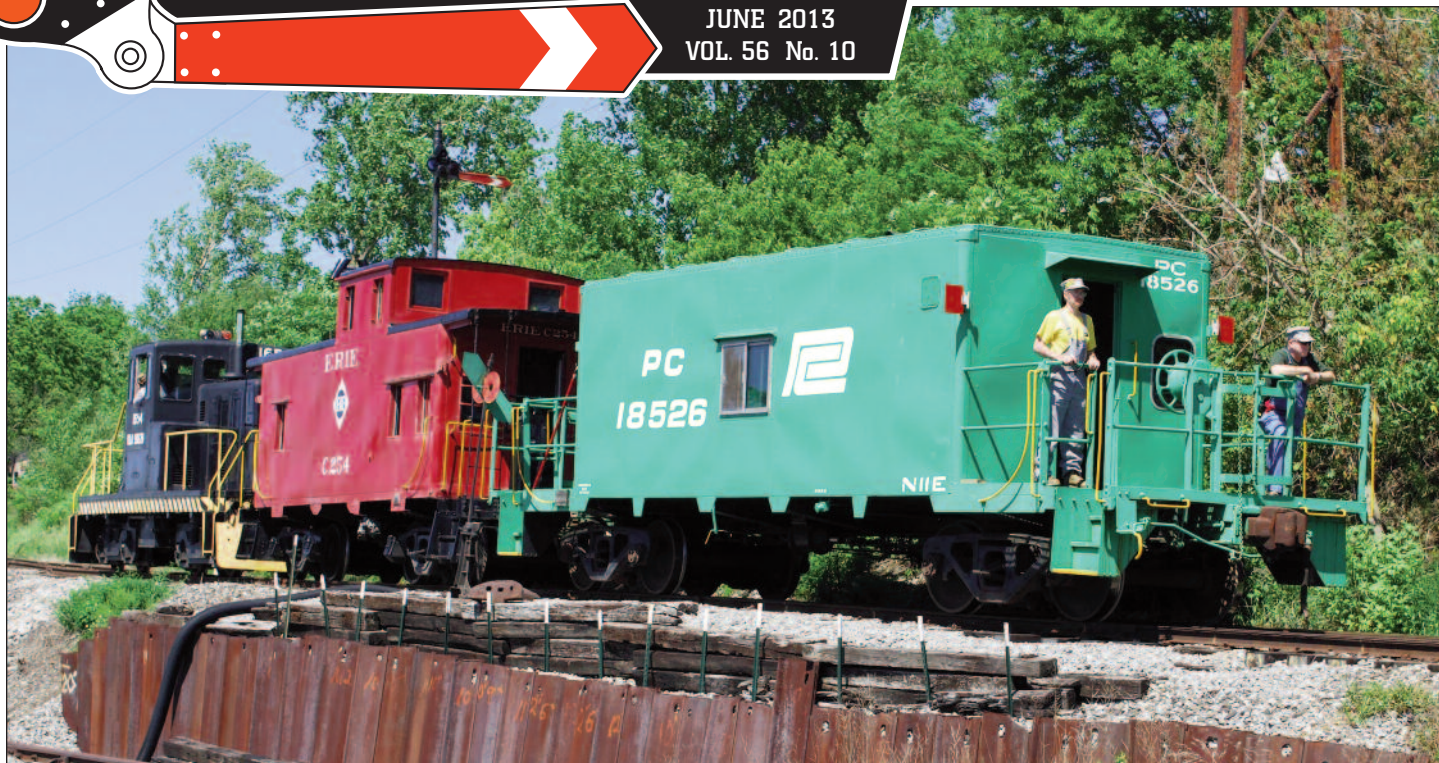


NEXT MEETING:
June 20
Join us at Industry Depot for a
ride on your museum railroad



Under the watchful eye of volunteer conductor Steve Huse and brakeman Mike Byrne, our regular museum shuttle train eases down the Hill Block into Industry Yard. Consisting of Penn Central transfer caboose 18526, Erie Railroad cupola caboose C254, and RGV 80-ton switcher 1654, this short train represents countless years of volunteer effort. From tracks to trains to crews, it's our members who make the difference. OTTO VONDRAK PHOTO

All aboard for fun

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Summer time is a welcome season here in Rochester. The days are longer and warmer (for the most part) and we're able to take a little more time to enjoy our favorite hobby. Many of us spend time trackside along our favorite local main lines, others are traveling by train, and still others are relaxing with family and friends at lake-houses and beaches.

