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SHALL WE RIDE NO. 10 AGAIN NEXT WEEK?

YES, DAD. IT BEATS RIDING IN OUR BUGGY!



# TRANSFER



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Vol. 16 No.2

SHELBURNE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2007

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

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## TROLLEYFEST '07

It was outstanding! On June 23 SFTM was packed with people and cars, exhibits, outdoor dining facilities, and tents.

Tents? Yes, tents. In the interest of security, HSA had arranged for a military detachment to protect Trolleyfest from threats from afar. With most of the regular military otherwise occupied, the agency was nevertheless able to locate a special forces unit for the occasion. Arriving the night before Trolleyfest, the unit cleared the area of unexploded railroad spikes and plates, set up its camp, and kept guard through the night.

When the SFTM staff arrived to get Trolleyfest up and running, all was calm and secure. So it went until about 2pm, when several suspicious persons in gray uniforms were detected infiltrating the perimeter. The obvious intent of these invaders was to seize the pumpcar, and then the trolley. A brief but vicious battle ensued. The enemy was overwhelmed. Several were captured, and since express train service between Shelburne Falls and Gitmo no longer exists, the prisoners were dispatched on the site. The 10th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Militia, Company C, had won the day, and saved yet another rail line from falling into the wrong hands.

Meanwhile, back at the serving tables, about 80 people feasted on Chef Dane's newest menu. This was a record crowd, but Dane kept the food coming and the serving line crew dispensed it smoothly.

Trolley No. 10 carried nearly 200 ticketed passengers - far and away the largest daily number so far in 2007. Many rode the pumpcar and the caboose, which was propelled by the trackmobile. Visitors enjoyed the cider-making operation and a working blacksmith shop where the smithy was turning old railroad iron into ornamental

objects. For the little folks, a portable scale railroad offered rides on its flatcars.

Thanks to SFTM's very hard-working volunteer crew, it would seem a good time was had by all.



Marie Bartlett shows visitors how to make cider, a product which once was shipped in large quantities on the SF&C. Behind the ciderworks is SFTM member Winton Pitcoff's ice cream truck, from which Win dispensed his own product to the delight of all who sampled it.

Photo - Sam Bartlett

## MORE ON eTRANSFER

Again we call your attention to our on-line version of this publication. A number of members have signed up, and it works for them. We urge you to consider joining them. Look at it this way: your annual hard-copy TRANSFERs cost us \$3 to \$4 to print and mail to you. eTFR costs us nothing - in effect our on-line members give us those extra bucks to help SFTM do better things. And we are working on providing eTFR in color - something we can't afford in the print version.

See Page 2 for how to sign up. Save trees. Save those dollars for us. Thanks in advance.

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## DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS - 2007

### Officers:

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

### Directors:

Harvey Allen  
Alden Dreyer  
David Goff  
Michael Kotarba  
Shirley Pelletier

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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 when you come to SFTM.

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

As of this writing, SFTM has 146 current active memberships. Of those, 30 are new to SFTM in '07. Most membership levels cover two or more members, so our total membership is probably more than twice the number above. We now have 4 Life Members.

## Welcome More New Members

Angela Saviano - Leyden MA  
Everett Baker - Enfield CT  
Helene Powers - Florence MA  
Jim Corcoran - S. Deerfield MA  
Jay Cashook - Westwood MA  
Terri Doherty - Shelburne Falls MA  
Kyle Vedder - Dolgeville NY  
Danny Sandberg - S. Deerfield MA  
Susan Sappia - Easthampton MA  
Fred Rickson - Springfield MA  
Jamie Wooldridge - Plainfield MA  
Joseph Kelly - Florence MA  
Angelina Fusto - Deerfield MA  
Katherine Nickel - Buckland MA  
Robert Northrop - Surry NH  
Dale Cooper - New York NY  
Norman Clarke - Buckland MA  
Suzette Nichols - Shelburne Falls MA  
David Harvey - Keene NH

## 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 in. We need you!

# TRANSFER

# TROLLEYFEST SIGHTS AND TASTES



The hungry crowd attacks the food while the 10th Massachusetts stand guard in their encampment, wondering if there will be any leftovers. Fat chance!



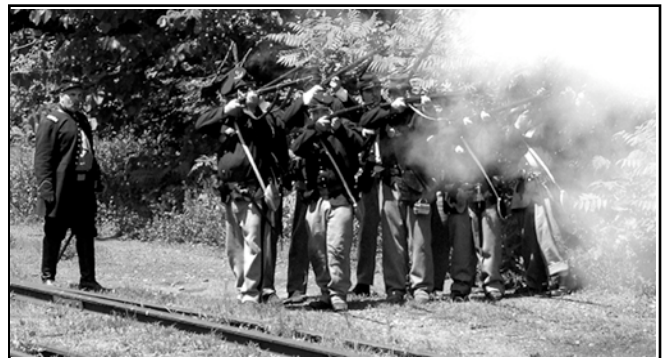
A race? Trolley No. 10 against steam No. 10? Actually, no, even though the steamer has its headlight on and lit and the old girl even has a fire in the firebox, giving the appearance of life at her stack. Maybe someday.....



