

# The Railyard Dispatch

Volume 15, Issue 7

The Newsletter of the Danbury Railway Museum November - December 2016

## Elections 2017 – Resumes Due Official Notice: Now Accepting Nominations

The 2017 Nominating Committee is now accepting nominations and resumes for openings on the Danbury Railway Museum Board of Directors. All four Officers and four Director positions are up for election. Each will serve a two year term. If you are interested in running for any of the positions, incumbents and new candidates alike, please prepare a resume that is **no longer than one-half of an 8½" x 11" sheet of paper**, and include the following information:

1. Name, address, phone number, e-mail address and position for which you are running.
2. Your accomplishments for the DRM over the last two years. **No more than 150 words please.**
3. Your plans and goals for the DRM over your two year term. Include a project or area where you would contribute your time. **No more than 150 words please.**

**There are three ways to send your resume to the Nominating Committee:**

1. Via e-mail to GouldSL@aol.com.
2. By regular mail to the DRM at PO Box 90, Danbury, CT 06813, Attention: Steve Gould.
3. By placing in Steve Gould's mail box in the Museum office.

**All resumes must be received by 4 pm, January 15, 2017 in the format described above to be considered a candidate. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Serving on the Board of Directors is a serious commitment to the Museum and its vision and goals. Please consider running only if you feel you can commit the time and effort to move the Museum forward and help it grow. Regular attendance at Board meetings, which are currently held the third Thursday of each month at the Museum, is a requirement. Check the Museum by-laws, which are available in the Museum office, to check the requirements for running for

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any of the positions.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Gould for help. Also, if you know of someone who wants to be contacted about running, please let Steve know for follow up. Thank you!

## Christmas Lights Needed

Santa is coming and any donations of Christmas lights would be appreciated, either for this year or next. In addition, volunteers to set up, staff, and later remove decorations are needed. Please contact Sue Teer at 1-203-778-8337 by leaving a message at the Museum with your number. Thanks!

## TripAdvisor 2016 Certificate of Excellence

This past year, the Danbury Railway Museum received its fourth TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence! Certificate of Excellence recipients include accommodations, eateries and attractions located all over the world that have continually delivered a quality customer experience.

The Certificate of Excellence accounts for the quality, quantity and recency of reviews submitted by travelers on TripAdvisor over a 12-month period. To qualify, a business must maintain an overall TripAdvisor bubble rating of at least four out of five, have a minimum number of reviews and must have been listed on TripAdvisor for at least 12 months.

TripAdvisor is the world's largest travel site, enabling travelers to plan and book the perfect trip. TripAdvisor offers advice from millions of travelers and a wide variety of travel choices and planning features. TripAdvisor branded sites make up the largest travel community in the world, reaching 340 million unique monthly visitors, and 350 million reviews and opinions covering 6.5 million accommodations, restaurants and attractions.

Help us make next year our fifth in a row!

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## New Members

We are delighted to welcome our new members this month. All members, as well as the general public, are welcome to attend the weekly meetings and free programs held Wednesdays, 7:30pm, at the Museum, 120 White Street, Danbury. We invite all members to become involved in Museum activities!

Pamela Caraluzzi	Redding, CT
Loren Hendrix	Danbury, CT
Palmer Page Peralta	Danbury, CT
Christopher Saulle	Danbury, CT
Robert Sherman	Tarrytown, NY

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## Upcoming Events at the DRM

**December 4<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> -**

### All Aboard for the 2016 Santa Express!

Come see Santa! Ride a vintage train in our railyard and visit Santa in his Special Coach! Every child will receive a small gift from Santa.

**Reservations are strongly recommended!**

Reserve online at: [www.danburyrail.org](http://www.danburyrail.org), or call 1-203-778-8337 during business hours.

Parking available at Patriot Garage.

The \$10 admission for visitors ages 2 and up (under 2 years free) includes train ride in our railyard to Santa's Special Coach, exhibits and displays in our 1903 Station, operating layouts, temporary tattoos, children's activities and hot chocolate!

