



HIGHEST ATTENDANCE RECORD EVER was on October 3-4 weekend for our Pumpkin Patch Train Rides. Wait times were a little longer than usual, but everyone was served, with every single departure sold out. OTTO VONDRAK PHOTO

# Election Special

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Just as we go to the polls in our communities in the month of November, our museum will be holding its annual elections at this month's membership meeting. You'll find your official ballot on Page 5. **Detach it from this newsletter, cast your vote, and mail it in before November 12. Or, you can bring your ballot in person to the monthly meeting on November 19.** We have a full slate of candidates for a variety of positions, so please take the time to cast your vote.

I'd also like to remind you that your Board of Trustees is here to serve you. As president, my contact information is published in every issue. If you have a matter that you would like addressed by the board, please me so I can add your item to the agenda. Your Board of Trustees are also members at large, active in the growth

and development of your museum. If you're not comfortable talking to me, please reach out to one of them.

We are winding down our successful independent operating season. Both attendance and revenue are well above last year's totals. Thank you to everyone who made this season a success, we look forward to increased growth next year with your help.

Coming up, don't miss our **Holiday Open House** on Friday, December 4, and look for info on our special holiday train rides to the "North Pole" on December 19 and December 20.

Have questions or comments? Call me at (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)

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(716) 474-2833

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Adam Lloyd  
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## MONTHLY PROGRAM

Our monthly meetings are held at the 40&8 Club in downtown Rochester. Located at 933 University Avenue, doors open at 7:00 p.m. and the meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. Our museum bookstore will have the latest titles for purchase, and a cash bar is available.

Please join us **October 15** when museum member Dave Coon will share his slide show documenting the Lehigh Valley's Rochester Branch.

Our annual elections will be held on **November 19**, along with Member Slide Night. If you would like to present, please contact our Program Chair.

Please welcome our new Program Chairman **Adam Lloyd**. One of our new volunteers, Adam is already quite active around our museum assisting with various projects. He will be scheduling new meeting activities through the end of the year, so if you have suggestions please direct them to his contact information above.

## PUMPKIN PATCH TRAINS

Expanding on last year's Pumpkin Patch rides, this year's event has far exceeded our expectations for attendance and revenue. To accommodate the expected crush of visitors, a third caboose was placed into service. New York Central caboose No. 19877 made its triumphant return hauling passengers after an absence of more than ten years. Thanks to the efforts of our volunteer crew led by Charlie Marks, the old wooden hack is now once again earning revenue for our museum.

A petting zoo was set up on the lawn at Industry to entertain families waiting to board their train. Spirit Wind Farm of Sanborn, N.Y., brought pigs, goats, sheep, a llama, ducks, and chickens for children to meet, pet, and feed. Placed at the northern end of the lawn, the petting zoo did not interfere with other activities at Industry.

Z Best Hots of Pittsford returned once again to provide food service. Visitors and volunteers alike enjoyed the full grill menu and friendly service.

On October 3 and 4, we handed out more than 400 pumpkins and ladled out more than 20 gallons of apple cider a day!

Trains departed every half hour from Industry Depot. Every departure was sold out, and we even ran extra sections at 5:00 and 5:30. More than 1,400 visitors came through the door during the first weekend of Pumpkin Patch operations. We expect to repeat this success during the second weekend of operation on October 17 and 18. For comparison, we had roughly 2,000 visitors total from the last four weekends of operation (nearly 500 per weekend).

—Otto M. Vondrak, Event Coordinator

## RGVRRM BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Trustees meeting is **Thursday, November 5, 2015**. Meetings are held at the 40&8 Club, 933 University Ave., Rochester, starting at 6:00 p.m. To get an item added to the agenda, please contact president Mike Dow at (716) 474-2833 or email [mdow@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mdow@rochester.rr.com). Remember that any and all members are welcome to attend, but to address the board, you must be on that meeting's agenda. 

[WWW.ROCHESTERTRAINRIDES.COM](http://WWW.ROCHESTERTRAINRIDES.COM)  
[WWW.RGVRRM.ORG](http://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:

**November 19**

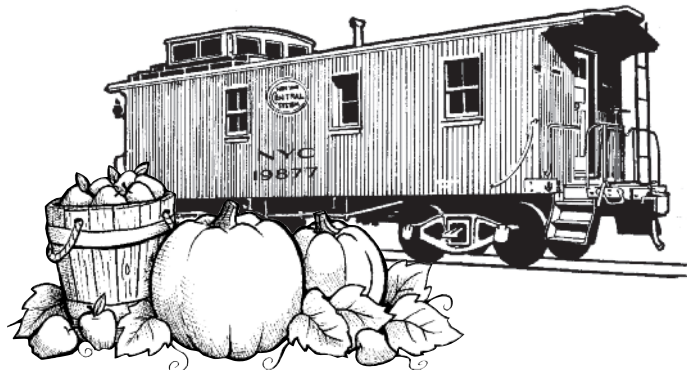
7:00pm at 40 & 8 Club





## NYC 19877

Our New York Central caboose returned to active service for October, thanks to the dedicated hard work of Charlie Marks and his volunteer restoration team. Your museum's Mechanical Dept. headed up by Joe Nugent made sure the car was ready for service in time for our special events in October. The caboose last saw active service in 2002.