What about your favorite railroad museum? I know one of my favorite activities is to enjoy a cool breeze from the rear platform of our Penn Central caboose as the sun sets behind the hills in Scottsville, while we make our way past Switch 6 towards Midway. Together, we have built a pretty amazing railroad experience that has yet to be duplicated anywhere else in the country. While it's a lot of work, it's also a lot of fun. Please take time to enjoy it.

We're also looking for ways to increase the social aspect down at the museum. We hope you'll join us for our Museum Cookout on Saturday, August 17 (see page 4). Of course, you don't have to wait until August, many of our volunteers have spontaneous get-togethers down at the depot after our regular Tuesday and Saturday work sessions. Care to join them?

We depend on your support to keep the doors open and our various preservation projects moving forward. We always need more help. How else can we reach you, our members and volunteers? What kinds of "members-only" activities would you like to see us host at the museum? I'd like to hear from you by phone (716) 474-2833 or by email at mdow@rochester.rr.com.

—Mike Dow,
Museum President



www.rgvrrm.org

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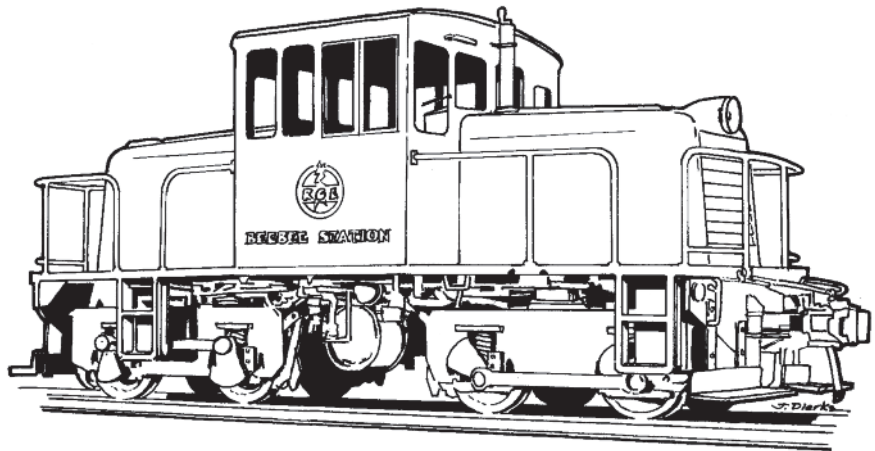
PRINTING AND MAILING

Bob Miner
Don Wawrzyniak

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TRAIN BULLETIN

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



R&GVRRM MEMBERSHIP MEETING MAY 16, 2013

The May Museum Membership Meeting was called to order at the 40&8 Club, 933 University Avenue, Rochester, at 7:34 PM by Otto Vondrak in the absence of Mike Dow. The one and only guest was Mike Brun.

Correspondence Report: Don Wawrzyniak mentioned that we have sold a dozen copies of the "Vanishing American" DVD, which follows a 1950's steam-powered passenger train on the B&O from Rochester down to Salamanca and return. Bob Fleck announced that there are several new VHS videos available in our Museum Library. Otto Vondrak mentioned that the subsequent June, July, August, and September membership meetings will be held at our Industry Depot in the Town of Rush.

Historian's Report: Donovan Schilling was not present at this meeting. Otto announced that he had brought a blueprint drawing showing plans for a New York Central wooden caboose of the same design as our own 19877 currently being worked on by Charlie Marks.

Membership Report: There was only one new member **David Flynn** to be voted in. A MOTION was made by Rand Warner to accept the new member. The motion passed unanimously.

Preservation and Operations Report: Joe Nugent said that the old steel had been removed from our Lehigh Valley caboose, and that the new steel is in the shop ready to be installed. From the

Motive Power Dept., Joe announced the Fairbanks Morse 1843 and 80-tonner 1654 are up and running for the season. Dave Shields has agreed to pursue our qualifying paperwork to have Industry Depot listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. The TC-3 Track Car has been repaired and fixed up. The work trailer has been completed by dedicated volunteers Rand Warner, Norm Shaddick, John Redden, Rick Israelson, and others. Otto announced a major clean-up effort to be held on May 18 at Industry Depot. He also repeated his please for Depot Guides to sign up for available slots. Dave Scheiderich let us know that there was a need for Operating Crews throughout the season.

Museum Library Report: Bob Fleck said that the library will be open on the first Monday evening all of the summer. There are several new boxes of books as well as many 16mm movies of New York Central steam!

New Business: None.

Program Committee: Due to a last-minute change, the program tonight consists of slides of the former Boston & Maine "west end" now operated by Pan Am Railways, in addition to a 13-year retrospective of museum activities as presented from the collection of Otto Vondrak.

