

The Ghost Train Journal



Photo Credit: Turner Railroad Collection/Connecticut Historical Society

Great Attendance at Annual Banquet



This photo taken at Georgina's of Bolton shows the great attendance at this year's banquet. The program was excellent as was the food and drink. (RA LaMay Photo)

Philip Johnson Gives Historical Presentation



Philip Johnson author of book entitled 'The Hampden Railroad – The Greatest Railroad that Never Ran', gave an excellent and well illustrated slide show and talk at this year's annual banquet. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)

Connecticut Eastern Chapter, NRHS, Inc.
Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum
PO Box 665
Willimantic, CT 06226

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

03/15/2015 – Monthly Membership Meeting – Windham Hospital
04/05/2015 – Monthly Business Meeting – 7PM – Windham Hospital
04/15/2015 – Monthly Membership Meeting – Windham Hospital
05/02/2015 – Metal Fest 2015 – Museum Opens for 2015 Season
05/03/2015 - Monthly Business Meeting – 7PM – Windham Hospital

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Monthly Membership Meetings
3rd Sunday each month.

Sunday, April 15, 2015 @ 7:00 PM
Windham Hospital
Please note! If you have photos, short articles, or just want to make a comment – please forward them to:
Robert A. LaMay - Editor
@cermf19@comcast.net

The Hampden Railroad
The Greatest Railroad that Never Ran

Philip E Johnson



The Hampden Railroad The Greatest Railroad that Never Ran

Philip Johnson, this year’s speaker at the annual banquet, gave an excellent and detailed accounting of the above mentioned railroad. Philip Johnson had always had a love for railroads and while out hiking came across an old railroad bridge hidden in the woods. This sighting led him on a new path of gathering history about a railroad that spent millions and completed 14 miles of track. However, a train never operated over its track. Philip spent the next number of years co-coordinating his facts and decided to author a book about this

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Winter 2015

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fascinating railroad. His slide show was well narrated and gave many excellent illustrations. When you get a chance, purchase a copy of his very interesting historical accounting of The Hampden Railroad.

Golden Spike Recipient



This year’s recipient of the Golden Spike award was your newsletter editor and photographer Robert A. LaMay. Sincere thanks for this cherished award and I appreciate it very much. Now... on with the news...

Snow & More Snow!!
Robert A. LaMay - Editor
Getting to the museum has been a real challenge so far in 2015. Seems like whenever

we need to get there a blizzard shows up. While the Town has done an excellent job in moving snow the other issue has been the temp. With wind chills well below zero it seems the human body doesn’t work too well when in a sub zero climate. Anyway here are some recent photos of the snow and hope you enjoy looking at them from inside your warm house.



With Cliff Lund’s help the Town helped plow our road as shown by Cliff’s photos. (Cliff Lund Photo)



Another great photo by Cliff shows the various pieces of equipment used to plow our road. (Cliff Lund Photo)



Here is a photo of our FL9 covered in a blanket of snow. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)



Photo Credit: Turner Railroad Collection/Connecticut Historical Society



When it is too cold to work outside, we gather around the old stove and discuss things we can work on when it is much more comfortable outside. This is exactly what Bill and Rolf are doing. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)



This photo was taken from the other end inside the Rutland caboose looking toward the cupola end. Notice the desk on left and lined wall around stove on right. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)



Nothing at the museum is moving this day as I look through the fence. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)



Dick Arnold instructs while Bill Voorvaart measures where the brackets should go. Art Hall, Jr. is holding the litter to be sure everything lines up. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)

Endowment Fund Activity 2014

Cliff Lund

The Endowment Fund started January 1, 2014 with a beginning balance of \$32,021.98. During the calendar year 2014 we received \$1,560 in donations. Dividends declared totaled \$744.65. Long Term and Short Term

Capital gains came in at \$696.20. All dividends and capital gains are automatically reinvested. This resulted in our shares increasing from \$1,340.393 to \$1,460.149. This share price increased from \$23.89 to \$24.62 during 2014 due to increased value of fund holdings.

At year end on December 31, 2014 the Endowment Fund had grown to \$35,948.87. We came very close to a \$4,000 gain by the end of last year which is very positive. Please note future results are not guaranteed in the market.

