



VOL. 23 - NO. 1 SHELburnE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2014

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

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Thank you to everyone who responded to our challenge to raise \$10,000 from our members to match our 20th Century Electric Railway Foundation Grant. I'm pleased to say that we raised over \$14,000!

We have staked out the exact location of the Car Barn and the turnouts for the track leading to it. We will also install another turnout which will eventually be for the proposed loop track around the Visitors Center, but for now will be used as the track to serve the pump car shanty.

We expect the Car Barn 'kit' to arrive in June; by the time you read this we should have started the excavation for the foundation. The site is prepared but we still have some permitting details to complete.

We have also started putting up the overhead for the trolley wire that is needed on the House Track to access the Car Barn. We have some of the hardware, but will need to buy more, plus the special trolley wire.

The telephone service has been put underground, and shortly the electric service will be put underground as well. Not only will this allow us to remove a pole that is in the way of the new Car Barn, but it will allow us to consolidate our electric meters, saving us about \$60/mo.

Thanks to Dave Goff, Mason Colby, Bill Kaiser, Jerry Besser, Larry Krucz, Marie Bartlett, Polly Bartlett, Betsy Osell, April Mascolino, Dick Moore, and David Bartlett for helping to get the museum ready for our fifteenth operating season.

By the time you read this, we will have had our annual Training Day, when we re-qualify our trolley and pumpcar crew. If you have been wanting to join our

crew but missed Training Day, we are always glad to give you individual hands-on training so that you can help us keep history alive and tell the story of No. 10 and the Shelburne Falls and Colrain Street Railway and the Bridge of Flowers. It is often a bit of a scramble to keep the service covered, and more volunteers are always welcome.

If you want to help out, but not on the trolley, there are other opportunities as well. If you want to help behind the Ticket Counter, selling All-Day-Passes and our other items, contact Dave Bartlett at membership@sftm.org. We will also need a lot of hands at times to put up the new Car Barn when it arrives. And we will need extra hands to put in the two new turnouts for the Car Barn. If you are interested in helping with these projects, please let me know at sam@sftm.org. We are also always looking for more routine help with building repairs, restoration work on the CV caboose, painting and lawn care.

Sam



SFTM President Sam Bartlett playing one of his many roles at the Museum.

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS - 2014

Officers:

President - Robert (Sam) Bartlett
Vice President - David Dye
Clerk - David Bartlett
Treasurer - Betsy Wholey Osell
Chair of Board - David Dye
Vice Chair – Alden Dreyer
Assistant Clerk – Betsy Wholey Osell
Assistant Treasurer – David Bartlett

Directors:

Gerald Besser
David Goff
Anthony Jewell
William Kaiser
James Wholey

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. Spring, Summer, and Fall issues are planned for each year. Comments, contributions, and letters to the editor are welcomed.

David C. Bartlett - Editor
dbartlet@crocker.com

SIGNING UP FOR eTRANSFER

As a convenience to our members, and as an attempt to control costs, **TRANSFER** is 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. What's more, **eTRANSFER** comes out in **full color!**

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 just **your name** - that's all.

Your address will be entered on a mailing list, and the future issues will come to you by internet instead of by snail mail, thereby saving printing and mailing costs. Save a tree, too!!

Please note – if you are an eTFR subscriber, and subsequently change your email address, please be sure that you let us know.

GUEST BENEFITS FOR MEMBERS

Individual and **Junior** levels (IN) (\$20) and (JR) (\$12) - card is valid only for named member. No additional guests. (eTransfer only for JR members).

Family (FA) level (\$32) is as follows: your card covers rides for up to two adults and all children under age 18 related to at least one adult and living in same household. 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 (\$40) - 2 guests, plus Family privileges, and one Instant Motorman opportunity per season.

Contributing (CO) (\$60) - 4 guests, plus Family privileges. And two Instant Motorman opportunities per season.

