

# THE SEMAPHORE

## National Railway Historical Society ROCHESTER CHAPTER

VOL. XXVII

MAY 1986

No. 9

Our May meeting will be held on Thursday, the 15th, in the main hall of the Forty & Eight Club of the American Legion at 933 University Avenue at 8:00 PM.

Program Chairman TED MILLER will show the one-hour 1982 movie "Miles of Smiles, Years of Struggle," the story of the Pullman railroad porter told through interviews with former porters, archival film clips and vintage Hollywood footage. Bring a friend!

Welcome to our newest members:

David H. Covell	33 Pioneer Dr.	Fairport	14450	377-4342
Jeffrey A. Webster	10 Rolling Meadow Dr.	Hilton	14468	392-8094

Welcome to our tardy members:

Fredrick E. Jenks	Box 204	North Rose	14516	587-2263
Grace Nauen	104 Janet Dr.	Syracuse	13224	446-0860
John A. Slobodin	155 Sherbourne St. #703	Toronto, Ont.	M5A3W2	

May is Election Month. If you cannot attend the May meeting, please complete, sign and mail the Absentee Ballot on the last page.

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### PRESIDENT'S PAGE

by RAND WARNER

Our election of Officers and Trustees will be held at the May Chapter meeting. The proposed slate from our Nominations Committee, Chairman MIKE BYRNE, is in this SEMAPHORE. Nominations can also be made from the floor by members in good standing. Call Mike at 225-5659 if you have questions.

We have an exciting trip schedule available to us this year with a variety of steam, diesel and self-propelled equipment. See listings from Trip Committee Chairman DAVE SHIELDS or call him at 359-2914 for further information.

DICK TICKNER's Depot Committee will be opening our Oatka Depot Railroad Museum to the public on Sunday afternoons starting Memorial Day in May. Call him at 244-4308 if you can help with staffing and/or getting the Depot ready.

JOHN WOODBURY has asked to be relieved of his job as our Chapter Historian, a post he has held long and well. John, a Charter Member of Rochester Chapter, has maintained and created a wonderful set of three-ring notebooks which chronicle our Chapter's history since our founding year of 1937. Many of these have already been turned over to our Chapter Library archives. We sincerely thank John for his dedicated efforts, wish him well for the future, and certainly hope he will stay on to support us as an active member of our Chapter History Committee. God bless you, John!

PAUL FRIEDERICH has discussed the subject of a suitable memorial for CLAUDE WINSLOW with Claude's widow Donna, and they have agreed upon our Chapter Library as a fitting tribute---something tangible, permanent, active and ongoing to be enjoyed by the Chapter members, and perhaps others as well. As moved by our Board of Trustees, our Chapter Library will be henceforth known as the Claude A. Winslow Memorial Library. We solicit your interest, support and donations to this enhancement and expansion project. Call RAND WARNER, PAUL FRIEDERICH or BOB WEINBERG.

We have started a Fund Drive to raise money for acquisition of Chapter video equipment showing video-format programs at our meetings. Please call TED MILLER at if you can help with cash, loans or equipment donations.

JOHN HIXSON is heading up our outreach effort to reach other local/regional governmental, educational, industrial, railroad and social groups with our needs, interests and capabilities. John is also showing/displaying Chapter current events for your pleasure and knowledge at our Chapter meetings. Call him at 533-1287 if you have material to contribute.

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## I HAVE A DREAM FOR ROCHESTER CHAPTER

by RAND WARNER

Let's look down on our Chapter from a bird's-eye view a few years from now. All this is within our grasp with your help, participation, leadership and support:

A strong Chapter membership of 300 people actively participating in the hobby and expressing themselves through a variety of Chapter endeavors for fun and fellowship.

A strong Chapter financial position with a substantial treasury balance, a growing endowment fund, significant cash flow from Chapter operations and largely self-sufficient Chapter committee functions that carry themselves on their own cash flow.

