

THE SEMAPHORE

The Newsletter of
**ROCHESTER CHAPTER - NATIONAL RAILWAY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**
Vol. XXXI No. 10

June 1990

PROGRAM NOTES

By: Ron Amberger

This month's chapter meeting will be held at our Rochester & Genesee Valley Museum. The meeting starts at 8:00 p.m. but plan to come out earlier and view the progress that's taken place over the past few months. The program is a Lehigh Valley promotional movie. This sixteen millimeter sound movie, from the chapter movie collection shows old Lehigh Valley equipment and scenes along the right-of-way. This is a must for LV fans.

ALCO FILM LIBRARY RE-OPENS

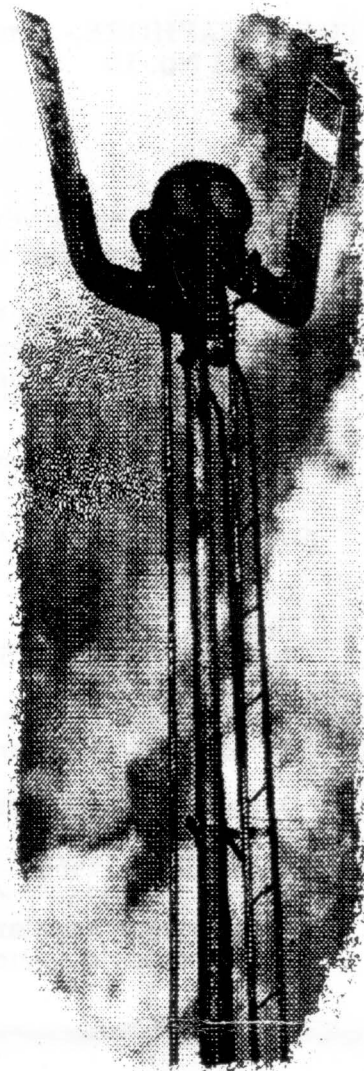
Closed for an examination and audit of its operations, this popular service to the Society under the care of MOHAWK & HUDSON CHAPTER began operations on May 1st of this year. The new address is Alco Historic Photos . . P.O. Box 610 .. Schenectady, NY 12301. All of the Collection's routine operations have been resumed - a new catalog is being processed and the operation is now under the management of a board of overseers consisting of three members from the National and three from the Chapter. The Society is fortunate to have this valuable collection available to its members and we say WELCOME BACK!

From the NRHS News

BUFFALO CENTRAL TERMINAL

Adrian Development, Inc. unveiled its site plans for converting a portion of Central Terminal into a warehouse, light industrial, office space and a restaurant. The project involves renovating the former post office building, storage areas and former railway express building. A separate redevelopment project would convert the terminal into a major shopping center, tourist attraction and residential development. The plans call for converting the first three levels of the terminal building including its spacious concourse with trademark bronze buffalo statue, into a shopping center which would also include a nine-screen movie theater. The future of the 20-story tower is uncertain but developer Bernie Tuchman said it may eventually be used for offices or possibly a hotel. The building is now owned by Thomas Telesco who purchased it from Anthony Fedeale.

From the Buffalo News



MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

By: Tom Way

In May, we had seven parties voted in as Members. This figure includes one Spouse Member taking over for her late husband.

<u>Current Statistics</u>	
National Members held through Rochester	196
Local Membership (National affiliation elsewhere)	10
Family Memberships	27
TOTAL	233

New Applicants Voted in as Members At the May 17th Meeting

Donald Espenmiller
20 Ewalt Drive
Rochester, NY 14625
Phone: 381-3335
Membership: Retiree
Sponsor: Dan Cosgrove

Kathleen & Charles Fingerhut
P.O. Box #51
Memphis, NY 13112
Phone: (315) 689-3482
Membership: Regular/Family
Sponsor: David J. Luca

Lynn Foote
370 Lakeshore Boulevard
Rochester, NY 14617
Phone: 338-7472
Membership: Regular/Family
Sponsor: Thomas A. Way

Donald & Joan Hemmerick
425 Morton Road
Hamlin, NY 14464
Phone: 659-8116
Membership: Regular/Family
Sponsor: David J. Luca

Donald W. Palmer
12 York Street
Honeoye Falls, NY 14472
Phone: 624-3313
Membership: Regular
Sponsor: David W. Jacobs

John G. Steepy
44 Ivory Way
Henrietta, NY 14467
Phone: 334-4154
Membership: Regular
Sponsor: David J. Luca

Scott R. Becker
308 Meadows Road
Milford, CT 06460
Phone: (203) 783-1364
Membership: Regular/Local
Sponsor: Thomas A. Way

