



ROCHESTER, NEXT STOP: Amtrak 48, the Lake Shore Limited, speeds through the interlocking at CP 382 near Attridge Road on February 5, 2013. CSX is on a campaign to replace all of the New York Central-era signal bridges in this territory. BRIAN BENSON PHOTO/RAILPICTURES.NET

# Springtime Thaw

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**Your museum will be hosting a National Train Day event at the Rochester Amtrak station on Saturday, May 10.** This event was created by Amtrak several years ago to help spotlight the contributions railroads make to our communities across the country. This also also a wonderful way to promote our museums opening the following day. We'll need a few volunteers staff our table between 10:00am and 3:00pm, please contact event coordinator Otto Vondrak at [ovondrak@yahoo.com](mailto:ovondrak@yahoo.com) if you can help.

**Please mark your calendars that our Opening Day will be Sunday, May 11.** Once again, we will be depending on your volunteer help to have a safe and successful season. We need you to volunteer as gift shop helpers, depot guides, track car

operators, and train crew. Simply put, without you there is no museum.

To all those who have volunteered in the past, I sincerely thank you for your service. To everyone else, please consider donating a few hours of your time this summer to help us ensure a smooth operation for our visitors. After all, we only get one chance to make a good first impression. The best advertisement for us is a happy visitor!

As we move into our next stages of development and expansion, your support will be most important. 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](mailto: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

##### VICE PRESIDENT

Joe Nugent

##### TREASURER

Dave Peet

##### RECORDING SECRETARY

Joel R. Shaw

##### CORRESPONDING SEC'Y

Don Wawrzyniak

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Rich Fischpera  
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Mark Wilczek



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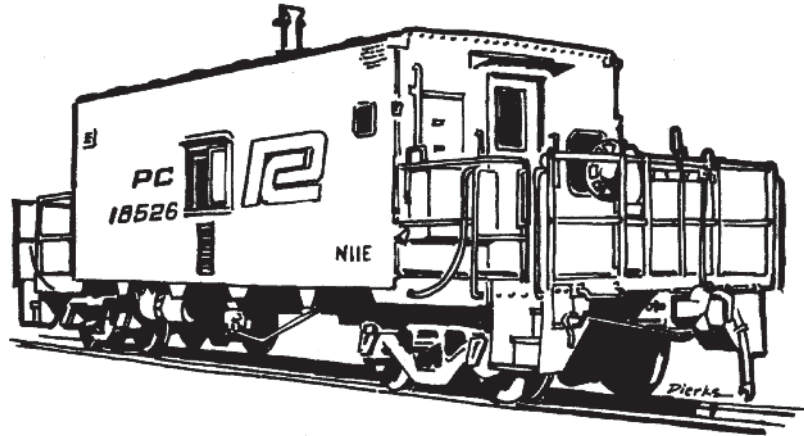
##### PRINTING AND MAILING

Dave Peet  
Don Wawrzyniak

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# TRAIN BULLETIN

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum Membership Meeting Minutes March 20, 2014

The March Museum Membership Meeting was called to order at the 40&8 Club on University Avenue at 7:30 p.m. by Trustee Otto Vondrak in the absence of President Mike Dow.

#### Announcements/Correspondence: None.

**Membership:** No new members to report, but Chairman Sam Rosenberg let everyone know that 2013 membership cards were being prepared for mailing. Your membership card can be presented for a complimentary ride at the NYMT ticket desk, among other discounts that may be applied. Between 180-200 members have sent their renewals to date.

**Museum Library Report:** Otto Vondrak reported that the majority of our library collection has been vacated from the 40&8 and placed into secure storage. Next steps will be determining the scope of the collection and finding it a permanent home. Jim Ziobro has volunteered to establish a Library Committee for evaluating our library collection.

