

THE SEMAPHORE

National Railway Historical Society
ROCHESTER CHAPTER

VOL. XXVIII

JULY 1986

NO. 11

Our July meeting will be held on Thursday, the 17, in the main hall of the Forty & Eight Club of the American Legion at 933 University Ave. at 8:00 PM.

The program for the meeting will consist of some 8mm movies presented by Buffalo Chapter member Craig Woodworth. Craig's last visit was in November, 1984 with his New York Central movies. The movies for this program were taken between 1955 and 1958.

To compensate for what may be a hot July evening, the program will start with a film Craig calls "Train in the Snow". The mostly Canadian Pacific steam scenes were taken in Quebec east of Montreal in February 1956 and 1957 (there's nothing like double-headed 29802's in the winter!).

The next movie will be a collection of Nickel Plate 2-8-4 Berkshire's taken between Silver Creek, NY and Conneaut, Ohio during 1957 and 1958. Railfans who have seen the Ft. Wayne Railroad Historical Society's #765 in excursion service in recent years should enjoy these shots of sister locomotives in revenue service.

The program will conclude with a short reel of the joint Buffalo/Rochester Chapters 1956 Erie Railroad "circle tour" excursion (Attica-Avon-Corning-Hornell-Portage Bridge-Attica).

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN APPOINTED

Chapter President Ron Amberger has appointed the following committee chairmen:

Program	Ted Miller
Trips	Dave Shields (acting)
Publicity	Dave Shields
Membership	Tom Way
Library	Neil Bellenger
Finance	Paul Frederick
Semaphore	Chuck Riedmiller
Publications	Ron Amberger
Oatka Museum	Rand Warner
Stores	Dick Tickner
Retail Mailorder	Nike Byrne
Wholesale	Dave Monte Verde
Depot Operations	Dick Tickner
Picnic/Party	Rand Warner
Nominating	Mike Bryne

Of course, each of these committees has its own membership roster. Committee membership is the way that you can become active in the chapter and get involved in a way that satisfies your interest. This list of committees is not flexible. If there is an activity that you think is appropriate and would like to work on, please bring the idea up and perhaps a new committee can be constituted. There are several possible posts, some of which could be filled by a single individual, others which require several persons; for example, chapter photographer, chapter historian, past presidents, safety, development (gifts, endowments, and bequests).

ARLENE KOSCIANSKI STEPS DOWN AS SEMAPHORE EDITOR
CHUCK RIEDMILLER APPOINTED EDITOR

After well over a decade of service to the chapter as editor of the Semaphore, Arlene Koscianski is retiring. The chapter owes her a debt of gratitude for the tremendous job she has done over the years. Every month, our Semaphore comes in the mail, and we take it for granted without realizing that Arlene has been on the job once again meeting the deadline, chasing down news, typing, editing, checking spelling and grammar, and seeing that the issues get mailed. We want to thank you, Arlene, for your years of work on the Semaphore.

Our new Semaphore editor is member Chuck Riedmiller of Batavia. All copy should be sent to him. Deadline is the first week of the month. If your committee has an announcement, please get it in by the deadline. We want to thank Chuck for volunteering for this demanding post. He can always use help and suggestions for articles.

OATKA DEPOT RAILROAD MUSEUM REPORT
by Rand Warner

PROGRESS FOR JUNE

DEPOT & GROUNDS:

Lawns mowed by Bill Reed, Jamie Riedmiller, Rand Warner and Charlie Harshburger.
Ballast lines along Depot aprons cut back by John Hixson.
Concrete steps up to cars built by John Hixson and flower garden planted along highway. He's also rebuilding and rewiring our billboard with help from a sign painter.
Dick Tickner has our summer Chapter Depot Store all set up and organized in the north waiting room and we have a nice display of RR artifacts in the south waiting room.
Highway drainage culvert excavated and unplugged by Steve Huse, Charlie Harshburger and John Hixson. Our Chapter backhoe tractor really went to work on this project.
Curt Boyer has fixed up the west door on the north waiting

room and the east door on the south waiting room.
Neil Bellenger has all Depot rooms wired with light switches
and is now installing baseboard utility outlets.
Access road to steel storage barn graded by Rand Warner.

