
SHALL WE RIDE NO. 10 AGAIN

YES, DAD. IT BEATS RIDING IN OUR



TRANSFER



Vol. 17 No.1 SHELBURNE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER SPRING 2008

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF THE SHELBURNE FALLS & COLRAIN STREET RAILWAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



The famed Bridge of Flowers, once the SF&C's crossing of the Deerfield River in Shelburne Falls, will be one hundred years old come Fall.

As some of our readers know, the original route of the SF&C in the village lay on the Shelburne side of the river, while the Fitchburg Railroad was on the Buckland side. For passengers wishing to travel, say, from Colrain City to Boston, there would have been either a carriage ride or a hike from the trolley stop to the train station - not a user-friendly arrangement. Then there was the matter of freight.

A large portion of the SF&C's business was in hauling freight in and out of the North River valley. Cotton and coal going in to the numerous mills, cotton goods and agricultural produce coming out - and nearly all destined for the railroad across the river. All this meant that everything had to be transferred between the two companies by means of teams and wagons, which were hired by the trolley company.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

In the last Transfer I talked about our future planning. Unfortunately several of our winter meetings got snowed out, so your Board of Directors didn't get as much accomplished as we wanted to. We did have some good discussions and will continue throughout our upcoming meetings. To help focus our efforts I put together a 'survey' for the Directors. I have excerpted some of the questions below, those relating to Members and Visitors. I think that we are so involved with the museum that it is hard to see it through the eyes of our visitors, and was hoping that some of you could mull these questions over and give us your opinion. Note that this isn't any sort of formal vote; we are looking for feedback and input for our discussions. The questions don't represent my or anyone else's perspective, they are meant as 'jumping off' points for discussion. If you would like to give your feedback on any of these items, I'd be glad for an email, call or face-to-face discussion. To keep the discussion 'on track', I've included the museum's Mission Statement.

Mission Statement (Approved 5/27/2001)

To preserve railroad and trolley history and artifacts, especially of the Franklin County, Massachusetts area, and to educate the public about these artifacts and historical information through collection, restoration, display, demonstration and interpretation.

This mission is carried out by:

1) Preserving railroad and trolley history and artifacts by collecting, restoring and displaying trolley cars, locomotives, rolling stock, tools, equipment, photographs, ephemera and other items associated with the purpose, use, operation, function, study and enjoyment of railroads and trolleys.

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