

The Railyard Local

Volume 1 Issue 1

A Publication of the Danbury Railway Museum, Inc.

August 2003



3 New Haven Railroad RS3's ready to depart Danbury yard to State line, March 1957. Notice the Scale house at lower left of photo. The remains of the scale house still stand today. Photo taken by J.W. Swanberg.

The Danbury Railway Museum's mission is to collect, preserve, restore and operate vintage railroad equipment as well as creating and managing a reference library in order to educate the public and its members about railroading in the Northeast while stimulating tourism in the State of Connecticut and the City of Danbury.

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Please send change of
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Attn: Membership Chairman
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Or e-mail to:
drmmembers@aol.com
Phone: (203) 778-8337
Fax: (23) 778-1836

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www.danbury.org/drm

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www.danbury.org/drm

**ATTENTION!!
DRM Tag Sale**

**Reserve an 8 foot space on Saturday, August 23rd for only \$20.
Clean out your basement, closet, attic and garage. Take 2 spaces.
The time is 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Please come early to allow time to set up. We do not provide table but there are some chairs available on a first come basis in the station.
Please contact Sue Thomas at (203) 792-1981. Food will be available.**

DRM Member Picnic

Sunday, August 10th, the Annual DRM Member Picnic will be at the station at 5:00 p.m. Come and make new friends and see what's been happening this year!

Adult tickets will be available at the Front Desk until August 6th for \$6.00. After August 6, tickets will be \$10.00. Children age 12 and under are \$3.00.

Tickets are also available at the Wednesday night meetings from Sue or Carol.

A salad or dessert would be appreciated.

And perhaps a train ride that evening??

Special Summer Sundays

From Sue Thomas

During the summer we have lots of visitors on Sunday, many from all around the country on their summer vacation and ready to have fun! Our regular tour guides for that day, Don Konan and Sean Harte (with sometime assist from Sue Thomas), will be taking days off this summer so they can see some other Tourist Railroads too. Richard Shaboo has been a treasure on the front desk each Sunday and Patty Osmer has been hard at work in the Gift Shop.

If you can give a tour, or would like to take a tour with Don and Sean and learn how, please stop in. They do need an occasional Sunday off, so backup tour guides would be appreciated. Two guides on a Sunday would be ideal, but right now we usually have only one because of vacations, etc. We have many visitors who appreciate our great museum. Come help make their visit a special one.

Dear Readers:

As the new Editor I would like to thank our President Ira Pollack for my appointment. We will be offering you a new format that will combine new and vintage photos, membership profiles as well as current and future happenings at the DRM. I will endeavor to carry on the tradition of past editors. Any and all comments, suggestions, articles and photos, etc. Can be e-mailed to dkern@snet.net or dropped off at or mailed to the Museum. I look forward to hearing from you.

Newsletter Message to Members

From Ira Pollack, President



Dear Volunteer,

I'm hoping that your summer has been enjoyable so far even though it has been raining continually almost every other day. It has been very hard to pursue any outdoor projects such as painting or restoration work on our equipment, but this too shall pass like another shower.

As this time I would like to announce my appointment of Ron Freitag as Chief of Operations and Instruction at the Museum. Ron will be responsible for our engineer and ground school program for new engineers and train crew. Chief Mechanical Officer Skip Kern will assist him in this program. I wish them both well in this venture and hope for many new applicants for our yard train service. I would also like to take the time now to thank John Geigle for his service to the Museum in this capacity. John's job assignment has changed and he could not devote the required time to pursue this program. Thanks again John for your time spent at the Museum.

I'd also like to announce my appointment of Debbie Kern as the new Editor of our newsletter, replacing Roberta Ballard. I thank Roberta for her fine efforts and determination in running our paper, which is the main connection between the Museum and our distant members. Her dedication to the Museum helped it and the newsletter grow in the years that she held that position. I wish her well in the future and in the ventures that she might pursue.

Debbie will need our help and cooperation now to get the newsletter up and running. She is busy compiling information and articles and is also planning a facelift for the paper. To start with, the new name will be "The Rail Yard Local." I wish Debbie well with this project and look forward to its first edition.

I have been busy myself organizing new committees to move our Museum forward financially. I have formed a fund raising and a grant writing committee to help us in our growth. If you have any financial expertise in these areas, please step forward and help out. Please leave your name and number at the Front Desk for Jerry Lawler, our Volunteer Coordinator.

As always, I ask for your help as a volunteer, for it is the volunteers who make the DRM live.

Gift Shop News

For all you Central New England fans out there, we have added a CNE hat to our collection. Embroidered with the logo found on the CNE box car of 100 years ago, this hat comes in both black and green, and sells for \$15.00. Thanks goes to Steve Mayerson for taking an original photo and reproducing the graphics.

In the new book department, we have just gotten all 3 volumes of Railway Milk Cars in stock, as well as the book Creameries of Upstate New York. Remember - we are always looking for new books, so if you know of one that we don't carry, let us know and we'll try to find it for you.

For our 100th Anniversary celebration, we have a new t-shirt. Many thanks to Charlie Albanetti for working with the vendor to design a nice logo for the t-shirt.

We really need volunteers to staff the Gift Shop this summer! If you can volunteer even 3 hours a week, please call the Gift Shop at 203-778-8337 to volunteer, or follow the Gift Shop link on our web page: www.danbury.org/drm to volunteer.

