board identified several priority projects to be completed in 2013, that would be an excellent place to start. Perhaps you see another project in need of completion? Are you looking for a project to join?

Our museum volunteers are capable of great things when we work together. Someone needs to take the lead so we remain organized and on budget. 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

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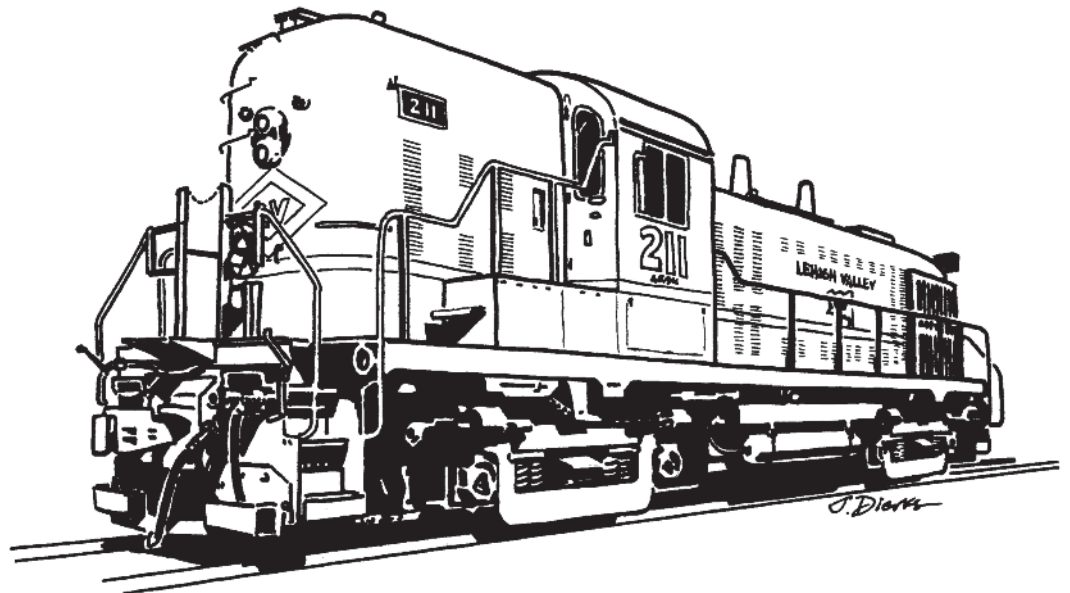
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Bob Miner
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TRAIN BULLETIN

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



R&GVRRM MEMBERSHIP MEETING MARCH 21, 2013

The March Museum Membership Meeting was called to order at the 40&8 Club, 933 University Avenue, Rochester, at 7:30 p.m. Museum trustee Otto Vondrak presiding in absence of Mike Dow.

A moment of silence was observed in honor of long-time volunteer Bob Mader, who passed away on March 21. Bob's son in law Brian Wiley said a few words about how much he took pride in volunteering at the museum over the years.

Correspondence Report: None

Historian's Report: Otto Vondrak noted that the Fall 1984 issue of the Tri-State Chapter NRHS newsletter "The Block Line" had an article on the retirement of the former Erie-Lackawanna m.u. cars by NJ Transit. Our car #4628 was the last car on the last train to leave Hoboken Terminal for service on the Gladstone Branch before the new trains were put into service.

Membership Report: Sam Rosenberg reported that there was one new member, **Elliot Courtney**, an RIT student. A motion was made by Sam Rosenberg to accept the new member. The motion passed unanimously. On a happy note, we are at an 90% renewal rate!

Preservation/Operations Report: Dave Scheiderich announced the Museum Opening Day

on May 19. Our Lehigh Valley caboose sides have had all of the bad metal removed; they are now ready for some new steel to be put on. All of the inside paint has been stripped off. Otto has announced that Saturday, April 6 will have the first training session for Depot Guides. Mark Wilczek prepared drawings for new depot display cabinets.

Museum Library Report: 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: Bob Gabey, local manager for Operation Lifesaver, is asking for volunteers to be trained as OL safety program presenters. Otto noted that all our special events for 2013 are now listed on our web site and our Facebook fan page.

