

Danbury Departures

Volume No. 12

November 2001

President's Message:

Dear Members,

As President of the Museum I'd like you all to know that we've had a great season this year. I'm very proud of the members who have dedicated the many hours of volunteer service to our cause. From the Saturday train crews to the front desk people or to the RDC 32 restoration staff, to the yard cleanup crew; they have all done an outstanding job keeping our Museum operating.

One of the things we tend to forget about is that we are all volunteers and all of the work that we do is out of the grace of our hearts. We all have to stand back every now and then and remember where we came from and how far we've gone in these seven short years. We are still growing and are still a young organization. We will and are experiencing growing pains and yes, we will make mistakes along the way. We must put these mistakes aside and try to learn from those experiences.

It still amazes me when I think of the projects that we've pursued and succeeded in and we must continue to reach for those horizons for the Museum's existence and future.

Now that the seasons have started changing again with cold weather on its way, I'm looking forward to working on projects in the building, such as updating exhibits and adding more of a theme to our Museum. I'm trying to incorporate our



N gauge layout into this theme, which is basically on the history of the railroads and of Danbury. We've compiled quite a collection of photos of the yard over the last few years and it's now time for the public and membership to share them.

I'm also looking into building an HO layout in one of our MU cars. This would support the many model railroaders in our ranks and would make an interesting exhibit for the Museum.

All of these projects are good for the Museum's growth but as usual they must be supported by membership. I need your feedback, help and dedication to make them and the Museum succeed. Please help me.

Thank you,
Ira Pollack
President

On Board This Issue

A new engine in
the museum



Join the railyard
local crew



New books in
the gift shop



A welcome to
new members

Member News

Welcome New Members

Jay H. Ballard
Hampton Bridwell
D.H.Cahoon
Nancy Hanrahan
Gary Hard
Raymond Miranda
Coralie & Donald Ruffell, JR.
Darrylin A. Siwkwich
Kurt Singer
Tom Quimby

Tuckahoe, NY
Newtown, CT
Darien, CT
Wilton, CT
Ridgefield, CT
Bronx, NY
Danbury, CT
Patterson, NY
East Burke, VT
Albany, NY

LIBRARY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Library has received a number of duplicate magazines during the last year. We currently have over 35 cartons in storage. Effective immediately, we will no longer accept issues of Trains, Railfan & Railroad, Model Railroader, Railroad Model Craftsman and NMRA Bulletin after 1970. Any that we do receive will be recycled.

We hope to see you at an upcoming Wednesday night meeting (7pm at the museum, 120 White Street in downtown Danbury). In addition, we invite you to get involved in Museum activities as soon as possible.

REMINDER If you move, please send your change of address to:

Danbury Railway Museum

Attention: Membership Director
P.O. Box 90
Danbury, CT 06813

or via e-mail:

DRMMEMBERS@aol.com.



From the Operations Dept:

By Skip Kern

The operations dept is looking for members who would like to be part of the Rail Yard Local operating train crew.

Candidates should be 20 years of age or older, be willing to work in various types of weather, able to climb on and off equipment, and have a desire to learn how to be a trainman, brakeman, conductor, hostler, fireman, engineman.

You will be given a manual to work from, class time and practical experience.

If interested or for more information please contact: Skip Kern, at dkern@snet.net, or drop me a line at the museum, c/o Skip Kern

DRM Classified

HELP WANTED

Saturdays - starting at 9am

 **Ongoing RDC 32 work.**
Painting, sanding, grinding required.
Nancy Sniffen, Manager -1-203-732-5035
Joe Ward, Co-Manager - 792-2537

 **Yard Work**
Ira Pollack, 744-0801

Passenger Cars roof repair.
Dirty clothes and gloves required.
Ira Pollack, 744-0801

 **Tonawanda Valley Interior Restoration.**
Painting and sanding.
Roberta Ballard - email: roberta@iliketrains.com .

 **Volunteers also needed for:**
Front Desk, Gift Shop, Birthday Parties,
and various other positions
Call museum 203-778-8337 or email Kathy Fay at:
KM Fay30@aol.com

LIBRARY NEWS

by Stan Madyda

During the time the Library has been a part of the Museum, we have received collections both large and small. One of the earlier, larger collections came from John Flower.

