



**VOL. 26 - NO. 3 SHELburnE FALLS Trolley Museum Newsletter  
FALL 2017**

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

**CENTRAL VERMONT RAILWAY CABOOSE 4015**



*CV 4015 in her new paint awaits the next visit from museum guests*

Our caboose has been on the property for as long as we've been giving trolley rides, eighteen years. See page 7 for the story of how we came to have a caboose. Some folks think a trolley museum shouldn't have a caboose (and some folks can't tell the difference, our crew help explain it to them). Our mission is a bit broader than our name, encompassing trolley and railroad preservation. This caboose, which ran through Palmer, Belchertown, Amherst, Millers Falls and Northfield (among other places) certainly qualifies as local railroad history.

It has taken us this long to complete the restoration because along the way we also had to build the Car Barn, restore the Freight House, rehabilitate and upgrade the warehouse that houses the Visitors

Center, etc. A few details still remain, but we are essentially complete with this project.

We completed the exterior painting and plan to do the lettering in the spring. We painted the floor, installed the second roof ladder, installed clear guards to 'keep' people from climbing the ladder, installed one bed and two coach seats. We also put a stone hearth under the stove, thanks to a generous contribution from Ashfield Stone. The original 'hearth' would have been layers of asbestos and sheet metal, so we choose to not be authentic in that case.

Some end platform and roof walk painting remains, and some window work is still needed. In the spring we'll also spruce up the interpretive displays inside the car, getting it *Continued on Page 2*



ready for another season of excited visitors. For now the caboose is in the shed, a tight squeeze but safe from the winter elements.



*CV 4015 is ready for spray painting*



*The floor color was taken from under the coach seats*



*A close up of the bed and seats*

Thanks to Dave Dye for heading up this effort, and to Bill, Dave G, Dick, John, Shirley, Nash, Jeff, Marie, Martin, Sam T and many others for your work on the caboose.

## TROLLEYFEST 2017



*Speeder rides are always a hit*

On July 22, we held our annual Trolleyfest. We had caboose rides and motor car rides on the House Track. In the Car Barn we had displays relating to industries and producers from the local trolley era (1896-1927). There were model railroad displays as well. A tag sale and a raffle added to the interest (and revenue!). In the yard we had farm displays and kids games from the 1890's. Hands-on activities included weaving, metal-casting, butter-making, cider-pressing, cow milking and uses of vinegar. Lunch was sandwiches and drinks inspired by what early 1900's farmers would have eaten in the fields.

On the trolley rides we had re-enactors who were dressed as passengers from the trolley era and had conversations with each other and the passengers in their assigned roles as teacher, farmer, etc.



*The Car Barn was full of activities*

Many thanks to Marie Bartlett and all the other volunteers for their efforts to make Trolleyfest 2017 another fun and educational event.

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## DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS - 2017

Polly Bartlett  
Sam Bartlett (President)  
Nash Bly - Alden Dreyer (Vice Chair)  
David Dye (Vice President, Chair of Board)  
David Goff - Tony Jewell - Bill Kaiser  
Lou Musante (Clerk, Asst Treasurer)  
Betsy Wholey Osell (Treasurer, Asst Clerk)  
Jim Wholey

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## CONTACT US

### Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum

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Shelburne Falls MA 01370

Phone: 413-625-9443 Email: [trolley@sftm.org](mailto:trolley@sftm.org)

Web: [www.sftm.org](http://www.sftm.org)

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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](mailto:editor@sftm.org)

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## 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. 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](mailto: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 a 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](mailto:membership@sftm.org).
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## VOLUNTEERING - HOW TO DO IT

Stop by, send an email to [trolley@sftm.org](mailto: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!!!

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## AMHERST RAILWAY SOCIETY RAILROAD HOBBY SHOW

Be sure to visit us, and everyone else involved in the railroad hobby, at the Railroad Hobby Show at the Eastern States Exposition Center in West Springfield MA on Jan 27 and 28, 2018. See <http://www.railroadhobbyshow.com/> for details.

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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

At this writing, SFTM has 120 current Memberships. If your printed TRANSFER does not have **2018** on the address label, please renew your membership, see the **Membership, Donation and Volunteer Form**. See the Form for more information on Member benefits and giving levels.

