



The Railyard Local

Volume 2 Issue 5

A Publication of the Danbury Railway Museum, Inc.

May 2004



During the early spring of 2004 we received the Sperry Rail Car #135 as a gracious donation by Sperry Rail Corp. The #135 represents a typical rail test car rebuilt and out-shopped by Sperry and used nationwide for rail flaw detection. Our car is almost complete with crew living quarters and most of the equipment used in rail detection service. The Museum plans to open an exhibit on the history of Sperry and of these cars in the near future. We sincerely thank Sperry for their generosity and for considering the DRM for this donation.

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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Don Konan, Chairman
Charlie Albanetti
Ed Blackman
Dan Foley
Geoff Knees
Dave Lowry
Andrew McClellan
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

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www.danbury.org/drm

MEMBERS UPGRADED TO LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Joseph F. Collins Woodbury, CT
Andrew & Jennifer Doherty Danbury, CT

NEW MEMBERS

Jennifer Schoelkopf Danbury, CT
Linda & Ronald Palmer Bethel, CT
Jennifer Ordenez Danbury, CT
Melissa Marici Brookfield, CT
Joseph A. Mannix Brewster, NY
Marnee Harke Fairfield, CT
JoAnne Schoepfer Goldfuss New Fairfield, CT
Cheryl Gleissner Danbury, CT
Kathy & Rice DeAngelis Southbury, CT
Jennifer Davidson Bethel, CT
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Rev. Walter J. Benn Pottstown, PA
Lynne Avram Cheshire, CT
Hector L. Torres Brewster, NY
John Trowill Berkshire Scenic Railway—Lenox, MA
Jaymee Valyau Wingdale, NY
Robert & Nancy Palmieri Brewster, NY
Kenneth Lee New Fairfield, CT
Lorna Leiva Carmen, NY
Joe Calabrese New Milford, CT

RAILFAIR & TRAIN SHOW—May 1st & 2nd

Our biggest event of the year is almost here. We expect several thousand people to visit the Museum during the two days. The Metro North Railroad will be in our yard on Saturday and we'll have Trolleys between our station, the Westcon parking garage and the Bill Williams Gym on Osborne Street.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: A few hours of your time during the weekend. There is much to do. Please call 203-792-1981 or 203-778-8337 to leave a message, or sign up at the jobs board in the DRM office if you would like to volunteer for a specific job. i.e. Food prep, car hosts, tour guides, ticket takers, gate watchers, gift shop helpers & more.
Come join the fun.

Dear Readers:

In this issue I would like to thank Ira Pollack, Patty Osmer, Stan Madyda, Bob Gambling, Steve Gould, Skip Kern.

PLEASE NOTE: I have a new e-mail address. It is debnews@snet.net.

Newsletter Message to Members

From Ira Pollack, President



Dear Members,

This spring has brought about some new changes and additions to our Museum. Over the winter season, we have modified and updated our bylaws and we are now finalizing them. The changes will be presented to membership for approval in the near future by way of our newsletter. These bylaws are what govern and guide us in our decision-making processes. As we grow as an organization, we must periodically add to, modify, and update the bylaws. Although time consuming, I am glad that we have seen this process through.

We have begun our training program also this spring with a good turnout of volunteers at our Safety101 and Train Service re-qualification classes. As I'm always saying, it's the volunteers that make the Museum run and it's good to see them coming out to support it.

We will be working on many painting projects this summer season so, of course, I need your help once again. I would be very pleased if we can finish painting the boxcar, the 1402, and the CN caboose. There are always projects going on in the yard on Saturdays starting at 9:00 a.m. Just be sure you've taken your Safety 101 class, and wear work clothes, gloves, and work boots. We will issue safety vests. See you Saturday morning!

In Remembrance:

On February 29th, member Harold Pollack passed away after a short illness at age 87. Mr. Pollack, father of President Ira Pollack, was a very early member of the Museum. Although not present at all functions, he was a staunch supporter of the Museum and was excited by its quick growth. He was also responsible for this son's love of trains, inspiring him in railroading at an early age. He will be missed by family and all the people he touched with his humor, intelligence and gusto.

