

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**June 21**  
**MEETINGS MOVE TO**  
**INDUSTRY DEPOT**  
**Enjoy Train Rides!**



Our diesel trains ran a shuttle from BOCES Crossing to the Restoration Shop during the Black Creek District Spring Railroading Camporee on May 5. More than 150 local Boy Scouts visited RGV and NYMT to learn about the railroading industry and tour our museums. OTTO VONDRAK PHOTO

# Scouting Around

## ***INSIDE***

2018 RGV Schedule . .	2
Photo Freight Day . . .	3
Boy Scout Camporee. .	3
Rails & Ales . . . . .	5
Motive Power . . . . .	7

The operating season began earlier than usual with sold-out Easter Bunny Train Rides on March 31, a Member's Only Photo Freight Day on April 28, a special event for the Boy Scouts on May 5, and another sold out Rails & Ales beer tasting event on May 19. We've been busy! Our next weekend of "regular" public operations is **June 16-17**, with Fathers Day Weekend Train Rides. We'll also be paying tribute to the old Rochester Subway and helping draw attention to our efforts to restore Car 60 with an exhibit of Regional Transit Service's restored 1957 GM Transit Bus. We've built great momentum for 2018, thanks to our hard working volunteers.

Now is not the time to rest on our laurels, however. We only have seven more weekends in our regular operating season and we have to make every one count. This is where the majority of our operating funds

come from; the funds that pay for things like ongoing equipment maintenance and our short list of approved projects.

Despite all the increased activity, we find ourselves short on volunteer help. How do we reverse this trend? It may sound trite, but every contribution counts, no matter how big or small. How do we draw you in?

Our next operating weekend is **July 21-22** Craft Show Caboose Rides. This is yet another new approach we are trying to attract new first-time visitors to the museum. If you know someone who wants to exhibit as a vendor, please contact me.

I want to hear your ideas on how we can grow and improve our museum! Would you like to help out but you're not sure where to start? Please contact me at (716) 474-2833 or [mdow@rochester.rr.com](mailto:mdow@rochester.rr.com).

—Mike Dow  
Museum President



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

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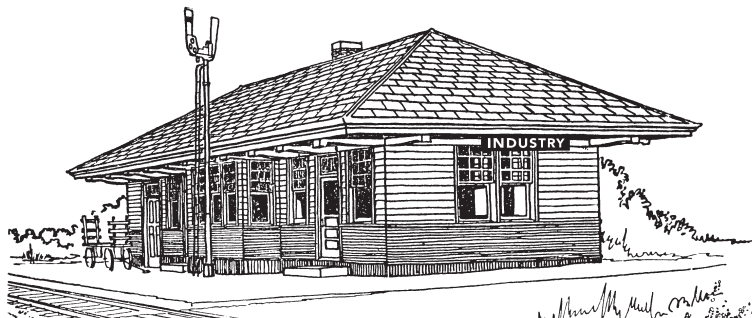
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Dave Peet

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# 2018 R&GV SCHEDULE

*Please note some dates and activities are subject to change.*



**June 16-17 – Father's Day Train Rides**

**July 21-22 – Craft Show Caboose Rides**

**August 18-19 – Steam Train Rides**

**August 25-26 – Steam Train Rides**

**Sept. 15-16 – Diesel Days Train Rides**

**Sept. 23 – Fall Excursion TBA**

**Oct. 13-14 – Pumpkin Patch Train Rides**

**Oct. 20-21 – Pumpkin Patch Train Rides**

**Oct. 27, Sat. – Trick or Treat Train Rides**

**Dec. 1, Sat. – Santa Train Rides**

**Dec. 7, Fri. – Holiday Open House**

**Dec. 8, Sat. – Santa Train Rides**

**Dec. 15, Sat. – Santa Train Rides**

**[RochesterTrainRides.com](http://RochesterTrainRides.com)**

## ***SPECIAL NOTICE***

The July Trustee's Meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday, July 12, at 6:00 p.m. at the 40 & 8 Club, 933 University Ave., Rochester, N.Y., to avoid conflict with the holiday weekend.