**Operations/Preservation:** Joe Nugent announced progress on the roof rivets of our Lehigh Valley caboose. The Restoration Building is being cleaned up in preparation for pouring additional sections of concrete floor. Track 9 has been temporarily removed for this task. We are getting bids on this project and expect to break ground in April. RG&E #8 diesel has had the hand brake successfully repaired. Joel R. Shaw reports that there has been very much progress

on the new track car trailer; drawings were dropped off at the welders recently. New plexiglass windows for TC-2 have been installed and new paint applied. Opening Day for our joint museum operating season is Sunday, May 11, to coincide with Amtrak's National Train Day weekend, as reported by Otto Vondrak. Rules Class will be held at RIT on March 29 for all train crew. A Depot Guide training class will be held at Industry Depot on April 27.

**Trips Committee Report:** Dave Shields announced a June 7 fantrip to the Arcade & Attica Railroad. This trip only has a restriction of 56-seats due to the size of the bus involved. Tickets are \$75.00 and include private motorcoach from Industry to Arcade, a ride behind a real steam locomotive, a shop tour, prime rib dinner at The Lumberyard Restaurant in Perry, and motorcoach back to Industry. Tickets can be ordered online and by mail, with cutoff date being May 9. Details are also being worked out for our Fall Foliage Specials on the LA&L this October.

**Program:** The evening program "Around New York City" will be presented by member Peter Gores, and will feature photos of Penn Central and Jersey Central action around New Jersey, as well as Penn Central and New Haven action around New York and Connecticut from 1967-1980.

Jeremy Tuke made a MOTION to adjourn, seconded by Harold Russell. The MOTION passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

—Joel R. Shaw, Trustee and 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:

# May 15

at 40 & 8 Club, Rochester





## ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

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

### MUSEUM CONTACT INFO

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Rich Fischpera

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#### MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Sam Rosenberg

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



Two new traction motor combos were delivered from Indiana to Industry on Saturday, April 5, thanks to our friends at Blue Heron Logistics! These parts will be used to repair R&GV 1654, which was damaged while being shipped to us in 2001. OTTO VONDRAK PHOTO

### UPCOMING MUSEUM PROGRAMS MONTHLY MEETINGS

Our monthly museum meetings are held at the 40&8 Club located at 933 University Avenue in downtown Rochester. On **March 20, 2014**, Peter Gores presented with "Around New York City in the 60s and 70s," which featured slides from several trips to the New York area, including the Penn Central in New York and New Jersey, the New Haven in Connecticut, and Jersey Central in New Jersey.

On **April 17, 2014**, NYMT's **Jim Dierks** will present, "Newfoundland Railroads in 1969." Jim took a ride on the narrow gauge coach-and-sleeper (and two dining cars) "Newfie Bullet" (the nickname for the Newfoundland Railway's *Caribou* passenger train) across Newfoundland in 1969, as it was due to be discontinued that June. Jim's slide show covers the trip from Montreal, to Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia, across Newfoundland, and back via Quebec's Gaspé Peninsula. The show also includes a cab ride on the passenger train as well as a caboose ride on a freight train, several car ferries, and more.

On **May 15, 2014**, member **Jim Moore** will present his slide show titled, "More Lehigh Valley." The museum store opens at 7:00pm, a brief business meeting takes

### SAFETY FIRST

- Do you know where the First Aid kits are located? Are they stocked?
- Do you know where the closest fire extinguishers are? Charged?

place at 7:30pm, and the program begins around 8:15pm. Cash bar available. Our meetings are FREE to attend and open to everyone, so please bring a friend and join the fun!

**Can you help us?** We are looking for help with the Program Chair position. Please contact Mike Dow if you are interested in helping to schedule fun and informative presentations for our monthly museum meetings!

—R&GV Program Committee

### REMEMBERING

#### GREG SULLIVAN (1946-2014)

Long-time museum member Gregory K. Sullivan passed away on February 8, 2014. He was a lifelong supporter of our museum as well as the Rochester Chapter

NRHS, having recently received his 50-year membership pin. Greg was involved in the very beginnings of our museum, helping to clear out brush from around Industry depot, clean out the inside, and replace glass in the broken windows. He also personally negotiated a major donation of all the materials for the first project to replace the roof back in the 1970s.

