

1994 10<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY 2004 DANBURY RAILWAY MUSEUM

# *The Railyard Local*

Volume 2 Issue 4

A Publication of the Danbury Railway Museum, Inc.

April 2004



Photo courtesy Peter McLachlan

New Haven FA #0409 Leaving Danbury, December

The purpose of the Corporation shall be to operate a railway museum in Danbury, CT to educate the public as to the history of railroading and the role of the railroads as part of our local and national heritage, and to engage in any and all activities convenient to said purposes.

Officers

Ira Pollack-President  
Bill Britt-Vice President  
Steve Gould-Secretary  
Patty Osmer-Treasurer

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Dan Foley  
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Please send change of  
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Danbury Railway Museum, Inc.  
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P.O. Box 90  
Danbury, CT 06813-0090  
Or e-mail to:  
drmmembers@aol.com  
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Volunteer organization.  
www.danbury.org/drm

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dkern@snet.net

NEW MEMBERS.....

Isaiah Gutman	Ithaca, NY
Rachel Halas	Danbury, CT
James L. Harris	Bronx, NY
Henry F. Merritt	Redding Ridge, CT
Daniel Ross	Pound Ridge, NY
Michael Schmidt	Weatogue, CT
William & Beverly Seader	Carmel, NY
John Stofka	Ridgefield, CT
Erik Zars et el	New Fairfield, CT

STARTING APRIL 17, 2004.....

Celebrate your child's Birthday this year. Two parties will be held every Saturday starting in April and ending in mid-November. What better way to make your engineer happy.

Future Events.....

April 3, 4, 9, & 10:	Easter Bunny Trains
April 17:	New Member Day
May 1:	Railfair & Metro North Railrodeo
May 2:	Railfair & Train Show
June 20:	Father's Day Trains
Aug. 15:	DRM Member Picnic

Dear Readers:

In this issue I would like to thank Ira Pollack, Steve Gould, John O'Hern, Dan Foley, Stan Madyda, Skip Kern, Peter McLachlan and Ron Freitag.

Please send articles and pictures to dkern@snet.net.

Newsletter Message to Members

From Ira Pollack, President

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Dear Members,

This month we find ourselves very busy planning our upcoming season.

We will be looking at an enhanced operating schedule on both Saturday and Sunday throughout the season and obviously we need you to volunteer and help us succeed in this new program. Help is needed in all of our different departments—train crew, front desk, tour guides, car hosts and gift shop. Now is the time for you to step forward and help our Museum reach its new level of success.

We've also begun a new Safety 101 Program for 2004 that is necessary for everyone who does work of any kind in the yard. This simple course teaches us the do's and don'ts and how to avoid the potential hazards of working in this environment of our rail yard. You must sign up and pass this course to be able to enter any of our further operations programs. Contact John O'Hern for our classroom schedule or look for the schedule in this issue of the newsletter.

I have been asked by many members what projects in the yard will be worked on this season. To start with I intend to raise the Wilton semaphore early in the season, as soon as the ground is dry. I'm hoping that we can also finish painting the New Haven boxcar and get it lettered along with getting the 1402 Alco RS11 cleaned, painted, and lettered. Coincidentally, we have found the script herald stencil and it will be on loan to the DRM. We also have in our possession the dimensions for the block logo for the RS11. These are relatively quick projects with a fast reward to them.

I am basically going after those projects that have dedicated funding for them in that our monies are scarce. I am also hoping for continued work on the NYC wooden caboose 19322 with hopefully more funding coming in.

As far as any new exhibits in the yard or building, I'm looking at a new photo exhibit on the Penn Central RR and an exhibit on Pullman Porters. Also, now that the Sperry #135 rail car has been graciously donated to us I would like this to become another walk on, accessible display for our guests. This exhibit will be on the history of the test cars and Sperry Corp, one of our local neighbors and supportive of the DRM from the beginning.

Once again we have a lot before us in this upcoming year and as always I need your help. Please help me make the Museum grow.