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## MONTHLY PROGRAM

**Meetings return to Industry Depot starting May 19.** Starting a half-hour earlier at 7:00 p.m., following a brief business meeting we will enjoy rides on our museum railroad and a tour of current projects in the Restoration Shop. Warm-weather meetings continue at the depot on **June 21, July 19, and August 16.**

These events are **FREE** to attend, so bring a friend! Please contact me with your suggestions for future programs so we can begin planning our meeting calendar for the rest of 2018.

—Adam Lloyd, Program Chair

## MEMBERS DAY PHOTO FREIGHT AND FILM CREW VISIT

On April 28 we held our first ever Member's Picnic and Photo Freight Day, bringing out some of our seldom-seen freight cars for the benefit of photographers. Leading up to the event, several volunteers contributed towards light repairs to get our freight cars ready for prime time, including replacing air brake hoses, repairing



Member Chris Hauf paid us a visit from California, so of course we put him to work helping us get ready for our Members Day Photo Freight on April 27. He's seen here assisting Joe Nugent with a balky air valve underneath MDT 12549. JEREMY TUKE PHOTO

a coupler cut lever, inspecting air valves, and other minor tasks. The plan was to operate two trains, an "Erie" local freight with R&GV 54, two refrigerator cars MDT 12549 and FGEX 50220, and Erie caboose C254; and a second train consisting of USA 1834 and our New York Central caboose. Unfortunately, our second train was sidelined after only a single run due to low fuel (whoops), and parked on Track 5.

Several scenes were planned for photographers and riders alike, taking advantage of the unique scenes possible at our museum. In addition, we were paid a visit by a professional film crew working for the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and their "REACH" (Raising Engineering Awareness through the Conduit of History) program. The film crew took footage of our vintage freight train running up and down the rails, interviewed our train crew, and posed our volunteers as "workers" loading the Erie milk car with milk cans. The footage will be used as part of an educational video supporting other materials related to the history and technology of refrigerator cars, made available for free to teachers around the country.

Despite some overcast and rainy weather, we were able to recreate vintage scenes and shine the wheel treads on some of our freight equipment. Of course, we enjoyed a picnic cookout at the depot (thanks to Jeremy Tuke for manning the grill). This was a unique opportunity not only for our mem-

bers and guests to get great photos, but also to utilize our collection of historic trains to tell the story of Rochester's rich railroading heritage and interpret the industry's effect on our community. We look forward to presenting similar opportunities for events like this in the future.

## 150 ATTEND FIRST BOY SCOUT RAILROADING CAMPOREE WEEKEND

More than 150 Scouts and adults attended the Black Creek District Spring Railroading Camporee during the first weekend in May. Troops from Chili, Gates, Scottsville, Rush, Henrietta, Victor, Newark, and Rome spent the weekend sharpening their Scout skills, learning about the railroading industry, and earning requirements towards the Railroading merit badge. The Town of Rush was our host, permitting the Scouts to use the Fairgrounds (former BOCES) property for camping and activities. Otto Vondrak was the liaison between Black Creek District, the Town of Rush, and the railroad museums to coordinate activities.

After Saturday morning's opening ceremonies and flag raising, Troops were split into three activity groups: Central, Lehigh, and Erie, dispersed among activities taking place in camp, at RGV, and at New York Museum of Transportation.

Our diesel trains operated north of Midway to pick up Scouts at BOCES Crossing to transport them to our Restoration Shop. Joe Nugent and Dave Scheiderich led tours





**ABOVE:** Film crew and photographers in position at Switch 6. **LEFT:** Jim O'Keefe and Jim Otto posed as "workers" loading milk cans into our Erie milk car on April 28. **BELOW LEFT:** Jeremy Tuke manned the grill for our picnic lunch. **BELOW:** The LAL road freight came by while we were putting trains in position on April 27, making for an interesting photo opportunity. **OTTO VONDRAK PHOTOS** **BOTTOM:** Our vintage photo freight passes the shanty at Switch 6 and enters the yard on a rainy April 28. **PETE SWANSON PHOTO**



of the shop. Scouts identified different parts of a diesel locomotive and also toured our yard to learn about different types of freight cars. Part of the event included a First Aid practical, where Scouts had to act quickly to attend to an injured "victim."

