

Trolley Lines

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Welcome to the first issue of a new publication that will supplement our regular newsletter DESTINATIONS. We had intended to publish at least two issues of DESTINATIONS a year, each of which would be devoted to subject matter dealing with New Jersey's transportation history. However, assembling the historical material that is included in each issue has proven to be more time-consuming than expected. Also nearly all of the work has been

done by one person, our President Bob Hooper whose regular job has kept him very busy. He has at least one issue in progress and hopes to complete work on it in the near future.

Meanwhile TROLLEY LINES will provide our members with news about our activities, because there is more to the North Jersey Electric Railway Historical Society than just putting out publications

Car 2651 Restoration

Our most important project is completing the restoration of Public Service trolley 2651. Work sessions are generally held on the first and third Saturdays of each month at the Phillipsburg storage site. Over the past year we put back the dash that was removed when we installed new wooden flooring in the end platform. As of now the roof bonnet is only set in place pending the fabrication of the wooden pieces to which it is mounted.

At the opposite end of the car, the porcelain stanchion between the folding doors on the boarding side of the end platform was installed. This was done to give visitors something to hold onto when entering the car. All four door panels on the left side of the platform were put into their correct position and held in place with wood strips to prevent visitors from carelessly trying to exit the car from that side. The controller and hand brake stand were installed at that end of the car mostly for display and to show visitors how the car was operated. The brake valve was mounted to the front dash, although the piping on which it is supposed to rest was not installed. All of this improves the appearance of the car.

Despite the work that was performed on the end platforms, the major focus of attention has been on the main body of the car. The porcelain stanchions adjacent to the bulkheads at each end of the car are now in place. An examination of the roof showed a lot more deterioration than was first recognized, so major portions of the roof have been removed. New pieces for the sloped clerestory are being fabricated, thanks to the

wood-working skills of Hank Kaminski. Eventually the roof will be reinstalled with plywood covering the major areas.

Much work has also been done on the car windows. The brass strips which hold the upper window sashes have all been installed replacing the nails which had been holding them in place. The major accomplishment was the installation of the longitudinal seats. Thanks to our friends at Branford we were able to obtain original Public Service wooden seats that were salvaged from the similar car that was scrapped by Branford in the late 1940's. Drawings of some car interiors gave clues as to how the seats were held in place. Based on that information, wood frames and temporary legs were fabricated for the seat bottoms while seat backs were attached to the walls just below the window sills. When all of this was assembled, everything fit perfectly and the appearance of the car's interior was greatly improved.

Thanks to all those who volunteered their time to work on the car. Among those who participated were: Dan Dicso, Jack Grasso, Tony Hall, Bob Hooper, Rob Hooper, Hank Kaminski, Bill Keigher, Derrick Long, Frank Miklos, Saul Nadler, Allen Nelson, Bill Toikka, Jim Tomczyk and George Tomczyk.

We welcome anyone who is interested in helping with the restoration work. Check our website if you are planning to come to Phillipsburg to be sure that a work session is scheduled. The website is www.NJERHS.ORG. Regardless of whether you are planning to participate in the restoration, you are invited to stop by and see the work that is under way.

**NORTH JERSEY ELECTRIC RAILWAY
HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT-2003

BALANCE ON HAND AT THE CLOSE OF 2000		\$7205.28
INCOME		
Contributions	\$2533.59	
Dues	2105.00	
Excursions	2020.00	
Sales Tables-Train Shows	831.00	
Photo Sales	252.21	
Books-Publications	113.00	
Meeting Room Security Refund	100.00	
Phillipsburg Open House Donations	72.75	
Videos	45.00	
	Total Income	\$8072.53
EXPENSES		
Bus Charter Fee	\$1495.00	
Meeting Room	1450.00	
Car Restoration Materials	1291.69	
Insurance	437.00	
Photo Processing	404.20	
Museum Excursion Admissions	219.00	
Internet Service Fee	215.40	
U.R.H.S. Dues	150.00	
Electricity	150.00	
Postal Permit Fee	150.00	
Post Office Box Rental	136.00	
Stationery	113.36	
Postage	112.99	
Photo Supplies	59.95	
Other Excursion Expenses	40.00	
Printer Toner	37.73	
Post Cards	37.50	
Domain Registration Fee	32.00	
Bank Fees	25.50	
	Total Expenses	\$6557.77
Excess of Income over Expenses		\$1514.78
Balance on Hand - December 2001		\$8720.06
Outstanding Funds (Cash Within Balance Designated for Projects)		
Public Service Sweeper Restoration Fund		\$876.35
Window Replacement Fund		170.00
Total Cash Reserved		\$1046.35
Un-designated Cash Balance		\$7683.71

Financial Review

The North Jersey ERHS had a good year financially. Our largest source of income once again was contributions. The total income exceeded expenses by \$1514.76 meaning that once again we will be able to hold the line on dues for another year. Since our 2003 dues renewals went out late, we will delay mailing our renewals for 2004 until this summer.