Jim East made A MOTION to adjourn; The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

—Joel R. Shaw, Recording Secretary

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:

July 18
at Industry Depot



ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: WWW.RGVRRM.ORG

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MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Sam Rosenberg

ALC0251@frontiernet.net



MOTIVE POWER DEPT.

QSI Solutions came out on June 8 to make digital recordings of some of our rare vintage diesels, including US Army Fairbanks-Morse 1843 and RG&E GE 45-tonner 1941. The recordings will be used to make realistic sound chip decoders for model trains.

RGV 1654: A bad battery was swapped out, plus the battery box was refinished with new paint and decking. This locomotive will remain our primary engine throughout the operating season.

USA 1843: This locomotive has been fired up and is ready to be used as a standby to fill-in for RGV 1654 as needed.

LV 211: Volunteer Bob Ziegler will be helping to repair/replace the faulty water pump that has so far kept this locomotive out of service this year.

RG&E 8: Volunteer Mike Walsh has moved home to St. Louis in search of new employment, leaving this locomotive without a project leader. Primary repairs were being made to the braking system, plus the motor brushes will need to be swapped out as well. Joe Nugent went through the engine on June 9 and prepared it for the next steps in its repair and eventual return to service. If you'd like to help on this project, please contact Joe directly.

All other locomotives are stored out of service until further notice. Would you like to get involved helping to keep our



TOP: Landscaping ties were placed by Lynn Heintz and Scott Gleason on May 28. This will help create a perimeter for our new lawn to be planted north of the depot. **ABOVE:** Volunteers Rick Israelson and John Redden replaced ties in the Hill Block on May 28. We will be replacing several ties throughout this stretch to help maintain our main line. OTTO VONDRAK PHOTOS

historic fleet of diesel locomotives in good working order? Please contact me at joe.r.nugent@gmail.com.

—Joe Nugent, Motive Power Supt.

UPCOMING MUSEUM PROGRAMS MONTHLY MEETINGS

For the warm summer months, our monthly meetings have moved to Industry Depot, on Route 251 in Rush. After a brief business meeting at 7:30 p.m., stick around to

enjoy a ride on your museum railroad! Also, bring a friend, our meetings are open to everyone. Please visit our web site for more information at www.rgvrrm.org.

June 20, July 18, August 15, and September 19: We will be hosting our monthly meetings at Industry Depot. After a brief museum business meeting, stick around for a twilight train ride and enjoy the museum you help build and maintain!

—Harold Russell, Program Co-Chair



TOP LEFT: Volunteers Otto Vondrak and Dave Scheiderich planted some signs and markers from our museum collection in a new display on June 8. **TOP:** We've heard nothing but compliments about our new display cabinets inside the Industry Depot waiting room. They were custom-built by volunteer Mark Wilczek, and the photographer forced him to pose with his work so we could properly thank him in the pages of our newsletter. **OTTO VONDRACK PHOTO** **ABOVE LEFT:** Work continues on replacing exterior steel on our Lehigh Valley caboose. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Chris Hauf was in town for a brief visit and assisted in pre-lube and test-fire of Eastman Kodak Alco RS-1 No. 9 on Tuesday, May 28. **JOE NUGENT PHOTOS**

NYMT GIFT SHOP

Our friends to the north need your help! 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. What's more, it is located out of the elements, and kept cool and dry through the summer. Please email Jim Dierks at jim@nymt.org if you can spare a Sunday or two to help out.

2013 DEPOT GUIDES WANTED

You do not need to be an encyclopedia of railroad knowledge. All you need is a willingness to greet our visitors and help interpret the displays in and around Industry Depot. We especially need people to help conduct weekday tours for groups. For more details, or to schedule your day to volunteer, please contact Otto Vondrak at ovondrak@yahoo.com.

—Otto Vondrak

MUSEUM PICNIC PARTY AUG. 17

Your museum will be hosting a special clean-up day and evening picnic party on

Saturday, August 17, at Industry Depot. Not only will we be preparing for our annual Diesel Day event, but we will also celebrate all of our accomplishments from the past year. We will be offering standard cookout fare (hamburgers, hots, cold pop), you are welcome to bring a dish to pass. Please RSVP to Otto Vondrak at ovondrak@yahoo.com.

