

The Ghost Train Journal



Photo Credit: Turner Railroad Collection/Connecticut Historical Society



Stacy Geer, Traci Klett, and Jennifer Sorano, students from Eastern Connecticut State University spent some time at our museum. Shown here they are applying a coat to our MU Car Gift Shop. Please see story inside. (R.A. LaMay Photo)



Opening Day at the museum! Numerous blacksmiths attended our Opening Day Metal Fest. Magic tricks, excellent roving musicians, a pewter smith, , and the Windham Textile Museum were in attendance. Many patrons attended opening day activities. More photos inside. (R.A. LaMay Photo)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- 5/20/07 - Willimantic Riverfest in museum parking lot - 11:00AM
- 5/20/07 - Monthly Membership Meeting - Windham Memorial Hospital - 7:00PM
- Entertainment - P&W Railroad in Eastern Conn - Slide Show by Bob LaMay
- 6/3/07 - Combined Business and membership meeting - Windham Memorial Hospital - 7:00PM
- 6/9/07 - Night Photo Shoot - Watch GTJ and Website for more details
- 6/17/07 - Fathers Day - NO Meeting
- 11/4/07 - Fall Train Show - Windham High School - 10:00AM - 3:00PM

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

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A Word of Thanks

By Robert A. LaMay

The past two months have been very exciting and pretty scary at times. I had to spend two weeks at St. Francis in Hartford. First off all I did not have a heart attack – just some very scary moments that took place on 3/9/07. The end result of my long stay was to have open heart surgery with a triple by-pass. Now I am going to cardiac rehab 3 times per week for a total of twelve weeks. I just started driving again after six weeks and it's great! I want to thank everyone involved in getting out the last issue of the GTJ. It was one thing I didn't need to concern myself with. Again "THANK YOU VERY MUCH" for taking over and helping me out.

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Auto Racks to Arrive Soon!



With tracks and ties on left, numerous pieces of equipment are lowering the track grade that passes beneath Rte 66 to allow auto rack trains to pass just outside the museum fences. – R.A. LaMay

4th Annual Night Photo Shoot

It's that time again folks, time to grab your flashlights, cameras, and tripods. We are going to some serious night shooting of trains. The Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum will be presenting its 4th Annual Night Photo Shoot. Details of the event include:

- Saturday June 9, 2007
- From 8:00PM to about Midnight
- \$20.00 donation per person – all donations go to the museum for many on-going projects. Of course any additional donation is most welcome.
- Flash lighting will be provided by Mark Player for the 4th year. Also Steve berry, Editor of Railfan & Railroad will be here to assist with his expertise. (More complex scenes will be attempted hence the more lighting we'll need.)
- As in the past we'll try to use most of the equipment, buildings, and rolling stock in the photos. Also some of the museum members will act as props in the photos throughout the evening.

We hope to have some new photos possibly using some of our new trackage as well as the turntable and roundhouse. Please contact Tom Nanos at hondo9969@yahoo.com to reserve your spot, as spots will again be limited.

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The next scheduled meeting of the Connecticut Eastern Chapter, National Railway Historical Society will be at the Windham Community Memorial Hospital located at 112 Mansfield Ave., Willimantic, CT on

Sunday, May 20, 2007 @ 7:00 PM

Please note – The entertainment will be a DVD slideshow entitled – **P&W Trains in Eastern Conn.** – By **Robert A. LaMay**

Chapter Leadership

President	Mark Granville mfgranville@charter.net 860-456-3956
Vice President	Duke York 860-423-1878
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National Director	Ray Axelrod 860-228-3197
Newsletter Editor	– Robert A. LaMay Cermf19@comcast.net 860-228-9671

Around The Museum



A Safety Class was held on 4/21/07. Many items were discussed and another class is planned. (R. A. LaMay Photo)



Dick Arnold takes the Columbia Jct. turntable for a spin. (R. A. LaMay Photo)



Bill Voorvaart applies primer to the MEC Rail bus seat frame. (R.A. LaMay Photo)



Andrew Fischer practices his Green Thumb technique while planting new shrubs. (R.A. LaMay Photo)



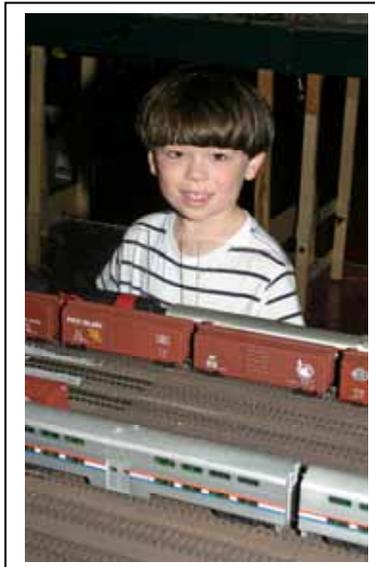
The above photo shows our Sibley Drilling Machine – Self Feeding 2 inch capacity. However, we need some help – if anyone reading this is an electrician or knows someone who is please stop by the museum on weekends. (R.A. LaMay Photo)

Circus Train information

Currently there are a couple circus trains moving around Southern New England with visits to Boston, Worcester, Providence, and Hartford. This next item I received in an e-mail talking about special instructions and restrictions regarding Circus trains. The following special instructions and restrictions apply to any circus train operating in the area;

- 1 – The elephant car will have to be spotted at the Baggage Room of any station stopped to have their trunks checked.
- 2 – The car with the camels will be taken to the hump yard.
- 3 – The car with the giraffe will be restricted from passing under any low overpasses.
- 4 – The road power when leading the train must do so – elephant style.
- 5- Please beware of the reptile car as squeeze plays usually take place and these can put the bite on you.
- 6 – All employees must observe the above rules and No Clowning around of any kind will be tolerated.

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Connecticut Eastern just held its Spring Train Show on 4/22/07. Attendance was brisk with many patrons attending.

While walking around I was able to take the above photo. Thomas Rodrigues was watching the many trains move around on the Mohegan Pequot Model Railroad Club layout. He was there with his parents, Jeffrey and Paula. They drove down from Fall River, MA. To attend our show. Thank You for stopping by.

Eastern Connecticut State University Assists Museum

By Robert A. LaMay

On Saturday April 28, 2007 approximately 12 students came to volunteer their services. As part of going to college at ECSU each student must volunteer eight hours to community service. In return for their service to the community they received a dark blue t-shirt with a logo on the front and on the back in bright letters were – S.E.R.V.E. '07. One group painted the MU Car Gift Shop, while others picked up trash and debris. We thank everyone who participated in this year's program. Please stop back and see railroad history come alive.



Dennis Chambers and John Loffredo added their touch to the MU Car Gift Shop. (R.A. LaMay Photo)

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May 5th, opening day brought many patrons to the museum. The photo above shows some of them obtaining their tickets and museum guide. Please if you want to see all the progress that took place over the fall and winter months – please stop by and see us. (R.A. LaMay Photo).



The above photo shows another blacksmith working his forge during the museum's opening day Metal Fest. (R.A. LaMay Photo)



Throughout the day the roving musicians walked all over the museum grounds performing their splendid railroad theme music for all to enjoy. (R.A. LaMay Photo)



Rich Cizik works on his forge in front of the museum's blacksmith shop. The blacksmith shop will eventually become an integral part of the museum's operations. (R.A. LaMay Photo).



While walking around the museum I noticed this sign posted inside the section house. It was signed by 'A Philosopher'. It should become the museum's motto. (R.A. LaMay Photo)

If anyone has photos or articles they would like to appear in future issues of GTJ – please by all means contact me. – The Editor.