Membership Notes

As of now we have 152 paid up members. There are only 30 members whose 2003 dues are outstanding. If there is a "PLEASE REMIT" stamped next to this paragraph, it means that we have not yet received your dues payment. Please send us your dues if you wish to continue belonging to this organization. They remain at \$15 for the year. Contributions are welcome and tax deductible.

Contributions

Our thanks to the following members who included a contribution with the payment of their 2003 dues:

Edward J. Alfonsin
Albert Ambrose
William J. Armstrong
Joe Beim
Douglas R. Bennington
Richard T. Braun
John Brinckman
Andrew T. Burger
Michael & Linda Burshtin
Thomas W. Casey
William Christian
John Cocco
Richard Colavechio
Ira Deutsch
Ted Eickmann
William C. Fahey
Frank Forcier
Michael Garde
Michael Glikin
Gene D. Gordon
Thomas P. Gormanly
John J. Grasso
Robert Graul
Barker Gummerre
John B. Gutberlet
Richard Haberman
Tony Hall
G. W. Herkner
Robert E. Hooper

Contributions (Continued)

Neal Huff
Charles Hulick
Michael Hunter
William D. Joyce, Jr.
Henry Kaminski
William F. Keigher
Gary Kleinedler
George Knopf
John E. Kopf
Robert S. Korach
Robert Landwehrle
Eliot J. Lewiskin
Kevin Macken
Gary Madriss
Daniel Marchese
Anthony Masulatis
Louis M. Matuyza
Thomas G. McBride
Robert A. McNamara
Frank S. Miklos
Thomas F. Moran
Allen G. Nelson
Albert L. Papp
S. David Phraner
Rev. Charles A. Reinbold
Leonard Resto
Kenneth J. Roods
Joe Saitta
Anthony F. Sassa, Jr.
Thomas Scheffer
C.R. Scholes
Stephen Schilder
Edward Springer
Joel Spivak
Philip E. Stevenson
William J. Suss
William Toikka
George C. Tomczyk
Peter VanRiper
Harold J. Volpe
William J. Wall
Barbara Westergaard
G. Lester Whitfield
Charles Wrege
John A. Yohannan
Robert Yuell

In Memorium

We were saddened by the recent deaths of four of our members namely, Jack Grasso, Richard Braun, Herman Bachman and John Brinckman. Our deepest sympathies are extended to all of their families.

New Members

The following people have joined the North Jersey Electric Railway Historical Society in the past two years:

Charles Hulick, Alexandria, VA
Dale Rothenberger, Lansing, MI
Charles Markey, Jersey City, NJ
Alfred Stokley, Toms River, NJ
Stephen S. Schilder, Boca Raton, FL
Jeremy Wainwright, Dickson Australia
Joseph W. Smith, Jr., Englishtown, NJ
Charles P. Caldes, Ridgefield, NJ
Vincent Benkovitz, Woodhaven, NY
Richard Haberman, Allentown, PA
Herman Silbiger, Tinton Falls, NJ
John Cocco, Lafayette Hill, PA
C. Thomas Caprio, Verona, NJ
Albert L. Papp, Jr., Maplewood, NJ
Herbert Weiss, North Plainfield, NJ
Henry S. Kaminski, Clinton, NJ
Nicholas Srsich, Brooklyn, NY
Saul Nadler, Hillside, NJ
Richard M. Smith, Metuchen, NJ
Charles W. Donnarumma, Toms River, NJ
Bill Cruiser, Lakehurst, NJ

We are pleased to welcome all of them into our association.

Monthly Meetings

For many years our monthly meetings were held on the third Tuesday of each month at the Reid Center in Rahway. When the city decided to refurbish that facility and convert to an art gallery, they arranged for us to hold our meetings at the Rahway Seniors Center. This was a large building with good parking within walking distance of the Rahway train station. There were occasions when other activities were scheduled on the same night as our meetings and we had to meet in the Seniors Center annex located next door to the regular meeting room. This was a much smaller facility which was not really adequate for our needs, but we tolerated the cramped meeting room since we still had the larger room for the majority of our meetings. We also could not complain since the meeting rooms were provided to us by the city without charge. In 2003, the city received funding for more senior citizens activities. An expanded schedule of programs was announced for the Seniors Center including a full slate of night time activities. As a result there were no evenings available for us to hold our meetings at that facility. We offered to pay for the room if it was a question of money for the city or to reschedule the meeting to another night. We were told

that if it was possible to accommodate us they would gladly do so, but there were no longer any open nights available. We received word of this only a few days before our regular April meeting.