Trains will be running every **half-hour 12:00pm - 4:30pm on Saturdays and 12:30pm - 3:30pm on Sundays**. There will be a **special evening train on Saturday nights, December 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm!** Take an evening ride through our lighted railyard!

If you are a member and would like to help out, please contact Sue Teer at 1-203-778-8337.

### Amherst Railway Society Railroad

### Hobby Show - January 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Come to the biggest railroad hobby show in the Northeast! As always, the show will be held at the Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds in West Springfield, MA, and the DRM will be there! Admission is \$14 per ticket, per day for adults and free for children 15 years or younger accompanied by a paying adult. A must see! For more

information, go to:

**2** [www.railroadhobbyshow.com/](http://www.railroadhobbyshow.com/)

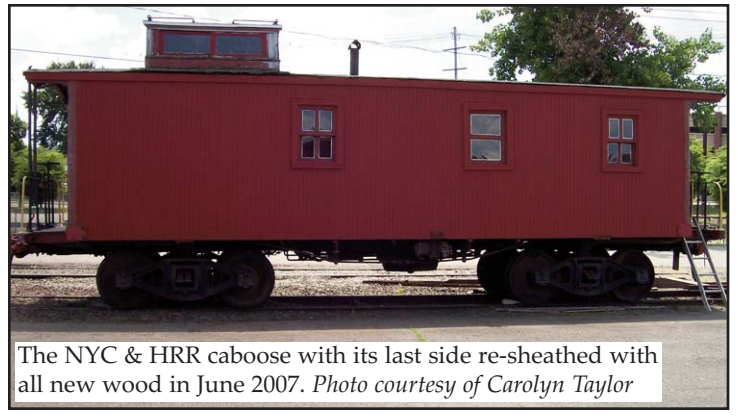
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## Ten Years Ago

By Stan Madyda, President

As the 2006 season drew to a close, it was time to reflect on the accomplishments of the year. President Ira Pollack was happy to report that membership, admissions, events and birthday parties had increased over previous years bringing needed revenue to the Museum. The Gift Shop was able to offer many new items. A number of members represented the Museum through outreach programs throughout the year which included slide presentations, attendance at train shows and talks.

The year also saw good progress on a number of projects. Inside the Station, the layouts continued to be worked on regularly. The New York Central wooden caboose had its last side re-sheathed with all new wood. New window frames were being constructed. On the interior, the benches, desk and closets were removed in order to have access to walls needing attention. Interior work began on Canadian National car #660. This was one of the cars donated to the Museum when plans for a railroad-themed restaurant failed to materialize. Some renovations had already been done by the owners which led to the idea of turning the car into an Events Car to be used at Easter and Christmas. Over at the RPO, the exterior work had been completed and the sides lettered. Material was being sourced for the diaphragms. On the interior, walls needed to be worked on prior to painting. The crew also worked on the electrical system by installing a new circuit breaker box. This allowed for more lighting and temporary heating. Steamtown had loaned a mail crane that Bob Pitcher would be able to make a copy from.



The NYC & HRR caboose with its last side re-sheathed with all new wood in June 2007. Photo courtesy of Carolyn Taylor

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## Parking Deal on Weekends

Thanks to the generosity and cooperation of the staff at the Danbury Parking Authority, guests at the DRM will be able to get their admission ticket stamped at the Front Desk for a \$1 discount on parking at the Municipal garage across the street.

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# Last Print Issue of Newsletter & Launch of New Email Marketing Tool

By Michael Madyda, Editor

In the last issue of *The Railyard Dispatch*, I informed you, the membership, that the print version of the newsletter will be discontinued pending the approval of funds by the Board of Directors to enter into a contract with an email marketing service provider. This month in November, the Board voted to approve my motion to go with the email marketing service provider Constant Contact and to spend \$96 on a 6-month contract. So this means that **this will be the last print version of *The Railyard Dispatch***. This move will save the Museum approximately **\$3,200 per year!** To reiterate, going this route and discontinuing the print (paper) version of the newsletter is beneficial for the DRM for several additional reasons as listed below:

- reduced time & effort converting the newsletter to a mailable form
- this will eliminate the page requirements/constraints from having the newsletter professionally printed as we do now
- it will free up the labor (i.e., personnel time) of retrieving the printed newsletters from the printers, putting the newsletter together for bulk mailing and bringing it over to the post office's bulk mailing department within a posted time frame
- this will be a more environmentally friendly route of sending out information
- the newsletter will be in color and not in black & white

Sending *The Railyard Dispatch* newsletter electronically to members will be a more efficient means of getting information out to the membership and decrease the time members receive the newsletter and other important announcements regarding events and activities going on at the Museum. In short, members will receive information in a more timely fashion.

So if you haven't already done so, we will need your **name and the email address** where you would prefer to receive correspondence from us. Please send this information to our membership chairman via email at: **drmmembers@aol.com**, or by mail at: **Attn: Membership Chairman, Danbury Railway Museum, P.O. Box 90, Danbury, CT 06813**. Also, if you have moved since joining or renewing, please send your updated contact info to our Membership Chairman. In addition, we will not sell, trade, or rent your personal information to any person(s), company, or organization.

For the few members who don't have a computer or are able to get to a public library that has public computers and wish to receive a printed version, you will be able to come to the DRM Station and have the online version printed out in black & white or have it printed out in black & white and mailed to you. **No color copies will be provided.**

I sincerely hope that you will like this new digital platform of electronic communication and hope it will relieve some of the frustration of receiving delayed information.

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## Reporters Wanted

Reporters for the DRM's newsletter, *The Railyard Dispatch*, are needed. If you have an interest in journalism and photography and also like trains, then become one of our newsletter's reporters. Reporters would be needed for annual special events, various Museum activities and other occasions that would warrant reporter coverage. If interested, you must be a Museum member, have taken the safety exam and be over 16 years of age. Please contact the newsletter editor at: [drmnewslettereditor@yahoo.com](mailto:drmnewslettereditor@yahoo.com) if you are interested.

# Words from Our (New) President

Dear Members,

We have had a change at the Executive Level of the DRM. In September, Wade Roesse resigned as President. All is fine with Wade. After a decade of serving the Museum as President, Vice-President, Board Chairman and member of a number of committees, he decided it was time to spend more time with his family and on his other interests. When I last spoke to him, he was happy being able to get back to working on his train layout.

On Tuesday nights, Wade was a fixture at the Museum working with the train layouts, displays and any impromptu meetings that came up. Prior to the Wednesday evenings programs, he brought members and guests up to date with Museum news. Many other hours were spent at the front desk, attending meetings, learning about and participating in the StEPs program, taking phone calls and emails and countless other administrative tasks. We should all be grateful for the hours he donated to the DRM. Thank you Wade on behalf of the DRM!

According to our by-laws, the Vice-President immediately fills the open position of President. The VP position needed to be filled, and at the October board meeting, Chuck Sager was elected by the board to serve the remainder of the term. Thanks Chuck for stepping up. Also at the October meeting, a new Building Committee was named with Marty Grossman serving as Chairman and consisting of members Jeff Van Wagenen, Justin Chapin and Bob Pitcher.

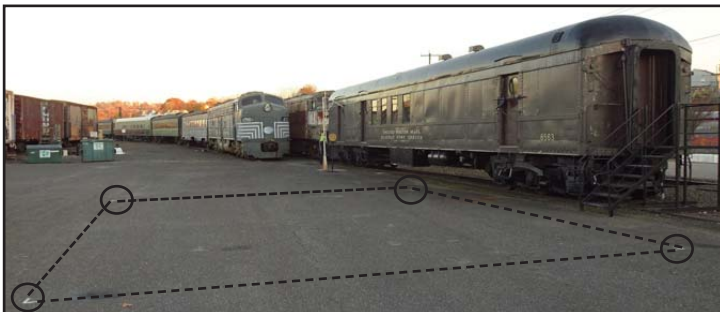
At the November meeting, a new Exhibits Committee was formed with Bob Boothe and Jose Alves serving as Co-Chairs and Peter McLachlan, Phillip Beard and Mike Madyda as members. Also the By-Laws Committee was reactivated with Jeff Van Wagenen as Chairman and Bob Boothe, Justin Chapin, Mike Madyda and Steve Gould as members.