## LIBRARY NEWS by Stan Madyda

Over the past two months the Library Committee has been rearranging the room in order to get more storage space for the growing collection. New file cabinets and shelving have been added enabling us to better organize the numerous documents, manuals, photos, Official Guides, reference books, etc.

We are continually updating our accession register which for the time being serves as our catalog. If any member is interested in learning more about what we have accessioned so far, please drop me an email at [s.madyda@worldnet.att.net](mailto:s.madyda@worldnet.att.net).

Here are some donations received by the Library which will give you a general of idea of what we have:

- Robert G. Lindner – book, “Celebration of Steam”
- Ted Cleveland – one wardrobe trunk
- Harold Todd – magazines and two conductor hats
- Michael Bonelli – magazines
- Virginia Snopek – slides from her late husband’s collection
- Matt Carisi – magazines
- Ron Freitag – 2003 CSX calendar, blueprints for a New Haven MU, photos
- Charles Canfield – two wrenches and three hinges (probably from a freight car)
- William Murphy – 36 date nails
- Estate of Edward R. Batson, c/o Scott Batson – photos of B&M #1455
- Kirner Family – a blueprint for our GCT #1 crane
- Robert Westerfield – various Lionel items for the Lionel layout in the DRM
- Harold I. Franson – coat hangers used on passenger cars, coin changer, manuals, timetables and a cash fare schedule
- Jim Fransen – pencils, two ticket punches, newspaper article, battery operated hand lantern, engine control handle
- Betty Katz (in memory of Franz Katz) – 51 books and 29 newsletters
- Charles H. Aldrich, Jr. – a shovel with New Haven markings
- Kenneth Kellogg – Rails Northeast magazines
- Paul A. Egel – one print of an EP 5 and a 1927 photo of the Branchville Station
- Richard Copeland- collection of Official Railway Guides for Passenger Travel
- Janet and Alton Wilson – Poor’s Manual of Railroads – 1886
- Brookfield Museum & Historical Society – photo of Danbury Union Station and a photo of Brookfield Junction
- Estate of Frank Knotts, c/o Peter McLachlan – 87 issues of “Railway & Locomotive Historical Society bulletins
- Alma DeLuca – Model Railroader and railroad Model Craftsman magazines
- Linda Christians – B&M red globe lantern and a New Haven switch lock with key
- Michael Durkin – operating manuals
- Robert A Cornell – a diesel locomotive toy chest
- Randy Natale – a New York Central canvas water bucket
- Richard H. Kearn – various videos and railpace magazines
- Dr. David Stea – O gauge and Lionel trains
- Robert Scanze – 13 manual from the Pennsylvania Railroad

Thank you to all of our donors.

### Items needed for the Library

1. A curio cabinet in very good condition similar to the one that now displays the china and silverware exhibit. We have received additional pieces on loan that we would like to put on display.
2. A scanner to be used for photographs and negatives.

## THE NEW HAVEN FL-9's by Dan Foley

The New Haven RR bought 30 FL-9's in 1956 and 30 more in 1959. All were transferred and renumbered by Penn Central, who scrapped four. Conrail acquired 26 and scrapped 7. Most of the rest went to Metro North who retired 8. 12 went to Amtrak who scrapped six. The remaining Conrails went to Metro North as well. Twelve of them went to CDOT and were repainted in the McGinnis scheme. Two got a NEW YORK CENTRAL Lightning Stripe paint scheme. Three went to the ADIRONDACK RR, and the remaining AMTRAK units were sold to the MORRISTOWN & ERIE RR. Several have gone, by informal lease or otherwise, to various museums, and one shell to display. Some of the remaining units are retired but still somewhat intact.



Photo courtesy Ron Freitag

Considering that no one but the NEW HAVEN ever bought FL-9s, from EMD, that is quite a history for this unique locomotive.