*This is an accumulative list of corrections and additions to the roster issued April 19, 1990

Richard & Nancy Barrett
369 Fox Meadow Drive
Rochester, NY 14626
Phone: 227-6903

Peter E. Gores
2416 North Road
Scottsville, NY 14546
Phone: 538-6518

Henry E. Roberts
392 Long Pond Road
Rochester, NY 14626
Phone: 225-6323

Mark J. Pappalardo
49 Buffalo Street, Apt. 1
Bergen, NY 14416

Charles J. Riedmiller
167 Summit Street
Batavia, NY 14020
Phone: 225-5888

J. Stanford Setchell
470 Pond View Heights
Rochester, NY 14612

Stan E. Slade
100 Station Road
E. Rochester, NY 14445

James M. Strout/Joyce Evans
93 Sonnet Drive
Rochester, NY 14626
Phone: 225-9668

Edward M. Sweeney
6819 Mead Hill Road
Springwater, NY 14560
Phone: 619-2405

John L. Weber
428 Upper Valley Road
Rochester, NY 14624
Phone: 247-0073

ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM STORE

-Operation Supt. Tom Bauman - 458-4289

New books in the Chapter store:

Conrail, Vol. 1 = 1976-1982	\$39.95
1990 Steam Directory	\$8.00

Rochester Chapter NRHS members receive a 20% discount on books ordered through the chapter store.

We have an ongoing need for volunteers to run the Depot each Sunday. If you would be willing to help out for four hours on a Sunday, give me a call.

ROCHESTER CHAPTER - NRHS CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

- 14-17 - NRHS National Convention - St. Louis, MO
- 17 - Summer Fun Rail Excursions - Omid
- 21 - Chapter Meeting - Oatka Depot
- 24 - Summer Fun Rail Excursions - Omid
- 28 - July Trustees Meeting - Charlie's Coldwater Station

JULY

- 7 - Summer Work Session - Oatka Depot
- 14 - Summer Work Session - Oatka Depot
- 19 - Chapter Meeting - Oatka Depot
- 21 - Summer Work Session - Oatka Depot
- 28 - Summer Work Session - Oatka Depot

AUGUST

- 2 - Trustees Meeting - Pine Falls
- 4 - Summer Work Session - Oatka Depot
- 11 - Steam Excursion (611 or 1218) - Buffalo, NY to Albion,
PA and return - Niagara Frontier - NRHS
- 11 - Summer Work Session - Oatka Depot
- 16 - Chapter Meeting - Oatka Depot
- 18 - Steam Excursion (611 or 1218) - Erie, PA to Bellevue,
OH (return by Diesel) - LSRHS
- 18 - Summer Work Session - Oatka Depot
- 25 - Summer Work Session - Oatka Depot

NATIONAL DIRECTORS REPORT

By: Phil Schulp (924-5092)

I could not attend the National Director's Meeting held at Scottsdale, Arizona on April 28, 1990. However, thanks to Bruce Hodges of the Leatherstocking Chapter, I received information to make the following report.

President Wood reported that:

- Kenton Forest has been nominated to Historic Plaque Committee.
- Dick Lloyd named Director of Computer Services.
- ALCO HISTORIC PHOTOS - a new agreement has been signed with Mohawk & Hudson Chapter for perpetual care of the collection which creates a new Board of Overseer's consisting of 6 members, 3 NRHS & 3 M&H Chapter members. The collection to be housed at GE Hall of Science Building in Schenectady, NY.
- Hugh Gibb commended for renovating NRHS offices in Philadelphia.
- New Recruitment brochure is at the printers.
- Refund of security deposit from old NRHS offices in Philadelphia has been received.
- National Officers duties to be defined and ready for St. Louis meeting.
- Larry Eastwood overseeing the purchases of Video Films for the Harry B. Dodge Film Library.
- Harry P. Dodge Film Library is moving to Philadelphia office and will be shutdown May 1 to September 1, 1990 for move.

Reports given by other National Officers, Service Directors, and Committee Chairs included the following points:

- Greg Molloy, Secretary, reports that attendance at the Director's meetings continues to be healthy with over 50% of the Directors present.
- Treasurer Dick Billings reported that Funds On Hand, Feb. 28, 1990 was \$192,507.80. All was in interest bearing accounts except the \$4,583.45 which is in the Checking Account. Income 1990 y-t-d at \$174,402.71 and Expenses 1990 y-t-d at \$66,381.93.
- Dick Lloyd, Director-Computer Services, reported that 2,654 members have not renewed to date and that some may be held up at the chapter level.
- David Ackerman, Membership Development, reported that requests for membership are up 80% over last year, approximately 1,000 more. The sign-up rate has risen from 40% to 50% in 1989.
- Frederick C. Frostick, Director of Grants, reports that at the Feb. 10, 1990 meeting of Regional Vice Presidents a presentation on generating grant requests and other outside fund raising was made. Considerable interest was shown in an outstanding project brochure generated by the Leatherstocking Chapter on their Leatherstocking Railway Museum Project. Work on the proposed booklet, "How to Seek Grants", is continuing.
- Frank Tatnall, Editor, reports that transfer of the Society's offices last September disrupted the production of the Bulletin. The staff intends to get back on schedule in 1990.