A large and growing clientele of established and satisfied customers for our retail and wholesale mail order business and our Chapter Store activities at train meets, railroadianna meets, Oatka Depot and Chapter Meetings.

A well-known Chapter presence in the local/regional/national community in government, educational, industrial, railroad and hobby circles through our outreach and publicity efforts.

A well-supported Chapter Trips activity with an organized staff, safety crew, media coverage and our own motive power, crew and rolling stock offering a variety of local, regional and national trips with assorted motive power.

A notable Chapter Library with an accessible and well-indexed assortment of railroad/hobby-related materials available to railfans and railroads locally and at large for both membership and public utilization as needed.

Well-respected and patronized Chapter offerings of newsletters, books, quarterlies, calendars, video tapes, audio tapes, movies, slide sets, photo prints, photo copies and railroad artifacts.

An outstanding collection of Chapter program materials and high-quality audio-visual equipment to present enjoyable entertainment, education and insightful programs in all media.

A major separately-incorporated museum subsidiary capability featuring restored static, operational and interactive displays of new and old equipment; an interesting ride from Rochester Chapter NRHS to the New York Museum of Transportation on our own well-maintained railroad right-of-way and featuring steam, diesel, electric and gas/mechanical powered motive power; scenic, authentic and well-maintained buildings and grounds.

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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, so bring your friends.

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ONE-YEAR PLAN FOR OATKA DEPOT RAILROAD MUSEUM

by RAND WARNER

Depot and Grounds

Complete interior refurbishment and decoration of all rooms in Depot.  
Isolate, protect, inventory and organize Chapter Library.  
Remove all preservation tools, equipment and supplies from Depot.  
Start grounds landscaping with plantings of grass, flowers, shrubs and trees.  
Complete all interior and exterior wiring for Depot.  
Rework foundations/footings to level building using available cash flow from barter activity.  
Complete insulation of ceilings and walls preparatory to installing heat and humidification.  
Refurbish and expand signs, billboards, directions, etc.

Track and Right-of-Way

Complete excavation and grading for connecting track from NRHS to end of track from NYMT.  
Fine grade right-of-way and spread ballast on hand.  
Set ties and rails on hand and begin construction from Depot end going up hill toward NYMT end of track.  
Acquire sufficient ballast, ties, rail and hardware to complete connecting line.  
Install siding No. 5 on east side of Depot using switch on newly excavated hill ROW.  
Install additional necessary culverts for adequate drainage to protect right-of-way from run-off damage.  
Relevel interchange switch No. 1 with CONRAIL.  
Convert low throw switch stands to high level.

Rolling Stock and Motive Power

Acquire new battery set for GE diesel locomotive EK No. 6.  
Finish refurbishment of MU Power Car interior and exterior.  
Finish exterior refurbishment of DL&W baggage car.  
Acquire new side sheathing for BR&P Caboose No. C2631.  
Add tool rack boards to interior of B&O baggage car No. 633 and set up power tools on work benches.  
Acquire under deck timbers for NYC flat car.  
Begin exterior restoration of PRR PINE FALLS sleeper-lounge.  
Acquire LVRR diesel locomotive in operational condition.  
Begin interior restoration of Erie Stillwell coach.  
Complete interior restoration of Erie caboose.  
Generate cash flow for restoration work through barter efforts.

Construction and Maintenance-of-Way Equipment

Acquire bulldozer in operational condition.  
Renovate Jackson Four-Point Yard Tamper.  
Make Gardner-Denver compressor operational.  
Sell clamshell crane for cash flow.  
Make Fairmont and Kalamazoo speeders operational.  
Sell Chevy HiRail truck for cash flow.  
Establish complete set of car restoration equipment.

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OATKA DEPOT RAILROAD MUSEUM REPORT

by RAND WARNER

PROGRESS - MARCH/APRIL

Depot and Grounds

South waiting room cleaned out in preparation for redecoration by CURT BOYER, JOHN HIXSON and RAND WARNER.  
Windows washed in Agent Room and south waiting room by JOHN and Mrs. HIXSON.  
Floors in North and South waiting rooms repaired by CURT BOYER.  
Electric lights and switch added to former restroom off north waiting room by NEIL BELLENGER. It's now part of Chapter Library.