TRACK & RIGHT-OF-WAY:

Grading excavation and ballasting for siding #5 completed by
Bill Reed and Rand Warner using Chapter grader and loader.
Switch #4 points and frog realigned by Bill Reed.
Three bundles of ties handed in for siding #5 and debris re-
moved and sorted by Bill Reed, Charlie Harshburger, Rand
Warner, Steve Huse, and Dave Monte Verde.
Switch timbers and ties unloaded and sorted by length.
Bill Reed has completed dismantling private siding at
Fancher and is arranging delivery of rail.
Ties for siding #5 placed by Bill Reed.

MOTIVE POWER & ROLLING STOCK:

Former LVRR RS3 on diesel inspected prior to acceptance by
Dave Monte Verde, Pete Gores, and Jeff Baxter.
Former Erie Stillwell coach delivered from Elmira to Roches-
ter and placed inside fenced area at Rochester Telephone
Corps thro arrangements by Rand Warner and Dave Monte
Verde.
Interior of E-L MU Power Car scraped, filled, and repainted,
seat pedestals stripped by Norm Shaddick and Tom Tischer
with help from John Redden and Dave Luca, Bob Cowan, and
Tom Bauman. Roof walkways being replaced and roof re-
sealed by Ted Miller. Window sills also rebuilt. Seat
arms being refinished by John Hixson.
Entire east side of 80 ton GE Switcher relettered for
EASTMAN KODAK by John and Gene Redden.
Steve Huse working on PINE FALLS interior and Rand Warner
working on exterior.
John Redden, Norm Shaddick, and Curt Boyer continuing work
on Erie caboose interior.
Sheathing for BR&P caboose exterior delivered by Rand Warner.
Car restoration equipment donated assembled and sorted by
Chuck and Jamie Riedmiller.
Dave Monte Verde has acquired donation of windows for a Erie
Stillwell coach and possibly seats as well.

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT & M. O. W.:

Steering parts ordered and replaced on Euclid loader by Steve
Huse and Rand Warner.
Maintenance work on Trojan loader and Ford boom truck by
Steve Huse, and flat tire fixed on International dump
truck.
John Redden and brother Jim are rebuilding Jackson tamper
diesel prime mover = 2 cyl Detroit #2-53.
New parts ordered and received for Fairmont Speeder by Jeff
Baxter.

PLANS FOR JULY/AUGUST

DEPOT & GROUNDS:

- Complete exterior, clean up of grounds area.
- Paint Erie bench and Railway express carts.
- Touch up worn paint area.
- Complete concrete steps to cars.
- Plant grass to prevent erosion.
- Find end of sewer line from Depot gutters and toilet.
- Complete wiring for utility outlets inside Depot.
- Continue work on releveling north end of Depot.
- Investigate repairs to sidewalk aprons.
- Complete repainting of billboard and re-install.
- Make up additional explanatory signs for exhibits.
- Pick up and deliver block signal with boom truck.

TRACK & RIGHT-OF-WAY

- Maintain clearance around grading/excavation stakes.
- Complete excavation of hill and ROW to NYMT end of track.
- Receive two trailer loads of trees from A & K RR Supply.
- Bring in 600 ft. of track rail from Fancher.
- Complete siding #5 from bumper north to area of switch..
- Continue handling ballast from LVRR ROW.
- Bring in another load of switch timber.

MOTIVE POWER & ROLLING STOCK:

- Complete interior painting of MU Power car to permit use for summer program meeting.
- Complete interior refurbishment of Erie Caboose and fabricate end steps for west side.
- Complete grinding and priming of east side of PINE FALLS to permit painting in Pennsy colors.
- Complete lettering on EK#6 loco exterior and begin cleanup and repainting of cab interior. Acquire new battery set.
- Acquire 4x4 treated hardwood timbers for NYC flat car.
- Unload loose items from Erie Stillwell coach.
- Start replacement of sheathing for BR&P caboose.
- Weld sheet steel plates over rust holes on DL&W baggage car.
- Deliver RS3m diesel loco to museum trackage.

CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT:

- Make Gardner Denver air compressor operational.
- Refurbish wiring on Rome road grader.
- Paint box of International dump truck.
- Get backup 18.00x25 tire on hand for Euclid loader.
- Add exhaust system to Trojan Loader.
- Find steering parts for link belt clamshell crane.
- Repair, replace tire on Balmar backhoe tractor.
- Continue buildup of pneumatic equipment.
- Install new parts to make Fairmont speeder operational.
- Tune engine to make Kalamazoo Speeder operational.
- Get tune up on BUG welder/generator.
- Acquire/build trailer for tractor mower.

