

NEXT MEETING:
August 21
Meeting at Industry Depot:
Ride your museum railroad!



The Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad borrowed one of our coaches and power car so they could run a special train for the family of one of the railroad's founding officers who passed away in 2011. The coaches were picked up the morning of Sunday, August 4, (ABOVE) and brought to Lakeville for loading. The trip ran the entire length of the railroad to Jefferson Road in Henrietta. See page 5 for details. JOE NUGENT PHOTO

Time to Shine

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We are coming up on Diesel Day, one of our most popular events of the year. This year the featured locomotives will be our GE 80-ton switcher 1654 and Fairbanks-Morse H12-44 1843. RG&E 1941 will be on standby, while LV 211 and EK 9 will be on display down at Industry. We're looking forward to a great event!

Progress continues on many fronts around the museum, from the construction of our inspection pit, to the repair of our excursion coaches, to the restoration of our Lehigh Valley caboose. The Tuesday Night Track Gang continues to replace ties on our museum railroad up and down the line. This would be a great time to jump in if you would like to get involved. (Ask us!)

We need someone to form a committee to determine the future of the Lackawanna m.u. coach and the Pullman Pine Falls.

Both cars are cocooned, but they can't stay that way forever. What should we do? We need to come up with a plan, and you can be the one who makes a difference.

We're heading into our busy fall season, with "Fall Foliage by Trolley and Train" at the museums as well as our own "Fall Foliage Express" trains to be operated over the LA&L in October. It's about to get busy and we really need your help. Spare an hour or a day, every little bit helps.

Don't miss our **Annual Museum Picnic** on August 16, followed by **Diesel Day** on August 17! We need your help to make both events a success. Have ideas? 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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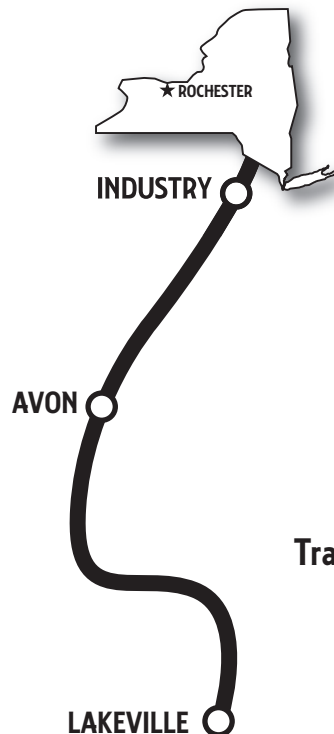
Fall Foliage Express

PUBLIC TRAIN EXCURSIONS

**SATURDAY
OCT. 18**



**Join us for special Fall Foliage Express
passenger train excursions over the
Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad!**



Enjoy the beautiful fall foliage season in Western New York on board our **Fall Foliage Express!** Board your train in Lakeville, just 30 minutes from downtown Rochester. Ride in comfort in our restored streamlined coaches from the 1940s, pulled by immaculate Alco locomotives provided by the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad. All trains run round trip from Lakeville to Industry and return with no intermediate stops. **Don't miss this rare opportunity!**

Trains Depart at 10:00AM, 12:00PM, 2:00PM, and 4:00PM



**Tickets by pre-sale ONLY, available at Wegmans ticket counters.
Visit our web site at www.rgvrrm.org/fallfoliage for details.**

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:

September 18
at 40&8 Club, Rochester, NY



ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

VISIT OUR WEB SITE: WWW.RGVRRM.ORG

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Rob Burz torches bolts off the ex-Lowville & Beaver River flatcar so that repairs can begin. Transformation into a new open-air rider flat will begin soon. JOE NUGENT PHOTO

UPCOMING MUSEUM PROGRAMS MONTHLY MEETINGS

August 21, 2014, will mark our final summer meeting at Industry Depot! You are invited to join us (and bring a friend) to take a ride on the museum railroad we have all worked so hard to build and maintain together. After a brief business meeting at 7:00pm, train rides start at 7:30pm. **ALL ABOARD!**

Beginning **September 18**, meetings return to the 40&8 Club located at 933 University Avenue in Rochester, New York. Remember that membership meetings are held every third Thursday of the month.

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

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16 MUSEUM PICNIC AND BOOK SALE

The Annual Museum Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 16, at Industry Depot. We will be hosting a **Book Sale** at the depot from 10:00am to 2:00pm. A number of excess books, magazines, tapes, and DVDs will be available for purchase, as

well as some items of railroad hardware. All proceeds will be reinvested into the fund to re-establish the Museum Library in a permanent location. The book sale is open to the public, bring your friends!