Clock installed in Agent's Room by NEIL BELLENGER and RAND WARNER.  
Excess/surplus items advertised for sale in SWAP SHEET by STEVE HUSE.  
JOHN SIXSON has permission from Rush Town Board for electric lights on our billboard  
North waiting room being prepared for Depot Store use.  
Grass seed planted in bare spots on lawns.  
Depot roof leaks around chimney repaired by TOM BAUMAN.

#### Track and Right-of-Way

Excavation arrangements being coordinated by CAL BULMAN and RAND WARNER.  
One half mile of track on private siding at Fancher dismantled by Bill Reed (our fanatic) and NEIL BELLENGER. Plates and bars already delivered by Bill. Rail, hopefully, to come also.  
Grades, cuts, yardage and cross-sections figured and drawn up by PAUL FRIEDERICH to support our excavation effort.  
Hubs, grade stakes, route stakes and flag stakes for excavation and fill work set by PAUL FRIEDERICH, BOB HOFFMAN and RAND WARNER. Brush cut by CHARLES HARSHBARGER.  
High-level switch stand for siding No. 4 installed by Bill Reid, JOHN REDDEN, Gene Redden, STEVE HUSE and RAND WARNER.  
Excavation for roadbed for siding No. 5 completed by Bill Reid, NEIL BELLENGER and RAND WARNER.  
Track construction materials coordinated by JEFF BAXTER and delivered by Bill Reid. Additional rail scouted by Bill Reed, CAL CULMAN, JOHN REDDEN and RAND WARNER.

#### Motive Power & Rolling Stock

Air brake parts for Erie Stillwell car acquired by DAVE MONTE VERDE.  
PINE FALLS interior refurbishment of roomettes by STEVE HUSE, CURT BOYER and NORM SHADDICK.  
MU Power Car interior cleaned and washed by TOM TISCHER and NORM SHADDICK, and exterior roof work and other work by RON AMBERGER, TED MILLER, NORM SHADDICK and DAVE MONTE VERDE.  
Erie caboose windows, steps, exterior and interior work by CURT BOYER, JEFF BAXTER NORM SHADDICK, JOHN REDDEN and NEIL BELLENGER.  
EK No. 6 locomotive lettering by JOHN REDDEN and Gene Redden, and batteries refilled by NORM SHADDICK.  
LVRR diesel locomotive pricing and funding established by DAVE MONTE VERDE.  
First and second major barter activities solidified by DAVE MONTE VERDE.  
Storage arrangements confirmed by RAND WARNER for cars at Rochester Telephone Corporation and Genesee Valley Regional Market.

#### Construction and Maintenance-of-Way Equipment

All equipment lubricated and prepared by STEVE HUSE for heavy spring season of construction.  
Boom truck inspected, tire changed, and licensed by STEVE HUSE.  
Filters changed and leaks plugged on Euclid loader by STEVE HUSE.  
Barter of tire casings for recaps being investigated by STEVE HUSE for cash flow.  
Throttle installed on Trojan Loader by STEVE HUSE, and governor made operational by JEFF BAXTER.  
Fairmont speeder inspection for missing parts and refurbishment conducted by JEFF BAXTER, and parts ordered from suppliers.  
Jackson Tamper refurbishment started by BILL HOLLAND, JEFF BAXTER, JOHN REDDEN, NORM SHADDICK and BILL REED.

#### PLANS FOR MAY/JUNE

##### Buildings and Grounds

Remove billboard sign for refurbishment and upgrading.  
Clean up eyesore areas of clutter, junk, debris and dead ties.  
Set up North Waiting Room for Depot Store season.  
Continue exterior and interior cleaning of windows..  
Clean up dam site and fill in at top of hill where construction equipment is stored.

