

TRANSFER

VOL. 25 - NO. 1 SHELburnE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER
SPRING 2016

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



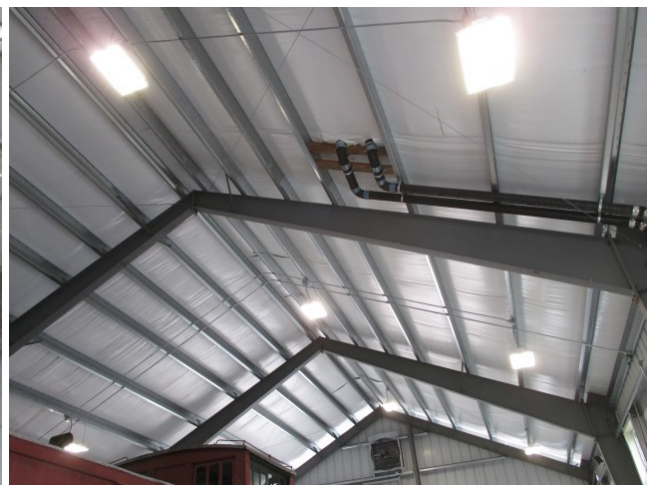
The west end of the new Car barn.



The east end of the new Car barn.



Larry smooths the welds on a door frame.



The new LED lamps really light the place up!

OUR NEW CARBARN IS READY!

The new two-stall metal Car barn has all of its doors installed, both for people and for rolling stock. It is now secure and locked.

There is still plenty of trim to install on the exterior, and organizing to do inside. The Franklin County Technical School has installed nice bright LED overhead lighting and florescent workbench

lighting, and is working on security, phone, Ethernet, compressor, trolley power and final hook up.

Larry and Sam, with help from Bill, Joshua, Jordan, Jim, Polly and Carl, spent most of the winter building the six steel frames for the leaves for three door openings.

Now the push is on to install the overhead wire so that No. 10 can get to the Car barn. *Continued on Page 3*

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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.

Sam Bartlett - Editor editor@sftm.org

SIGNING UP FOR eTRANSFER

As a convenience to our members, and as an attempt to control costs, the TRANSFER is available online as a pdf file. This will give you the option of filing your copies of the 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 are a current member and wish to receive your future TRANSFERs by email, here's how to do it:

- Send an email to: membership@sftm.org
- In the Subject line, please enter 'eTransfer'.

•In the body of your message please enter just your name.

Your address will be entered on an emailing 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 eTRANSFER subscriber, and subsequently change your email address, please be sure that you let us know at membership@sftm.org.

VOLUNTEERING - HOW TO DO IT

Stop by, send an email to trolley@sftm.org or call Sam at 413-624-0192. Indicate what your interests are - operating, painting, building stuff, selling tickets and gifts, grant writing, or what. We need you!!!

OPENING DAY MAY 28

We start our seventeenth operating season on Saturday May 28, and will be open Saturdays, Sundays and holidays 11am to 5pm. In July and August we will also be open Mondays 1pm to 5pm.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

At this writing, SFTM has 131 current Memberships. If your TRANSFER includes a **Membership, Donation and Volunteer Form**, then you need to renew. See the form for more information on Member benefits and giving levels. If your printed TRANSFER does not have this year on the address label, please renew your membership, as this is probably your last TRANSFER.

Renew online at <http://www.sftm.org/join.shtml>

Please send changes of address for mail or email to membership@sftm.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Wayne Duffett, Portland, ME
Rob Riggan, Shelburne Falls, MA
Martin Wood/Patricia Townsend, Wilton, NH

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TRAINING DAY 2016

Here is your chance to be a trolley motorman (we gladly accept women as well). Sunday, May 15, 2016 is our Annual Training Day. If you are a returning Motorman, Conductor or Pump Car Operator, or you want to learn how to be one of these members of our operating crew, please join us at 10am. Please let Alden know at aldendreyer@gmail.com. See <http://www.sftm.org/training.shtml> for more information about Training Day, as well as the Rulebook, etc. that you will need. Lunch is provided to all registered participants!