## October Pumpkin Patch Trains

October 3 and 4 were our busiest days for attendance ever in the history of our museum. Our Pumpkin Patch Train Rides proved to be a popular attraction with many new visitors. **TOP RIGHT:** Cub Scout Pack 278 from Hilton, N.Y., paid us a visit. **RIGHT:** A young visitor feeds goats at the petting zoo. **BELOW:** One of the highlights for our volunteers was seeing the return of our New York Central caboose to active service after an absence of more than 10 years. Volunteers Rob Burz and Dave Kehrre pose in front of the caboose at the end of a long day. **BELOW RIGHT:** Museum president Mike Dow helped both days, speaking with visitors and helping to replenish supplies as needed.







## October Pumpkin Patch Trains

**TOP LEFT:** Dave Buckner and his pooch Tucker kept traffic moving at Switch 6. The Switch Tender is one of the most important jobs that helps keep our new operation on schedule. **TOP RIGHT:** The petting zoo was set up on the lawn at Industry Depot so that visitors could pass the time while waiting for their train. It was a very popular attraction. **LEFT:** Children enjoyed picking out pumpkins from the pumpkin patch. **BELOW LEFT:** Mike Guigliermo sweeps up at the end of a long weekend. **BELOW:** Event coordinator Otto Vondrak surveys the scene as the last train departs from the Upper Yard. **PHOTOS BY OTTO VONDRAK AND CHRIS PLAYFORD**



# ★ ★ ★ OFFICIAL BALLOT 2015 ★ ★ ★

## ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

In accordance with Articles III and IV of the RGVRRM By-Laws, the Nominating Committee has nominated candidates for election to fill the expiring terms of the Officers of the RGVRRM. The names of those selected by the committee are listed below. Nominations we also called for at the October meeting and no one came forth. **Vote for ONE candidate for each office position by placing an "X" in the appropriate box [ ].**

### Candidates for Office of TRUSTEE (2015-2018)

TRUSTEE:

[ ] MARK WILCZEK

OR [ ] (Write-in Candidate)

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TRUSTEE:

[ ] DAVE SCHEIDERICH

OR [ ] (Write-in Candidate)

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TRUSTEE:

[ ] JIM ZIOBRO

OR [ ] (Write-in Candidate)

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*The elections will take place during the November 19 membership meeting.  
Please bring your ballot with you, or mail your ballot to:*

*RGVRRM Ballot, P.O. Box 23326, Rochester, NY 14692*

**MAIL YOUR BALLOT BY NOVEMBER 12  
TO MAKE SURE IT ARRIVES IN TIME TO BE COUNTED!**



RGVRRM BALLOT  
P.O. BOX 23326  
ROCHESTER, NY 14692

PLEASE  
PLACE  
POSTAGE  
HERE

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Please see opposite side for 2015 RGVRRM Ballot  
Thank you for taking the time to vote.  
ALL BALLOTS ARE DUE NOVEMBER 19, 2015



## October Pumpkin Patch Trains

We enjoyed record setting attendance during both weekends in October, serving more than 2,500 visitors! We could not have done it without our dedicated volunteers. TOP LEFT: Frank Gough is our newest qualified conductor. TOP RIGHT: Visiting the pumpkin patch at the Upper Yard. LEFT: Syeira Dow and Adam Lloyd kept the hot cider cooking all weekend. BELOW LEFT: Chris Hausler was a caboose car host and tour guide throughout the weekend. BELOW: The Livonia, Avon & Lakeville paid us a rare visit on Sunday morning, October 18.

PHOTOS BY OTTO VONDRAK







## THE **SEMAPHORE**

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



This Month's Meeting:

**October 15**

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

Next Month's Meeting:

**November 19**

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

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FINGER LAKES RAILWAY No. 1751 was acquired by Conway Scenic Railway in North Conway, New Hampshire, in 2012. It has been relettered for Conway Scenic, but retains its New York Central inspired paint scheme, captured on the Valley Train on September 27, 2015. DAVID SCHNEIDERICH PHOTO



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**November 19**  
**Elections and**  
**Member Slide Night**

# SEMAPHORE

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OFFICIAL BALLOT INSIDE