Organize structural steel and other trivia into logical piles by category.

Truck junk to landfill dump area by permit.

Add at least one interior electric outlet in each Depot room.

#### Track and Right-of-Way

Complete excavation of hill and grading and filling of ROW for connecting track to New York Museum of Transportation.

Bring in two tractor trailer loads of tie bundles owned by Chapter.

Acquire scrap rights to another one-half to one mile of 80-lb. rail, several 80-lb. switches, assorted switch timbers and ties.

Begin to lay ballast, ties and rail up hill.

Begin construction of switch No. 5 on hill.

Complete roadbed preparations for siding No. 5.

Begin construction of siding No. 5.

Begin conversion of low throw switch stands to high rise.

Haul in remainder of ballast from LVRR right-of-way.

Start palletizing of track hardware on Depot platform.

Sort track hardware by weight on Depot platform, and also by type, prior to palletizing.

#### Motive Power & Rolling Stock

Move in Erie Stillwell car after installing brake parts.

Acquire and move LVRR diesel locomotive after inspection.

Touch up interior and complete roof painting on MU power car.

Complete exterior sheet metal repair on DL&W baggage car.

Start interior cab cleanup and finish exterior lettering on EK No. 6 locomotive.

Start feather-edging exterior paint spots on east side of PINE FALLS.

Bring in 4 x 4 timbers for under-decking on NYC flat car.

Bring in barn sheathing for BR&P caboose siding.

Refasten all interior cabinetry and complete steps for Erie caboose.

#### Construction and Maintenance-of-Way Equipment

Rebuild hydraulic pump on boom truck.

Repair leaking hydraulic lift on dump truck.

Start replacing loose pins on Euclid loader.

Install new wiring and batteries on road grader.

Install retainer bars for hoe restraint on backhoe tractor.

Install permanent battery on Trojan loader and protect against vandalism.

Acquire starter for Jackson four-pt. yard tamper.

Install missing parts on Fairmont speeder.

Retune magneto on Kalmazoo speeder.

Activate Gardner-Denver compressor for sand blasting.

#### THANKS TO

CHUCK RIEDMILLER for donation of brand-new industrial sand blaster, spray gun, welding rod and epoxy filler.

General Railway Signal Company and CURT BOYER for arranging donation of \$100 (to be used on BR&P caboose).

DAVE MONTE VERDE for donation of railroad track tools.

JOHN HIXSON for making up sample flower box from section of cedar roof gutter for Depot sales.

JEFF BAXTER for donation of grid mesh for caboose steps.

NEIL BELLENGER for donation of electrical wiring supplies and several tanks of welding gas for gas axe.

STEVE HUSE and Bill Reed for donation of gas and diesel fuel for construction equipment.

Bill Reid for delivery of plates, spikes, and bars from Fancher.

Gene Redden for preparation/donation of lettering guides.

CURT BOYER for donation of yet another storm door.

ANTHONY HART for LVRR whistle post.

STEVE HUSE and others for pick up and installation of milepost marker on grounds.

JOHN HIXSON for donation of 19" portable color TV set.



## WANTS LIST

Someone with automotive, truck or heavy equipment maintenance background to assist STEVE HUSE on servicing our construction equipment.  
Acetylene welding outfit or parts - tips, torches, regulators, hoses, tanks, cart.  
High-pressure water and/or steam washer for outdoor equipment cleaning.  
Needle scaler, air grinder, air sander to run off our heavy air compressor.  
Donation of, or money toward, 64-volt 1000 amp battery set for EK No. 6 diesel locomotive.  
Rear markers, cushions, for BR&P and Erie Cabooses.  
Self-contained generator set, air conditioner set, and heater set for PINE FALLS.  
Donation of outdoor storage tank full of gasoline and diesel fuel while it's cheap.  
Heavy-duty outdoor extension cable for 220v/30A, and cable for 110v/15A.  
History writeups for placard signs for each of our major pieces of rolling stock, Depot, etc.  
Participation signs/placards for restoration of each of our major pieces of equipment, Depot, etc.  
Volunteer training brochure writeup for our Sunday afternoon Depot volunteers.  
No. 2 or No. 3 Mason or builders sand for sand blaster.