Patron (PA,BP,SP,GPLM,HL) (\$100 and higher) No set limit to number of guests you may bring when you visit SFTM.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

At this writing, SFTM has 76 current active memberships.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Mark Edry – Arlington MA
Nathaniel Mulcahy – Gloucester MA

2014 ANNUAL MEETING

After two delays due to bad weather, the SFTM Annual Meeting was held on February 27. There were no surprises when the ballots were counted. The usual suspects are still in office.

It should be noted that Reba-Jean Shaw-Pichette did not run for another term. Reba-Jean came on the Board in 2011 and was very helpful in many ways at SFTM. Thanks, Reba-Jean!!

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, grant writing, or what. We need you!!!

ONE BIG USE FOR A MATCH

In the last issue we asked for a match for a grant for the carbarn project from the 20th Century Electric Railway Foundation. This is a private foundation owned by Arthur E. Jones of La Canada, CA. The deal was that if SFTM raised \$10,000 in new money, he would match it.

Response from our members was overwhelming. In no time we were oversubscribed by donors who marked "20th Century" on the memo lines of their checks to SFTM. We submitted copies of a bit over \$10,000 worth of checks so marked to the Foundation, and crossed our fingers.

In mid-January the check from Mr. Jones arrived. A mighty THANKS to the 20th Century Foundation and to all of you who helped make this happen!!!

The total of member donations to the carbarn project since the Match was announced is a bit over \$16,000. We must be doing something right.

AND THEN.....

At the end of January, our President's superior grant-writing talent helped convince the Amherst Railway Society to award their 2014 Founders Grant of \$10,000 to SFTM! Thanks, ARS!!

SO WHAT'S NEXT?

The final survey and siting work for the carbarn was completed in late April. Foundation plans are forthcoming. Contractors have been lined up. The frost is out of the ground and the mud has dried out. The metal building "erector set" is ready to be shipped to SFTM when we are ready for it. There is enough money in the bank to get a lot of the work done. It remains to be seen whether our volunteers can put up all the big pieces of the "kit" or whether we'll have to hire a crane and labor.. No doubt the show will go on all summer long, so if you come by several times, you will see changes each time.



"We're ready to dig.
Bring on the permits"

DONORS SINCE LAST ISSUE

20th CENTURY MATCH DONORS

Anonymous (2)
David Goff
David and Molly Dye
William Kaiser
Wholey Family
Michael Herr
Lee Webster
Susanne Villar
John Atherton
Jack Trowill
Richard Warner
Joan Dickson
Richard Finck
Gerhard Postpischil
David Ashenden
Lou Musante
Anonymous
Perry Family – In Memory of Stan Perry
Peter Munk
Stephen Ledger

OTHER CARBARN DONORS

Margaret Howland
Bill Sweeney
Paul Cook
Jonathan Meeks
Tom Watson
Charles Robinson
Robert Dewey
Dante Stephensen
John Pickett
Steve Howland
Bill Townsend
Anonymous

Our sincere apology to anyone we missed.

Lincoln Shaw, a long-time member of SFTM, passed away earlier this year.
His family requested donations in his memory to SFTM.

TRANSFER MUSINGS

Note this is the 23rd volume of TRANSFER. Founding member Alfred Barten took it upon himself to create this newsletter, beginning with Vol. 1 No. 1 dated October 1, 1991, and was the publisher and editor for all but a few issues through Vol. 9 No. 1.

TRANSFER's many issues serve well as *the* source for the history of the Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum. Thanks to Al for making all this happen!!

TROLLEYFEST **Saturday July 19, 2014**

Mark your calendar (or update your mobile device's calendar). We will have our annual celebration of the restoration of No. 10 on July 19. The special attraction this year will be the Covered Bridge Dinner, at the Arthur A. Smith covered bridge in Lyonsville.

During the day, we will have caboose rides powered by a trackmobile, cider-making, music and other activities to be determined. You can find all the details as we work them out at www.sftm.org/trolleyfest.shtml.