From 2:00pm to 6:00pm will be our **Annual Museum Picnic**. All members and their friends and families are invited to join us for a cookout at Industry Depot. We will be providing hots, hamburgs and cold pop. You are invited to bring a favorite dish to pass. At 4:00pm there will be special train rides from Industry up to BOCES Crossing and return. Donation per person is \$5.00 each. Come and celebrate all of our accomplishments and look forward to another year of fun. Please RSVP to Otto Vondrak at ovondrak@yahoo.com so we can estimate how much food to purchase. See you there!

—Otto Vondrak, Event Coordinator

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17 DIESEL DAY 2014

It's time for our annual **Diesel Day** celebration on Sunday, August 17. We will have TWO diesel trains running throughout the day on an extended route from Industry depot to BOCES Crossing, where a temporary transfer point will be estab-

lished to meet the trolley. The event will run from 10:00am to 6:00pm. As in the past, all visits begin at New York Museum of Transportation.

Featured diesels include R&GV General Electric 80-ton switcher 1654, ex-United States Army Fairbanks-Morse H12-44 1843, and an appearance by Rochester Gas & Electric GE 45-ton switcher 1941 (subject to change as needed). Lehigh Valley Alco RS-3m 211 will be placed on display on Track 5 along with Kodak Park Railroad Alco RS-1 no. 9.

This is one of our biggest events of the year, and we will need everyone's help to make it a success. We need volunteers to help staff Industry depot, the Transfer Point, and the concessions at Industry. Morning (10:00am to 1:00pm) and Afternoon (1:00pm to 6:00pm) shifts are available. Please contact Otto Vondrak by email at ovondrak@yahoo.com to indicate your availability.

—Otto Vondrak, Event Coordinator

OPEN-AIR RIDER FLATCAR PROJECT UPDATE

As part of the project to convert our ex-Lowville & Beaver River 40' flatcar into a new high-capacity open-air rider flatcar, a



ABOVE: The inspection pit inside the Restoration Building continues to take shape. The areas around the walls have been backfilled, and the next step will be the addition of jacking pads as well as an apron surrounding the area. We are still seeking donations to help cover the costs of this project, and we thank you for your support! **JOE NUGENT PHOTO** **ABOVE RIGHT:** CoeDee Mowers, grandson of longtime museum volunteer Dee Mowers, is hosting hot dog fundraisers at Industry Depot to help pay the way for his Eagle Scout project that will benefit the museum. **OTTO VONDRAK PHOTO** **RIGHT:** Visitors and volunteers gladly supported the fundraiser, which proved popular. Watch our Facebook page for future fundraising dates! **JOE NUGENT PHOTO**



test train was run on Saturday, July 26, to test clearances north of BOCES Crossing. The train consisted of RG&E 1941, the flatcar, and the Penn Central transfer caboose (as this will most likely be the regular consist for future public operations).

The primary concern was the ability of the flatcar to negotiate the sharp curves north of BOCES Crossing to reach the boarding area at NYMT. Some minor clearance issues were discovered in the area around the S-curves, but nothing serious. The train continued to Giles Crossing, where the Penn Central caboose was cut from the train and tied down so that RG&E 1941 and the flatcar could continue north on their own. More severe clearance issues were discovered on the sharp curve at the

main entrance. It was decided to end the test at this point and return to Industry.

Armed with new information regarding the performance of the flatcar, volunteers from R&GV and NYMT will continue to work together to determine the best course of action. Meanwhile, it is our museum's goal to have the rider flatcar in service for the 2015 season for regular runs between Midway and Industry. Addition of the flatcar will help our trains match the capacity of the NYMT trolley.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18 2014 FALL FOLIAGE EXPRESS

Volunteers are taking important steps to ensure our excursion cars are repaired and ready to serve on our first ever *Fall*

Foliage Express to be operated on the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville! On Saturday, October 18, four trips will depart from the Conesus Sportsmen's Club in Lakeville at 10:00am, 12:00pm, 2:00pm, and 4:00pm round trip to Industry and return.

Dave Shields is leading a group of volunteers to repair the damage to our coaches and install new wiring where needed. Others are completing interior finishing and other important tasks. Right now the plan is to operate three coaches plus power car (ex-railway post office) *Alonzo B. Cornell*, however a fourth coach may be added as time and resources permit.

Tickets will go on sale August 20, and will be available at all **Wegmans** service counters. Tickets must be purchased in

MUSEUM NEWS & UPDATES



ABOVE: The LA&L passenger special passes the Avon depot. **ABOVE RIGHT:** Volunteers Dave Luca and Dave Shields rode along as technicians and hosts. **RIGHT:** Passing through old Mortimer Junction, the train will run around at Genesee Junction before returning to Lakeville. DAVE SCHEIDERICH PHOTOS



advance, and are first come, first served.