The Board approved a Chapter Charter requested by the Delmarva Chapter located in Parksley, VA. The Chapter has 16 Regular, 3 Spouse, and 7 Chapter only members. The Board voted Dr. Harry Killian as National Director for the chapter.

Old Business before the Board:

- Bylaws Revisions - The Bylaws Committee proposed 21 revisions to the Society's Bylaws. In summary: the Board approved the proposals presented as amended which: -removes the sexist tenor of the bylaws, -allows family members to vote, -allow the Board of Directors to create new membership categories for Institutional and Corporate membership to encourage donations, -sets

conditions under which members must be allowed to attend Board of Directors meetings, -clarifies absentia voting provisions, -removes offices of Editor, Historian, General Counsel and Chaplain from elected offices and make them appointed offices serving under the President, -allow alternate directors to vote in the election of officers, -relieve the Editor of approving all publications of the Society, and makes the Editor responsible for only the Bulletin, -clarify the role of the General Counsel, -remove the requirement that the annual convention must have a banquet, trips, other entertainment, -removes the requirement that chapters wishing to sponsor a convention must submit proposals two years in advance.

New Business before the Board:

- Commendation to William Gray for the work on the Harry P. Dodge Film Library.

Convention Reports:

- 1988 Tri-State: Chapter sent a letter to be read to the Directors. It stated that all bills have been paid except to the 765 Group. Refunds for "uncontested claims are down to a handful", however, there was no mention as to the status of contested claims for refunds or the amount these claims total.
- 1990 St. Louis: The St. Louis NRHS Convention, June 14-17, 1990. Higher than expected operating costs and low seating capacity are to blame for high ticket costs. Seating capacity for UP trips is 450 (\$149 coach) and 650 for others (\$119 coach). All trips will have multiple run-bys. Apologies were given for the lateness of the convention packages.
- 1991 C.P. Huntington: to be held in Huntington, WV. Things shaping up.
- 1992 Central Coast: to be held in San Jose, CA, July 20-22.
- 1993 Chicago: committee in place for convention planning.

Future Directors Meetings:

Fall 1990 - Owensboro Chapter, Owensboro, KY, November 9-11, Executive Inn, Rivermont.
Spring 1991 - Hawk Mountain Chapter, Bethlehem, PA, May 3-5.
Fall 1991 - Shenango-Pymatuning Chapter, Heritage, PA.
Spring 1992 - Undecided.

New Business Reopened:

- Regional Vice President, Diana Dawes, proposed a motion to sternly censor Tri-State Chapter for their alleged mishandling of refunds to members for events which were canceled prior to or during the convention. After lengthy discussion by the Board, a vote was called and the motion defeated.

HISTORIAN NOTES

By: Keith Blackall

Thanks to: Lynn Heintz, Bob Fitch, Bob Miner, Rand Warner and Dave Tickner for information used in developing the Trip narrative for our Summer Fun Hojack Line Excursions. Dick Tickner also donated a collection of pamphlets and newspaper articles dealing with railroads and mass transit in the Western, NY area. Thanks Dick! The trips on Omid may well be something we will be involved with for awhile. If you have information on the Hojack, Northern Central (PRR to Sodus Point) or Lehigh Valley (Fairhaven Coal Dock), that you'd like to share with our passengers, please forward it to me. I'll be building a file so we can keep our patrons (and members) well informed. Send to: Keith Blackall, 24 Smith St., Sodus, NY 14551.

ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

- Chmn. Rand Warner - 248-8889

General

- With our 1990 Public operating season upon us now, our top priorities are for improved appearance, cleanliness, neatness and presentation of our grounds, walkways, parking areas, buildings and rolling stock. Visitor safety and satisfaction must come first. Marking of danger areas and improvement of walkway areas is very important. Painting of refurbished Depot and interior cleanup will go a long way on appearances. Good housekeeping inside our cabooses and passenger cars will keep them attractive. Our landscaping efforts are starting and will make a strong contribution to first impressions. Track material relocation is almost complete and trash removal needs continuing attention. Signs and billboards will be of great help to our visitors. We have a great start and with your help we can have an outstanding museum complex.
- Call Tom Bauman at 458-4289 to volunteer as a Sunday Museum Host from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Together We Are Making it Happen

TOGETHER WITH ...