Program Committee: The Hojack Swing Bridge as presented by Harold Russell and Chris Playford. The bridge was in use from 1905 -to- 1996.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

—Joel R. Shaw, Recording Secretary

VISIT US ONLINE:

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:

May 15

at 40&8 Club, Rochester NY



ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: WWW.RGVRRM.ORG

MUSEUM CONTACT INFO

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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Sam Rosenberg

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C. ROBERT MADER - 1931-2013

We are saddened to note the passing of long-time museum volunteer and friend Bob Mader on March 21 after a long battle with illness. Please see our tribute on page 5. If you have memories you would like to share, please contact the Editor.

MOTIVE POWER DEPT.

Spring is sprung. It's that time of year again! A work session will be held shortly to ready three locomotives for service this season. **R&GV 1654** (GE 80-ton) and **RG&E 1941** (GE 45-ton) will need a thorough cleaning and inspection before they can operate this year. **US Army 1843** (Fairbanks Morse H-12-44) will also be readied for service, and will need to be pre-lubed, cleaned, and inspected. This engine will be on stand-by for the season. Meanwhile, **LV 211** (Alco RS-3m) is down for some much needed water pump service and other general repairs. Please contact me at joe.r.nugent@gmail.com if you want to get involved! Our other locomotives will remain stored for the season.

In other news, Mike Walsh continues to lead a team of volunteers to bring **RG&E 8** (GE 110-ton) back to service. Work continues on replumbing the brakes and other items. Would you like to help? Please contact Mike by email only for more details at glemike@gmail.com.

—Joe Nugent, Motive Power Supt.



Volunteers John Redden and Rick Israelson make repairs and refinish the steel tool box for our tool car trailer. A tarp was hung around the work area to help contain the dust and debris. The box was completely repainted and mounted back on the trailer. Thanks to the help of many volunteers, this project should be complete by the time you read this. PHOTO BY JOE NUGENT

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.

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 PROGRAM CHANGE: Craig

Woodworth will present "Coast to Coast by Train." Craig retired in 1987 from a 34 year career as an electrical engineer with Niagara Mohawk Power Corp. (then proceeded to work part-time another 16 years as a consultant). He lives with his wife Ruth in Tonawanda, New York.

—Harold Russell, Program Co-Chair

FREIGHT HOUSE COMMITTEE

We are currently talking with suppliers and contractors to put together an estimate for the cost of building a replica structure on the site where the freight house once stood north of Industry Depot. This building could potentially house our museum library collection, or a meeting space, or crew rooms and public rest rooms. Joel Shaw and John Stewart have provided necessary information on the space requirements needed. Once these estimates are in, we will consider proposals for the feasibility of reconstructing this piece of history.

—Mark Wilczek

NEW DEPOT DISPLAY CABINETS

Our new depot displays are beginning to take shape. New Energy Works (sister company of Pioneer Millworks) has supplied us with some reclaimed fir stock at a very reasonable price. This material will become the cabinet fronts and doors of the new display cabinets. The cabinets should be in production by the time you read this and installed in the South Waiting Room by the end of April.

—Mark Wilczek

MUSEUM CLEAN-UP AND COOKOUT

Please join us on **Saturday, May 18**, for a special museum clean-up day and cook-out! We'll be putting the finishing touches on our museum displays, getting our trains ready for service, and performing a general clean-up around the property in anticipation of our Opening Day on May 19. Starting around 6:00 p.m. we will fire up the grill and start serving up hamburgs and hots, and enjoy a few train rides (weather permitting). Some jobs that need to be completed include sweeping out the depot, cleaning the depot windows, sweeping out our cabooses, cleaning up our display cars, landscaping around the depot area, cleaning up our parking area, mowing the grass and more. They may not sound like particularly exciting jobs, but every contribution will help tremendously! Please RSVP to Otto Vondrak (ovondrak@yahoo.com) if