The barbeque dinner is a fundraiser for our Car Barn Fund. It will begin at 5:30 pm, with serving a bit later. The fare is \$23 for adult members, \$25 for non-members, and \$15 for youths under age 13.

So we can plan ahead, please make your reservations early. Do this by emailing membership@sftm.org, mailing to PO 272, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370, or calling 413-625-9443 and leaving a message. Include how many meals you are reserving. This is a rare opportunity, not to be missed, to enjoy a catered dinner on an historic covered bridge!

In order for us to know how much food to order, we request that you please make your reservation no later than July 12th.

Payment is not due until you arrive at SFTM. Late reservations will be accepted on a space-available basis. Directions to the bridge, and more information about the day's events can be found at sftm.org

LYONSVILLE AND THE ARTHUR SMITH COVERED BRIDGE

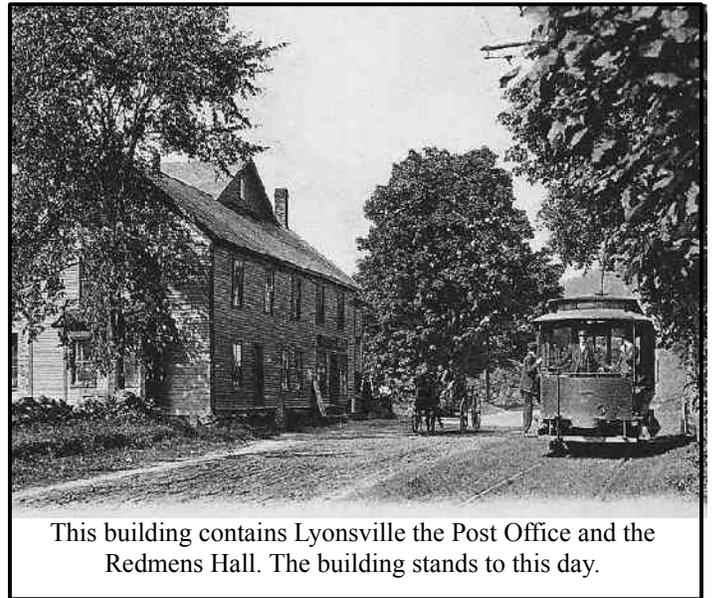
Lyonsville is a village in Colrain a few miles north on Rt 112 from Shelburne Falls. Lyonsville was one of the many villages served by No 10 and her sisters on the Shelburne Falls & Colrain Street Railway. Lyonsville was, and is, a quite small village, and the conductors on No. 10 used to like to tease out-of-towners (they were easy to spot back then) by announcing "Next Stop, Grand Central Station", and then watch the reaction as the trolley stopped at a little three-person waiting shed.

The covered bridge, built in 1869, is one of only a few 19th century covered bridges left in Massachusetts. It was relocated from Shattuckville (another SF&C stop) to its present location in 1896, just in time for No. 10 to serve it, and vice versa. The trolley line ran near, but did not cross this bridge. The bridge was on the route to the W. W. Cary Cider Mill, where an enormous volume of apples was sold raw or rendered every year into cider and its by-products. The mill had its own siding on the SF&C, and was a major shipper on the line.

The bridge in time was damaged by floods. A local effort to restore it was made, and eventually prevailed. While not open to vehicular traffic it remains a landmark, and will make a memorable venue for the Trolleyfest meal.