In the last couple of months, progress has been made on the relocation of the Mill Plain Station to the railyard. The location has been marked off and work has begun to prepare the site. When you read this, I suspect we will be much further along in accepting ownership and getting contracts signed for the actual move. When visiting the Museum, please be sure to see the museum-quality HO-scale model of the station, scratch built by member Loren Hendrix.

One last thing for this report, Metro-North donated seven pallets of track mats that they no longer had any use for. These are placed in-between the rails wherever motive power is stored to absorb any fluids that may leak. I don't know the exact cost of the mats, but can say that would have cost us several thousand dollars. Thanks Metro-North!

With the end of a successful year upon us, let me thank all of our members and volunteers who gave their time and support to the Museum. Happy Holidays!

President Stan Madyda



The outlined location opposite of the loading dock where the Mill Plain Station is to be located. In the photo, the mail bag stand has already been moved to its new location. After this photo was taken, the RPO car was moved out of the way down the track and positioned so the stand would line up with the mail bag catcher doorway (door with circle window on right).



Donated track mats from Metro-North on loading dock.  
Photo courtesy of Justin Chapin

# Pumpkin Patch Trains 2016

By Sue Teer; Photos courtesy of Philip Beard, unless otherwise noted

Pumpkin Patch 2016 turned out to be rainy or windy many days, but those who came had a great time and left with big smiles, always a sign of success! Some days the cider and cookies were served inside and the Station. The children's play area and temporary tattoo table were very busy. Thanks to all who helped and especially to the crews who kept the trains going in spite of the wind and rain. We even had some volunteers in costume to give the event an extra "fun" boost. I hope more will join in next year!



Photo courtesy of Sue Teer



Photo courtesy of Sue Teer

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*Season's Greetings!*

*The Danbury Railway Museum's  
Officers and Directors wish you and  
yours a happy, healthy and safe  
Holiday season with best wishes for  
the New Year!*





PO Box 90, DANBURY, CT 06813

Address Correction Requested

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# MUSEUM CALENDAR

**\*Note** - Wednesday night meetings and programs will now be starting at 7 o'clock pm.\*

- November 30(7:00pm) Return to the Isle of Man - John Barton
- December 7(7:00pm) #9 Back Wiscasset + Farm - Bill Brett
- December 14(7:00pm) Modeler's Showcase #1 - Martha Bishop
- December 15(7:00pm) Board Meeting - Open to Members
- December 21(7:00pm) To Be Announced
- December 25 **MERRY CHRISTMAS!** (Museum closed)
- December 28(7:00pm) To Be Announced
- January 1, 2017 **HAPPY NEW YEAR!** (Museum closed)
- January 4(7:00pm) To Be Announced
- January 11(7:00pm) To Be Announced
- January 18(7:00pm) To Be Announced
- January 19(7:00pm) Board Meeting - Open to Members

**Museum hours: Wed-Sat 10-4; Sun 12-4**

See the newsletter in color at: [www.danburyrail.org](http://www.danburyrail.org)



Photo courtesy of Sue Teer

## Contact Information

Please contact us with submissions:  
Mail: The Danbury Railway Museum  
Attention: Newsletter  
PO Box 90, Danbury, CT 06813  
Phone: 203.778.8337; Fax: 203.778.1836  
Email: [drmnewslettereditor@yahoo.com](mailto:drmnewslettereditor@yahoo.com)  
Editor: Michael Madyda  
Printing by: Infinity Printing of Danbury

### Change of Address:

If moving, please send your new address to:  
Danbury Railway Museum,  
Attention: Membership Chairman  
PO Box 90, Danbury, CT 06813  
Via Email to: [drmmembers@aol.com](mailto:drmmembers@aol.com)