



Photographer Unknown

The Danbury Railway Museum's mission is to collect, preserve, restore and operate vintage railroad equipment as well as creating and managing a reference library in order to educate the public and its members about railroading in the Northeast while stimulating tourism in the State of Connecticut and the City of Danbury.

Officers

Ira Pollack-President  
Steve Gould-Secretary  
Patty Osmer-Treasurer

Directors

Wade Roese, Chairman  
Suze Blackman  
Dan Foley  
Geoff Knees  
Dave Lowry  
Andrew McClellan  
Peter McLachlan  
Randy Natale  
Michael Salata  
Susan Thomas

Change of Address

Please send change of

Address to:

Danbury Railway Museum, Inc.

Attn: Membership Chairman

P.O. Box 90

Danbury, CT 06813-0090

Or e-mail to:

drmmembers@aol.com

Phone: (203) 778-8337

Fax: (203) 778-1836

Danbury Railway Museum, Inc.

is a not for profit 501©(3) all

Volunteer organization.

www.danbury.org/drm

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## Ride the 2003 SANTA TRAINS

Three weekends this year: Saturdays & Sundays

December 6th & 7th, 13th & 14th, 20th & 21st.

12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day.

Ride the train with Mr. Frosty

Visit with Santa & Mrs. Clause and the Elves. A small gift will be given to children from Santa.

And don't forget, our gift shop is filled with stocking stuffers.

\$6.00 ages 3 and up. \$1.00 discount for members.

Train runs every half hour from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.

For more information call 203-778-8337 or e-mail to danburymuseum@sbcglobal.net.

Remember, volunteers will be needed. This is a "fun" volunteer. Be an elf or assist Mrs. Clause. Snap photos of children with Santa.



Dear Readers:

I would like to thank Ira Pollack, Stan Madya, Patty Osmer, Susan Thomas, Jeremy Rice, James Gagiardi, and Skip Kern for their contributions to this issue.

Debbie Kern  
Editor

Newsletter Message to Members

From Ira Pollack, President

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Dear Membership:

With much regret and sorrow, I must report to you on two significant resignations at our Museum. We have been an organization of volunteers from our beginning back in 1994 and have all worked for the success of our Museum. Our volunteer efforts have been in varying roles, levels, and capacities, and they have brought our organization to new levels of growth. Through this time period of almost ten years, we have naturally had our disagreements, personality conflicts, and differences of opinion, but all of these hopefully were for the betterment of the organization.

We have always been or have become passionate in our need for success but at times didn't see the bigger picture or wouldn't hear what the next person had to say or what they could offer. We are all guilty of this and now we will all suffer as a result of this attitude of non-communication and lack of respect for experience. Before the rumors abound, as President I must inform you of Ron Freitag's resignation as Vice-President and Dan Gallo as Director of Advertising.

These people were key players in our advancement and will be sorely missed by me and obviously their influences will be missed throughout our organization. In time, maybe, yes, these wounds will heal, our organization will move forward with new people, but to me I've lost two good friends or I should really say, the Museum has lost two good friends.

I wish them all well and naturally wish that none of this had ever happened, that there had been more and better levels of communication between all parties concerned. I had also hoped that bygones could be bygones and that we could reach some amiable solutions to our immediate differences. I truly feel that we should look at the successes we had and the differences we made before these losses came upon us. Is such a loss really worth it? Does anybody feel good about the loss of these people? We should all be learning how to compromise and communicate, and to keep the goals of the Museum before us. We have allowed our personal missions and egos to cloud our actions as leaders of the Museum. Contrary to what some may say, these people were contributors to our growth. Good luck to them.



On Tuesday, September 9, 2003, Gerry Herrmann and I attended one of the receptions for the re-opening of the New York Transit Museum located in Brooklyn, New York. For the past two years the Transit Museum has been undergoing renovations which upgraded their facilities.

The New York Transit Museum is located in a not-in-use subway station. Their mission is "to collect, exhibit, interpret and preserve the history, sociology and technology of public transportation systems in the New York metropolitan region and to conduct research and educational programs that will make the Museum's extensive collection accessible and meaningful to the broadest possible audience." Since they are part of the MTA, this includes the railroads, past and present that serve New York City. According to their brochure, they have a 60,000 square foot facility and the collection includes over 6,000 objects and 250,000 archival materials.

