



**OUR NEIGHBORS CAME TO VISIT:** The Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad brought Alco RS-36 no. 418 and Alco C424 no. 428 to display at Industry Depot during our annual Diesel Day event on August 17. Turn to page 4 for more photos from this great event. OTTO VONDRAK PHOTO

# Caught Short

## **INSIDE**

Meeting Minutes . . . . .	2
Museum News . . . . .	3
2014 Schedule. . . . .	7

We are about to enter our busy fall foliage season at the museums, which usually result in some of our highest attendance figures. From mid-September to the end of October, we will be running diesel trains ever Sunday to meet the trolleys. Throw in our preparations for the Fall Foliage Express trains to be operated in cooperation with the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad on October 18. To top it all off, we will also be trying out a new holiday event with the NYMT called the "Halloween Express" on October 25.

We're going to be busy. And we desperately need your help. I know we've used this forum to beg for help over the last few years, but this is a case where every available hour can make a difference. From helping to staff the NYMT gift shop and ticket desk, to spend-

ing a few hours at Industry Depot, to helping out with car hosting on board the trains, to helping get ready for our special trips, we need every hour you can spare.

Why do we do these special events on top of our regular Sunday business? Not only are they great ways to engage the community and show off our efforts to preserve Rochester's rich railroading heritage, but they mean additional revenue for our organizations. This is the revenue we apply to maintaining the museum and making a better experience for everyone.

Every hour you contribute truly counts! Can you help? Not sure where to start or where you fit in? I'd like to hear from you by phone (716) 474-2833 or by email at [mdow@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mdow@rochester.rr.com).

—Mike Dow,  
 Museum President



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

#### MUSEUM OFFICERS

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## DIESEL DAY AUG. 17, 2014

The people we meet is what makes Diesel Day such an enjoyable event. **ABOVE:** Lori Gough and her family are new members who joined RGV this year. Her husband Frank Gough is one of our newest volunteers. Their twin boys loved Diesel Day! **RIGHT:** This young lady enjoyed the best seat in the house in the cupola aboard our restored Erie Railroad caboose. **BELOW:** Visitors enter the waiting room at Industry Depot during one of the guided tours throughout the day. The Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad parked two Alco diesels at Industry for display during our Diesel Day event. See page 4 for more photos.

PHOTOS BY OTTO VONDRAK



#### 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:**

**October 16**

**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

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Volunteer Dave Coon conducts a tour of the displays inside the Lackawanna Baggage Car during Diesel Day on August 17. Volunteers from NYMT and RGV worked together to make this special event a success! See more photos on page 4. OTTO VONDRAK PHOTO

### UPCOMING MUSEUM PROGRAMS MONTHLY MEETINGS

Monthly museum meetings move back to the 40&8 Club located at 933 University Avenue in Rochester, New York. Doors open at 7:00, and the business meeting begins at 7:30. Following the meeting is our monthly entertainment program. Cash bar available. All are welcome to join us!

**September 18:** Member Duncan Richards presents "Orange and Black... and Blue, Yellow, Gray, and Green." Duncan's show will be a review of Genesee & Wyoming, Rochester & Southern, and Buffalo & Pittsburgh operations around New York State.

**October 16:** TBA

**November 20:** Members' Slide Night and Elections. Limit to 40 slides or digital images per person. We will provide slide and digital projectors. If you have images to share for Members' Slide Night, please RSVP to [ovondrak@yahoo.com](mailto:ovondrak@yahoo.com).

**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

### DIESEL DAY 2014

Even though we faced stiff competition from the Air Show as well as questionable weather throughout the day, Diesel Day was a huge success for both museums. It seems like we had little to worry about as trains ran full for most of the day, and we had plenty of sunshine in between the clouds. RG&E 1941 and R&GV 1654 handled our two trains, while USA 1843, LV 211, and EK 9 were on display on Track 5. Special thanks to the **Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad** for providing diesels 428 and 418 for display alongside the depot during our event!

Thanks to all our volunteers who kept things moving and our visitors safe: Mike Byrne, Dave Coon, Rich Fischpera, Matt Glogowski, Frank Gough, Chris Hausler, Ray Howard, Steve Huse, Jeanine Lovell, Dave Luca, Dave Mitchell, Tony Mittiga, Jim Moore, Joe Nugent, Dave Peet, Chris Playford, Sam Rosengberg, Harold Russell, Dan Tuke, Jeremy Tuke, Rand Warner, Mark Wilczek, and many others. Thanks also to the NYMT, their trolley crew, and ticket desk staff for moving visitors to and from our Diesel Day event!

