



# *The Railyard Local*

Volume 2 Issue 2

A Publication of the Danbury Railway Museum, Inc.

February 2004

*The pleasure of your company is requested at the*  
***Danbury Railway Museum 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***  
***Dinner and Benefit***

*Saturday March 13, 2004*  
*6:30 p.m.*

*Stony Hill Inn*  
*46 Stony Hill Road, U. S. Route 6, Bethel, CT*

*\$50 per person*  
*(\$20.00 of which is a tax-deductible donation)*  
*Child under 12 \$14.00*

*After dinner presentation by*  
***J.W. Swanberg***

*noted New Haven Railroad historian and outstanding railroad photographer*

*Dinner choices:*

**Sliced London Broil with Bordelaise Sauce**  
**Broiled Salmon**  
**Chicken Marsala**

*Door Prizes*

*Cash Bar*

*Please respond by sending your check*  
*and dinner choice for each person by*  
*February 25 to:*

*DRM Dinner Committee*  
*P. O. Box 90*  
*Danbury, CT 06813*

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

Directors

Wade Ruese, Chairman  
Suze Blackman  
Dan Foley  
Geoff Knees  
Dave Lowry  
Andrew McClellan  
Peter McLachlan  
Randy Natale  
Michael Salata  
Susan Thomas

Change of Address

Please send change of  
Address to:

Danbury Railway Museum, Inc.  
Attn: Membership Chairman  
P.O. Box 90

Danbury, CT 06813-0090

Or e-mail to:

drmmembers@aol.com

Phone: (203) 778-8337

Fax: (203) 778-1836

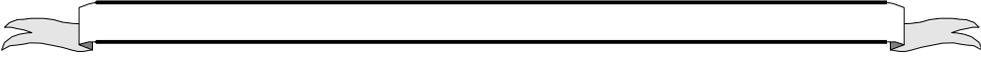
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[www.danbury.org/drm](http://www.danbury.org/drm)

Printing by:

Infinity Printing

Circulation: Peter Hanen

Editor: Debbie Kern  
[dkern@snet.net](mailto:dkern@snet.net)



**NEW MEMBERS.....**

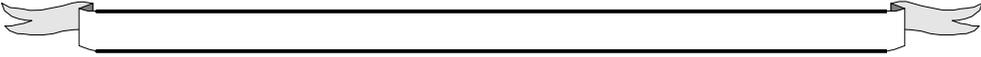
Robert Ebling  
Gerald & Rosemary Mahley  
Katie & Eric Panico  
David J. Thebodo  
Mark Nason et al  
Goerge A. Schlichter

Ridgefield, CT  
Gaylordsville, CT  
Poughkeepsie, NY  
Fairfield, CT  
New Fairfield, CT  
Floral Park, NY

**NEW LIFE MEMBER.....**

Bill Mahaney

Croton-On-Hudson,



**DRM NOTEWORTHY NEWS...by Sue Thomas**

**New Member Day – April 17**

This is an event we started in 2003 and hope to continue each year. We encourage all members to come out and meet the project managers, yard crew, train crew, operations manager, model RR crew, gift shop managers, front desk people, safety managers. A program will begin at 10:00 a.m. and is being put together by Volunteer Coordinator Jerry Lawler to introduce people to new volunteer opportunities – which expand as our museum is growing (now in our 10<sup>th</sup> year).

**Easter Bunny Trains**

Yes, you may bring your little ones to an event a little unusual from the normal Railyard Local, a train ride with the Easter Bunny. We have some surprises in store this year, and hope you will all “spread the word” to your friends and family. Dates are April 3rd, 4th, 9th and 10th. Hours 12:00 until 4 p.m. Price is \$7.00 for non members, \$6.00 for members. If you can volunteer, please contact Jerry Lawler, Nancy Sniffin (crew) or Sue Thomas.