If you get the *eTransfer*, please check the message in the email that was sent with this issue.

Or, renew online at <http://www.sftm.org/join.shtml>

Your support is very important to us!

Please send changes of address for mail or email to [membership@sftm.org](mailto:membership@sftm.org)

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## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Gregory L. Cardinac  
Leonard Bulger  
Shahbaz Azhar  
Daniel Howard

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## Corporate Sponsors

*Please patronize our Sponsors!*

West End Pub                      Baker Pharmacy  
Pondside Pizza and Shelburne Falls Bowling Alley  
Walter's Propane                      Zoar Outdoor  
Coldwell Banker Upton Massamont REALTORS  
Berkshire East                      McCusker's Market  
The Blue Rock Restaurant & Bar  
Salmon Falls Gallery                      Mo's Fudge Factor  
Attorney Julia Ruesdhemeyer Divorce Mediation in  
Franklin County

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## TOY TRAIN SALE

We have several collections of LGB and O-Scale toy trains for sale. Contact us if you would like more information, these would look great under your tree!

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*Making Caboose ornaments at Moonlight Magic*

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# SHELBURNE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM

## MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS

(If you pay for your Membership in person, this will act as your receipt.)

__ JR Junior (under 18) \$12	__ CO Contributing \$60	__ PS Silver Patron \$350
__ IN Individual \$20	__ PA Patron \$100	__ PG Gold Patron \$500
__ FA Family \$32	__ PB Bronze Patron \$200	__ LM Life Member \$1000+
__ FR Friend \$40		__ CS Corporate Sponsor \$95

All Memberships (except for Life Memberships) are on a calendar-year basis, Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Life Membership is good for the life of the Life Member and spouse.

Benefits	Membership Levels						PA,PB,PG, LM
	JR \$12	IN \$20	FA \$32	FR \$40	CO \$60	CS \$95	
Membership Card	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Free All-Day-Passes for:	You	You	Family*	Family*	Family*	Employees	Family*
Additional Free Passes per visit	0	0	0	2	4	4	No Limit
Gift Shop Discount	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
<i>The Transfer</i> , our Newsletter	√ **	√	√	√	√	√	√
Free Instant Motorman per season	0	0	0	1	2	2	No limit
Tax Deduction	√	√	√	√	√	√	√
Car Card Ad in Trolley						√	
Company Name in <i>The Transfer</i> and our website						√	
The great feeling that you are supporting something important	√	√	√	√	√	√	√

\* A Family covers two adults living in the same household, and all children under age 18 related to at least one of the adults.

\*\* Junior Members receive only the emailed version of *The Transfer*. All other Members may get it mailed or emailed. We encourage you to get it by email because you get color pictures and save us printing and mailing costs.

Your Membership Card will be mailed to you shortly after we receive your payment.

Revised 12/12/2016



# SHELburnE FALLS Trolley Museum

## MEMBERSHIP, DONATION AND VOLUNTEER FORM

Go to <http://www.sftm.org/join.shtml> to Renew or Join online  
or fill out and mail this form with your check.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

An address label is fine. For Junior or Individual only list one name.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ Renewal? Y/N \_\_\_\_\_ Change of address? Y/N \_\_\_\_\_

SFTM memberships and donations are tax-deductible!  
See second page for benefits that come with ascending Membership levels.  
All Memberships (except for Life Memberships) are on a calendar-year basis, Jan. 1 through Dec. 31.  
Life Membership is good for the life of the Life Member and spouse.

### PLEASE CHOOSE A MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

___ Junior (under 18) \$12	___ Contributing \$60	___ Silver Patron \$350
___ Individual \$20	___ Patron \$100	___ Gold Patron \$500
___ Family \$32	___ Bronze Patron \$200	___ Life Member \$1000+
___ Friend \$40		___ Corporate Sponsor \$95

### ADDITIONAL DONATIONS

General Fund	Car Barn	PCC Cars	Caboose	Coach	Freight House	Box Car
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Our newsletter *The Transfer* is published three times a year for all our members, and sent by USPS mail or emailed (except Juniors can only get it by email). To get *The Transfer* by email (you get color pictures and save us printing and mailing costs), please put your email address here:

\_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Make your Membership and Donation check to: *Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum, Inc.* or "SFTM".