The Endowment Committee comprises of Adrian Atkins, Howard Raphaelson, and me and we met twice during 2014 to monitor results and explore ideas for generating more donations.

If you know or meet people who are interested in making donations to our endowment fund as a memorial to someone, towards a long term project in our museum or from an estate please encourage them to make a tax deductible gift to our 501c(3) non-profit organization.

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2015 Season Opens 05/02/2015

While we are thinking about where to put all this snow please remember opening day is about two plus months away.

Two big events are planned so far this year with others in the works. Please keep an eye on our Face Book page for all the updated photos and announcements. No, you don't need to a member to see Facebook – just Google 'Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum' and it will direct you to the right place. Keep checking for photo updates and other info.

Also please remember our museum is only as good as its members. If you have any special skills you'd like to share please contact us. The more help we get the smoother our events will go. So, when you want to be a part of railroad history in any capacity, stop by, check us out, and get on track to give us your expertise. – Editor

Items Needed

We are looking for items for both the Rutland Caboose #40 and the Central Vermont Caboose #4052. These items are needed so displays can be set up in each caboose that would depict what it looked like when it was operating for its owner railroads during its heyday.

- 1 Pair Kerosene Marker Lights
- Kerosene wall mounted bracket and desk lamp
- Kerosene wall lamps
- Spittoon
- Desk chair
- First Aid Kit
- Bracket for Litter
- Litter
- Fusees
- Kerosene Brakeman Lamps
- Kerosene Storage Can
- Journal Oil Storage Can
- Spare Coupler Knuckle
- Toilet
- Stove Pipe Fitting
- Conductors Desk Chair
- Coal Hod & Shovel
- Tools
- Cast Iron tea Pot
- Winter 2015

- Train Paper Work
- 1930 Era Calendar with Art Work
- Rutland and Central Vermont Route Map
- Vintage Fire Ext.
- Vintage Thermometer

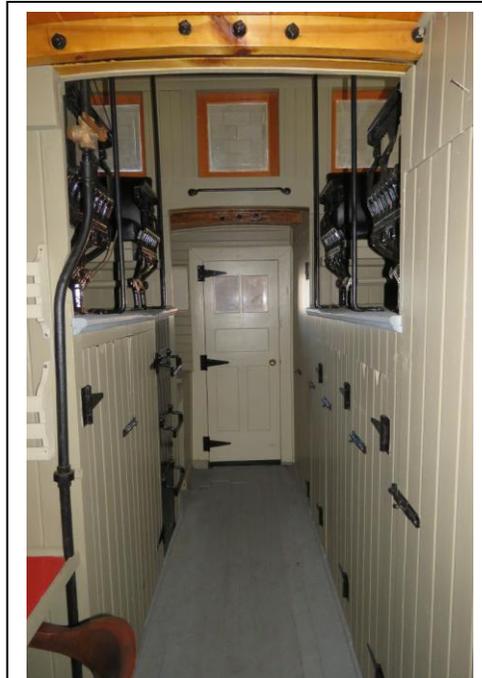
- Metal Water Bucket
- Vintage Lunch Box
- Conductor's Satchel

If you come across any of these items or know where they can be found please contact Richard Arnold at bdickarnold@aol.com

Opening Day – May 2, 2015

This is it – we are just over 2 months away from opening day. We will everyone to help us to another successful opening day. This starts our 2015 season – let's try to make it better than last year. Food and drink available for purchase, a music venue is being planned as I write this. The blacksmiths will be coming to show us and demonstrate what they can make and do. The Rutland Caboose #40 will be open so all can see what railroading was like when the caboose was the command post on every long haul and way freight that travelled the rails all over the US. Come and see the great progress on the CV #4052 caboose, it is nearing completion. Trains will once again be making tracks to Bridge St. and back. So come on down and volunteer some time, come share your special skills with us, no matter the level. The museum is only as good as its members. Please come on down, be a part of railroad history. We'd love to see you.

Save this date – Sat. - September 5, 2015
Watch for more details as this date draws near. This was very successful last year – this year it will be even better.



This photo shows the interior of the Rutland #40 caboose looking back towards the cupola area. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)



Acela Train 2150 approaches the Niantic River Drawbridge (Known as NAN) during a light snowfall. Note the pantograph on the lead locomotive is in the down position. Not uncommon when operating under snowy conditions. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)