### MY FIRST TRIP ON THE NEW HAVEN By Steve Gould

During spring vacation from American University in 1958, I traveled to my hometown of East Hampton, NY. As my parents were traveling, I stayed with my Aunt Abbie and Uncle Norman. My plan was to split my time with half the vacation in East Hampton and the other visiting a college friend in Lexington, MA. I had planned to take the 6:58 AM LIRR train (one of the two daily westbound trains) to Penn Station in New York City, getting in at 9:33 AM. A short taxi trip to Grand Central would be required to board the New Haven's Yankee Clipper, departing at 1 PM.

My aunt, after hearing my travel plans (and probably not wanting to get up so early to take me to the station!) suggested I call Mel Lamb, the East Hampton Airport Manager, to see if he was flying over to New London, CT that day. I did and he was! He had a pick up to make at the Groton-New London Airport and agreed to ferry me across the Sound, for a fee, obviously. We took off around noon and after a 35 minute, as-the-crow-flies flight, I was in New London. I grabbed a cab to the New Haven station in New London to await the arrival of....none other than the Yankee Clipper at 3:19 PM, the same train I had planned to take all along. My first New Haven train ride was not a long one as I got off at Route 128 at 4:55 PM, where my college buddy picked me up. However, the unique air-rail journey shaved off a two-and-a half hour LIRR trip headed in the opposite direction to where I wanted to go; and another two hour and twenty minute trip from New York to New London. Rail mileage was sacrificed but the time savings (and additional sack time) warranted the change.

GIFT SHOP NEWS...



New arrivals: Stop in to see our new line of Central New England items. Caps, mugs, shirts, etc. While you're here check out other new items arriving daily.

Some photos from our display at the Amherst Show in Springfield, MA.



Photos by Skip Kern

**TO:** All new and trained Railyard Local Volunteers

**SUBJECT:** Railyard Local Crew Training and Scheduling

As you probably know, the museum is committed to operating Railyard Locals on both Saturdays and Sundays during the 2004 season. This is in combination with a Metro-North excursion plan.

To meet this expanded schedule, we will need a greater commitment from our qualified train crews, and we must train and qualify new volunteers. This is a great challenge for all of us, and a great opportunity for the Museum.

I have been asked to schedule crews for our Railyard Local and holiday runs. Most of you worked with me two years ago and we didn't miss a run all summer. With your cooperation we can do the same this year.

We will need a definite commitment from each one of you as to when you will be available. We will plan on a month to month basis. The more people I have to work with, the fewer times you would have to be scheduled. Training will be scheduled during runs, based on interest and demand.

Please give this matter serious consideration. We will be getting back to you very shortly and set up our schedule. Time flies and we want to be ready.

I look forward to working with you again.

**John O'Hern** jeohjr@aol.com

### SAFETY AND OPERATING RULES CLASSES

Safety rules are **required for all** who work in the yard, including the train crew.

Operating rules apply to all who wish to be on the train crew.

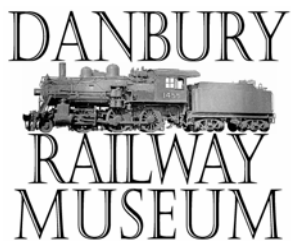
March 13: Safety class begins at 10:00 a.m.  
Operations rules begins at 1:00 p.m.

March 14: Safety class begins at 10:00 a.m.  
Operations rules begins at 1:00 p.m.

March 20: Safety class begins at 10:00 a.m.  
Operations rules begins at 1:00 p.m.

March 27: Safety class begins at 10:00 a.m.  
-Operations rules begins at 1:00 p.m.

Please report to the DRM station for the classes.



120 White Street  
Danbury, CT 06810

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## MUSEUM CALENDAR

April 3rd & 4th and 9th & 10th.      Easter Bunny Trains

April 17th      New Member Day

Wednesday Night Schedule of Events: Starts 7:45 p.m.

April 7	Pete McLachlan	Historic Photographs
April 14	Ron Smith	Railroad Slide Presentation
April 21	Rom Curtain	The Danbury Flood of 1955
April 28	Bob Gambling	Railroad Slide Presentation
May 5	Dan Gallo, Jr.	To Be Announced

May 1st & 2nd      Spring Railfair 2004

Museum Hours: Tuesday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Sunday Noon to 4:00 p.m.