Unfortunately, a wind storm had knocked down a portion of the overhead wire at Midway just a couple weeks previous to the event. Our volunteers worked with NYMT to effect repairs to allow the diesel train to pass, but the electric substation remained out of service due to roof leaks. While the trolley was unable to operate, Scouts were able to visit and tour the collection of historic trolleys at NYMT, watch a brief video tour of the old Rochester Subway, and learn how to read a timetable and plan a long-distance trip on Amtrak.

A number of field activities took place back at camp including traditional Scout skills such as map-and-compass orienteering, fire-building, knots and lashings, and more. A spirited evening campfire program closed out the weekend activity.

Thanks to the hard work of volunteers from both organizations, we were able to introduce more than 150 new visitors to our museums and raise our profile within the





community. The Town has expressed their thanks to us for finding positive new ways to utilize the Fairgrounds property, hearing nothing but enthusiastic compliments from those who attended the Camporee.

—Otto M. Vondrak, Visitor Ops Supt.

### SOLD OUT SUCCESS AT THIS YEAR'S RAILS & ALES

This year's edition of Rails & Ales sold out all 330 tickets nearly three weeks in advance of the May 19 date. Your museum hosted 11 local craft breweries at "Tasting Stations" set up at Industry Depot, in the Upper Yard, and inside the Restoration Shop. Trains departed every half hour from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m., with our visitors taking advantage of the relaxed pace of the event to enjoy train rides and talking with represen-

tatives of their favorite breweries. Museum member Jon Zatyko and **Z Best Foodz** provided catering, including an extra employee to dispense complimentary popcorn inside the Restoration Shop. Thanks to the volunteer train crews that kept everything running smoothly and on schedule. Our visitors had nothing but compliments for the event, many asking (begging?) that we consider hosting it twice a year (Something we are considering for the future).

We'd like to thank our participants and sponsors including **OSB Ciderworks, 810 Mead Works, West Shore Brewing Co., Blue Toad Hard Cider, Swiftwater Brewing, K2 Bros. Brewing, Roc Brewing, Triphammer Bierwerks, Iron Tug Brewing, Stoneyard Brewing, Upstate New York Hombrewers Association,** and

the **Rochester Beer Blog** (it's a real thing).

—Otto Vondrak, Visitor Ops Supt.

### LV CABOOSE 95100 PROJECT UPDATE

The focus over the last few months has been re-assembling the nailers for the lower portions of the interior walls that the tongue and groove paneling nails into. Several nailers had portions that were severely rotted, so unfortunately, these parts had to be re-fabricated. These were complex shapes of wood with bevels, rabbets, and bores to provide clearance for rivets, lap joints, and so on. Fabricating replacements has taken some time and bogged things down a bit. While in the process of reassembling the lower portions of the interior walls, it became apparent that it will be



**RIGHT:** More than 150 Boy Scouts from as far away as Newark and Rome attended the Black Creek District Spring Railroading Camporee on May 5. The Scouts are lined up for morning assembly prior to the start of the event. **BELOW:** Joe Nugent leads tours of the shop and explains parts of a diesel locomotive to the Scouts. Dave Scheiderich took groups of Scouts through the cab of LAL 20. The BR&P caboose was also opened to show off our restoration in-progress. **RIGHT, TOP:** Scouts took part in a First Aid drill, attending to a "victim" who fell off a ladder and broke his arm. Points were awarded depending how quickly and carefully aid was rendered. **RIGHT, BOTTOM:** Frank and Lori Gough are not only regular volunteers at the museum, but also active Scouters as well, posing with their twin boys who are enthusiastic members of their local Tiger Cub pack who came to visit for the day.





necessary to do some disassembly of several upper portions in order to address some issues. Volunteers welcome!

—Sam Rosenberg, Project Mgr.

