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Remember When?

Sometime during the mid 1950's this photo was taken. It shows a New Haven Railroad DL109 #0700 leading an excursion train across Bridge St. Note the gate shanty just left of the train and the famous 'gallows' signal setup. Photo R. A. LaMay Collection



Heritage Metal Fest

Come see numerous artisans and smiths demonstrate their skills on Sat. May 6, 2006 at our museum starting at 9AM. More details are available on our website or call 860-456-9999 (T. Nanos Photo)



Spring = Trackwork

Yes its spring and Andrew Fischer works on the #8 switch. This is one of the museums main projects this year. (R.A. LaMay Photo)

From the Secretary's Desk

By Bill Robinson

The March Membership meeting was called to order at 7:05PM. After the minutes of the previous month's meeting were accepted, the Treasurer gave a

report that showed income for the month was \$ 4,802.27 and expenses amounted to \$ 1,161.69. The membership committee presented two names for membership. They were John A. Stearns and Richard H. Jackson, both of which were voted in. Welcome Aboard!!

The entertainment portion of the meeting followed. All present were shown a fascinating slide show by member Bob LaMay. His show covered Turbo Trains from the UTC to the RTL. And the life of the SPV was covered. It is nice to see fine entertainment at every membership meeting.

Mark reminded everyone that the Spring Train Show will be held Sunday April 23, 2006 from 9AM to 3PM at the Windham High School. We need members help not only on Sunday, but Friday night the 21st to help set up at 5:00PM.

Rich Cizik reported that we have acquired numerous switch pieces from ATK in New Haven which will allow track work to

proceed. The Executive Committee approved the allocation of funds to purchase a fuel gauge for the 44 tonner.

Restoration of the CV 4052 caboose is about to begin in earnest. We are looking for a person to lead this project. Anyone interested please contact Mark Granville. The caboose

will be moved into stall no. 1 of the roundhouse. It will be rolled outside when any metal work is to be completed.

A motion was made to accept the donation of several pieces of heavy equipment currently located in Essex, CT. The equipment includes such things as belt driven lathe and milling machine. The motion was passed. It was also noted that we need 107 lb tie plates and Mark Granville will be making the necessary contact to see if any are available. Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM.

Ghost Train Journal

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Calendar of Events

Apr 2nd – Business meeting 7PM
Apr 23rd – **No Meeting due to Train Show – Next scheduled membership meeting will be Sunday May 21, 2006**
Apr 23rd – Spring Train Show - Opens 10AM
May 6th – Heritage Metal Fest and museum opens its 2006 season – 9AM
May 13th – Mystic Valley Railway Soc. Visits us
May 21st – Willimantic River Fest

Chapter Leadership

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The next scheduled meeting of the Connecticut Eastern Chapter, National Railway Historical Society will be at Windham Community Memorial Hospital, 112 Mansfield Ave., Willimantic, CT on **Sunday, May 21st @ 7:00 PM.**

Please note: The monthly business meeting will be held on May 7th at the same location. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend!

April 2006

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



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Progress can be seen at the P&W's Rte 97 crossing in Baltic, CT. Note the road plate was installed, the control box, the cross bucks, and the signals on one of the poles. 3/25/06 (R.A. LaMay Photo)



Don't forget our 3rd Annual Night Photo Shoot will take place on June 10, 2006. New things will take place – stay tuned for more information in future issues of Ghost Train Journal. Also please watch for more info on our website. (R.A. LaMay Photo)

RIVER FEST 2006

By Robert A. LaMay

The Windham Region Chamber of Commerce will be holding its 3rd annual River Fest event Sunday May 21, 2006 at the railroad museum located off Bridge St. (Rte 32). This year's event will be for the entire family to enjoy and participate. Activities such as riding down the Willimantic River in a kayak, tube, or canoe, joining the Willimantic Bridge Road Race, cycling from Bolton, CT to Willimantic or riding their horses on the Windham Trails.

The River fest events will be from 9:30AM – 4:30PM with most events starting and ending at the railroad museum. The festival party will be going on from 12 Noon to 4:00PM and will host a variety of live music. Also there will be vendors, arts and crafts and environmental interactive educational activities for all ages.



Work will soon commence on the restoration of the CV center cupola caboose #4052. The caboose will be moved into one of the completed tracks inside the roundhouse. Rail will extend outside so when the caboose needs metal-work the caboose can be rolled outside. This photo was taken prior to its move to Willimantic and also before it was damaged by fire. (R.A. LaMay Collection)

THE GALLOWS



Here is a view of the famed 'Gallows' signal set up at Bridge St. Photo taken between 1950 – 1955. (Photo taken by the late Charles Palmer)



A sure sign of spring. Track work is once again under full swing. Shown here Mark Granville and Art Hall, Jr. work on the #8 switch that will eventually bring rail to the Columbia Junction Roundhouse and Turntable Bridge. (Photo by R. A. LaMay)



The museum's ex Penn Central boom truck helps members move rail while working on the #8 switch. (Photo by R. A. LaMay)

A reminder that the Mystic Valley Railway Soc. of Mass. Will be visiting our museum with about 55 people and members will be needed to help with giving tours of the museum on Sat. May 13, 2006 .

April 2006



Members perform maintenance on the museum's Gradall. (R.A. LaMay Photo)



Duke York and Andrew Fischer do maintenance work on the 16' wooden roundhouse doors. (Photo by R.A. LaMay)

Note!! Entertainment for the May 21st membership meeting will be a slide show entitled 'Remember When', a series of slides taken from the early 1950's. All scenes will be eastern Connecticut. The show will be presented by Bob LaMay.