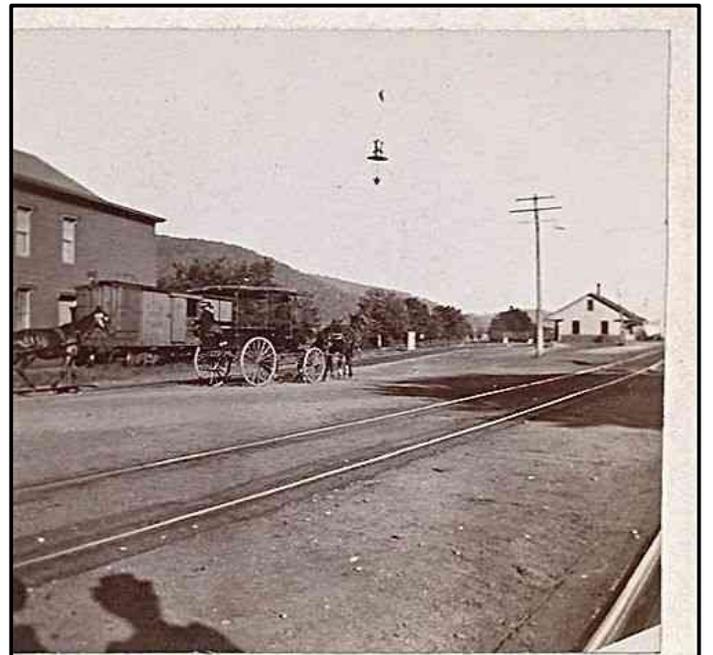
HOW DO WE GET THERE?

Good question. If this was, say, 1920, you'd just buy a trolley ticket in Shelburne Falls and get off at the Lyonsville stop. Everybody else on the car would know where the stop was, and could direct you to the bridge.



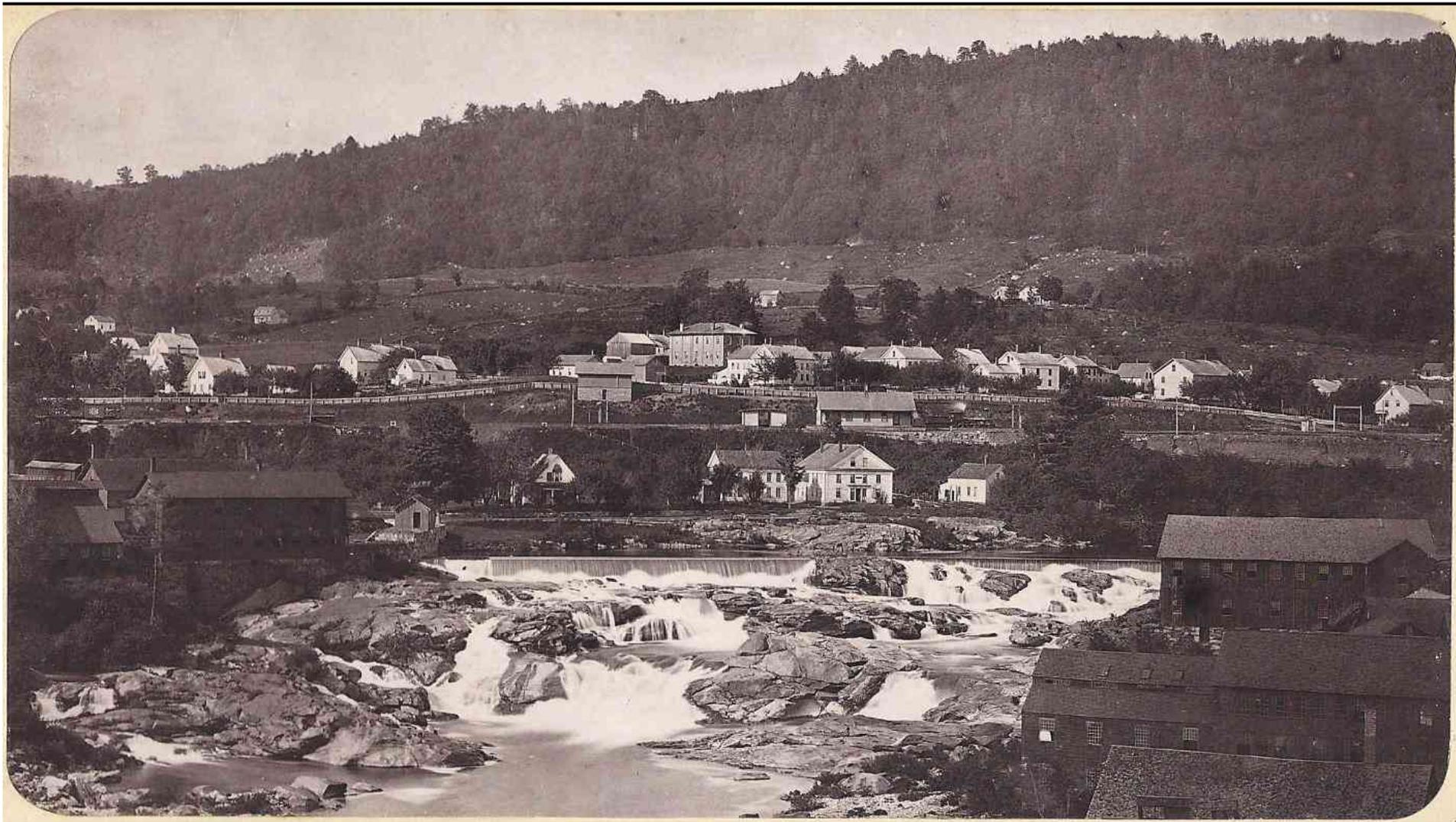
This building contains Lyonsville the Post Office and the Redmens Hall. The building stands to this day.