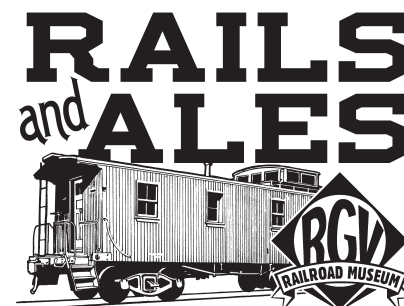
### BR&P CABOOSE UPDATE

One of the goals for the restoration of Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh caboose no. 280 is to complete the exterior so the car may be moved outside. That means completing the new roof (we already have the material on hand), exterior paint and completing the windows (we have the material for that, also). Several volunteers have offered to help with painting, but we can always use more help. Once we complete those tasks, we will need to install the stove (donated by Sam Ferrara), the fold-up bunks (if we want to add them), and add the ice box to the sink cabinet.

—Charlie Marks, Project Mgr.

### FALL FOLIAGE TRIP RESCHEDULED

The Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad advised they would not be able to operate a Fall Foliage Express for our museum this year, citing schedule disruptions as a result of this year's aggressive tie replacement



**TOP:** Roc Brewing pouring a sample under the big tent set up on the lawn at Industry Depot. We hosted 11 local craft brewers for Rails & Ales on May 19. **ABOVE:** Happy visitors sampling craft beer inside the Restoration Shop. **ABOVE LEFT:** We really like the New York Central-inspired logo from West Shore Brewing who came out from Clarence. **LEFT:** Our new open-air car was a big hit with our visitors!





Visitor Joe Cermak sent his drone aloft on the afternoon of May 8, 2018, to capture this excellent photo not only showing the evening passage of the daily Livonia, Avon & Lakeville road freight, but also showing off our expansive museum campus and equipment collection. PHOTO BY JOE CERMAK

project. While we are disappointed not to operate our New York Central *Empire State Express* coaches this year, your museum is working out the details for a replacement event to take place in late September.

#### MOTIVE POWER DEPT.

One of the three main goals for this season includes restoration and repair of RG&E GE 110-ton No. 8. This includes some sheet metal repair, reassembly of the air system, traction motor brush installation, and repairs to the No. 1 engine. If all goes well, we'd like to be able to start this locomotive this year. Paint prep will take place after the locomotive is mechanically sound. With the goal of returning NKP Alco S-4 No. 79 to regular operation, the locomotive will require repairs to the fuel tank repairs and traction motor servicing. The No. 1 engine on RG&E 1941 needs repairs, pending results of an oil analysis.

Dan Waterstraat and Jim Johnson have been working on LV 211's battery charging system. We may activate this locomotive at some point this season to check for proper and reliable operation.

Mike Dow activated LA&L No. 20, and we expect to use it this year. USA 1843 is available for switching duties, but will no longer be used for public operation.

We expect to use R&GV 54 extensively this year, as it have been a reliable locomotive for us. This locomotive is first in line for traction motor repairs once RG&E 8 is returned to service.

—Joe Nugent, Motive Power Supt.

#### OPERATIONS DEPT.

Hands-on training is available to any volunteer seeking to join our train crews. Trainees are encouraged to join us any time we are running trains at the museum. Just let us know ahead of time, and we will pair you up with an experienced crew member to learn from. We always need car hosts, brakemen, conductors, and engineers. It's fun, and you get to work on the trains! Come join us, you're always welcome.

—Jim Otto, Operations Supt.

WWW.RGVRRM.ORG  
FACEBOOK.COM/RGVRRM  
YOUTUBE.COM/RGVRRM

## 2018 R&GV Priority Projects

The following priority projects have been approved by the Board of Trustees, effective May 1, 2018. These projects are considered essential to the growth and success of our museum. To contribute, contact the project manager listed below.

1. South Fill Surface and Drainage  
—VACANT
2. Complete Lehigh Valley Caboose  
—Sam Rosenberg, Mgr.
3. EK 6 Cosmetic Restoration  
—Dave Buckner, Mgr.
4. Complete Repairs to RG&E 8  
—Joe Nugent, Mgr.
5. ESE Coach Enhancement  
—David Shields, Mgr.
6. Depot Parking Lot Extension  
—VACANT





THE **SEMAPHORE**

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Find us on Facebook! [facebook.com/rgvrrm](https://facebook.com/rgvrrm)



Switch tender Jim O'Keefe passes a highball signal to the engineer of the Erie local... Timeless scenes like these were created during our first Members Picnic and Photo Freight Day on April 28. See page 3 for details. PHOTO BY OTTO M. VONDRAK