Greg was a member of our illustrious Corvette railfan gang who roamed the countryside taking photos and chasing trains, sometimes at triple-digit speeds, though all survived to tell the tale. He was also a frequent participant in some infamous adventures with speeders up in the Adirondacks.

An enthusiastic steam fan, Greg cherished the dream of having an operating steam locomotive at our museum. He had pledged financial support should the day come when the echoes of the steam whistle would be heard at Industry. Along with his wife Lana, they traveled to every corner of the globe in search of steam engines of all sizes and gauges.

Aside from his love of trains, Greg loved people. He nurtured many individual and group musical performers towards success



Boy Scout Troop 335 from Pittsford paid us a visit on April 5, thanks to Sam Rosenberg (our membership chairman) who organized the trip. The Scouts took a tour of the museum, enjoyed a train ride from Industry to BOCES Crossing, and earned some requirements towards the Railroading merit badge. The Scouts camped out overnight at the museum, and performed several service projects before departing on Sunday. OTTO VONDRAK PHOTO

during his founding and operation of The Penny Arcade in Charlotte. Greg and his family also operated Thomas Funeral Chapels, and were active in the Charlotte Business Association, and active supporters of the Charlotte Holy Cross Church.

Greg always encouraged fun, food, and fellowship. He always pushed others to live life to the fullest, take risks, and preferred taking immediate action. Greg was generous in many dimensions to so many people, and will be missed by all. Survived by his loving wife of 35 years, Lana Polvino-Sullivan, and his son, Gregory Jr. Our deepest condolences to his family.

—Rand Warner

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Member **Bob Achilles** has stepped down from his position on the board of trustees due to overwhelming outside commitments as well as additional responsibilities at NYMT. We thank Bob for his many

years of service, and look forward to his continued presence around our museums! To fill the vacancy, the board appointed member **Rich Fischpera** to serve out the remainder of Bob's term. Please join us in welcoming Rich as he works to serve your interests on the board.

## LIBRARY/MEETING SPACE UPDATE

Please welcome **Jim Ziobro** as the new chairman of the Library Committee, replacing volunteer Bob Fleck. Jim will be working with interested members to sort through our existing library collection and to make suggestions to the board of trustees regarding a permanent home. As you may recall, the collection was packed and placed in storage in March, with the board setting a one year deadline to find a solution that not only preserves the materials but benefits the most members. If you have input concerning the future of the library, you can contact **Jim Ziobro** by

email at [rgrrr.ziobro@yahoo.com](mailto:rgrrr.ziobro@yahoo.com).

## OPERATIONS DEPT.

More than 44 volunteers attended our first Rules Class of 2014 on Saturday, March 29, at RIT. This annual class is required for all returning train crew members (trolley motormen, diesel engineers, conductors, and brakemen) as well as those interested in getting training this year. A second class will be held in June as a make-up, details to be announced.

On Saturday, April 26 at 9:00 a.m., Joe Nugent will be conducting a diesel Start-up, Inspection, Shut-Down Class for all Engineers and Engineer Trainees. On Saturday, May 3, we will be conducting hands-on training for all Track Car Operators and Trainees.

Please contact Operations Supt. **Rich Fischpera** at (585) 865-4283 or [rfischpera53@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rfischpera53@rochester.rr.com) if you are interested in hands-on training or need to



## MUSEUM NEWS & UPDATES



### SAFETY FIRST

- Lifting something overhead? Do you have your hard hat on?
- Using a power tool? Do you have your safety glasses on?

heavily on kind folks like you to give up a few Sundays during the season to greet our guests and show them around the museum. Unfortunately, there were some days we could not find enough people, and were forced to close our doors, hurting our reputation and costing us much needed revenue.