LEHIGH VALLEY 95100



CABOOSE PROJECT UPDATE

TOP On April 6, volunteers Rob Burz and Joe Nugent (pictured using the needle scaler to remove surface rust) continued the steel removal from the west side of our Lehigh Valley Railroad caboose 95100. We are nearing the end of the lower steel removal on both sides and will soon be concentrating on installing new steel. **PHOTO BY JEREMY TUKE** **ABOVE:** More progress on March 23 on the west side of LV 95100. With all of the rivets cut along the side sills, the initial cuts (just above and left of center in the picture) in the side sheets have been made so the corroded lower steel can be removed in preparation for replacement. **PHOTO BY CHRIS HAUF**

you can attend the clean-up, and if you're coming to our cookout. Many hands make light work, so please help us put our best foot forward for the public this season!

—Otto Vondrak

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 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, May 5, 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 May 5 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) and let him know when you can help out.

STAY VIGILANT

As both museums have been the victim of vandalism and thefts of late, we need everyone's help to patrol our property. If you see something that looks out of place, please alert museum staff right away. **If you see illegal activity in progress, DO NOT APPROACH.** Get to a safe location and call 911.

NEW BOARD APPOINTMENT

Mark Wilczek was appointed to your museum's Board of Trustees by unanimous vote to fill the vacancy left by Bob Mader's untimely passing. Please join us in welcoming Mark to the board.

VISIT US ONLINE AT RGVRRM.ORG



Remembering Bob Mader

We are sad to report of the passing of fellow Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum volunteer Bob Mader on March 21. A carpenter by trade and a true craftsman he is pictured here last July on the velocipede he restored after it sat outside in someone's yard as a lawn ornament for over a decade. Bob made all the replacement wood spokes in the front wheel as an example of his work and attention to detail. However, Bob preferred to work on things mechanical rather than do carpentry at the museum. A master of the carburetor and a master tinkerer, he was our go to guy for getting any gas-powered vehicle running. Many of us had the pleasure of knowing him, volunteering with him, and learning from him during his 40-plus years of volunteering with us. His impact on our museum over the years has been vast, and many of his contributions will be with us for many years to come. He will be missed by all of us at the R&GVRRM.

Bob was born the son of Carl and Frances Dillenbeck Mader on November 5, 1931 in Dansville, New York. He was a retiree of Eastman Kodak and was a member of the Honeoye Falls United Methodist Church. He is survived by his daughter, Liesl (Brian) Wylie; grandsons, Christopher and Matthew; sister, Alice Styles. He was predeceased by his former wife, Joan Matthews; his son Christopher and his sister, Elizabeth Huber. In lieu of flowers, donations made be made to the church or to the Benincasa in Mendon. —Photo by Chris Hauf

HAVE YOU MISSED US?

Is this the first issue of the newsletter you've seen in a while? The Semaphore switched to an electronic distribution format to cut publishing and mailing costs, and only sends printed copies to those who pay for a subscription. We will continue to mail two issues a year to our members as a reminder. Newsletters can be read on our web site at www.rgvrrm.org or you can be put on our email list by contacting the Editor at ovondrak@yahoo.com.

New Rochester station breaks ground this summer



BY JESSICA ALAIMO

Local and federal officials will break ground Aug. 2 on a \$26.5 million intermodal train station in Rochester, Rep. Louise Slaughter announced Wednesday.

The project will be at the existing Amtrak Station at North Clinton Avenue and Joseph Avenue, but placed on a different part of the lot. It also will include bus terminals.

It is funded by \$18.5 million in federal grants, \$7.5 million in state funding and a half million dollars in city funding. The contract for the project will be awarded this summer. This project was selected for Federal Railroad Administration's High Speed Intercity Passenger Rail Program funding based on several planning and engineering studies done over the past decade. It was first identified in January 2006 by the New York State Senate Task Force on High Speed Rail and also in the 2009 "New York State Rail Plan – Strategies for a New Age." It is also found in the Northeast Corridor Infrastructure Master Plan of May 2010.

At a news conference Wednesday, the Democrat from Fairport stressed the aesthetics of the building.

