

The Railyard Dispatch

Volume 15, Issue 4

The Newsletter of the Danbury Railway Museum

June 2016

DRM Wins Award for *Tonawanda Valley* Restoration

The Connecticut League of History Organizations has awarded the Danbury Railway Museum an Honorable Mention award for the restoration of the 1928 observation/lounge/sleeping Pullman car "*Tonawanda Valley*". This car saw service on the New York Central's crack streamliner *20th Century Limited*, and is the last "Valley" car in existence. Secretary Steve Gould filed the application with the CLHO in December that nominated the car for an Award of Merit; the Museum received an Award of Merit several years ago for the Railway Post Office restoration.

In the notification letter from CLHO Awards Committee Chairperson, Stephen Bartkus, it said: "This project was a large undertaking for an all-volunteer group and the committee was impressed with your organization's initiative in raising the needed funds to complete the restoration, and its inclusion in the exhibit at Grand Central Station (sic.). The committee looks forward to receiving nominations from you in the future for Connecticut history projects such as the restoration of cars that operated in Connecticut."

Congratulations are in order for Project Chairman Art Slothower who took over the restoration after the passing of late Bill Britt. Bill told the CLHO when he received the Award of Merit for the RPO that "we'll be back" with the *Tonawanda Valley*. On June 6th, when the award will be presented to the DRM at the CLHO Annual Conference, we will be fulfilling Bill's promise.

New Exhibit at the DRM

By Vice President Stan Madyda

A new exhibit of railroad and industry stock certificates opened in January. Long before online trading, when investors bought stock in a company, they received an actual piece of paper. Many of the certificates were printed by American Banknote Company and used intaglio printing methods. With fancy borders and images of the railroad, these certificates are very collectible. The exhibit will be up for the next several months and is on loan from Michael C. Allen. *Photo on page 4 shows one of the stocks on display.*

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CLHO Visits the DRM

By Vice President Stan Madyda; Photos courtesy of President Wade Roes

On Tuesday February 9th, the Museum hosted the Connecticut League of History Organizations Collections Colleague Circle. The topic for the two hour seminar was Quick Tips for Collections Care and Management. The CLHO has a number of these seminars throughout the state during the year. While the aftermath of a snow storm on Monday prevented everyone who signed up from attending, we still had more than a dozen attendees. For many of the attendees, this was their first visit to the DRM.



Above Photos: Members of the CLHO Collections Colleague Circle at the DRM listening to a lecture.

Upcoming Events at the DRM

June 11th - Steel & Wheels Car Show

See ad on opposite page for information.

June 19th - Father's Day

Fathers ride **free** with child's paid admission.

Special **caboose train** operating!

June 26th - Teacher's Day

Teachers ride **free** with paid admission.

July 4th - Museum Open 12-4.

July 16th - Owney, the Railway Post Office Dog Day

Office Dog Day

History, stories and children's activities to honor Owney, the famous Railway Post Office dog.

Adopt a pet day too!

August 6th - 7th Danbury Railway Days

Special celebration with special activities!

Guided tours of the *Tonawanda Valley* observation car, which is currently undergoing restoration, Budd rail diesel car, #1455 steam engine, FL-9 diesel locomotive, Railway Post Office car and the NYC & HRR wooden caboose will be available. Other things going on will be an operating forge, open equipment exhibits, operating model train layouts and children's activities. In addition, the Library will be having a used book sale.

Museum Receives Grant

By Secretary Steve Gould

The Danbury Railway Museum received a \$1,000 grant from the Savings Bank of Danbury to cover the digitizing of some of the Museum Library's vast collection of slides, prints and videos. President Wade Roese and Vice President Stan Madyda accepted the grant on behalf of the Museum at a special presentation by the Bank in New Milford, CT on January 27th.



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Stan Madyda & Wade Roese with Savings Bank of Danbury's Martin Morgado EVP, COO.

Boy Scouts Visit DRM for Railroading Merit Badge Program

By Secretary Steve Gould; Photos courtesy of President Wade Roese

On April 16, 2016, 16 Boy Scouts and 7 adult leaders from the White Plains, NY area visited the Museum to work on the Railroading Merit Badge. Tom McCullough, who is a Merit Badge Counselor, and Steve Gould conducted the full day program which consisted of a ride on the Railyard Local, a ride on the turntable and a tour of the railyard and the open exhibits. It also included a short video of different types of trains and locomotives and a talk covering many of the requirements for the Merit Badge. The classroom for the talk was the RDC #32, a perfect venue for it. The group then toured the Station and checked out all the model train layouts and other interior displays. A visit to the Gift Shop concluded their visit.



Top Photo: Boy Scouts prepare to board the RYL.
Bottom Photo: Boy Scouts & adults listen to a talk before they board the historic turntable for a ride.

CAR SHOW

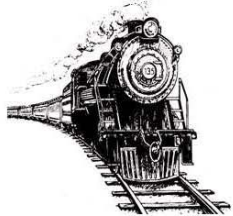
DANBURY RAILWAY MUSEUM

presents

STEEL & WHEELS

to benefit

The Appalachia Service Project of Danbury



June 11, 2016

(rain date, June 12)



RAFFLES!

FOOD!

9am - 3pm

FAMILY FUN!

120 White Street, Danbury, CT

GENERAL ADMISSION \$10 (age 3 & up, under 3, free)

Includes: admission to Museum, train rides, tour vintage railroad equipment, operating railroad forge, and car show.

www.danburyrail.org/info@danburyrail.org/203.778.8337

Additional parking @ Patriot Garage

Show Cars, \$10.

Goodie Bags and Dash Plaques for first 100 cars. Special Owners Award, People's Choice, Surprises! Registration starts at 8:30. Show cars only enter off Patriot Drive by Metro North Station. Call 203-778-8337 or email info@danburyrail.org for more information.



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MUSEUM CALENDAR

- June 1(7:30pm) Pacific Great Eastern - Carl Liba
- June 8(7:30pm) NH RR 1968 back - Part 1 -
Pete McLachlan
- June 15(7:30pm) To Be Announced
- June 16(7:00pm) Board Meeting - Open to Members
- June 22(7:30pm) To Be Announced
- June 29(7:30pm) To Be Announced
- July 4 Independence Day - **Open 12-4 with train rides.**
- July 6(7:30pm) To Be Announced
- July 13(7:30pm) To Be Announced
- July 20(7:30pm) Northwest Railroads - Bob Kesler
- July 21(7:00pm) Board Meeting - Open to Members
- July 27(7:30pm) Cass Scenic RR -
Joshua & Jen Harkness

Summer Museum hours:

Mon-Fri 10-4; Sat 10-5; Sun 12-5

See the newsletter in color at: www.danburyrail.org



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