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STORES COMMITTEE REPORT by Dick Tickner

Stores Committee attended two Train Meets during the past month. On April 6 it was the Great Lakes Model RR Club Meet in Corfu, NY. Working that Meet were MIKE BYRNE, CAL BULMAN, NORM SHADDICK and DICK TICKNER. One week later, on April 13, it was the Genesee Society of Model Engineers Meet in Alexander, NY. Committee members at this meet were GEORGE BAUERSCHMIDT, CAL and ROSE BULMAN, BOB IRVIN and DICK TICKNER. The Meet was very well attended. So it was a profitable day for the Chapter.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 4 (Sunday) Western New York Railroadiana Collectors Show, Airport Holiday Inn, Rte. 33, Cheektowaga, NY, 10 AM - 4 PM.  
May 4 (Sunday) Toy Train Collectors Society Meet, Dansville Elementary School, Dansville, NY, Call Craig Cady (716) 335-5059.  
June 1 (Sunday) Shawmut Railroad, Steam & Hobby Show, Allegany County Fairgrounds, Angelica, NY, 9 AM - 3 PM.  
June 15 (Sunday) Toy Train Collectors Society Meet, Community College of the Finger Lakes, Canandaigua, NY, 9 AM - 4:30 PM.

## BOOKS AND OTHER MERCHANDISE AVAILABLE IN CHAPTER STORE

Ed Nowak's New York Central.....	\$22.00
Commuter Trains to Grand Central Terminal.....	new.....7.95
Amtrak Heritage.....	new.....6.00
Chicago Great Western.....	.....9.95
Grand Trunk Heritage.....	new.....6.00
Lackawanna Heritage.....	new.....7.95
Lehigh Valley Passenger Cars.....	.....9.95
One Day, One Conductor.....(On the D,L&W MU cars).....	5.00
Diesel Locomotive Rosters: U.S., Canada, Mexico.....	9.95
Historical Guide to North American Railroads.....	20.95
Train Watcher's Guide to North American Railroads.....	10.95
NE RR Scene Vol. 4 The Erie Lackawanna.....	6.50
NE RR Scene Vol. 6 The Penn Central.....	10.00
The Remarkable GG-1.....	6.95
The Late, Great Pennsylvania Station.....	19.95
Ninety Years of Buffalo Railways (Bill Gordon).....	8.00

(Only limited quantity in stock)

Remember there is a 20% discount on all BOOK SALES FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ROCHESTER CHAPTER.

# **NRHS Rochester 1986 Election Ballot**

## **Mail in Ballot**

If you wish to mail your vote in please complete this ballot and mail it in by May 13, 1986. Mail to NRHS Rochester, 1986 Election, PO Box 664, Rochester, N.Y. 14603. Elections will be held at the chapter meeting May 15, 1986 at 8pm. Please circle your choice in pen. Mike Byrne-Chairmen Election Committee. If you select to use the write in section, please print clearly and use pen.

### **President**

- 1) Ronald Amberger
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (write in)

### **Vice President**

- 1) David Shields
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (write in)

### **National Director**

- 1) Paul Friederick
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (write in)

### **Corresponding Secretary**

- 1) Daniel Cosgrove
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (write in)

### **Treasurer**

- 1) Daniel Tomlinson
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (write in)

### **Recording Secretary**

- 1) Theodore Miller
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ (write in)

### **Trustee (3 year term)**

Please select 2 trustee's.

- 1) James Dean
- 2) Peter Gores
- 3) David Monteverde
- 4) Daniel Pedtke
- 5) Joel Shaw
- 6) Richard Tickner
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_ (write in)

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(signature)