For those members who are not familiar with John, he was one of the founders of the Museum and also the second Chairman of the Board. His leadership was very instrumental in the early days of the Museum. Not long after his election as Chairman, John was diagnosed with cancer and passed away several months later. John bequeathed his large collection of railroad material to Library.

At the time, the Library was very involved in sorting and accessioning two other large collections, those of Peter Cornwall and Nathaniel Greene. The Flower Collection added quite a bit of material to the Library. We have the collection sorted and a portion of the material accessioned but there is much to do. This is usually the case with most large collections.

The Flower Collection added a number of books that we did not have. There were also numerous magazines and newsletters from various railway historical societies. We also received timetables, train orders, railroad manuals, annual reports, corporate brochures, catalogs, topographical maps, tickets, calendars, postcards, prints and other material related to the railroad industry. There are also brochures from different railroad museums and excursions. There is also correspondence relating to the formation of the Museum. John served for a number of years as Assistant to the President of the National Railway Historical Society and we have material relating to his involvement.

The Collection also included slides, photographs and 8mm movies. Unfortunately, many slides and photos are not marked. Dan Foley has gone through the slides and has identified as many as possible. The photos still need to be done. For anyone who takes photos or slides, they should be marked if you ever think of donating them. Otherwise, they can not be enjoyed by others or used as a research tool.

Tickets still available for the Holiday Express

A day of fun in New York City

Saturday December 8 2001

**PURCHASE TICKETS EARLY!,
CAPACITY LIMITED**

Phone orders:

203-778-8337 / Fax: 778-1836

Tickets available by mail,
Phone or at the front desk of the
Museum.

Excursions operate rain snow or shine. The
DRM inc and Metro North are not responsible
for delays, operating difficulties or
changes beyond their control.



Schedule

Leave

10:15AM Danbury Metro North
5:30 PM Grand Central Terminal

Arrive

12:00 Grand Central Terminal
7:15 PM Danbury Metro North

Gift Shop:

From Sue Thomas

We are preparing for our "Member's Appreciation Weekend", 20 percent off all items in the gift shop the weekend after Thanksgiving, a good time to visit and pick up our new black DRM steam engine Christmas ornament!

Two items that have been well received and now are in stock:

"Guide to North American Railroad Hot Spots"

by David Ingles

Tells you where and when the trains are running to get that photo!

Ever Hear of the New York and North Salem Railroad? "Names First, Rails Later"

the re-printed edition by L. Peter Cornwall of New England's 1000 plus railroads and what happened to them, now in stock and autographed.

For the Trolley lovers, we have new train videos, movies for those long winter nights, and are now carrying Trolley movies and books for those who love trolleys.

Stop in soon!

Rutland Box Car Restoration

By Ray Muntz

On Saturday, October 13, 2001, Jeff, Cella, Rome and myself worked on the Rutland box car 8085.

We painted the side, which is temporarily covered with plywood, so it would be more presentable. We also scraped and applied rust stabilizer to both ends and painted one of the ends.

We will schedule another restoration session for early November to apply simplified lettering to the "good" side and work on the roof. We hope to have time to work on the flat car too.



The crew and their "Masterwork"!



Jeff finishing painting the plywood side.



Cella and Rome finishing painting the end.



Rome applying rust stabilizer to the A end with view of partly painted plywood.