Our visitors came from far and wide

after seeing our advertisements in the newspapers, on our web sites, and our Facebook pages. We are about to enter into our busy fall season, and I look forward to everyone's help to make this a safe and successful operating season!

—Otto Vondrak

### MUSEUM BOOK SALE AND LIBRARY STATUS UPDATE

We held our first Library Book Sale on Saturday, August 16, at Industry Depot, just prior to our Annual Members' Picnic. It was a very successful sale, as many excess books, magazines, tapes, and DVDs found new homes. Thanks very much to Mike Smith, Kayla Smith, E.J. Ryder, Joel Shaw, Otto Vondrak, Jim Ziobro, Mark Wilczek, Steve Huse, Dave Scheiderich, and others who assisted with set-up and break-down of the sale. We raised roughly \$1,000 that will help offset the cost of keeping our library materials in safe storage over the last year.

Your Library Committee has discussed a variety of options, based on your input and suggestions. What follows is a rough outline of possible next steps.

**Establish the library on-site:** There





# DIESEL DAY

## AUG. 17, 2014

**RIGHT:** Visitors disembark from the trolley at BOCES Crossing and prepare to board diesel trains for the ride down to Industry. **BELOW:** Visitors enjoyed the extra display of diesels thanks to our friends at the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad! **BELOW RIGHT:** Bob and Glenda Melville of Chili visit the museum and stand next to the life-size cutaway view of a diesel prime mover on display at NYMT. **BOTTOM:** RG&E 1941 shoves the Penn Central caboose towards the transfer point at BOCES Crossing with a full load of visitors! **PHOTOS BY** CHRIS PLAYFORD, OTTO VONDRAK, AND BOB/GLENDA MELVILLE



have been many suggestions to establish the library at the Industry museum site. Proposed ideas include clearing out the North Waiting Room to use as a library archive space; Housing the library collection in a surplus ESE coach that would be refurbished and outfitted as a climate-controlled library archive space; Purchasing surplus containerized field offices and converting them into a climate-controlled library archive space; Constructing a replica of the Industry freight house north of the depot and making a climate-controlled library archive space part of the design. Each proposal carries its own incremental cost, with clearing out the North Waiting Room estimated to be the lowest, while building a replica freight house is estimated to be the highest.

**Establish the library off-site:** If the





# DIESEL DAY

## AUG. 17, 2014

**LEFT:** Volunteer car host Ray Howard keeps track of visitors throughout the busy day. **BELOW LEFT:** Visitors enjoy the view from the cupola of our restored Erie Railroad caboose! **BELOW:** Volunteer Steve Huse was at the controls of RG&E 1941 during our special Diesel Day event. **BOTTOM:** Lynn Heintz hoops up a message to visitors on a passing train departing Industry. **PHOTOS BY CHRIS PLAYFORD AND OTTO VON-DRAK**



library could be re-established off-site, it would be desirable to have it located as close to Industry as possible. The cost of establishing the library off-campus would most likely include a monthly rental payment.

**Redistribute materials to other organizations:** Another option is to redistribute our materials to other like-minded institutions. This would remove the burden of maintaining a home for these materials, and put them into the hands of organizations that are better equipped to conserve, display, and share them.

**Discard all materials:** The worst-case scenario would be to discard materials if no appropriate home could be found for them. Destroying historic materials would go against many of the stated goals in our Mission and Charter. In any scenario, the



official records of our organization (minutes, correspondence, treasury reports) would be retained.

**Do nothing:** Another option would be to simply “do nothing” and continue to leave the materials in storage indefinitely. While this would make future access very difficult, it would do the least damage to the historic materials now in our trust. However, the monthly cost of storage is discouraging for materials we would never get any use or benefit from.

Before the Board of Trustees can give the Library Committee specific instructions on which course to take, the following questions must be answered:

1. Does the R&GV Railroad Museum want to maintain a library? If no, how do we deal with the volume of materials left in our trust?

2. If yes, what kind of library should the museum maintain?

3. If yes, how does operation of a library fit in with our mission and charter goals? Will our members benefit from it?

4. If yes, what will be the museum’s commitment to the operation of the library? How will it be staffed, how will the collection be managed, how will the collection be shared with our members and the general public?

