

The Railyard Dispatch

Volume 16, Issue 6

The Newsletter of the Danbury Railway Museum November - December 2017

Elections 2018 – Resumes Due Official Notice: Now Accepting Nominations

The 2018 Nominating Committee is now accepting nominations and resumes for openings on the Danbury Railway Museum Board of Directors. **Four** Director positions are up for election. Each will serve a two year term. If you are interested in running for these positions, incumbents and new candidates alike, please prepare a resume that is **no longer than one-half of an 8½" x 11" sheet of paper**, and include the following information:

1. Name, address, phone number and e-mail address.
2. Your accomplishments for the DRM over the last two years. **No more than 150 words please.**
3. Your plans and goals for the DRM over your two-year term. Include a project or area where you would contribute your time. **No more than 150 words please.**

There are three ways to send your resume to the Nominating Committee:

1. Via e-mail to GouldSL@aol.com.
2. By regular mail to the DRM at PO Box 90, Danbury, CT 06813, Attention: Steve Gould.
3. By placing in Steve Gould's mail box in the Museum office.

All resumes must be received by 4 pm, January 14, 2018 in the format described above to be considered a candidate. THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS!

Serving on the Board of Directors is a serious commitment to the Museum and its vision and goals. Please consider running only if you feel you can commit the time and effort to move the Museum onward and upward. Regular attendance at Board meetings, which are currently held the third Thursday of each month at the Museum, is a requirement. Check the Museum by-laws, available for inspection at the Museum, for the requirements for running for the Director

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position.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Gould for help. Also, if you know of someone who has an interest in running for the Board, please let Steve know for follow up by the Nominating Committee. Thank you!

TripAdvisor 2017 Certificate of Excellence

This past year, the Danbury Railway Museum received its fifth TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence! Certificate of Excellence recipients include accommodations, eateries and attractions located all over the world that have continually delivered a quality customer experience.

The Certificate of Excellence accounts for the quality, quantity and recency of reviews submitted by travelers on TripAdvisor over a 12-month period. To qualify, a business must maintain an overall TripAdvisor bubble rating of at least four out of five, have a minimum number of reviews and must have been listed on TripAdvisor for at least 12 months.

TripAdvisor is the world's largest travel site, enabling travelers to plan and book the perfect trip. TripAdvisor offers advice from millions of travelers and a wide variety of travel choices and planning features. TripAdvisor branded sites make up the largest travel community in the world, reaching 340 million unique monthly visitors, and 350 million reviews and opinions covering 6.5 million accommodations, restaurants and attractions.

Help us make next year our sixth in a row!

New Members

We are delighted to welcome our new members this month. All members, as well as the general public, are welcome to attend the weekly meetings and free programs held Wednesdays, 7:30pm, at the Museum, 120 White Street, Danbury. We invite all members to become involved in Museum activities!

Carla Palmer	Ridgefield, CT
Melissa Kascak	Newtown, CT
Sharmaine Asenoo	Danbury, CT
Michael Cummings	Norwalk, CT
David Hawk	Redding, CT
Nirati H. Rana	Danbury, CT
Michael F. Roche	Purdys, NY
John Royce	Wilton, CT
Von der Wense	Fairfield, CT
Reida Nakamura	Montclair, NJ

Upcoming Events at the DRM

December 3rd, 9th & 10th, 16th & 17th -

All Aboard for the 2017 Santa Express!

Come see Santa! Ride a vintage train in our railyard and visit Santa in his Special Coach! Every child will receive a small gift from Santa.

Reservations are strongly recommended!

Reserve online at: www.danburyrailwaymuseum.org, or call 1-203-778-8337 during business hours.

Parking available at Patriot Garage.

The \$12 admission for visitors ages 2 and up (under 2 years free) includes train ride in our railyard to Santa's Special Coach, exhibits and displays in our 1903 Station, operating layouts, temporary tattoos, children's activities and hot chocolate!

Trains will be running every **half-hour 12:30pm - 3:00pm on Saturdays and 12:30pm - 3:30pm on Sundays**. There will be a **special evening train on Saturday nights, December 9th & 16th at 4:30 & 5pm!** Take an evening ride through our lighted railyard!

If you are a member and would like to help out, please contact Sue Teer at 1-203-778-8337.

Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show - January 27th & 28th, 2018

Come to the biggest railroad hobby show in the Northeast! As always, the show will be held at the Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds in West Springfield, MA, and the DRM will be there! Admission is **\$15 per ticket, per day for adults and free for children 15 years or younger** accompanied by a paying adult. A must see! For more information, go to: www.railroadhobbyshow.com.

Ten Years Ago

By Stan Madyda, President

2007 closed with the Danbury Railway Museum having a very successful year. We accomplished a lot both inside the Station and outside in the yard.

The Pumpkin Patch and Santa events were very successful. When the Santa trains were run in December, we were able to lengthen the ride by having more of our track in running condition. Also, our members enhanced the decorations making the experience the best we had offered to date.

In the yard, work on the RPO car had been completed. Bob Pitcher constructed stairs that allowed easy access to the car. Inside, finishing touches were made and signage put up. This was a long-time project that was completed by a dedicated crew of members along with many timely monetary donations.

Track work has always been a full-time project and 2007 was no different. With members working over 1,500 hours, we were able to complete work on the turntable lead switch as well as Tracks 34 and 42.

Our pump house crew was also busy readying the building for movement into the yard. They removed all of the interior components and moved them to the yard for storage. Once the building was in the yard, everything would be put back in and be open as an exhibit.

Another piece of equipment that saw some attention at the end of the year was Canadian National club car #660. This car had been in the Museum's collection since the plan for it to be used as part of a restaurant fell through. The Museum decided to turn it into the events car and work was being done on the interior to give it a more finished look.



Volunteers working on the interior of the CN events car #660. Photo courtesy of Carolyn Taylor

Words from Our President

Dear Members,

As we start the New Year, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members and volunteers who gave their time and expertise to make the past year a success. From the positive comments we receive from visitors, we can all be proud of the job we do.

Last newsletter, I brought members up-to-date on some of the happenings going on in the yard. A lot has been going on inside the Station. This past year, an Exhibits Committee was appointed by Board Chairman Don Konen. Its first task is to come up with a master plan of how to best utilize our available space. Our operating train layouts and play area are and always will be popular, especially with children. We have new display cases donated in 2016 by Cappiello Jewelers that can be put to use and also give us additional storage space. There are a number of various exhibits we can develop. The Committee will suggest their ideas to the Board which will make any final decisions.

Through monetary donations made in the memory of Jeff Scott, lumber was purchased over a year ago with the idea of re-doing our front desk area. The lumber was milled to match the wainscoting of our walls to give a more unified appearance. Jeff manned the front desk during his time as a member and always went out of his way to make visitors welcome.

The Gift Shop keeps getting new items in – books, clothing, collectibles and toys for children. There are also a number of used books and VHS tapes priced to sell. While it is not known as a model railroad shop, there is a selection of rolling stock, buildings and locomotives that have been donated by someone clearing out his collection.

The Archives/Library continues to grow with many donations coming in on a regular basis. We were a bit handcuffed when two large collections came in taking up a lot of space. But little-by-little the piles are going down with the help of our regular volunteers and some new ones. Look for a more complete article in the next issue of the newsletter.

On behalf of the Officers and the Board of Directors, have a Very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

President Stan Madyda

Pumpkin Patch Trains 2017

By Sue Teer; *Photos courtesy of Carolyn Taylor*

This past October we had a nice turnout for our Pumpkin Patch trains, which ran for six days. We had five days of good weather and the last was a bit rainy with few visitors, but all who came had a great time. This year there were power rangers, Supermen, Fairies and little witches all getting their pumpkins, cider and cookies. Inside were the children's play area and a long line at the tattoo center, which is always a hit with the little ones! The Gift Shop also did well and a table of china houses and buildings, large and small, has proven to be a big seller. Some are still left at bargain prices for shopping thru Christmas. There are also new puzzles, books and 2018 calendars ready for pickup.

This was a successful event and thanks go to our many

volunteers who gave their time to support these fun weekends at the Museum.



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Museum Announcements:

Note - Wednesday night meetings and programs are scheduled to start at 7:30pm.

Due to a lack of presenters on Wednesday nights, there will no longer be any listing of presentations in the newsletter. Please call the Museum during open business hours to find out what's on Wednesday nights.

Board of Directors meetings will still take place the **third Thursday of each month at 7:00pm**. Museum members may attend these meetings.

**Museum hours:
Wednesday-Saturday 10-4; Sunday 12-4**

DRM's 2018 Calendar of events viewable online at:
www.danburyrailwaymuseum.org



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Please remember to send us your current email address