David Goff and his ancient Trackmobile trundle the caboose back and forth to the delight of passengers. The cupola was especially popular with the crowd  
2 Photos - Alden Dreyer



The 10th Mass. goes on the attack, saving our No. 10.



3 Photos - Sam Bartlett

## TRANSFER

A LITTLE SF&C HISTORY

## Shelburne Falls and Colrain Street Railway Company Time Table.

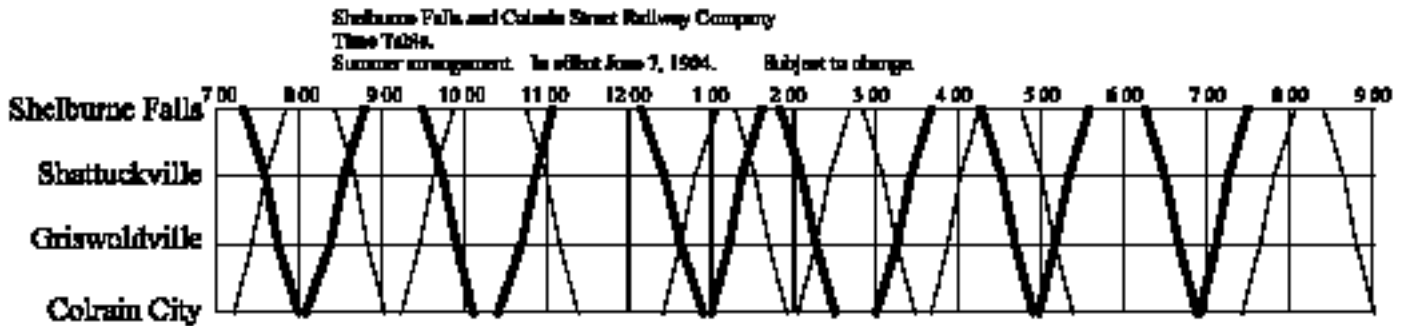
Summer arrangement.

In effect June 7, 1904.

Subject to change.

COLRAIN TO SHELBURNE FALLS.				SHELBURNE FALLS TO COLRAIN.			
Leave Colrain City	Leave Griswoldville	Leave Shattuckville	Arrive Shelburne Falls	Leave Shelburne Falls	Leave Shattuckville	Leave Griswoldville	Arrive Colrain City
a. m. 7 13	a. m. 7 26	a. m. * 7 36	a. m. 7 51	a. m. † 7 20	a. m. * 7 36	a. m. 7 45	a. m. 8 00
‡ 8 05	8 23	8 33	† 8 48	‡ 8 26	8 41	8 50	9 03
9 15	9 28	9 38	‡ 9 53	‡ 9 30	9 45	9 55	10 07
‡ 10 25	10 42	10 52	‡ 11 05	‡ 10 45	11 00	11 10	11 23
p. m. 12 25	p. m. * 12 38	p. m. 12 48	p. m. 1 05	p. m. ‡ 12 10	p. m. 12 26	p. m. * 12 38	p. m. 12 54
‡ 1 00	1 13	1 22	‡ 1 37	‡ 1 17	1 32	1 42	1 55
2 03	* 2 16	2 26	2 41	‡ 1 50	2 06	* 2 16	2 30
‡ 3 00	* 3 15	3 25	3 40	‡ 2 50	3 05	* 3 15	3 28
3 40	3 52	4 01	* 4 15	‡* 4 16	4 31	4 41	4 54
‡ 4 58	* 5 10	5 20	5 35	‡ 4 45	5 00	* 5 10	5 23
‡ 6 55	7 07	7 16	7 30	‡ 6 15	6 30	6 40	6 53
7 26	7 39	7 49	8 05	‡ 8 25	8 40	8 49	9 02

Here is a well-traveled timetable from 1904, showing the schedule of trolley trips on weekdays. As you can see, service was quite substantial for such a lightly-populated area. Contrast this with today's public transportation opportunity in the same area.



While containing a bit less time data, this graph represents the same trolley service in a different form. Major stops are shown vertically, and time of day runs from left to right on top. Each diagonal line represents one trip between one end of the line and the other.

For example: the first northward trip of the day leaves the Falls at 7:20am and arrives at the "City" (!) at 8:00am, according to the timetable. The first heavy line on the graph represents this trip. The light lines represent southward trips.

Now, what do we have when two diagonals cross? One of two things: If a siding is present at that site, then a meet between two opposing cars. If no siding, then - a head-on collision. Assuming the former, having a car going in each direction at the same time can be very useful for those people who chronically don't know whether they are coming or going. Enjoy.

### TRANSFER

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## **SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE**

A Special Meeting of the Voting Members has been called for Tuesday September 18, 2007 at the museum at 7pm, for the purpose of discussing and voting on proposed amendments to the organization's by-laws. All Members are welcome to attend. All Voting Members, as defined by the current by-laws (one per membership, paid up, age 18 or older) are eligible and welcome to vote on the amendments.

The proposed amendments are available for downloading at [www.sftm.org/organization.html](http://www.sftm.org/organization.html), or you may have a copy mailed to you by requesting such from the clerk, David C. Bartlett. See "Contact Us" on page 2.

