



Photo Credit: Turner Railroad Collection/Connecticut Historical Society

East Windsor Tornado Benefits CERM



Seven members of the museum help gather materials left behind from the tornado that hit Sports World Bubble Building in East Windsor, CT. Very large tarps can be made from this excellent protective material. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)

Taking NAN Track Panels Apart



Steve Melady (L) and Gerald Roy are taking apart the track panels received from the Niantic River Railroad Bridge Replacement project. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)

Connecticut Eastern Chapter, NRHS, Inc.
Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum
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MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

07/21/2013 – Monthly General Membership Meeting Windham Hospital 7:00PM
08/04/2013 – Monthly Business Meeting – Windham Memorial Hospital – 7:00PM
08/18/2013 – Monthly General Membership Meeting – Windham Memorial Hospital – 7:00PM
08/31/2013 – Railroad Day at the Museum – Watch for Details
09/15/2013 – Combined Business & general Membership Meeting – 7:00PM



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Monthly Membership meeting of the Connecticut Eastern Chapter, National Railway Historical Society is scheduled

Sunday, August 18, 2013 @ 7:00 PM

Windham Memorial Hospital – Please join us at this meeting. 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

Roundhouse Electrical Work Adrian Atkins

A lot of work by many of our volunteers throughout this past winter has paid off. Finally, the roundhouse electrical distribution system has been completed. The big kick-off was the original donation of six main electrical panel boxes which Bill Nickerson had received as a donation from his employer. An elevated platform was constructed in the northeast corner of the roundhouse which would hold the electrical transformer. Once these items were completed, many trenches were dug in the dirt floor so our electrical contractor could lay the conduit and pull the wires through.

With this project now complete, there are new electrical outlets under all of the windows and on each column. Additional 220V/50 Amp outlets were placed
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near each of the 2 front corners to provide power for the recently installed electric welders. We also installed continuous electric duct work along the rear and west walls of the roundhouse. This would give us the flexibility to install any voltage wiring for future machinery installations with a minimal amount of work.

Now we can safely operate electrical tools anywhere in the roundhouse with minimal power loss and at the same time have reduced tripping hazards associated with trying to navigate the spaghetti-like tangle of electrical cords. With this step completed, the next step calls for a smooth concrete floor to be installed inside the roundhouse.

Thanks to everyone who contributed by digging, moving items around, throwing other items not needed away, and working very hard to co-ordinate jobs with the electrical contractor so things could be completed in a timely fashion.



The photo at the bottom of the previous column shows Adrian Atkins putting the finishing touches on one of the many electrical control panels inside the roundhouse.

(Robert A. LaMay Photo)

Niantic River Railroad Bridge De-Commissioning Completed Adrian Atkins

The Museum has received from the Niantic River Railroad bridge contractor numerous track panels which were delivered directly to the museum. This was only some of the materials that had been received. These track panels were 10-15 feet in length and were delivered as they were removed from the original railroad bridge. These panels included bridge ties, 140 lb running rails, 107 lb guard rails, and 5/8" x 3' tie spacing straps running along both ends of the ties. All materials were spiked, lagged, and or bolted together. Everything was very heavy – the bridge ties ranged from 10"x10" to 10"x14" in size and 10' in length and weighed about 700 lbs each. The pile also included (4) 140 lb rail expansion joint pieces weighing about a ton each.

The track panels were originally piled along our driveway just prior to the parking lot. Through the spring many of

our volunteers assisted in the dismantling work, but the bulk of the hard labor was carried out by Gerald Roy and Steve Melady. Now all that remains along the driveway are piles of bridge ties. All of the remaining materials have been sorted and stacked inside the museum grounds. Some of these materials can be immediately used, while others can be utilized for future projects at a later date and other materials have no use at all. Presently we are negotiating sales, trades, or whatever works to the museum's advantage to get rid of these excess materials.



Gerald Roy handles the air powered spike remover as he removes both rail and spikes from the Niantic River Railroad Bridge track panels. (R.A.

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Fence Line Trimming Project Adrian Atkins

At the beginning of the summer of 2012 much time was spent clearing brush along the fence-line which looked like a jungle at the western end of the museum. Since then it has been pretty much a one man show and a great one at that! Jean-Paul Violette of Colchester, CT. has taken on the jungle. He cleared a 3' to 6' path along both sides of the fence. This included cutting and pulling thick vines off the fence, chain sawing larger trees, and spraying.

The work was completed and looked great. This is one of those behind the scenes jobs that need to be done all of the time. The spring of 2013 once again Jean-Paul is re-spraying and is expanding his territory. He is currently working along the fence line behind the roundhouse and is moving towards the bridge over the Willimantic River. Frequently on Tuesdays Jean-Paul is quietly, unobtrusively, and unnoticed, hacking his way along the fence-line. If anyone would like to join him I am sure he wouldn't object. Fantastic Job Jean-Paul!

**Don't Forget
Railroad Day!!
August 31, 2013
Please Volunteer – We Need
Your Help!**



Shown here Jean-Paul Violette is show spraying along the fence-line. Notice the wide path on both sides of the fence. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)



Carolyn Stanich paints wooden pieces which will add to the new door frame of Pit 6. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)



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Railroad Day – August 31, 2013 Robert A. LaMay

Date! Saturday August 31, 2013 the museum will be hosting its 2nd Annual Railroad Day. While all of the details have not been finalized, there is much being planned. From 11:00AM to 4:00PM there will be a lot going on and we will need as many volunteers as we can get. Please let us know what you would like to do. Docents, Parking Lot attendants, security, grounds keeping, train Ride Ticket Sales, Museum Sales Items, no job too small, please bring your talent no matter what.. Train rides, pump car rides, Gallows Signal and Turntable Demos, Museum tours throughout the day, Live music are being planned as is the food and beverage venue. So, again please save this date and come spend the day or a few hours with us. More details Next Ghost Train Journal.

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This view from inside the FL9 shows Rolf Johnson working on the pre-luber which will be used for starting locomotives that have been idle for some time. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)



Steve Melady (L) along with Adrian Atkins discuss the next steps in the recovery process of materials from the tornado damaged facility at the East Windsor, CT. (Robert A. LaMay Photo)



Members lifting Frame to Pit 2 – Jean Lambert Photo



Here a couple happy museum members – Art Hall, Jr. on left and Rolf Johnson on the right. Robert Hassett Photo