OUR PENNSY COLLECTION

We have several pieces of Pennsylvania Railroad equipment in our museum collection. As you may know, the PRR operated directly into Rochester along the route of



TOP LEFT: Mark Wilczek was measuring for a temporary window blank to be fitted into one of the damaged bedroom windows in our 1939 Pullman Pine Falls. **TOP RIGHT:** An interior view of the lounge area of the Pine Falls, which served on both the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Long Island Rail Road until it was donated to our museum in 1985. **ABOVE:** Joel Shaw applies a second coat of exterior paint to Industry Depot. This project is looking for extra help! OTTO VONDRAK PHOTOS

UPCOMING EVENTS

**JUNE 16
RAILROAD DAY**

**JUNE 30
BASEBALL DAY**

**AUGUST 18
DIESEL DAY 2013**

• **RGVRRM.ORG** •

the abandoned Genesee Valley Canal from Olean and Hinsdale. At the head of our train is Lehigh Valley Alco RS-3m 211, which was built as PRR 8445 in 1953. Next up is our class BM70nb Railway Post Office car, PRR 61950. Following that is our Pullman-Lounge *Pine Falls*, built in 1939. Next is PRR 747803, a class H21g hopper car originally built in 1909. Bringing up the markers is a class N5c caboose, PRR 477822. Of these, LV 211 is part of our regular operating fleet. The RPO car is home to a railroad signals display that is slowly taking shape under the direction of volunteer Mike Dow. The *Pine*

Falls, hopper, and caboose are all in storage awaiting evaluation for future restoration. For more details about our Pennsy fleet, visit our website at www.rgvrrm.org.

ROCHESTER SUBWAY CAR 60

Probably one of the most significant artifacts in our collection is Car 60 from the old Rochester Subway fleet. Only in operation from 1926 to 1956, Car 60 is the sole survivor of Rochester's rapid transit passenger equipment. Originally built in 1916, the car served Utica's city streetcar lines until they were abandoned and the cars were moved to Rochester to help improve

service on the Subway. The car will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2016, and mark the 60th anniversary since the shutdown of the Subway in 1956. We would like to make some sort of push to help re-assemble Car 60 and work towards a goal of significant progress by June 2016. We feel a project like this would have significant public support. What do you think? Is someone willing to lead this preservation effort that would benefit not just our museum, but the community at large?

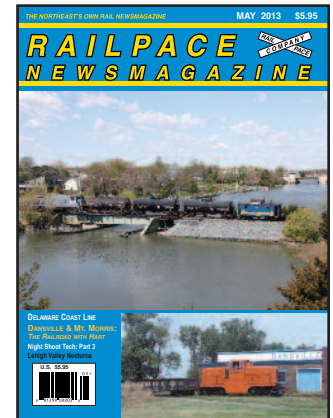
VISIT US ONLINE AT RGVRRM.ORG



ARTICLES OF LOCAL INTEREST

The summer 2013 issue of **Classic Trains** is dedicated to electric interurban railroads. Imagine our surprise to find a two-page spread titled “Rochesters’s Trolley ‘Subway’” complete with color photos of Subway action, no less! The author provides a good summary of the history of the line, hitting the highlights. The photos from the Krambles-Peterson Archive show Rowlands loop, Court Street (with trolleys and freight motor L-1), and a rather lonely looking shot at Elmwood Avenue. As you may know, your museum is in possession of the last remaining Rochester Subway car, currently stored in the Restoration Building awaiting a plan of action for cosmetic restoration. You can purchase **Classic Trains** from your local hobby shop and major book stores, or you can order direct from Kalmbach Publishing from their web site at www.classictrainsmag.com.

Long-time museum member **David Monte Verde** penned an excellent tribute to the old Dansville & Mount Morris Railroad in the May 2013 issue of **Railpace** Newsmagazine titled “Dansville & Mt. Morris - The Railroad with Hart.” Dating back to the 1870s, the Hart family first became involved with the short line in 1921. Frank Hart managed the railroad on behalf of a group of investors. His son Bob Hart would also work for the railroad, eventually purchasing it from its owners in 1950. The D&MM was an independent short line railroad that operated for more than 100 years before it was acquired by Genesee & Wyoming Industries in 1985. Bob Hart continued to maintain an office in the old Dansville depot until 2012, when he officially “retired” and the contents were put up for auction. Bob Hart followed his railroad into heaven on December 14 of that year, ending a long family tradition of railroading in the Genesee Valley. You can purchase **Railpace** from your local hobby shop, or you can order direct from their web site at www.railpace.com.



Operation Lifesaver needs you!

About every three hours on a given day, a person or vehicle is hit by a train! According to Federal Railroad Association data statistics, 442 pedestrian rail trespass fatalities occurred in 2012. In addition, 1,953 highway-rail grade crossing collisions occurred. FRA data shows that highway-rail grade crossing collisions and pedestrian trespass incidents on tracks together account for over 95% of all railroad fatalities. Shawn Potter, 15, died playing chicken on train tracks. "He didn't think it could happen to him," says his mom, Robin.