TROLLEYFEST 2016

Join us on Saturday July 23 for Trolleyfest! We will have caboose rides, speeder rides, a velocipede demonstration, historical agricultural and industrial hands-on demonstrations, music and more! We'll also hold our Car barn Grand Opening Ceremony then. See www.sftm.org/trolleyfest.shtml for details.

CARBARN GRAND OPENING

At this point we expect to have a Car barn Grand Opening Celebration during Trolleyfest. Stay tuned.

Continued from Page 1 Several years ago we installed most of the line poles for supporting the wire. This winter, with help from Melanie, Marie and Bill, we painted, built and installed bracket arms on these poles. Recently we installed three more poles near the Car barn.

The flat car, which was originally a tender from the Hoosac Tunnel and Wilmington Railroad, was brought into Stall Two so we could prepare it for the "Wire Train". The "Wire Train" consisted of the boxcar, flat car and Trackmobile for putting up the overhead wire on the House Track.

The "Wire Train" operated on April 28. The flat car held the spool of 1000' of copper grooved 2/0 trolley wire. The spool was mounted with a brake so we could control how the wire paid out. We put an idler wheel on the roof of the box car to get the wire up to proper height, and used the box car as a work platform (with ropes and harnesses for safety) to temporarily tie the trolley wire up at each bracket arm or span wire. Once we got the "Wire Train" together it only took a few hours to get the wire run out and tied up. Thanks to Amherst Railway Society for the grant last year that paid for most of this very expensive wire.

Next steps are to lightly clamp the trolley wire at each bracket arm or span wire, cut in the 'wire frog' (like a track frog but for trolley wire) where the new wire connects to the existing wire, tension the new trolley wire and tighten up the clamps. Thanks to Bill, Larry, Dave and Jordan for their help in this project.

We need to have the fire alarm system, security lighting and ADA pathways complete before we can get our Certificate of Occupancy. Since we are somewhat at the mercy of the schedules of others at this point, we will delay our Grand Opening until

Trolleyfest.

We have been keeping the caboose in Stall One (the restoration stall) so work can be done on its windows.

We renamed the old carbarn the Shed.

FREIGHT HOUSE PROGRESS

Last year we got an H. Albert Webb Award of \$10,000 to finish our 1867 Freight House exterior restoration. This spring we hired Jerry Root and son to do the slate roof work. They removed the little dormer that was tacked onto the roof sometime in the 1950s and replaced the missing slates where it was. They repaired other slate problems and replaced the trim on the north and east sides. Next step is to repair the clapboards along the north side. Then we will scrape, prime and paint the east and north sides. A donation of slate from Polly Bartlett has reduced our costs, so we will be able to hire out at least part of the painting work.

HISTORICAL TIDBITS

Bill Maling, grandson of ex-SF&C St Ry president Eugene Maling sent these from *The Republican* (Springfield, MA) newspaper

October 1906 - Boston and Maine employees living in Greenfield, who go to East Deerfield, have decided to petition the Connecticut Valley Street Railway company for a waiting-room near the Turners Falls junction. Getting wet Tuesday evening, while waiting for a car to go to Greenfield, has lead to this action.

March 1906 - E.G. Maling of Greenfield, who has been a car dispatcher of the Connecticut Valley Street Railway company for some time, succeeds Superintendent Holton of the Shelburne Falls and Colrain Street Railway Company, and will begin his duties April 1.



The "Wire Train" hangs the new trolley wire.

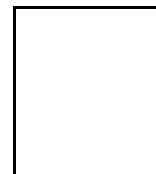


Jerry adds slates where the dormer used to be.

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See more Car barn progress pictures at <http://www.sftm.org/carbarnpictures.shtml>



The overhead trough for carrying the trolley wire



*Larry, with the Drott crane and the Bucket Truck,
hanging the last door frame*

Photos in this issue courtesy of David Goff, Jordan Helzer, Bill Kaiser, Sam Bartlett