We were faced with the prospect of cancelling the meeting or trying to find another meeting location on short notice. We were able to obtain a large room at an American Legion Hall in Linden. It was across the street from the parking lot on the westbound side of the Linden train station. The major drawback was the monthly rental charge of \$150. We were willing to pay this on a short term basis, but over the long term a monthly fee of that amount would take its toll on our treasury. As our financial statement shows, our second highest expense for 2003 was the rental for the room.

Thanks to Tony Hall we were able to find another meeting room back in Rahway at a fraction of what we were paying for the American Legion hall. The new meeting room is at the First Presbyterian Church at Church and Grand Streets. Meetings are still held on the third Tuesday of each month and we invite everyone to attend.

Future Events

On October 2 and 3, the Electric City Trolley Museum at Steamtown in Scranton, Pennsylvania will hold its annual Trolley Meet. Included will be operating model trolley layouts and sales tables for memorabilia dealing with trolleys. It promises to be a interesting day with lots of things to see and do.

The North Jersey Electric Railway Historical Society is considering a chartered bus excursion to the Electric City Trolley Museum on Saturday, October 2 to enable our members and friends to participate in the Trolley Meet activities. An opportunity will also be provided to take a ride on the museum's trolley line which now operates all the way to the Visitors Center at Montage, Pennsylvania. The trolley ride is now considerably longer than it was when we last visited Scranton. It also features operation through the old Laurel Line tunnel which is nearly a mile long.

So mark your calendar for October 2. Details on the schedule of our excursion will be available soon.

Website

Don't forget to consult our website WWW.NJERHS.ORG for news about our activities and trolley restoration work sessions. We also have links to nearly every rail and transit website on the internet. We will try to keep you informed through this publication TROLLEY LINES which we hope to put out on a regular basis. Between issues, the website is always available for the latest updates on the North Jersey Electric Railway Historical Society.

North Jersey Electric Railway Historical Society

Box 1770, Rahway, NJ 07065

TRIPLE TREAT EXCURSION TO ELECTRIC CITY/STEAMTOWN

Saturday, October 2, 2004

The Electric City Trolley Museum at Steamtown in Scranton will be holding its annual Trolley Meet on the weekend of October 2. Pennsylvania Heritage Models Ltd is sponsoring this event. This will be a great place to see the latest from various exhibitors and vendors who will have new and collectible models, books and memorabilia. Several operating model trolley layouts will also be displayed. The North Jersey Electric Railway Historical Society will be running a chartered bus trip to this event on Saturday October 2.

Included in this excursion will be a ride on the Electric City trolley line which was recently extended to the Visitors' Center in Montage, Pennsylvania. This new extension more than doubles the original mileage of the trolley line, so this will be the first opportunity for many to ride it. The trolley ride includes operation through the old Laurel Line tunnel south of Scranton. The tunnel is nearly a mile long and is the only one on any trolley museum in America.

Finally those who wish to do so may also visit the Steamtown Museum.

We will depart from the Metropark Railroad station in Iselin, NJ close to exit 131A of the Garden State Parkway at 8:00 am. A pick up will also be made at the Bridgewater Commons (by Villa Pizza), close to Rts. 22, 206 and I-287, at 8:30 am. An additional stop will be made at the Rockaway Mall at 9:00 am.

Ample time will be provided for museum attractions, selected excursions, and a wide range of shopping opportunities. Lunch is on your own, and we will stop for dinner on the return trip. We expect to return to the Rockaway Mall by 7:45 pm, Bridgewater Commons by 8:15 pm and Metropark by 8:45 pm.

The cost of the trip, including deluxe motorcoach and admission to Electric City, will be \$50. The cost for an optional admission to Steamtown is \$6 paid at the gate.

Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope with your order.

For additional information, please e-mail g.madriss@att.net or trolleybill@comcast.net.

Mail form to North Jersey E.R.H.S., P.O. Box 1770, Rahway, NJ 07065

Please make check payable to North Jersey E.R.H.S.

Please indicate pick-up/drop-off location: Metropark _____ Bridgewater _____ Rockaway _____

Number of tickets @ \$50 each Total \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ - _____ e-mail _____