Dear Readers:

In this issue I would like to thank Ira Pollack, Charlie Albanetti, Stan Madyda, Susan Thomas, Steve Gould, Frank Sullivan, Skip Kern

Newsletter Message to Members

From Ira Pollack, President

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Dear Members:

Hope all is well with you. I'm not sure if you realize this but the DRM is getting ready to recognize its tenth anniversary this year.

Ten years! It's hard to believe that ten years have gone by so quickly. Try to look back, back to our early days at Ives St. Back to when our wishes and dreams would maybe, someday, come true and turn into a reality. Would we ever occupy the station? Would we be able to access the yard? Where can we get equipment? Will we ever own an engine or a caboose? These were some of the many questions back then, the uncertainties of a young organization. How to do it, who to talk to, can we really do this? Will it succeed? But just look at what we've done in these ten years. Look at our building with its exhibits, its library, the gift shop; it's almost a life that's grown in time. Look at the yard; with all of the equipment, that has almost reached its capacity. Look at all of these things and be very proud. Never forget about all of those hours that you've volunteered for the different projects that we've undertaken. Remember the sweat and work involved in running a train show or excursion to New York? Remember working in the pouring rain to put our wooden caboose on track? How about the searing heat of summer and the work parties on weekends? Look at our dedication in every area of the Museum. We should be proud.

As President, I always try to praise and thank you for your help to our Museum but I can never really say enough to you as a member and volunteer. My words can't express my feelings of gratitude and thanks for your help over the last ten years. Just look at what we've done so far. Inevitably, we can praise our past but we must also look towards our future. Where should we go now? How should we do it? It is obvious and apparent that now we must become more financially stable to sustain our Museum in years to come. We must pursue new markets for income and clientele to expand our financial growth. We must pursue a structure to house and maintain our equipment. We must also plan where we want to be in the next five, ten, and 10 years, and how we can get there. I know it can happen for I've seen what did happen.

Please continue your support to our Museum, for look at what you've done so far. Thanks for your dedication.

Donations from individuals continue to be made with new ones arriving every month. Some may be only a few items while other donations are medium to large collections. Magazines keep coming in and most are duplicates with the exception of some of the older issues. If you are thinking of donating a collection of magazines, please check with Gerry Herrmann or myself.



Here are some donations that have been received over the last 18 months:

- Michele Ingram – a Sperry Rail poster
- Janet and Alton Wilson – 2 posters for a trip from Sandpoint, ID to Billings, MT
- Steve Pappas – photos and news articles
- Bethel Historical Society – 5 postcards
- C. Keith Payne – 1944 train tickets and photos
- Peter Hanen – book on Western Maryland Cabooses
- Paul Gassner – a blueprint for a Hudson type locomotive brakes and springs and a blueprint for New Haven trucks
- Arthur E. House – 2 New Haven car signs (script herald and car #950)
- Robert Leavitt – Official Guides and books
- Richard Carpenter – one book “Empire Express”
- Frank Schwartz – interlocking lever machine on display in the Museum
- Bill Mahaney – books, magazines, newsletters and timetables
- Philip Bronson – restored hand truck that was used at the Danbury Freight House
- Charles Kluge – magazines
- Walt Dunlap – manuals, pay stubs and w-2’s from his time of employment on the New Haven
- Hans Kuring – an REA hand truck and 428 slides
- Douglas Braunstein – photos

Here are some from 2000 that need to be acknowledged:

- Pete Luedee – lanterns, spikes, date nails, end of block signal, window pole, MOW track tools
- Cecil S. Ashdowne – books, postcards, timetables, LP records, silverware, advertisements, videos, and tie clasps
- John Scott – rule books and a manual
- Selma Duignan – menus, books, photos, magazines, brochures, maps, tickets and various rail-road related documents
- Robert McDevitt – New Haven dining car items

Thank you to all our donors.