We know that injuries and fatalities that occur at highway-rail crossings or on railroad property are a real, but often preventable problem. Welcome to Operation Lifesaver, a non-profit organization providing public education programs to prevent collisions, injuries, and fatalities on and around railroad tracks and highway-rail grade crossings.

Today, Operation Lifesaver's network of certified volun-



teer speakers and trained instructors offer free rail safety education programs in fifty states. We speak to school groups, driver education classes, community audiences, professional drivers, law enforcement officers, and

emergency responders. Our programs are co-sponsored by federal, state and local government agencies, highway safety organizations and America's railroads.

Operation Lifesaver Presenters represent local, state and federal government agencies, private companies, railroads and other organizations. No matter where they're from, our dedicated Presenters share a common goal: to reduce the likelihood of collisions between people/vehicles and trains through rail safety education.

Please contact Operation Lifesaver Presenter **Robert E. Gabbey** at (585) 781-4535 if you would like to help educate people about railroad safety. To learn more about Operation Lifesaver, please visit their web site at www.oli.org.

Volunteer! Visit www.rgvrrm.org/volunteer

New Museum T Shirts

New museum T-shirts will soon be available for ordering for all museum volunteers. They are dark green with yellow graphics, and are approved for all operating crews and depot guides as part of our official "public" uniform. Short-sleeve are **\$15.00** each, Long-sleeve are **\$20.00** each. Please contact Otto Vondrak at ovondrak@yahoo.com to place your order.



FRONT



BACK



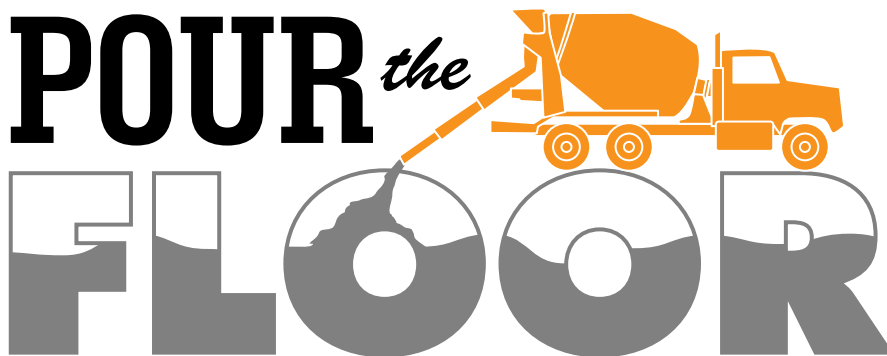
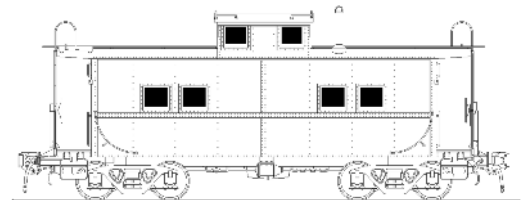
OFFICIAL MUSEUM NAMETAGS

Do you have your official museum volunteer nametag yet? They are yellow with black lettering, and pin conveniently to your shirt or hat. **Name tags are \$8.00 each.** Please provide the spelling of your name EXACTLY as you would like it to appear on the tag (consider using only your first initial if you have a very long last name). Please contact Otto Vondrak by email at ovondrak@yahoo.com to order.

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 exterior bodywork as well as preparation for painting and finishing. As of May 15 we have raised \$1850. **Your donation in any amount will help!**



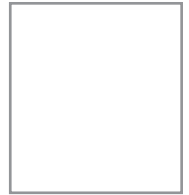
Pour The Floor! Our fundraising goal is \$75,000.00. These funds will allow us to complete the entire flat floor and completely install our inspection pit with all of its necessary components including stairs, railings, power and lighting. A complete shop floor will help expand and enhance our restoration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

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:

June 20

7:00 PM at Industry Depot
262 Rush-Scottsville Rd., Rush NY

Next Month's Meeting:

July 18

7:00 PM at Industry Depot
262 Rush-Scottsville Rd., Rush NY

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



You never know what you're going to find down at the depot... Come across this scene and feel like you've slipped into a time warp. It looks like the waning months of 1941, and someone has driven in from town to pick up a friend from the evening train from Rochester. In reality, volunteer Jeremy Tuke has brought his 1940 Buick Eight out for a little spin, a great way to combine two hobbies! PHOTO BY OTTO VONDRAK