The main floor of the Museum has exhibits dedicated to subways, trains, trolley and buses as well as a small movie theatre, gift shop and offices. The exhibits are extremely well done and fully explore the history of the New York transportation system. There is a new interactive exhibit showing how the MTA is using new technology to reduce pollution by buses. On the lower level, you will find the vintage subway cars that have been refurbished. An exhibit provides a timeline of mass transit in New York. The Museum has a collection of buses that are stored at the various bus depots. A day each year is dedicated to the buses and they are displayed outside of the Museum.

The reception that we attended included MTA officials, Museum employees, corporate sponsors, politicians and other invited guests. We had a chance to speak with Museum Director Gabrielle Shubert. She expressed her appreciation to the Danbury Railway Museum for the program we put on each year for one of the Transit Museum educational programs. She said they have received many favorable comments from their members on the DRM.

The New York Transit Museum is well worth visiting. You can see how once commuters left their trains from the suburbs, many of them continued their journey on New York's mass transit. Museum hours are Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. The best way to get there is Metro North to Grand Central Terminal and then the #4 Train to Borough Hall in Brooklyn. The Museum is located on the corner of Boerum Place and Schermerhorn Street. You can visit their website at [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info).

## BOOK SALE

The Reference and Research Library will hold a member's appreciation book sale on Wednesday, December 3, 2003 and Wednesday, December 10, 2003 starting at 7:00 p.m. All duplicate books and other material will be sold at half price.

If you cannot attend, we will send you a list of books. Just mail a stamped, self addressed envelope to DRM Library, P.O. Box 90, Danbury, CT 06813.

We expect the return of the former B&O #1960 RDC-2 (modified) this fall. The restoration of that car is just about finished. It does need, however, another through mechanical inspection before it can run that will be done at home. This car is unique in that there were only two ever built like it at Budd in 1956 for the two B&O 'Speedliner' RDC trains of three cars (two RDC-1's and one RDC-2 modified) each. The #1960 carries a baggage, coach, and dining section with a 17-foot kitchen aboard. It is my favorite and I suspect it will be a very interesting car to display even though I had to modify the exterior painting somewhat from the original B&O scheme.

Just a bit of news concerning the remaining 'Roger Williams' mid-car that was the former NHRR #162. Restoration work is progressing very nicely, and the interior should be fully painted this fall. Window glazing will hold things up a bit, but I suspect that will be done by the winter. All the seats have been refinished with the same material as the other two 'RW' cars, and will be installed when the entire interior is finished. Trucks and roof will be painted black (as per 'RW' cab cars) this fall.

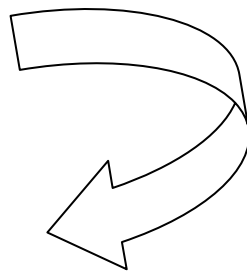
A new coupler will be installed to replace the broken one that occurred in the car's shipment from Baltimore, Maryland (MARC) several years ago.

The #162 still needs a through mechanical overhaul, which will take place next year when it comes home. We will then rebuild one engine on this car for heat, light, and power. We plan to replace the second engine with a new ac generator that will provide us with power for the new air-conditioning units on all three 'Roger Williams' cars in the future as well as the refrigerators on the Cab cars #140 and #141.

One last note, all of the Budd Foundation cars have been, or are being restored at the Plymouth and Lincoln (HOBO) Railroad in Lincoln, New Hampshire. We have been very please with their work so far and continue to have the utmost respect for Ben Clark and his group who run that facility. Almost all of the mechanical work which often goes unseen, but is essential, has been done here in Connecticut by a group of dedicated men that I hold in the highest regard with respect to there ability to restore this type of car.