DRM Member ticket order form

**PURCHASE TICKETS EARLY!
CAPACITY LIMITED**

**Phone orders:
203-778-8337
Fax: 778-1836**

**Gift Shop and
complimentary
snacks on board**

DANBURY
RAILWAY
MUSEUM



**Santa will visit
the riders on
the excursion**



**Member Adults - \$30.00
Member Children - \$18.00
(ages 3 - 15)**

Ride the Holiday Express for a day of fun in New York City Saturday December 8 2001

sponsored by Danbury Railway Museum

Adult coach available, charter, private cars and group rates available

Schedule Leave

10:15AM Danbury Metro North
5:30 Grand Central Terminal

Arrive

12:00 Grand Central Terminal
7:15 Danbury Metro North

Ticket prices for members apply only to our members and immediate families, please bring your friends but have them pay the regular ticket price

Tickets available by mail, Phone or at the front desk of the Museum.

Excursions operate rain snow or shine. The DRM inc and Metro North are not responsible for delays, operating difficulties or changes beyond their control.

To order tickets by mail fill out the the form below and return to Danbury Railway Museum with check or Credit Card information.

MEMBERS ONLY / MEMBER # _____

No refunds after November 22, 2001

Proceeds for the Holiday Express go to Danbury Railway Museum a not for profit organization

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Phone _____
Credit Card # _____
Expiration Date _____

- Mastercard Check
 Discover Cash
 Amex
 Visa

Signature _____

What type / How many

Send payment to:

Danbury Railway Museum Inc.

Holiday Express

P.O. Box 90 Danbury Ct, 06813-0090 • Phone: 203-778-8337 / Fax: 778-1836

A signature is required for all credit card orders

Member adults _____ x \$ 30.00 = _____
Member Children _____ x \$ 18.00 = _____
non member adults _____ x \$33.00 = _____
non member children _____ x \$20.00 = _____
Total _____

G SCALE LAYOUT AT THE GALLERIA

By Gerry Herrmann

The Danbury Railway Museum in conjunction with the Union Savings Bank will be involved with setting up a 14' x 16' G scale layout around a 25' foot Christmas tree at the Atrium located in the Galleria Building, 225 Main Street, Danbury, CT. This will be the seventh year that the DRM has participated in this project.

The Exhibit is scheduled as follows:

Friday, November 23, 2001 through December 31, 2001.

Tree lighting and train exhibit,
November 23, 2001 at 6:00PM.

Monday through Friday, 9:00AM 5:00PM.

Closing December 31, 2001, First Night Danbury

Over the years the following individuals have been involved with this project: Project Founder, the late Tom Morris, Charlie Bardo, Al Mion, Bill Britt, Harry Burke, Dave McKee, John Ivansco, Jack Wochek, Stan Madyda, Ira Pollack, Rich Tomaino, John Gollotti and Bernie Balon. It takes about 200 hours to set up and take down the exhibit.

Stop by and see what a terrific job was done by all of the volunteers involved.



CDot 605

By Dan Foley

The latest horse in the DRM stable is CT DOT RS-3m #605. Originally built as Delaware, Lackawanna & Western RS-3 #912, became Erie-Lackawanna #1050 in that merger, and was repowered with an exE-7 1200 hp prime mover at Altoona around 1979. In Sept. of 1982, as CONRAIL #9905, she was assigned to Danbury, where on the 26th, I shot her at the sand tower. She was subsequently sold to Metro North as its #9905, and then became #605. More recently, she was transferred to CDOT as its #605 and carries a State of Ct. logo.

While on MNCR, she pulled an occasional work train, but primarily served as the Harmon switcher. For CDOT, she served as the shop switcher at New Haven until retirement. She arrived at DRM in the wee hours of October 11th. With minor work, she should be operable, giving us the back-up unit for the RS-1 that we desperately needed. DRM has a long term lease on her, thanks in a great part to the efforts of member John Green.

DRM has also acquired a lease on Fry-baby FL-9 #2006 from CDOT. She had an electrical fire, which has put her out of service, but with some hard work and paint, she will be a good display in the yard.

Again thanks to John Green.