Mail or deliver to: **Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum**  
**Membership Clerk**  
**PO Box 272**  
**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.

### OPTIONAL VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

If you would also like to be included on the SFTM Volunteer Roster, check your interests below:

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Motorman/Conductor (Full training will be provided by SFTM)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Ticket and Sales<br><input type="checkbox"/> Restoration Work - Caboose, Coach.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising<br><input type="checkbox"/> Museum-Displays and Acquisitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations/Advertising<br><input type="checkbox"/> Track Work<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other Construction Work<br><input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
|--|--|

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Tear at fold ←, fill out and return pages 5 and 6.

# BALLOT

2018 Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum Inc. Annual Meeting  
Tuesday February 13, 2018 – 6:30pm  
Greenfield Cooperative Bank, Bridge St, Shelburne Falls, MA

## Ballot Information

The By-Laws of SFTM allow all Memberships in good standing to vote on Directors and certain Officers at the Annual Meeting. Only one vote is allowed per Membership. If you are not attending the Annual Meeting, and if you wish to cast your vote, please detach and mail the ballot below in time to reach Shelburne Falls by February 01, 2018 to:

**Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum, Inc.**

**Attention Clerk**

**PO Box 272**

**Shelburne Falls MA 01370**

Otherwise ensure that it is received by Clerk Lou Musante prior to the Annual Meeting. If you wish your vote to be secret, write SECRET on the postal envelope and put your ballot inside another unmarked envelope inside the postal envelope. The postal envelope must have your name and return address to allow for proper counting of votes.

Only paid-up (and Life or Honorary Life) Members are allowed to vote. You must hold a 2018 or Life Membership for your vote to count. Please check the expiration date on your mailing label. If it reads 2017 or older, your Membership will need to be renewed before or when you submit your ballot. If you are using eTRANSFER and are not sure of your status, contact Membership@sftm.org. Please renew at your earliest convenience. Your support is greatly appreciated. Thank you.

## Ballot for Elections Part 1 – Directors

Under the By-Laws the Board of Directors has been divided into three classes, with only one class to be voted on each year. The term for incumbents is for three years. New Directors will be assigned to a class by the Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of candidates who are all willing to serve on the Board of Directors. You may vote for **no more than FOUR** by marking an X in the corresponding box. If you wish to vote for a write-in candidate, you must obtain prior approval from your candidate. Then write his/her name below and mark X in box.

- (no more than FOUR)
- Robert “Sam” Bartlett (Class 3) - Incumbent
  - David Dye (Class 3) - Incumbent
  - Anthony “Tony” Jewell (Class 3) - Incumbent
  - Louis “Lou” Musante (Class 3) - Incumbent
  - WRITEIN \_\_\_\_\_

## Ballot for Elections Part 2 - Certain Officers

The Nominating Committee has presented the following candidates who are willing to serve as the President and Vice-President of the Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum for the coming year. If you wish to vote for a write-in candidate, you must obtain prior approval from your candidate. Then write his/her name below and mark X in box.

President  ROBERT G. "Sam" BARTLETT - Incumbent  
(choose one)  Writein \_\_\_\_\_

Vice-President  DAVID DYE - Incumbent  
(choose one)  Writein \_\_\_\_\_

## HOW DID WE GET A CABOOSE?

*This article taken in part from TRANSFER – Vol. 9 No. 2 (2000).*

It came out of the blue. A phone call early in May 2000 from Jay Stryker, an Amherst Railway Society member (and new SFTM member), informing us of a caboose which had to find a new home within three weeks or face being scrapped in place. Were we interested?

The SFTM Board had been of the opinion that we would not collect any more rolling stock unless it was in mint condition, delivered at no cost, and came with a dowry. The caboose met none of these. Nevertheless, a delegation from SFTM went to the site, in Amherst MA, for a look.

The caboose, built in 1910 by the Central Vermont at St. Albans as No. 4015, and last owned by the Green Mountain Railway, had been acquired by Dr. Frederick Hess in the late '70's, and placed on a short section of track on his property. Now the property was to be sold by the end of May, and the new owner did not want the caboose. Our team noted that the car was definitely restorable, but would need a good deal of repair work. Unlike our trolley car, at least the caboose came with all its parts and hardware, from trucks to smokestack. While the caboose was living under a recently-built pole canopy when we found it, it had been stored out in the open for too many years, with the usual severe damage as a result. The site had been open and accessible when the caboose landed there, but a junior forest had grown up around it in the meantime. Multiple challenges, to say the least. Then there was the matter of SFTM's financial resources, best described as meager.