5. If yes, how will funds be generated for the maintenance and operation of the library?

**These questions will be answered by you when we bring the general question to vote with the November ballot.** The future of the library lies with you. If you have any questions, please contact the Library Committee chairman by email at [rgvrr.ziobro@yahoo.com](mailto:rgvrr.ziobro@yahoo.com).

—Jim Ziobro, Joel R. Shaw, Otto Vondrak

### **RAILFAN & RAILROAD MAGAZINE IS BACK ON TRACK**

After struggling for a number of years, **Carstens Publications** closed permanently on August 24, 2014, due to a number of factors beyond their control. **White River Productions** has acquired *Railroad Model Craftsman* and *Railfan & Railroad* magazines, effective September 1, 2014. The asset purchase agreement between

Carstens Publications and White River Productions was completed Thursday, August 28. “We are excited to welcome these two Carstens titles to our family of White River Productions publications,” said Kevin EuDaly, president of White River Productions. “These magazines are an important part of railroad publications and White River Productions looks forward to continuing their legacies.”

Founded in 1992 by Kevin EuDaly, White River Productions is currently producing 22 historical society magazines plus calendars, books, and other peripheral items such as membership brochures, advertising rate cards, and more. The company also publishes *Model Railroad News*, *Railroads Illustrated*, *Passenger Train Journal*, *The Railroad Press* magazine, and now *Railroad Model Craftsman* and *Railfan & Railroad* magazines. [Yes, it appears your lowly newsletter editor and board trustee will continue to work on R&R for the foreseeable future.—Ed.]

### **FALL FOLIAGE EXPRESS ON THE LA&L SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18**

The Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum will be operating a series of public fall foliage excursions with the cooperation of the **Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad** between Lakeville and Industry, New York. Ride in the museum’s reconditioned Budd streamlined coaches built in 1941 for the New York Central’s *Empire State Express* hauled by Alco diesel locomotives provided by the LA&L. This is your opportunity to take a “rare mileage” trip over the normally freight-only LA&L!

Trains will depart from the **Conesus Lake Sportsman’s Club** in Lakeville at 10:00am, 12:00pm, 2:00pm, and 4:00pm. Plenty of free parking. All trains run as round trip with no intermediate stops. Refreshments available at Lakeville and on board the train. **Tickets available from all participating Wegmans service counters.** Adults (18+) are \$25.00 each, Seniors (65+) and Youth (Ages 3-17) are \$20.00. Children 2 and under occupying a lap ride free. Please visit our web site at [rgvrrm.org/fallfoliage](http://rgvrrm.org/fallfoliage) for details.

We will need volunteers to help on board the train as car hosts, concession sales, service technicians, and more. We will also need help parking cars and checking in passengers at Lakeville. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Dave Shields at [marberth@aol.com](mailto:marberth@aol.com).

—Dave Shields, Project Coordinator

### **OPERATIONS DEPT.**

The Board of Trustees has nominated **Jim Otto** to replace Rich Fischpera as Operations Superintendent. We thank Rich for all of his work to get us through this season and look forward to his future contributions to both museum organizations.

### **RGVRRM BOARD MEETING**

The next Board of Trustees meeting will be Thursday, October 2, 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). Remember that any members are welcome to attend, but to address the board, you must be on that meeting’s agenda. **S**



**RIGHT:** Visitors disembark from the cab of RG&E 1941 at BOCES Crossing during our annual Diesel Day event. Supervised cab rides are part of the popular special event. OTTO VONDRAK



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

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

# FALL FOLIAGE EXPRESS: OCT. 18

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

**These notices are ignored by most readers:**

### 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:

**September 18**

7:30 PM at 40&8 Club

933 University Ave., Rochester NY

Next Month's Meeting:

**October 16**

7:30 PM at 40&8 Club

933 University Ave., Rochester NY

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



**DON'T MISS IT:** The Fall Foliage Express returns Saturday, October 18! Trains depart Lakeville at 10:00, 12:00, 2:00, and 4:00. Tickets are available from participating Wegmans ticket counters. Visit [www.rgvrrm.org/fallfoliage](http://www.rgvrrm.org/fallfoliage) for details. CHRISTOPHER HAUF PHOTO