

SHALL WE RIDE NO. 10 AGAIN NEXT WEEK?

YES, DAD. IT BEATS RIDING IN OUR BUGGY!



TRANSFER



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SHELBURNE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

FALL 2006

RIDERSHIP RECORD TOTALLY SHATTERED

On the evening of November 24 the village of Shelburne Falls was lit up like, well, a Christmas tree. It was the annual Moonlight Madness event, with lights and luminaries everywhere and all the shops open late. Snow was missing from the scene this year, but nobody minded, so the entire world as we know it descended on the scene.

Equally well-lit was trolley No. 10. Whenever it arrived at Salmon Falls station it was highly visible to anyone anywhere near the river, and in no time crowds of people were queued up at the makeshift ticket office (a card table with a light over it and no shelter for Betsy), buying tickets and being loaded onto No. 10 for a ride past the colorfully lighted steam engine No. 10 to the Visitor Center and return.

CV caboose No. 4015 had been moved up earlier to the Salmon Falls end of track. It too was brightly strung with lights, and a cheery fire burned in its stove - the only truly warm place on the system. Customers could enjoy cider and cookies while waiting their turn to ride.

At the Visitor Center more passengers got tickets for a round trip in the opposite direction, or bought items at the TrolleyShop. From around 5pm until 8pm there was no letup in crowds coming and crowds going. Salmon Falls continually called for batches of tickets or more cash for making change. It was delightful pandemonium at both ends of the line.

No. 10 ran like a real streetcar, back and forth for hours, stopping at each end only long enough to change ends and customers. There was enough crew so that some could be relieved to eat or thaw out.

It was close to 9pm when the frozen Salmon Falls agent stumbled into the ticket office, groaning under the load of currency she was carrying. Tickets were counted, money was collected, books were cooked, and the night's ticket count was announced.

Until then, the record for a single day had been set in one of the first years at 235 tickets. Rarely in 2006 did we ever approach 100 tickets in a day.

Finally everything was totalled up, and the total was announced: 379 tickets issued! Outstanding!!



On a sunny summer day No.10 is about ready to head east from Salmon Falls station.

DCB Photo

THANKS

A very special thanks to all of you who helped at Moonlight Madness - too many to list here. Conductors, motormen, cider servers and cookie makers, guides, messengers, salespeople, miscellaneous helpers for all sorts of jobs. It wouldn't have happened without you!!