Thanks to volunteers Pete Gores, Dave Luca, Dave Peet, Dave Shields, Jim Johnson, Rand Warner, Jeremy Tuke, Dale Hartnett, Mark Wilczek, Rob Burz, Dave Scheiderich, Joe Nugent, and others who are contributing their time and effort to this important project!

If you're interested in working on the coaches, or you'd like to volunteer for the *Fall Foliage Express*, please contact Dave Shields at marberth@aol.com.

LA&L RUNS SPECIAL TRAIN TO HONOR SERGANT W. WISE

We loaned a coach and power car to the LA&L so they could run a special train for the family of Sergeant Wise on Sunday, August 4. Wise was the founding general counsel for the railroad, and instrumental in lining up many of the initial investors. Locomotive 428 was named in his honor, and the Wise family held a reunion in Rochester so they could all ride the special train. Dave Luca and Dave Shields rode along as technicians and hosts. Passengers boarded at the shops in Lakeville and ran over the entire length of the railroad to Henrietta. The passengers disembarked and rode a chartered bus back to Lakeville while the train continued to Genesee Junction where the locomotive ran around to the other end and returned to Lakeville.



Our coaches were returned Monday, and the railroad expressed their gratitude for allowing us to use the coaches. Thanks to the many volunteers who worked extra hours and made our cars ready for this special trip!

HELP WANTED: TRACK DEPT. SUPERINTENDENT

Your Board of Trustees is looking for a candidate to oversee all track projects on our museum railroad, including joint projects with the NYMT. Please contact president Mike Dow at (716) 474-2833 or mdow@rochester.rr.com for details.

HELP WANTED: PRESERVATION COMMITTEES

Your Board of Trustees is looking for someone to lead a committee to determine the future of our Lackawanna m.u. coach

and the PRR Pullman *Pine Falls*. Contact president Mike Dow at (716) 474-2833 or mdow@rochester.rr.com for details. We need your help to determine next steps for these important pieces of our collection.

RGVRRM BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be Thursday, September 4, 2014, at 6:00pm. To get an item added to the agenda, contact president Mike Dow at (716) 474-2833 or mdow@rochester.rr.com. Remember that any museum members are welcome to attend, but to address the board, you must be on that meeting's agenda.

VISIT US ONLINE AT...
WWW.RGVRRM.ORG
FACEBOOK.COM/RGVRRM
YOUTUBE.COM/RGVRRM

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2014

A stack of ten colorful books. The top book is green with the title 'THE BIG BOOK OF TRAINS' in bold black letters. The books below it have spines of various colors: blue, red, yellow, orange, blue, red, yellow, green, blue, and red. The stack is shown from a slightly elevated angle, casting a shadow on the surface below.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

We're Having a
COCKOUT!

A stylized illustration of a plate with a black and white striped pattern. On the plate are a hamburger with a brown patty and a hot dog with a yellow bun and mustard. The plate is set against a light blue background.

6 • AUGUST 2014 • THE SEMAPHORE



Have you told your friends yet?
Schedules, events, fares, exhibits, details,
and more, all in one easy to use web site!

Tell your friends to please visit...

RochesterTrainRides.com

a joint project of New York Museum of Transportation
and the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum

**the more you
volunteer, the
less stuff we
have to scrap!**

(No, we're not kidding. Are you
tired of seeing everything in our
collection rust away to nothing?
We need your help. Ask how you
can get involved.)

NYMT-R&GV JOINT OPERATING SCHEDULE FOR 2014

August 2014

Sunday 3 – Trolley and Diesel
Sunday 10 – Trolley and Track Cars
Sunday 17 – “Diesel Day” – Trolley/Extended Diesel Rides
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 – “Fall Foliage w/Fire Trucks” – Trolley and Diesel
Sunday 21 – “Fall Foliage” – 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

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.

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

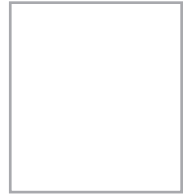
Are you missing out on important email messages? Joining is easy, plus it gives you more control over how you communicate with others. **There are new email lists for Members, Volunteers, and Operations! Need to get signed up? Not sure where you belong?** For more information, or to be added to any list, please contact “list-master” Otto Vondrak by email at ovondrak@yahoo.com. 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 or call (585) 820-2341.



THE SEMAPHORE

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



This Month's Meeting:

August 21

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

Next Month's Meeting:

September 18

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

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



HIGHBALL, INDUSTRY: The Livonia, Avon & Lakeville borrowed a coach and power car from our museum so they could operate a special train to honor the memory of Sergeant W. Wise on Sunday, August 4. The train was operated for members of the Wise family who held a reunion in Rochester for the occasion. Locomotive 428 is named in honor of Sergeant Wise, who was the founding counsel of the railroad. DAVE SCHEIDERICH PHOTO