Thanks.....



Holiday Express – December 6, 2003

Its not too soon – Flyers available very soon in the station, please ask your friends and relatives to help distribute – Maybe your Church Group or club or senior center, or work employee committee, would like to buy a whole car to resell – and make a profit on it!

Also, for this who would like to go in style on NYC 3, the private car, contact Don Konan Friday's at the station – 203-778-8337.

This year we are considering a stop in South Norwalk to pick up passengers from that area, as well as Fairfield, Bridgeport, etc. to travel with us on our Party Train with Santa, snacks, and surprises on Board. Tickets available very soon – spread the word – we hope to sell out early, so let your friends and family know the date!

Thanks to the following people who have contributed to this newsletter: Ira Pollack, Ron Freitag, Patty Osmer, Sue Thomas, Dave Roberts, Don Konan, Skip Kern

Reminder: Donations are always appreciated to help keep the DRM operating. Thank your for your continued support .

New Director of Operations Appointed:

DRM member John Geigle has recently accepted a new job in Southern New Jersey. We wish him well in his new endeavor and regretably has to accept his resignation as Director of Operations, the position he has held for the last 2 years. President Ira Pollack has appointed VP Ron Freitag as John's replacement for the training and scheduling of crews. Anyone who successfully tested for trainee positions is still in the loop for this program when it resumes.

We apologize for the delay and the inconvenience and thank you for your continued support. Please call Ron with any questions at (845) 365-9145 or e-mail lbhfl@juno.com.

Member Profile



Justin Chapin has been a member since August 2002. Justin's interest in trains runs in the family. His father and grandfather got him started and now we have him here to work on restoration and be part of the operating crew. Justin has completed his conductor training and is ready to do student engineer training. He was a driving force to help get the Maine Central 661 caboose ready for the May 2003 show. We welcome him to our DRM family.

What is it?



Each month we will be featuring a railroad related item to be identified. The answer to each month's picture will be in the next newsletter. If you have any items you want featured for the "what is it" column please send to dkern@snet.net.

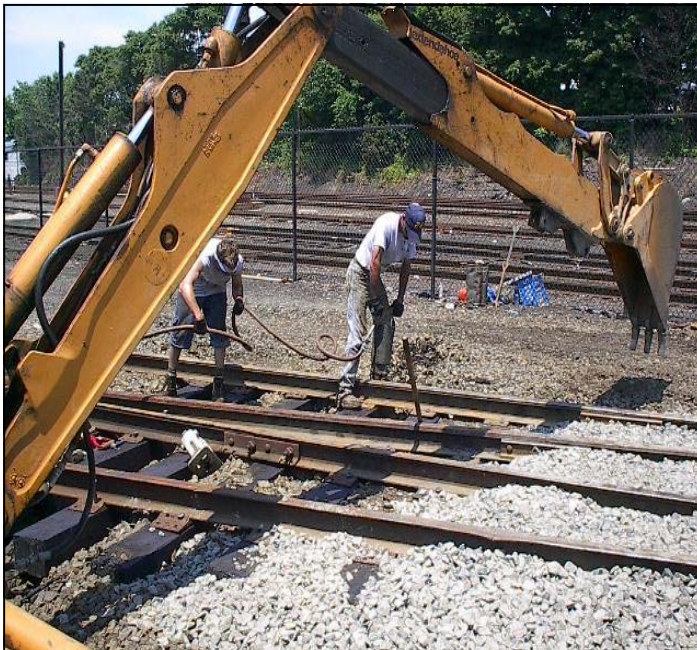
ATTENTION:

Volunteers needed to learn new skills by helping to restore, preserve and run our historical rolling stock. If getting on top of a 40 foot boxcar is not for you, then there is always help needed in our beautifully restored station. Please call the front desk and leave your name, number and preference. (203) 778-8337



From the Desk of the CMO

On June 23rd Mike Damour's Construction Co. started the tie replacement and switch point replacement from the change over to the 20 switch. Work progressed well during the week despite the hot spell that hit us. We hope to have the track ready for operations by July 4th.



Photos by Skip Kern



Photos by Dave Roberts

What's New on the Restoration Front

Gerry Hermann and his dedicated crew installing a tarp to protect NYC 19322



Photos by Skip Kern

NYC 19322 with its sheathing removed to allow drying and inspection. This will give the restoration crew an idea of the condition of the wood. It is clear that a great deal of wood will have to be replaced before the sheathing can be replaced.

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MUSEUM CALENDAR

EVERY SATURDAY: Railyard Local Train Ride

Sun. Aug 10 - 10a.m.-5p.m.	Special Event - Family Day - Member Picnic
Sat. Aug. 23 - 10a.m.-3p.m.	Special Event - DRM Tag Sale
Wed. Aug. 6 7:30p.m.	Dan Foley - Slides
Wed. Aug 13 7:30p.m.	Ed Blackman - Slides
Wed. Aug 20 7:30p.m.	Dan Gallo - Fallen Flag Series #2
Wed. Aug. 27 7:30p.m.	Dan Gallo, Jr. - CSX River Division, The Acela
Wed. Sept. 3 7:30p.m.	Steve Gould - British Steam Revisited
Wed. Sept. 10 7:30p.m.	Craig DeLaPena - Rails to Trails - N. Y. to New England

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

Sunday Noon to 5:00 p.m.