But since this is now 2014 you can find the bridge by using Google Earth, or you can contact SFTM for the latest information about how to get there and where to park.



Meanwhile, back in the Falls, another oldy, looking from Ashfield St. crossing toward the original depot. Is that a streetlight overhead? The building on the left is now the Salmon Falls Artisans Showroom.

Image donated by Dale Alden



A RARE TREASURE

This great image of Shelburne Falls as it was many years ago was forwarded to SFTM by Dale Alden, a Shelburne native. Much has changed since the original was made. The potholes are still there, as are a few Lamson buildings. But the mills on the lower right are long gone. The dam has been replaced. Many of the buildings no longer exist.

The railroad is still there, but what changes! The original Troy & Greenfield depot is quite visible, and just to the right of it a sharp eye can discern a steam locomotive of ancient vintage – possibly a wood burner. Going left from the depot past the section house, you can see the cistern which supplied water for the locomotives well into the 20th century. There is much more to see here, but the image must have been a low-resolution scan, and breaks up into pixels when we try to zoom in on that locomotive. What you won't find is any trace of No. 10 and its family. SFTM's Alden Dreyer, who is a B&M historian, guesses that circa 1875 would be a good guess for the date of this image.

2014 OPERATING SCHEDULE

OPERATING EVERY SATURDAY, SUNDAY, AND
HOLIDAY, FROM MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND
THROUGH THE END OF OCTOBER.

HOURS OF SERVICE - 11 AM TIL 5 PM.
ADDITIONAL SERVICE ON MONDAYS
JULY AND AUGUST.

LOCAL BUSINESS SPONSORS FOR 2014

Walter's Propane
West End Pub
McCuskers Market
Mo's Fudge Factor
Berkshire East
Zoar Outdoor
Christopher's
Crabapple Whitewater
Coldwell – Banker Realty

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Get it in COLOR!!
See Page 2 for Details.**

TROLLEYFEST 2014

THE DATE IS SATURDAY
JULY 19
11AM TO 5 PM

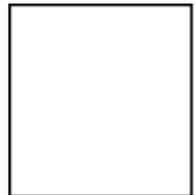
CABOOSE RIDES
SPECIAL EXHIBITS
MORE
AND AT 5:30 PM:

A VERY SPECIAL MEAL
HAS BEEN SELECTED.
AT A VENUE THE LIKES OF WHICH
WE GUARANTEE
YOU'VE NEVER EXPERIENCED
BEFORE.

SEE PAGE 4
FOR ALL THE DETAILS.

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413/625-9443 www.sftm.org/



Membership Renewal Time???
Check the Year on the Mailing Label.
Active Date is 2014. What's Yours?