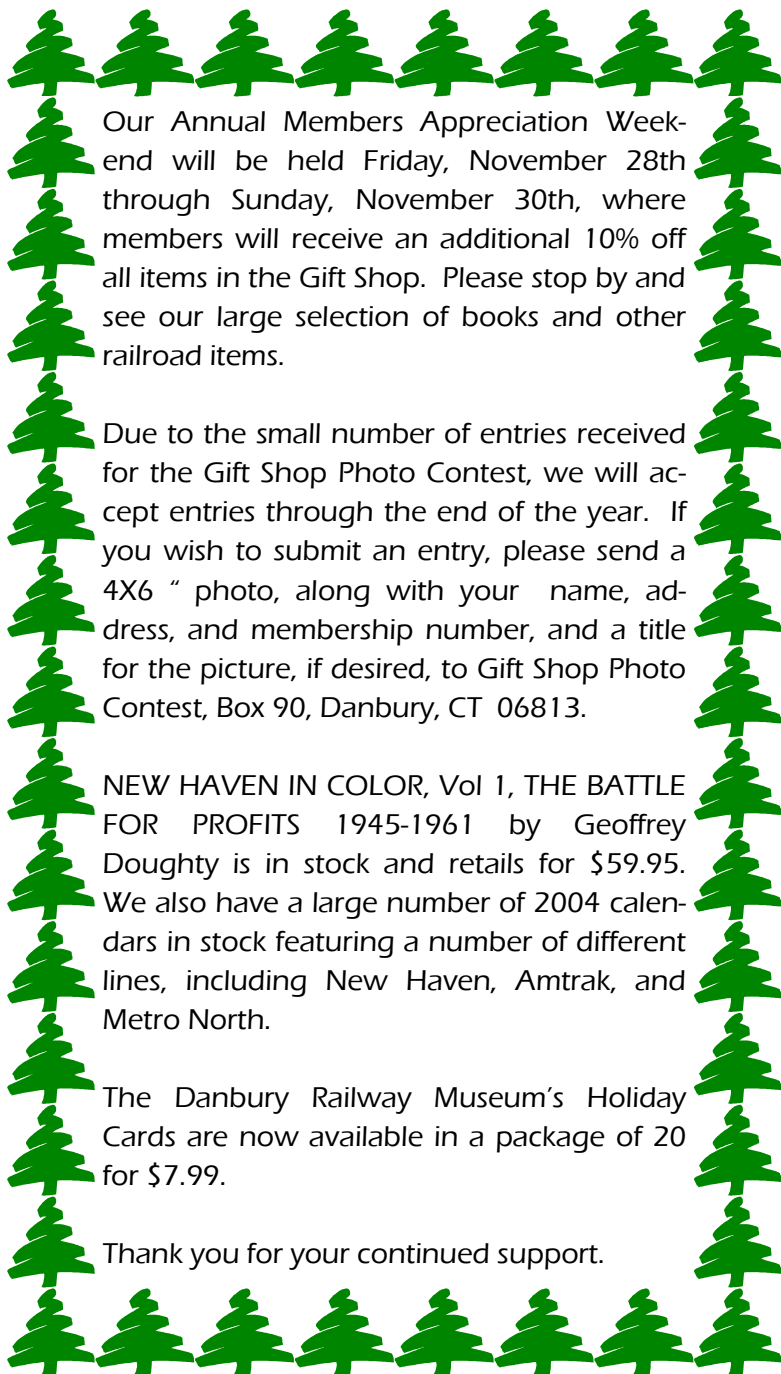
Thank you,

Jim Gagliardi  
Budd RDC Foundation, Inc.



What is it?

Anyone who would like to send in a "what is it" please send to [dkern@snet.net](mailto:dkern@snet.net) or drop off at the Station.



Our Annual Members Appreciation Week-end will be held Friday, November 28th through Sunday, November 30th, where members will receive an additional 10% off all items in the Gift Shop. Please stop by and see our large selection of books and other railroad items.

Due to the small number of entries received for the Gift Shop Photo Contest, we will accept entries through the end of the year. If you wish to submit an entry, please send a 4X6 " photo, along with your name, address, and membership number, and a title for the picture, if desired, to Gift Shop Photo Contest, Box 90, Danbury, CT 06813.

NEW HAVEN IN COLOR, Vol 1, THE BATTLE FOR PROFITS 1945-1961 by Geoffrey Doughty is in stock and retails for \$59.95. We also have a large number of 2004 calendars in stock featuring a number of different lines, including New Haven, Amtrak, and Metro North.

The Danbury Railway Museum's Holiday Cards are now available in a package of 20 for \$7.99.

Thank you for your continued support.

Jeremy Rice developed an interest for trains at an early age as he grew up just north of Baltimore, MD not far from the B&O Philadelphia Line, the PRR Northeast Corridor, and the ghosts of the Maryland & Pennsylvania (Ma & Pa) RR that was abandoned just 7 years before his birth. College and graduate school at the Johns Hopkins University sidelined railroad interests for many years, but upon completion, he started volunteering at the B&O Museum. Being able to operate and restore actual rail equipment was his main draw to museum work, but there was also a bitter-sweet element of being able to work on some of the artifacts from childhood memories of books and visits to the same museum. Upon moving to NY to join the IBM Research Division, Jeremy joined the DRM to continue to work to preserve rail equipment and heritage. He finds some comfort and diversion on working with 50 or 100 year old equipment that still does its intended job, much in contrast to modern technology that becomes obsolete and turns to junk in a year or so. Besides railroads, his hobbies include metal-work sculpture, playing Blues harmonica and Cajun accordion, and teaching Louisiana Cajun and Zydeco dances nationwide with his wife Laura.

