
SHALL WE RIDE NO. 10 AGAIN NEXT WEEK?

YES, DAD. IT BEATS RIDING IN OUR BUGGY!



TRANSFER



Vol. 16 No.1

SHELburne FALLS Trolley MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2007

A BALANCING ACT

I worked during my college summers as a fireman on the steam locomotives at the Conway (NH) Scenic Railroad. Proper locomotive firing is a balancing act in two ways. Physically you are scooping and throwing five tons of coal a day on a bouncing deckplate. And thermodynamically you need to keep plenty of boiling water in the boiler, but the incoming water is cold. Too much feed water and you lose steam. Not enough water and the crownsheet overheats and the boiler explodes! You try to put in water on the downgrades, when you don't need steam. You try to put in coal on the uphills, to get a better draft from the working engine's exhaust. The perfect balance comes when you reach the top of a grade with a hot fire and low (but not too low) water, so you can put in more water on the downgrade, to keep the pressure from getting so high that the safety valve 'pops'.

The Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum's Board of Directors has been trying a similar balancing act. We need to put money into the buildings to protect our investment, to meet certain building codes, and to make the rentable spaces more attractive. If we improve the space enough, we'll get more money back from rental income, to help us pay off our mortgage, which is \$1000 each month. We put in most of the money we had saved in the last few years, along with some additional money we raised and some money we borrowed from the bank. We wanted to keep some of our savings as a buffer against unforeseen expenses, planning to build the reserves back up over the next few years as rental income came in.

We've mostly managed to do that, but we ran into some unexpected costs complying with building codes, so our savings are a bit lower than we would like to have them. Rental income is only one of many pieces that fund our operation. We also get revenue from ticket sales, visitor donations and TrolleyStop store sales. One of our most important revenue streams is memberships and large donations. If you haven't renewed, please do so now, we can really use your help. And if you feel that our efforts to preserve our buildings and freight yard, keep No. 10 going and improve our Visitors Center displays are worthy of extra support, we are always glad for additional contributions. We're nearly at the top of the hill, but we need to throw a little more coal in the firebox. Can you help? **Sam**

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

The Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum will soon be opening for its eighth year of trolley operations, and this will be our sixteenth year of preserving local railroad and trolley history, starring the meticulously restored No. 10. In the last few years we have made major improvements to the property with volunteer help. Buildings, track, and rolling stock have all benefitted. Those are the big projects, which help us to have a more permanent presence.

There are plenty of smaller projects that are underway or have been completed, and of course we've been running the trolley, giving pump car rides and answering lots of questions about railroads and trolleys.

All of this work requires lots of volunteer time. We rely heavily on a few volunteers, with many more helping out several days a month during the operating season. We are always looking for more helpers; we need ticket sellers, painters, carpenters, track workers, lawn mowers and cleaners. And of course, we are always glad to have more trolley car crew members, we'll provide the training. If you can help with any of these things, please email me at sam@sftm.org or call 413-624-0192. **Sam**

CHANGES ON THE BOARD

Elected by ballot at the Annual Meeting of the Museum in February was **Alden Dreyer**, who had held an appointed post prior to the meeting.

Shirley Pelletier was elected by nomination from the floor. Shirley has been a long-time member of SFTM, and has been on the operating crew since last summer. She is an instructor in music at the Bement School in Deerfield, and she has an interest in all things railroad.

Larry Werner has recently submitted his resignation for personal reasons. Larry has been a regular with the operating crew.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE

In case you have never browsed at www.sftm.org, you might just want to do so. There is a great deal of information and a News section, where SFTM happenings can be found. Check here for info on TrolleyFest and more.

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS - 2007

Officers:

President - Robert Bartlett
Vice President - David Dye
Clerk - David Bartlett
Treasurer - Betsy Wholey Osell
Chair of Board -
Assistant Treasurer - Peter Johnson

Directors:

Harvey Allen
Alden Dreyer
David Goff
Michael Kotarba
Shirley Pelletier

CONTACT US

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TRANSFER is a publication of the Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum Inc., produced for the enlightenment and entertainment of our members and special friends. A Spring, Summer, and Fall issue is planned for each year. Comments, contributions, and letters to the editor are welcomed.

David C. Bartlett - Editor
dbartlet@crocker.com

GUEST BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS

Individual and Junior levels (IN)(\$15) and (JR)(\$10) - card is valid only for named member. No additional guests.

Family (FA) level (\$25) is as follows: your card covers rides for up to two adults and all related children under age 18. There are **no** additional guest privileges for the Family membership.

Beginning at the **Friend (FR)** level, additional guests may accompany you whenever you ride the trolley.

Friend (\$35) - 2 guests, plus family.

Contributing (CO) (\$60) - 4 guests, plus family.

Patron (PA,BP,SP,GP,LM, HL) (\$100 and higher) - no set limit to number of guests you may bring with you.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of this writing, SFTM has 96 current active memberships. Of those, 11 are new to SFTM. Most membership levels cover two or more members, so our total membership is probably more than twice the number above. We now have 5 Life Members.

Welcome More New Members

Frank Mainville - Southborough MA
Doug Martin - Shelburne Falls MA
Jonathan Meeks - Wardsboro VT

The Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum INC is an all - volunteer nonprofit organization. All income received, from whatever source, is plowed directly into improving SFTM.

SIGN UP FOR eTRANSFER!

As a convenience to our members, and as an attempt to control costs, TRANSFER will be made available on line as a pdf file. This will give you the option of filing your copies of TRANSFER on your computer, in case you want to refer back to them at some later time. This, of course, eliminates your option of heating with them instead.

If you wish to receive your future TRANSFERs by email, here's how to do it:

Send an email to: **dbartlet@crocker.com**.