THANKS TO:

John Hixson for donation of cinder blocks for steps.
Jerry Leidertheil for donation of 36r/25A dc power supply for car lighting, speeder window, concrete step sills, corrugated drain pipe, mulch, highway flasher, telephone fuse blocks, coax cable, multiconductor, two Motorola walkie-talkies, electric eye kit, rigging hardware, and two 8" grinding wheels.
Chuck Riedmiller for donation of pneumatic fittings, new 3/8" air lines (100 ft), professional paint spray equipment, and in line air filter.
Ted Miller for donation of pressure treated planks for roof walks on MU power car.
Art Emmighausen for 30 cup electric coffee pot.
Rand Warner for paint, tools, hardware, and fittings.
Neil Bellenger for electrical wire and fittings.
Bill Reed, Steve Huse, and Rand Warner for fuel and lube.

WANTED:

Telephone solicitor to make contacts for donations of fuel, supplies, materials, equipment, and services with local industrial, commercial, and retail firms.
Motorman's handles for MU Power car.
Acetylene welding outfit.
Garden cart for tractor mower.
Pressure washer outfit.
Gas powered rail saw and rail drill.
100-200 lin. ft. of pressure treated hardwood 4,4's.
2 wheel V-frame baggage truck for Depot.
Electric or gas compressor outfit for paint spraying. Need 10-20 cfm capacity.
Diesel and gasoline fuel, hydraulic fluid, and 30 weight oil.
Needle scaler and air grinder.
Starter for 2-53 Detroit diesel 12v, part #174.

NOTE FROM YOUR EDITOR
Chuck Riedmiller

As your new Editor of the monthly "Semaphore", I'm putting out a special request. If you have some comments, a possible story, or anything railroad related, let's hear it! As for myself I certainly like to be kept informed and know no better way than from one member to another. So let's get going! Send anything you have directly to me at 167 Summit Street, Batavia, NY, 14020.

Our Chapter, through the effort of Dave Monte Verde, and the LV211 Association have purchased Lehigh Valley RS3m 211 from Conrail. This locomotive will be fully operable and should be on our rail site with in the next month.

At this time, to help defray the many cost that have been involved in acquiring this locomotive, we are asking all the members for their support with donations of any size. Any donation, from the smallest to the largest, would be beneficial.

As you are aware of, our progress on the right-of-way connecting to the New York Transportation Museum is progressing at a good pace, at which time the LV211 will be making the trips between the two sites. Possibly, in the future, the LV211 can be used by other railroads, and running our own Chapter excursions.

We certainly, as a Chapter, have not asked for our members to reach into their pockets for a donation, but the need is here with our latest acquisition. Please remember that any donation is tax deductible.

FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR OATKA DEPOT RR MUSEUM

CONSTRUCTION:

- Erection of overhead trolley wire and hookup to power.
- Construction of fireproof shop building/carbarn at NRHS Depot end of track.
- Expansion of tracks and storage area at NYMT barns.
- Addition of passing siding at midpoint between NRHS and NYMT.
- Additional storage and display tracks at Oatka Depot.
- Coaling Tower, water tower, oil tanks, and semaphores set up.

OPERATION:

- Steam, electric, diesel and gas-mechanical motive powered trips on Chapter and/or Conrail trackage.
- Operation of trolley #60 RTC, AL&W MU Car, Niag. Jct. Rwy. Freight Loco, and NYMT rolling stock on Chapter track to NYMT.
- Fully FRA qualified chapter rolling stock, motive power, and crews suitable for regional area trips on RR's.

FUNDING:

- Federal, State, and Local governmental assistance grants for construction, restoration, and operation/maintenance.
- Private, Foundation, Industrial, and Educational grants for selected projects, displays, programs, and promotions.
- Substantial endowments through gifts, wills, legacies, estates, benevolences, and investments.

SUPPORT:

- Widely advertised, recognized, and recommended.
- Support groups built around special interests of projects, programs, displays, exhibits, artifacts, memorials, favorite RR's, etc.
- Integrated interfaces with other local area/regional museum groups, railroad interest groups, railroads, history groups for nearby towns, and governmental jurisdictions - village/town/city/country/state/federal.