Training for Depot Guides will be held once again at Industry Depot on **Sunday, April 27, 2014**, at 1:00 p.m., and is required for new and returning volunteers. The training will take approximately three hours, and will show you everything you need to know to sign in, open the depot, open the display cars, how to greet guests, and how to close up everything at the end of the day. It's fun, it's easy, and it's some of the most important work we do at the museum. Please RSVP to **Otto Vondrak** at [ovondrak@yahoo.com](mailto:ovondrak@yahoo.com) if you plan on attending the training session.

—Otto Vondrak,  
Visitor Experience Chairman

### ARCADE & ATTICA DAYTRIP JUNE 7, 2014

Come join us for a great day riding the Arcade & Attica, New York State's only regularly scheduled steam-powered excursion train, on Saturday, June 7, 2014! Tickets are only **\$75.00** per person which includes the bus trip, tickets for the Arcade & Attica Railroad, and a delicious prime rib dinner. Tickets will also be available at our monthly museum meetings, and also on our web site at [www.rgvrrm.org](http://www.rgvrrm.org). Please R.S.V.P. by May 9 to **David Shields** at [david.shields12@yahoo.com](mailto:david.shields12@yahoo.com).

You can also purchase tickets online at [www.rgvrrm.org/fantrip/](http://www.rgvrrm.org/fantrip/)

—David Shields, Trip Chairman

### CONSIDERATION FOR OUR MUSEUM GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENT

As the weather continues to warm up and the museum returns to increased levels



**TOP:** More than 40 volunteers attended the March 29 Rules Class at RIT, taught by Dave Scheiderich. This class is mandatory for all engineers, motormen, conductors, brakemen, track car operators, and trainees. A make-up class will be held in June. **CHRIS PLAYFORD PHOTO**  
**ABOVE:** Rob Burz helps rivet new sheet metal along the roof line of our Lehigh Valley caboose. Once metal repairs are complete, we will sandblast, prime, and complete body work on the exterior. **JOE NUGENT PHOTO**

attend the second Rules Class.

### 2014 JOINT OPERATING SEASON RESUMES MAY 11

Your railroad museum will once again open to the public this Spring to showcase the rich railroading heritage of the

Rochester area. We will be opening one week earlier than usual on **Sunday, May 11, 2014**, to coincide with Amtrak's National Train Day festivities across the country. One of the greatest difficulties we had last year was finding enough volunteers to keep the museum open to the public. We rely



of outdoor activity, it is important that we remain aware of the sensitive nature of our museum grounds and surrounding environment. Until all aspects of our drainage plan have been completed, there are many areas that are still prone to flooding. Take caution to avoid flooded areas whenever possible. Especially important is the careful and considerate movement of vehicles and heavy equipment when the ground is soft to minimize damage and rutting to our roads and pathways.

Your suggestions are solicited on how we can take better care and improve the looks of the grounds surrounding our museum. Remember, we only have one chance to make a good first impression with the public!

—Otto Vondrak

#### **RGVRRM BOARD MEETING**

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be Thursday, May 1, 2014. To get an item added to the agenda, please contact president Mike Dow at (716) 474-2833 or [mdow@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mdow@rochester.rr.com).

**VISIT US ONLINE AT...**  
**[WWW.RGVRRM.ORG](http://WWW.RGVRRM.ORG)**  
**[FACEBOOK.COM/RGVRRM](https://FACEBOOK.COM/RGVRRM)**  
**[YOUTUBE.COM/RGVRRM](https://YOUTUBE.COM/RGVRRM)**

## **NYMT-R&GV JOINT OPERATING SCHEDULE FOR 2014**

### **May 2014**

*Saturday 10 – National Train Day at Rochester Amtrak Station - NO TRAINS*  
 Sunday 11 – “Opening Day/National Train Day” – Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 18 – Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 25 – Trolley and Track Cars  
 Monday 26 - *Memorial Day Observed - NO TRAINS*