LIBRARY NEWS

By Stan Madyda



Here are some more donations received in late 2002 and 2003:

- Andrew Neilly – New York Central wall map, two light fixtures from the Southern Pacific and four watercolor prints
- Bayard Cutcliffe – a book on A. Phillip Randolph and copies of court proceedings involving railroads located in Connecticut. This is very interesting material.
- Harry Burke – slides
- Lovett Smith – a FRED that was used on his private car, New York Central 3 and two books – “The Railroads” and “Railroads – The Great Adventure”
- Alexander Sawchyn – a book on the Uintah Railway
- Ira Pollack – two books – “Janes’s World Railways 1980-1981” and “Makin’ Tracks”
- Peter McLachlan – one map, a copy of the proposal for the Berkshire Railroad and a Railway Atlas of the World
- Dennis Wood – Conrail safety films, Conrail slides on safety, maps, books, Official Guides, hats and pictures.
- Roger Pitt Whitcomb – all of his paperwork and research pertaining to his work as the restoration architect for Danbury Union Station
- Fielding Bowman – various magazines, newsletter and pamphlets
- Jackson Ferry – HO trains, books and photo albums
- Hans Kuring – 33x21 framed print of the New Haven Railroad’s Yankee Clipper passenger train
- John Cihocki – HO trains, track and scenery
- Raymond Miranda – Lionel, MTH and K-Line catalogs
- Donald G. Neumann – employee timetables and stock reports
- Dave Williams - various railroad magazine advertising
- Robert Cornell – 8 inch brass case vacuum gauge
- Stephen Johnson – magazines, timetables, various railroad documents and HO trains
- Hils W. Trahnstrom – 2 lanterns and 3 prints
- Unknown donors – a New York Central lantern and a 1911 print of Bethel Station

Thanks again to all who have donated to the Museum.



Senator David Cappiello (below) kicked off the festivities at our 10th Anniversary dinner party at the Stony Hill Inn. Good times, great food. Did everyone win a prize? A spectacular slide show by J.W. Swanberg ended the evening on a perfect note.

Photos by Bob Gambling.



GIFT SHOP NEWS...



For the kids! We are now carrying the "Take-Along-Thomas" line. These rugged little metal cars feature connecting magnets at both ends of the car and contain a trading card which details it. Prices start at \$7.00

And for the adults, we have several new books in stock. Featured is Trackside around Massachusetts 1950 - 1970 by Jeremy Plant with Russ Monroe. Featured are NH, B&M, and B&A with a little CV thrown in. Full color. Member price \$53.95.

For the trolley fan, we have Streetcar Lines of the Hub by Bradley Clarke, full of photos and detailing the 1940s, the heyday of Electric Transit in Boston. Member price \$49.45. Also available is Boston Trolleys In Color Volume 1: The North Side by William Volkmer, which tours Boston from 1940-1980 on the Cambridge, Lechmere, Watertown, Somerville, North Station, Revere, Braves Field and Reservoir/Cleveland Circle routes.

And don't forget The Old Up and Down: NYC Catskill Division, which is back in stock. Member price \$44.95.

We also have a new selection of adult railroad videos, the new Thomas the Tank cars, Thomas toothbrushes, and Thomas watches. Please stop by, email us at posmer@core.com, or call 203-778-8337. We will be glad to ship anything to you for a small shipping fee. And, we are always open to stocking new merchandise! Just let us know what you are looking for.

Kathie Fay & Patty Osmer

2004 CONTRIBUTIONS...

Through February 2004, we have received \$9,641 toward our goal of \$30,000. Contributions will mainly be used to offset expenses for the 2003 track repair. Contributions have been received from:

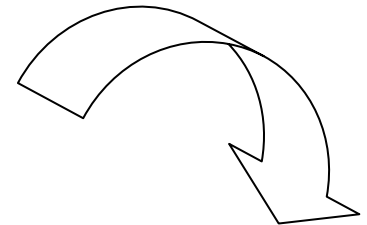
Valentine Cesare
K. Paul Gassner
Arthur Heilman
Michael Johnson
Carl Leaman
David & Ingrid McCauley
Victor G. Westman

In addition, we thank the following for their donations of materials or monies earmarked for special projects.