## Santa didn't forget the DRM!



Photos by D. Kern

## Santa Trains

Due to the weather, we canceled two days of Santa Trains in December, and ran for two hours only on the second Sunday. Having said that, I believe the event was very successful with over 300 people coming each of the 3 good days that we held the event. The yard never looked better, with a lighted and decorated turntable, Budd Car (Mr. Frosty's ride), Santa Car, and lots of outdoor displays (and my thanks to Dave Roberts, Suze Blackman and Nancy Sniffin for making us look so good). The Gift Shop reported some very excellent days, also. Our thanks to all of the hard working crew and volunteers inside and outside who made this event a success, and lots of fun!

Submitted by Sue Thomas

## Member Profile

The gentleman on the left is our own Dave Lowry (Station Master and Board Director), standing next to Dave is Stephen T. Witkowski (Director, Development and Alumni Relations, Boston University) in front of B&M 2-6-0 #1455 on October 9, 2003. Mr. Witkowski was visiting Dave to gather information for Dave's 50th college reunion this year. Dave was in the first class to graduate from Boston University's College of Engineering. There were a total of six graduates in that first class in 1954.

Dave has been a smiling face at the front desk for many years. He has done much for the Museum including being Santa.



Photo by Steve Gould

## Below is our progress to date For our fundraising Campaign!

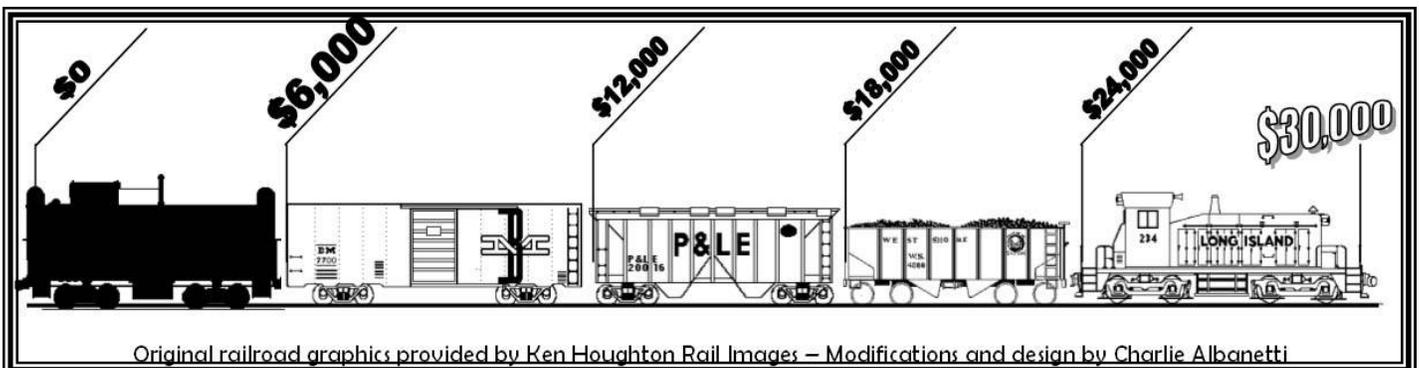
Any help you can offer can be sent to:

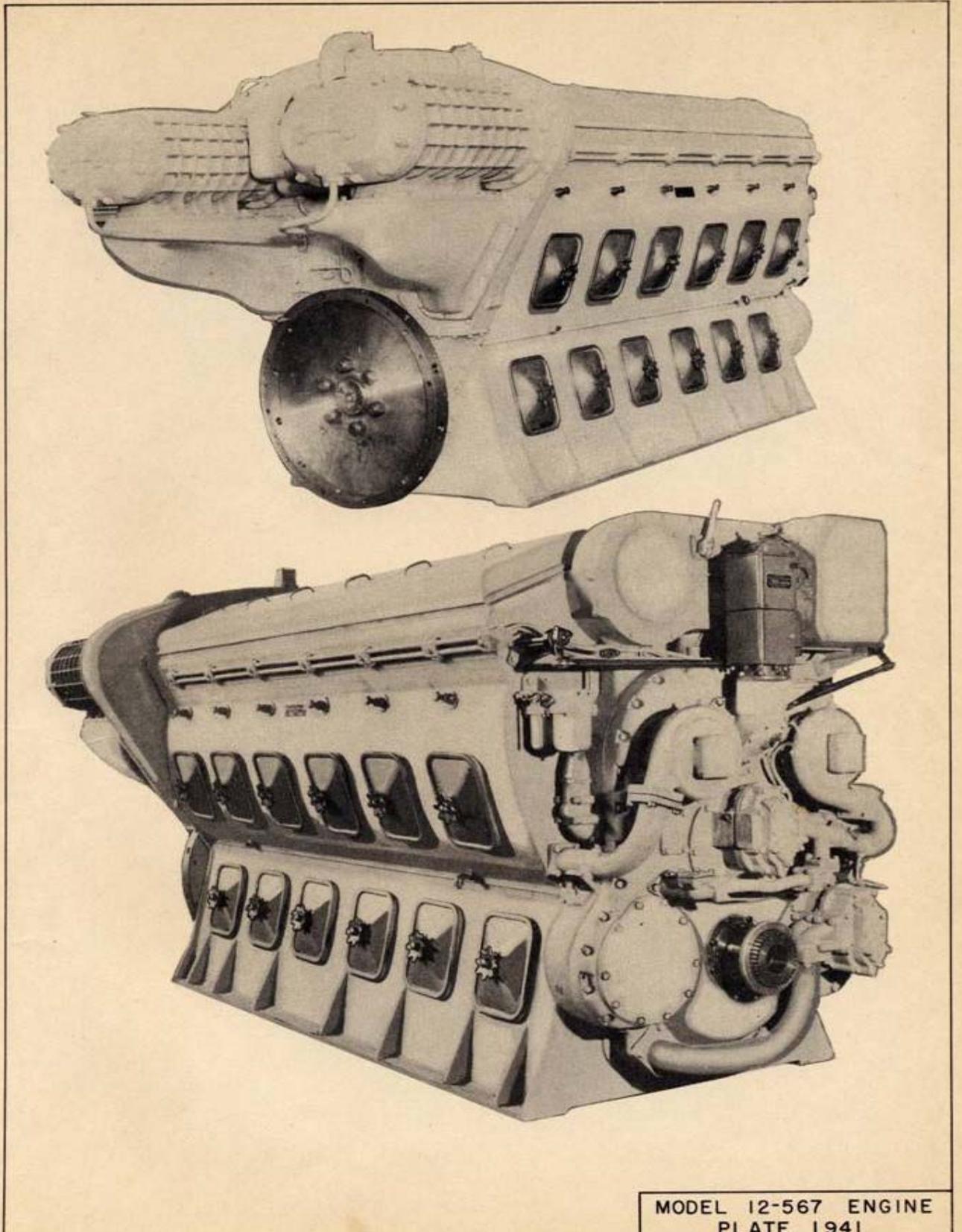
Treasurer

Danbury Railway Museum

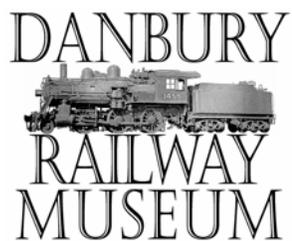
P.O. Box 90

Danbury, CT 06813





The 567 prime mover was the workhorse for the electromotive division for many years. Examples of this type of prime mover can be found in the DRM yard in the SW-8, #605, and the 4096. It was available in 8, 12, 16 cylinder versions and many upgrades.



120 White Street  
Danbury, CT 06810

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
DANBURY, CT  
PERMIT NO. 569

## MUSEUM CALENDAR

March 13, 2004	Fundraising Dinner
April 3rd & 4th and 9th & 10th	Easter Bunny Trains
April 17, 2004	New Member Day
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.