WANTED.....

Cover photos for future editions of this newsletter. We need photos relating to The DRM or vintage photos of the old yard along with the photographer's name, if known, and a brief description of the subject. We will acknowledge who submitted the photo.



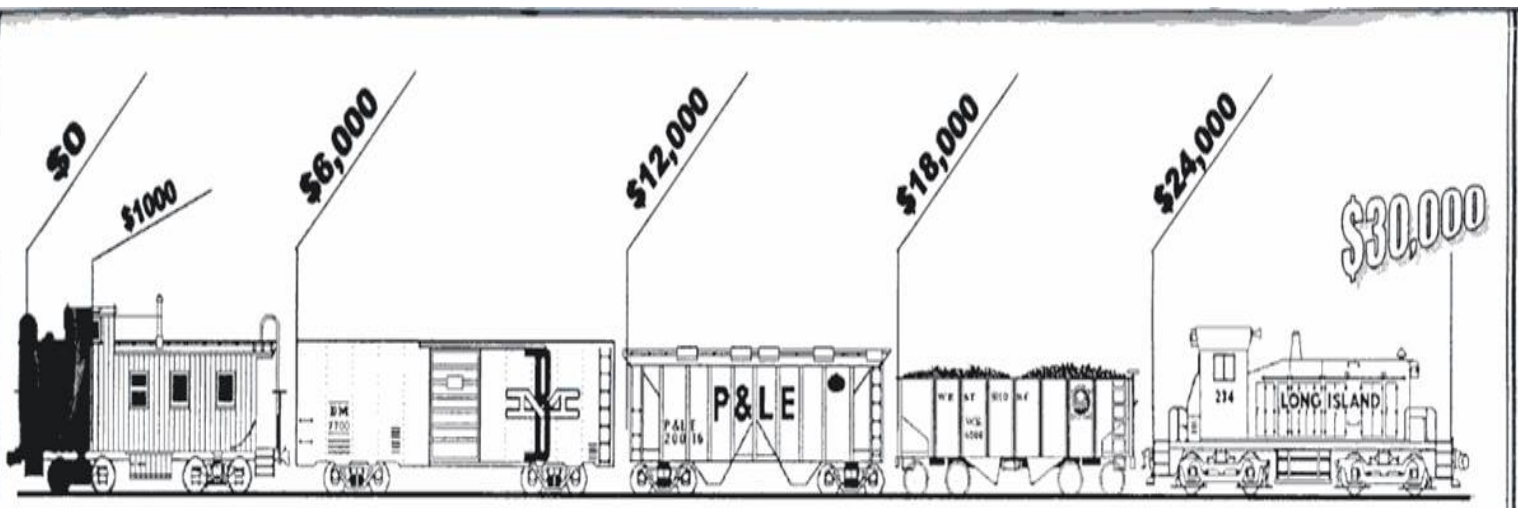
## NEW YEAR'S EVE

We are host to live musical entertainment provided by Danbury First Night, and have even had dancing in our halls on occasion! We encourage all our members to stop by and enjoy the wonderful bands (and our holiday decorations).

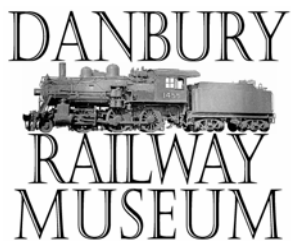
If you plan to stay for the midnight fireworks provided by the City of Danbury (seen easily from our station windows), and would like to join the "sandwich at midnight" group, please leave a message with your telephone number at the station (203-778-8338) to order your sandwich and soft drink, attn: Sue.

## Below is our progress to date For our Fundraising Campaign!

Any help you can offer can be sent to:  
Treasurer  
Danbury Railway Museum  
P.O. Box 90  
Danbury, CT 06813



Original railroad graphics provided by Ken Houghton Rail Images – Modifications and design by Charlie Albanetti



120 White Street  
Danbury, CT 06810

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## MUSEUM CALENDAR

*SANTA TRAINS*      3 Weekends    Dec. 6th & 7th, 13th & 14th, 20th & 21st.

EVERY SATURDAY: Railyard Local Train Ride

November 5	Steve Gould	CSX and #734
November 12	Dan Gallo, Jr.	Tourist Railroads of New York State
November 19	Dan Gallo	Cass Scenic
November 26	HAPPY THANKSGIVING	
December 3	Steve Mayerson	Scenery

Museum Hours: Tuesday thru Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Noon to 5:00 p.m.