"It's going to be situated in a different spot on the lot to look directly down Clinton Avenue. The landscaping is going to be wonderful, and the most important thing is that we are really paying very close attention to the security of the parking lot in that area," Slaughter said. "I think it's going to be an impetus for growth in that part of the city. It's very



Updated rendering of the proposed Rochester Intermodal Transportation Center, with a new bus terminal and expanded parking to be built in Phase II of the project. COURTESY NYSDOT

attractive. We're very happy about it."

The building will be modeled after the old station designed by architect Claude Bragdon, which was built by the New York Central in 1914 and demolished in 1965. The remaining portion of the old station was removed in 1978 and replaced with a standard utilitarian design described by many as an "Amshack."

Slaughter said the project would bring economic development to an area downtown that desperately needs it. In addition to the traffic that area will attract, the project will create 100 construction jobs and, when complete, some concession jobs. Phase II of the project will include a bus terminal located adjacent to the train station, and will expand parking and landscaping over the area currently occupied

by the Trailways facility.

The new facility will be handicapped-accessible. There will be dedicated passenger tracks and a high-level platform that passengers can load from both sides of the train. Preliminary renderings show the tracks closest to the new station will be fenced off and reserved for freight trains, while the new high-level platform will be accessed by a new pedestrian tunnel, stairs, and elevators on separate dedicated tracks. Preliminary designs have elected not to use the original pedestrian tunnels that run under the platforms and were sealed off in 1978.

—Portions of this article appeared in the Rochester Democrat & Chronicle, April 3, 2013, with additional information supplied by NYSDOT.

For more information, please visit the NYSDOT official web site at <https://www.dot.ny.gov/rochesterintermodalcenter>

Volunteer! Visit 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.

NYMT GIFT SHOP HELP WANTED

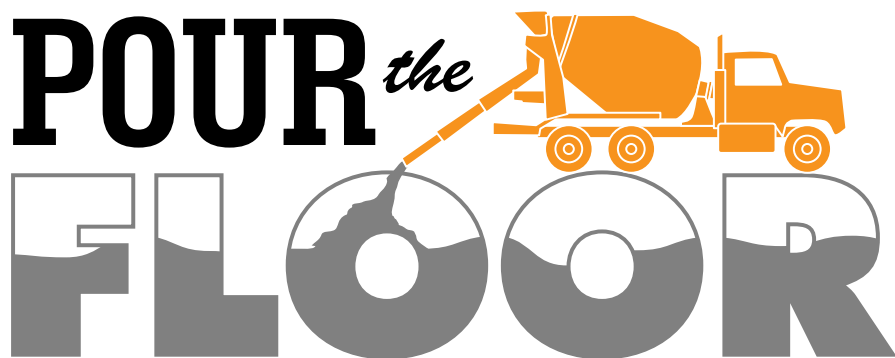
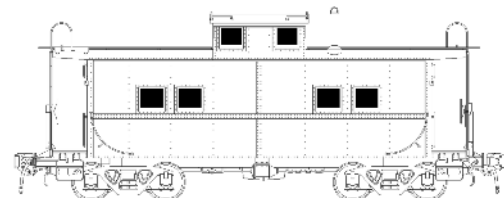
The gift shop and ticket desk at the NYMT is the front door to both of our organizations. The gift shop is the first thing our visitors see, and it is also the place where tickets for our joint trolley and train rides are purchased as well. The NYMT can use our help to staff the gift shop, which can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

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 or call (585) 820-2341.



THE SEMAPHORE

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

This Month's Meeting:

April 18

7:00 PM at 40&8 Club

933 University Ave, Rochester NY

Next Month's Meeting:

May 15

7:00 PM at 40&8 Club

933 University Ave, Rochester NY

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



In this undated photo, a Baltimore & Ohio train departs Main Street Station in Rochester. The B&O freight house is seen at left, and Morse Lumber is just off to the right. The Inner Loop and I-490 are still years in the future when this picture was taken. Today the freight house is gone, the station is now home to Nick Tahou's Hots, and the Rochester & Southern still ventures down here on a single track to deliver cars to Morse Lumber. If you can help pinpoint the date on this photo, please contact us! COURTESY ROCHESTERSUBWAY.COM