- The New York Museum of Transportation, we are constructing a two-mile demonstration trolley line and railroad. This could be the only operation in the country, and perhaps the world, with a rail theme museum at both ends of the line.
- Local area railroads, we are running a variety of excursion train activities in several areas of the Rochester Metropolitan region.
- The local government we have been given and have been able to remove, over a mile of track from the former Rochester Subway, for use at our museum railroad.
- Regional railroads and private sponsors we have been able to put together a functional set of railway maintenance of way equipment, used in building and maintaining our two-mile railroad.

- Area railroads, private sponsors and area industry, we have assembled a roster of six pieces of freight rolling stock and passenger equipment representing 3 railroads.
- Empire State Railcar and our Chapter, we have acquired six former New York Central Empire State Express passenger cars for use in excursion service.
- Local industry and private individuals, we have acquired an operating roster of three diesel locomotives representing area railroads.
- Builder organizations, area contractors and the Navy Seabees reserve unit, we have acquired and restored a wood frame Erie passenger station.
- Local Navy Seabee's reserve unit, we have made significant progress on restoration and repair of motive power, rolling stock, track, construction equipment and maintenance of way equipment.
- Help from local industry, our volunteers, local railroads and suppliers, we have constructed over 1/2 mile of track, moved over 2,000 yards of earth excavation, brought in over 1,000 tons of rock ball, dismantled and brought in over 10,000 lineal feet of rail, over 3,000 ties, hundreds of switch timbers, and thousands of tie plates, track spikes and bolts.
- The New York State Division for Youth Agricultural and Technical School at Industry and The New York State Division for Youth Oatka Residence Center at Industry, we are offering an interactive outreach program for staff and students to participate in our activities.
- Local Area Schools, scouting groups, nursery schools, day care centers, and history organizations, we have offered museum tours to hundreds of people.
- Volunteers and local radio, television and written media, we have received significant coverage, visibility and recognition for our efforts, activities and aspirations.
- Volunteers, local industry, area railroads, and supportive suppliers, we are developing and installing a track signaling system that will enhance operational safety and demonstrate a variety of representative area railroad and industry signaling equipment.

- Support from local industry, we have been able to assemble and install a first class radio communications system to support our construction, railroad operation, and excursion operation activities in a safe and efficient manner.
- Sunday Operations staff, we have made our Museum offerings available to thousands of visitors from the Rochester Area, across New York State, many of the United States, and several foreign countries around the world.

What We Really Need Is

SOMEONE TO ...

- Inventory our museum artifacts.
- Coordinate interpretive exhibits.
- Make indoor and outdoor signs.
- Organize our interpretive museum tours.
- Work with Steve Huse on our heavy equipment.
- Work with John Kernan on our Library.
- Be our Chapter/Museum legal counsel.

Funding

TOWARDS ...

- Acquisition, restoration and operation of a steam locomotive.
- Acquisition and implementation of overhead trolley wire.
- Sheet metal removal and repair on west side of PINE FALLS.

Equipment

USE OF ...

- Medium size bulldozer for relocation of south end of New York Museum of Transportation existing track.
- Outdoor forklift to move ties to work site.

- Small skid steer loader for grounds cleanup and landscaping.
- Diesel generator 100-150 KW for use as head end power on excursion train set.

Materials

- Rail bonds - Qty 100-200 for our signaling system.
- Insulated joints - Qty 10-20 for our Dudley 80# rail.

Supplies

- Clean crushed stone fines, No. 1 or No. 2, for walkways and parking areas.
- Clean crushed stone ballast, No. 3 or No. 3A for track ballasting.
- Culverts 12"-24" diameter 5'-20' long.
- Switch timber set.

Talents

- Sign lettering for letterboards on railroad cars and depot.

Connections

- Advertising and marketing.

***** THANKS TO *****

- Joe Scanlon and Hudson Steel Co. for arranging donation of gasoline powered welder-generator.
- Bill Reid for "Salesman of the Month" award for arranging sales of almost \$500 in landscape ties.
- GRW Contractors, Inc. for doing a very fine job on rebuild of Depot south end foundation.

ROCHESTER CHAPTER
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 664
ROCHESTER, NY 14603



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THE SEMAPHORE

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ROCHESTER CHAPTER*

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SEMAPHORE DEADLINE:

Deadline for the July issue is June 29. Please send your articles to Dave Luca at 983 Winton Rd., N., Rochester, NY 14609.

CHAPTER MEETING:

June 21, 1990 - 8:00 p.m.
Rochester Genesee Valley Museum

