



THE SEMAPHORE

National Railway Historical Society
ROCHESTER CHAPTER

VOL. XXVII

JANUARY 1986

No. 5

Our January meeting will be held on Thursday, the 16th, in the main hall of the Forty & Eight Club of the American Legion at 933 University Avenue at 8:00 PM.

TED MILLER will show a selection of WALLACE BRADLEY vintage movies.

THE SEMAPHORE is published monthly by the Rochester Chapter NRHS, a non-profit educational organization incorporated under the laws of New York State. Subscriptions are still \$4.50 a year and exchange publications are welcome. Meetings are held on the third Thursday of every month at the 40 & 8 Club. All railfans are invited.

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PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by RAND WARNER

Happy New Year 1986 - May you all prosper in all ways.

Hope you all had a good time at the Year End Party Saturday night, January 4, at the Depot. The coming year will provide excitement, challenge, opportunity and satisfaction for our Chapter as a whole, our committees and officers, and every one of us as individuals. Make sure you are part of the fun. Get involved in at least one Chapter activity. You'll get out of the Chapter only as much as you put in. It's a really great hobby, so enjoy it to the fullest!

Get your Program suggestions for 1986 to TED MILLER (889-1005) or GREG MARLING (436-8623).
Get your Publications suggestions for 1986 to RON AMBERGER, DAVE MONTE VERDE, TED MILLER or DICK BARRETT.

Get your Mail Order suggestions for 1986 to MIKE BYRNE or DAVE MONTE VERDE.

Get your Store Merchandise suggestions for 1986 to DICK TICKNER.

Get your Chapter Library suggestions for 1986 to BOB WEINBERG.

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OATKA DEPOT RAILROAD MUSEUM REPORT

by RAND WARNER

PROGRESS FOR DECEMBER

Depot and Grounds

Model boxcar moved from NRHS Depot to New York Museum of Transportation barn by STEVE HUSE, PAUL FRIEDERICH, DAN PEDTKE, Rick Fischpera, BILL HOLLAND and RAND WARNER. Library shelves disassembled and reassembled to permit this move. Now we can get much more use out of our North Waiting Room and the model boxcar can be restored and displayed in a better setting.

Exterior and interior lights wired up to individual switches and timer by NEIL BELLENGER. Boy, are they nice!

Excess burnables removed from North Waiting Room by RAND WARNER, BILL HOLLAND and CURT BOYER, and interior cleaned.

Trackwork

Surveying and right-of-way preparations for excavation completed by PAUL FRIEDERICH, STEVE HUSE, NEIL BELLENGER, Bill Reed, JOHN REDDEN, CAL BULMAN, DAVE LUCA, TOM BAUMAN, BOB COWAN, CURT BOYER, DAVE MONTE VERDE, DICK TICKNER and RAND WARNER. Stakes placed, brush cleared, trees felled, culverts placed, manholes marked, grades set and overhanging limbs removed. A really great team effort! Arrangements for additional ties, rail and switch timbers for donation/acquisition/delivery in work by Bill Reed, RAND WARNER and STEVE HUSE.

Rolling Stock

PINE FALLS tarped by STEVE HUSE, JOHN REDDEN and RAND WARNER to protect damaged skin from winter weather.

Erie Stillwell car being prepared for move from Elmira to Depot. Arrangements, repairs and inspection being coordinated by DAVE MONTE VERDE with assistance from JEFF BAXTER, PETE GORES and RAND WARNER.

Investigations into other rolling stock possible acquisitions being coordinated by Supt. Motive Power and Rolling Stock DAVE MONTE VERDE.

Locomotive batteries serviced by NORM SHADDICK for EK No. 6.

New wood sliding door for baggage car installed and track groove cut by CURT BOYER and NORM SHADDICK.

Construction Equipment

Batteries removed from Rome road grader by STEVE HUSE and RAND WARNER.

Euclid diesel loader winterized and new batteries installed by STEVE HUSE.

Backhoe tractor being acquired and investigations into bulldozer being coordinated by RAND WARNER.

PLANS FOR JANUARY/FEBRUARY

Depot and Grounds

- Continue clean-up of North Waiting Room.
- Dispose of teletype and printing press.
- Organize all remaining library material.
- Build wire fence with door across library area.
- Install electric lights and switch in North Rest Room.
- Acquire new flooring; sand existing floors.
- Arrange inspection and quotes on foundation work.
- Pick up concrete step pads from JERRY LEDERTHIEL.

Trackwork

- Maintain readiness for excavation if weather thaws.
- Acquire and deliver additional ties and switch timbers.
- Solidify donation of track materials from area industries.
- Transport additional ballast, weather permitting.
- Cut up felled trees for wirewood.
- Add more fill to culvert areas, weather permitting.

Rolling Stock

- Repair, inspect and deliver Erie Stillwell coach from Elmira.
- Solidify arrangements on diesel locomotive, caboose and baggage car.
- Acquire wood siding for Caboose No. 2631.
- Acquire new windows and gaskets for PINE FALLS.
- Acquire seats and cushions for Erie Stillwell coach.
- Acquire marker lamps for caboose No. 2631 and baggage car No. 633.
- Acquire underfloor timbers for NYC flat car.
- Acquire new batteries (or good used) for EK locomotive No. 6.
- Install power tools on benches in baggage car No. 633.
- Install tool boards and overhead cupboards in baggage car No. 633.

Construction Equipment

- Acquire and deliver backhoe tractor.
- Acquire and deliver additional diesel fuel from local donors.
- Refurbish Chapter welder generator set at shop on Route 251.