In the **Subject** line, please enter **eTFR**.

In the **body** of your message, please enter **your name**.

That's all there is to it. Your address will be entered on a mailing list, and the future issues will come to you by computer instead of snail mail.

VOLUNTEERING - HOW TO DO IT

Simply contact the Museum (see **Contact US** on this page). Indicate what your interests are - operating, painting, building stuff, selling, or what. We will get back to you and get you plugged into the loop. We need you!

Visitors to SFTM might well want to visit the Children's Art Museum (www.thechildrensartmuseum.org) It is located right next to the Visitor Center.



HOW MANY COWS DOES IT TAKE TO.....

If you have ever visited the Museum, you've probably wondered what that crumbling concrete foundation with the two rusty tanks was all about. Now it can be told - sort of.

Shelburne Falls was, a hundred years ago, the hub of a very large milk-producing area and it just happened to be located on a major rail line with a direct route to Boston, that notorious town of flagrant milk-consumers. Shipping milk by rail was a serious business in those days, and getting milk to the shipping point was important revenue for the Shelburne Falls & Colrain Street Railway. Car Number 10's freight section was packed with milk cans on many trips. The cans were loaded onto trains here and at numerous other points along the line to Boston.

In time it was decided that the yard needed a building to keep the milk cool between trains. The picture above shows the very substantial creamery that was built by H. P. Hood to do the job. At one time the milk trade was so viable that a special milk train would originate in the Hoosac Falls NY area and run nonstop to Boston - except for Shelburne Falls, where it would stop and pick up whole carloads of bulk milk.

The existing freight house is visible at the far left. A pair of small and long-gone structures bracket the milk house.

Like so many other transitions in our yard, the milk business left the rails for the roads and the creamery building was demolished, leaving only the concrete foundation with its terra-cotta tile floor to bear crumbling witness to another era.

IMAGE COURTESY OF BOSTON & MAINE RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

TRANSFER

We still have a good supply of Transportation Bulletin No. 75 - newly-printed bound volumes. This publication contains the most complete information available on the history of the Shelburne Falls & Colrain Street Railway. When these are gone there will be no more. Price to members is \$27.75. Includes member discount, tax, and shipping. Order while supplies last. See Page 2.

SATURDAY JUNE 23

That's the date for TrolleyFest
'07

This year we have a really big
extra feature to go with our
usual event!

Civil War enactors:
10th Massachusetts Volunteer
Infantry Militia, Company C will be
dug in all day at SFTM.

<<http://www.gallant10thmass.org>>

The Great Locomotive Chase will be
replayed, with certain SF&C pieces of
equipment standing in for the General and
the Texas. And there's more!

Don't miss this day, complete with vintage
army-style cooking (officer quality only)
prepared by Chef Dane and his mess squad!

Chef Dane has just released his menu, and
here it is:

"Brooklyn Porterhouse, a great marinated flank
steak dish, and a spicy Asian style chicken dish.
Dessert, as well. The usual salads and sides."

The price will be \$13.00, and \$6.00 for those
under 12.

The meal will start at Noon. There will probably
be multiple seatings, since the Civil War show
could draw a big hungry crowd.

Please reserve your meal in advance. pay
when you arrive. This could be a sellout.
Seating is limited. Send email to
dbartlet@crocker.com or leave a message at
413-625-9443.

2007 OPERATING SCHEDULE

SFTM OPENS ON SATURDAY MAY 5.

OPERATING EVERY SATURDAY, SUNDAY,
AND HOLIDAY, THROUGH THE END OF
OCTOBER.

HOURS OF SERVICE - 11AM TIL 5PM.

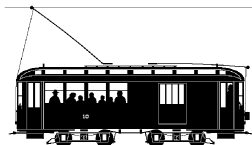
ADDITIONAL SERVICE IN JULY AND
AUGUST: MONDAYS 1PM TIL 5PM.

Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum

PO Box 272

Shelburne Falls MA 01370-0272

413/625-9443 www.sftm.org/



If the date on your address label is
12/31/2006, then your membership
has expired. Please renew soon so
you won't miss the next TRANSFER!

Dear Member - your membership label shows an expired date. We hope at you will renew for this year, and continue you to support SFTM as you have in the past. Won't you please either mail a check with this form, or come by in person on operating days?

SHELBURNE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM
2007 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL

YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS

(PLEASE PRINT).

Keep it simple - For renewals, if your address has **not** changed, then **just fill in your name.**

Check here if address change since last application

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL - check one. (Remember - SFTM memberships and donations may be tax- deductible!!!)

- | | | | |
|--|----------|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (under 18) | \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron | \$100 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Bronze Patron | \$200 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Silver Patron | \$350 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friend | \$35 | <input type="checkbox"/> Gold Patron | \$500+ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing | \$60 | <input type="checkbox"/> Life Member | \$1000+ |
| Additional Contribution? | \$ _____ | | |

Make check payable to: **Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum, Inc.**

Mail to: David C. Bartlett - SFTM
44 Ashfield Rd.
Shelburne Falls MA 01370

The Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum, Inc. is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization.
 Keep this in mind if your employer has a donation-matching program.

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I would also like to Volunteer to help at SFTM
(Skip this section if you are unable to volunteer)

My interest - (Check as many as you wish)

- Motorman/Conductor (Full training will be provided by SFTM)
- Ticket and Sales
- Public Relations/Advertising
- Restoration Work - Caboose, Coach, Locomotive.
- Track Work
- Fund Raising/Grant Writing
- Other Construction Work
- ___ Museum - Displays and Acquisitions

Phone () _____ Email _____ @ _____