NORFOLK AND SOUTHERN J611 STEAM TRAIN TRIP**BY- DAVE SHIELDS**

The Buffalo Chapter of NRHS is again sponsoring the Norfolk and Southern J611 steam train trip from Buffalo to Erie and return on Saturday, August 2, 1986. The ticket deadline is July 25, 1986. Tickets are priced at \$45 for adults and \$38 for children. Approximate boarding time at Blasdell, N.Y. which is near Buffalo is 9 am and a return time of approximate 8 pm. Tickets can be obtained directly from the Buffalo Chapter. Make checks payable to NRHS-Buffalo Chapter, Inc. and send your check with the amount of tickets that you require indicating open window or air conditioned coach and a self addressed stamped #10 large envelope to:

NRHS Buffalo Chapter, Inc.
Steam Excursion
P.O. Box 298
Getzville, New York 14068

IF YOU MENTION THAT YOU ARE FROM THE ROCHESTER CHAPTER, THE BUFFALO CHAPTER WILL GIVE THE ROCHESTER CHAPTER A COMMISSION ON EACH TICKET SOLD.

If you have any further questions on this trip, call Dave Shields at 359-2914 or call the Buffalo Chapter directly at 716-836-0872.

SALAMANCA RAIL MUSEUM**BY- DAVE SHIELDS**

The Salamanca Rail Museum is open Tuesday thru Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm and Sundays from Noon until 5 pm. Admission is free, however donations are appreciated. The Salamanca Rail Museum is a fully restored Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh Railroad Depot which was originally constructed in 1912. The museum sponsors rail excursions during the year. The 1986 schedule includes rail excursions on August 2, September 3, and October 4, 1986 from Salamanca to Cattaraugus, N.Y. Contact the Salamanca Rail Museum for more information at 716-945-3133. These excursions are on the New York and Lake Erie Railroad. To get to the Salamanca Rail Museum, the museum is located at 170 Main Street in downtown Salamanca, New York just minutes from U.S. Route 219 and the Route 17 Southern Tier Expressway. For additional information about the Salamanca area, write: Salamanca Area Chamber of Commerce, 636 Wildwood Avenue, Salamanca, New York 14779 or call 716-945-2034.

**RAILROAD TRIPS BEING CANCELLED DUE TO LIABILITY INSURANCE RATES
EXCERPTED FROM NRHS NEWS FROM V. ALLEN VAUGHN, CHAIRMAN-NRHS****BY- DAVE SHIELDS**

The following announcement was posted on bulletin boards of the Chicago Headquarters of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad on May 14, 1986: "The Chicago and Northwestern Transportation Company announced today that it has cancelled passenger excursion trains for the balance of 1986, including those involving the Number 1385 steam locomotive. North Western's President James R. Wolfe said 'Cancellation of this extremely popular and worthwhile program has been caused by the unavailability and soaring cost of liability insurance.'"

Bluewater Michigan Chapter has cancelled many of their trips due to insurance costs.

Railtours, which is a rail insurance agency solely owned by NRHS to supply its chapters with rail excursion liability insurance advises that it has a one million dollar liability policy in force for the benefit of NRHS Chapters which is reduced from previous years.

Paul Friederich of our Chapter has reported that the Norfolk Southern Steam program will continue to run throughout 1986.

ALL ABOARD FOR THE ANNUAL CHAPTER PICNIC

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1986

OATKA RAILROAD MUSEUM

1 PM TILL ??

BRING A SALAD, MAIN DISH, OR DESSERT TO PASS

BRING CHAIRS, CARD TABLES, ANYTHING TO SELL

\$4.00 ADULTS \$2.00 TEENS KIDS ARE FREE!

WE FURNISH MEAT, BEER, SODA, SERVICE!

ATTRACTIONS

1 Or 2 Operating Locos.

2 Cabooses

PINE FALLS Lounge Car

Other Exhibits & Displays

New Siding #5

Games?

1 Or 2 Operating Speeders

2 Baggage Cars

E-L MU Power Car

New Chapter Library Areas

Walk the R. O. W.

Entertainment?

INFORMATION

Information and Head Count Please Call

Rand and Harge Warner

248-8889 Evenings.

SAVE THIS DATE !!



Bob Pennisi

Jersey Central-Reading run through train JH-1, for Harrisburg, waits at Bethlehem while Alcos 211 and 212 pass by with transfer move in July of 1975.