### **June 2014**

Sunday 1 – Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 8 – Trolley and Track Cars  
 Sunday 15 – “Fathers Day” – Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 22 – Trolley and Track Cars  
 Friday 27 – Press Event for “Subway Sunday” – Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 29 – “Subway Sunday” – Trolley and Diesel

### **July 2014**

*Friday 4 - Fourth of July - NO TRAINS*  
 Sunday 6 – Trolley and Track Cars  
 Saturday 12 – “Trains at Twilight” – Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 13- Trolley and Track Cars  
 Sunday 20 – “Baseball Day” - Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 27 – Trolley and Track Cars

### **August 2014**

Sunday 3 – Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 10 – Trolley and Track Cars  
 Sunday 17 – “Diesel Day” – Trolley with Extended Diesel Ride  
 Sunday 24 – Trolley and Track Cars  
 Sunday 31 – Trolley and Diesel

### **September 2014**

*Monday 1 - Labor Day - NO TRAINS*  
 Sunday 7 – Trolley and Track Cars  
 Sunday 14 – Trolley and Track Cars  
 Sunday 21 – “Fall Foliage w/Fire Trucks” – Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 28 – “Fall Foliage” – Trolley and Diesel

### **October 2014**

Sunday 5 – “Fall Foliage” – Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 12 – “Fall Foliage” – Trolley and Diesel  
*Monday 13 – Columbus Day - NO TRAINS*  
*Saturday 18 – Fall Foliage Excursions on LA&L*  
 Sunday 19 – “Fall Foliage” – Trolley and Diesel  
 Saturday 25 – “Halloween Express” – Trolley and Diesel  
 Sunday 26 – “Fall Foliage - Last Day” – Trolley and Diesel

### **December 2014**

Sunday 7 – “Holly Trolley” – Trolley Only  
 Sunday 14 – “Holly Trolley” – Trolley Only  
 Sunday 21 – “Holly Trolley” – Trolley Only Daytime  
 Sunday 21 – “Evergreen Express” – Diesel Only Evening  
*Thursday 25 - Christmas Day - NO TRAINS*



THE ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM PRESENTS

# DAY TRIP TO THE ARCADE & ATTICA

## SATURDAY JUNE 7, 2014

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



- Motorcoach departs from Industry at 10:00 a.m.
- Ride in a reserved coach behind steam on the A&A
- Special behind the scenes shop tour following train ride
- Enjoy prime rib dinner at Lumberyard Restaurant in Perry
- Motorcoach return to Industry, returning about 7:00 p.m.

This fun and exciting day trip is open to all R&GV museum members and the general public as well. Tickets are limited to the capacity of the motorcoach. Please RSVP by May 9. Order your tickets today! Please send your check for \$75.00 per ticket, to:

**R&GV RAILROAD MUSEUM • P.O. BOX 23326  
ROCHESTER, NY 14692-3326  
-OR- [www.rgvrrm.org/fantrip](http://www.rgvrrm.org/fantrip)**

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

### DEPOT GUIDES NEEDED

We are always in need of Depot Guides throughout the year, Sundays and some weekdays. 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.

## **YAHOO! GROUPS** Get connected to our private mailing list

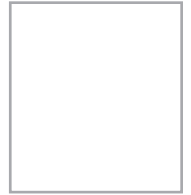
Are you missing out on important email messages? Joining is easy, plus it gives you more control over how you communicate with others. **There are new email lists for Members, Volunteers, and Operations! Need to get signed up? Not sure where you belong?** For more information, or to be added to any list, please contact "list-master" Otto Vondrak by email at [ovondrak@yahoo.com](mailto:ovondrak@yahoo.com). Thank you!

**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:**

**April 17**

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

*Next Month's Meeting:*

**May 15**

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

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The last westbound Amtrak train of the evening rolls past the old General Railway Signal plant and under the old B&O bridge, with the Rochester city skyline in the background on July 21, 2012. BRIAN BENSON PHOTO/RAILPICTURES.NET