Some of the amending is of the typographical/housekeeping variety; making all references to Members, Officers and Directors be capitalized; fixing some numbering, etc. We removed some provisions which are options in state law but don't work for us in practice, like Action ByConsent for a Meeting of the Members.

We loosened the requirements on Officers and Directors to allow them to be chosen from all the adult Members, not just the one-per-membership Voting Members. We clarified that Directors and Officers need to remain in good standing (dues paid up) during their tenure. We clarified that the President and Vice President are elected by the Voting Members.

We removed the clause Indemnifying the Directors and Officers, since we haven't been doing this and have chosen, for the present, not to. Removing this 'shall' clause doesn't prevent us from indemnifying D&O's in the future if we decide to do so. We cleaned up the Dissolution language, which we intend to never use anyway!

If, after reading over the proposed amendments, you have questions, please contact me; 413-624-0192 or [sam@sftm.org](mailto:sam@sftm.org).

Robert "Sam" Bartlett

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## **NEWS NOTES**

Ridership this year to date is the highest in many seasons - a pleasant surprise in view of high fuel prices. There seems to be more eastern MA people finding their way out here this year.

China (not the one in Maine) has been unusually well-represented this year. First, officials from Mutianyu - our "sister village" beside the Great Wall - visited the area and especially liked SFTM. The pumpcar especially delighted them. Later in the season a group of Chinese exchange students came in and had a great time. We recently received a very warm note from them.

Many of our visitors are very pleasantly surprised at what they find at SFTM. Some return, with other friends and family members.

Work on the railroad has proceeded as well. John Pelletier has adopted the cabooses, putting in many hours on restoration inside and out. One side has been painted in our best approximation of the Central Vermont color used in the 1940's.

Many hands have painted the west end of the freight house in the maroon and cream colors that appears to be a standard scheme used by the Boston & Maine in the old days. The building looks stunning as one drives into the yard.

SFTM received a grant from the Amherst Railway Society for track repair and overhead system extension. This should enable us to do some much-needed tie replacement and also to start setting poles along the freight house track.

Extensive effort on groundskeeping have made a positive impact on the appearance of the property.

Engineering work on future expansion is about to get under way, with the help of seniors from the UMass College of Engineering, who will be working closely with our own engineering staff. Included will be track design for a loop around the Visitor Center and a rebuild of the original SF&C line down the hill on Depot Street to the center of the village. While none these projects will be built until serious funding is available to SFTM, the fact that we will have complete working drawing on hand should give us a big leg up on applying for grants and seeking community support.

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## **NEW CARBARN FUND**

One of several major projects necessary for a better SFTM is a new carbarn, built of masonry and steel, and large enough to hold several cars.

Fire is always a threat. Several years ago a Maryland trolley museum lost eight cars in a carbarn fire, including one car which had just had a quarter-million in restoration work completed. Ironically the museum was in the process of building a safer barn for these cars at the time. We envision a structure that will spare us such a disaster.

Further, in order to really make the grade (pun intended) we will someday need another car or two. While our No. 10 operated regularly up and down the hill on Depot Street from 1908 to 1927 with handbrakes only, it is entirely possible that in these times we will be required to use airbrake-equipped cars for the downtown service. Thus the proposed carbarn will have room for several cars.

The SFTM Board has set up a special fund just for the carbarn project. It will soon receive seed money. Members wishing to help to donate to this fund. Again, in order to attract grant money, we need to show that we have support for the project. Thanks in advance for your support!

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## **TRANSFER**

## MEMBERS DAY COMING UP!

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 27**

Chef Dane promises yet another fine dining experience formulated around typical meals of the 1890's. While the details aren't all together yet, this meal will not be offered to the general public, but only to Members and their guests, and will be limited to the first 40 reservations.

A guided walking tour of the site of the New Haven's legendary high bridge over the South River in Conway is in the works. Remains of the Conway trolley line and its bridge over the Deerfield River can be seen there too.

Other details for the event are still being worked out at this time, and will be posted on the SFTM website: [www.sftm.org](http://www.sftm.org)



Conductor Shirley Pelletier "punches" Noah while his father Win Pitcoff looks on.

Photo - Jim Wholey

### AND NOW - A SPECIAL SHOPPING DEAL!

If you are an on-line shopper, you can help SFTM while you help yourself to all the great bargains. Whenever you make purchases through the SFTM website, the seller will donate a portion of the sale to SFTM with no cost to you. 1500 online stores are available through our website - something for everybody!

To get started, go to [www.stftm.org](http://www.stftm.org), click on the golden shopping bag, and help SFTM grow while you shop til you drop!

### 2007 OPERATING SCHEDULE

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

HOURS OF SERVICE - 11AM TIL 5PM.

SPECIAL RUN - LAST OF SEASON:  
MOONLIGHT MADNESS - NOVEMBER 23  
5PM TIL 9 PM

### **Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum**

**PO Box 272**

**Shelburne Falls MA 01370-0272**

**413/625-9443 [www.sftm.org/](http://www.sftm.org/)**