SFTM President Sam Bartlett took the bull by the horns, working out a donation of the car to SFTM, plus a part of the moving expense, by the owner. Then an estimate of \$8000 was obtained from a local rigger. Amherst Railway Society, which had already made a generous donation to SFTM earlier in the spring, offered to make yet another to help with the move. The Board agreed to go ahead with the acquisition with the understanding that no current Museum moneys were to be used to make up the balance of the moving cost, which amounted to around \$2000. Luckily an individual donor came across with the needed sum.

All of that was the easy part. Now trees had to be cut and a gravel roadway needed to be built from the street to the car. Some brake gear had to be cut off so the trucks could be removed. Finally there was room

for a large crane to wiggle up to the caboose, and for a big flatbed for the caboose's ride to Shelburne Falls. The clock was ticking – it was getting close to the closing date on the property. But finally everything was loaded up and ready to go. And that was a hair-pull too, since there were miles of narrow country road, with lots of utility lines crossing it before the open highway was reached. Snails have been known to move faster.

On May 31 2000, after nearly a week en route on account of the rigger trying to squeeze this job into his other scheduled work, the trailer and the crane arrived at SFTM. First, the trucks were set, properly spaced, on a yard track, then the crane swung the caboose through the air (without taking out any trolley wire on the way), and set the body on its trucks. The rest of the story was now up to SFTM.

*David C. Bartlett*

## MOONLIGHT MAGIC

The evening after Thanksgiving was again a very busy time at SFTM this year. Our Moonlight Magic trolley crew carried 427 passengers in five hours, which is one rider less than our record night in 2012! This passenger volume kept the crew on their toes. With No.10 only able to carry about twenty riders, this made for a lot of very quick trips. While waiting, guests were able to have hot cocoa, homemade crackers and cookies, or make an ornament and warm up by the coal stove in the caboose at the Salmon Falls end of the line. We've met families from out-of-state who return every year and collect these ornaments, designed by Marie Betts Bartlett.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped get everything ready and decorated, who ran the trolley and handled the crowds, and who helped take things down when it was all over.

## TRACKWORK CONTINUES

Dave G, Nash, Sam, Dick and Jeff worked on replacing ties on the House Track.

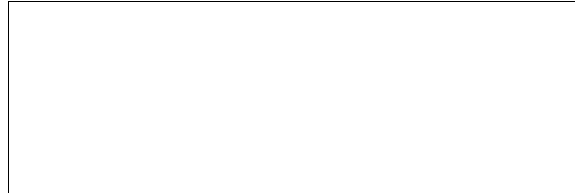
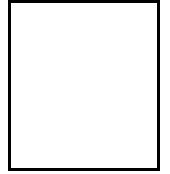
## RIDERSHIP 2017

In 2000, our first full year of operation, we carried 5132 passengers. Since then our annual ridership has varied from 2719 (2011) to 3798 (2007). This year we carried 3667 passengers which puts 2017 in third place. If you only count paying passengers, 2017 was second best. Over all the years we have carried 55,566 passengers, with 42,070 of them being paying passengers. Total passenger revenue is \$107,607.

Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum  
PO Box 272  
Shelburne Falls MA 01370-0272



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



If your address label does not say '2018' or '2100' please renew your Membership today.  
Please consider getting your Transfer online, see Page 3 for eTRANSFER details.  
You can visit our FaceBook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ShelburneFallsTrolleyMuseum/>



*Did you know that you can rent out the caboose for a unique dining experience? We don't provide food but we can suggest caterers, or you can bring your own. You can even spend the night if you want to. Currently the caboose is indoors, contact us in the spring if you'd like to try this out. The caboose does not move for this rental.*



*For Moonlight Magic we light up the caboose and the trolley car. In this shot, Nate captured both cars as well as their reflections on the hoods and windows of nearby parked autos.*

*If you get the B&W mailed Transfer and want to see these pictures in color, sign up for the e-Transfer, see page 3.*

*Thanks to Dave, Marie and Nate for photos in this issue.*