THANKS TO

- DAVE MONTE VERDE for donation of track tools and car parts.
- Eugene Redden for rewelding track wrench to fit 80# track bolts and for offer to do lettering work on rolling stock.
- STEVE HUSE for fuels, lubricants, filters and maintenance parts for construction equipment.
- NORM SHADDICK for wire brushes, grinding wheels and tar brushes for DL&W baggage car.
- NEIL BELLENGER for rewelding hand truck cart for Chapter Store and for use of professional chain saw.
- PAUL FRIEDERICH for use of professional surveying equipment.
- Ted Strang for assistance on construction equipment problems, diagnosis and repair and for donation appraisals.
- George Alter and Anthony Hartman for coordination and assistance of right-of-way excavation and grading.
- JIM MANCUSO for extensive donations to Chapter Library.

WANTS LIST

For Library

- Magazine binders
- Photograph protector sleeves
- Slide protector sheets
- Card files

STORES COMMITTEE REPORT

by Dick Tickner

The big event this month is the Toy Train Collectors Society Meet in Union Station in Utica on Sunday, January 19. There are a number of Chapter members planning on taking the Lake Shore Limited at 6:14 AM that day. It is a two hour trip by train to Utica. Why not take a train ride and enjoy the wintry vistas between Rochester and Utica?

BOOKS AND OTHER MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE IN CHAPTER STORE

1986 Chapter calendar.....	reduced to.....	\$2.00
Rochester Chapter name tags.....		\$3.74
Rochester Chapter, NRHS, hats.....		\$5.00
Trains Magazine binders.....		\$6.95
Two volume set, The American Railroad Passenger Car.....		\$35.00
A Decade of Delaware & Hudson.....		\$8.95
Chesapeake & Ohio's Allegheny Subdivision.....		\$15.95
Delaware Valley Rails.....		\$11.95
Norfolk and Western Steam.....		\$10.95
NE RR Scenes #2 Lehigh & Hudson River.....		\$4.00
NE RR Scenes #4 Erie Lackawanna RR.....		\$6.50
NE RR Scenes #6 Penn Central.....		\$10.00
Steam in the Alleghenies.....		\$9.95
The Western Maryland Steam Album.....		\$27.95
Scranton Division, New York, Ontario & Western Railway.....		\$16.95

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WANTS LIST (Cont.)

For Programs

- Overhead video projector
- Large-screen TV - 30"-50" diagonal size
- Sound system for programs

For Museum

- Heavy crescent wrenches, 15, 18, 24 and 36"
- Drill bits, 1/16" to 1/2"
- High-pressure air hose and fittings
- 80# and 90# track, hardware and fittings, ties and timbers

For Publications

- Lehigh Valley Railroad material
- Rochester area Erie Railroad material
- Photographs for next year's Chapter Calendar

For Stores

- Good strong suitcases

For SEMAPHORE

- Articles and news on local, regional, state and national railroad activities

(Editor's Note: This issue is necessarily meager because of schedule changes and transportation problems.)

Amtrak Train Trip to Utica for Toy Train Show on Jan. 19, 1986

By- Dave Shields

The Rochester Chapter will again be going to the Toy Train Collector's Society model train show at Amtrak Union station in Utica on Sunday, January 19, 1986 and taking our Chapter Store for sales at the show. If you plan on attending, please call Dick Tickner at 244-4308 and volunteer to transport a portion of the Chapter Store on the train. This year, no special events at Utica have been planned by the Rochester Chapter. Also, January 11, 1986 will be the last run for the Empire State Express which was the 9 am train Eastbound from Rochester and the 4:29 pm train Westbound from Utica. As a result, the best train schedule is to leave Rochester at 6:14 am on the Lake Shore Limited(Train 48) which has a full service diner and is a reserved train and arrive in Utica at 8:27 am. We will depart Utica at 7:44 pm on the Niagara Rainbow(Train 65) with an arrival in Rochester at 9:54 pm. The roundtrip excursion fare is \$30.50. Call AMTRAK with your reservations today at 1-800-USA-RAIL.

Commuter Rail Service in Rochester during Can of Worms Reconstruction

By- Dave Shields

The proposal by Jack McGraw, a retired Conrail conductor, and myself to utilize rail passenger service during the Can of Worms reconstruction was forwarded to the New York State Department of Transportation(NYDOT)-Rail Division in Albany which is headed by Lou Rossi in October, 1985 at my request. An initial report was received on December 12, 1985 from the NYDOT-Rail Division for the monthly Can of Worms task force meeting held on the same day. In the report, the NYDOT-Rail Division's initial evaluation indicates that there is sufficient excess capacity which would make it possible for the commuter service to operate. Also, the costs that were obtained could vary because certain costs quotes were unavailable and had to be assumed; others were estimates. The NYDOT-Rail Division cost estimates were calculated as follows: 1 and 2 train sets of 5 operating and 2 spare coaches per train set with seating capacity of 500 per train set, 6 member and 3 member crew, FP40 headend power per train set(annual charge), Conrail freight locomotive per train set(hourly charge), insurance cost per year for a \$10 million liability policy with \$300,000 deductible, fuel costs for a 32 mile round trip, leasing costs per year per 7 coach train set, maintenance costs for 5 operating and 2 spare coaches per year, trackage rights for 32 mile round trip and a Conrail administrative fee which is 25% on all monies paid to Conrail. Jack McGraw and myself are contesting some of these costs.

I plan on attending the next Can of Worms task force meeting on January 9, 1986 to find out the status of this proposal. If you would like any further information on the proposal, costs or would like to discuss your ideas on the proposal with me, please give me a call.