Charlie Albanetti
Jessie Albanetti
Paul Bartram
Peter Hoeffner
David Murphy

If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please contact Treasurer Patty Osmer by e-mail(posmer@core.com) or by letter sent to the DRM, Box 90, Danbury, CT 06813. All donations to this 501(3) © corporation are fully deductible to the extent allowed by law.

What is it?



Featured equipment– Class NE-5 Pullman Std (1944) NH C-627

ex Berkshire Scenic RR
exx Conrail
exx Penn Central
nee New Haven C-627

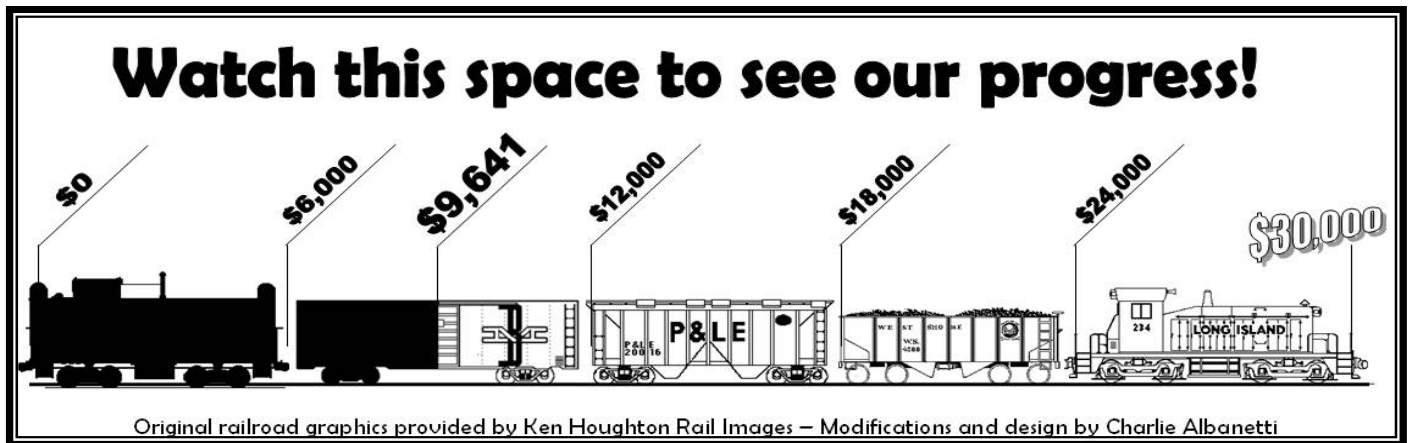


Arrived Danbury 4/96. Purchased from Berkshire Scenic Railway. Built May, 1944, by the Pullman Standard Co. First run on the New Haven RR, it was reconditioned in 1978 by Conrail. Restored to its “as-delivered” paint scheme by the DRM, it is still missing its roof-walk. Complete with stove, ice-box and toilet, it was a veritable apartment for the conductor, who might be assigned to the same freight-run with it for a number of months or longer.

Below is our progress to date for our fundraising campaign!

Contributions can be sent to:

Treasurer
Danbury Railway Museum
P.O. Box 90
Danbury, CT 06813





120 White Street
Danbury, CT 06810

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MUSEUM CALENDAR

May 1st Metro North RailRoad Rail Rodeo
May 2nd Train Show & Railfair

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

May 5	Dan Gallo, Jr.	Wilmington & Western, Strasburg
May 12	J.W. Swanberg	Double-Headed 2-10-2's in China
May 19	Woody Cohen	Upper Harlem Line
May 26	Edward Blackman	Trains from Across the Country
June 2	Dan Gallo, Jr.	Steamtown DL Water Gap Excursion

Museum Hours: Tuesday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Sunday Noon to 5:00 p.m.