

PENDRAGON

The Newsletter of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum, PO Box 751, New Berlin, NY 13411

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Winter 2012-2013

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DEDICATION TO WILLIAM S. YOUNG



Mr. William S. Young will always be remembered as a very special Life Member, Guest Speaker, Author and Historian with a love for the Unadilla Valley Railroad and other short line railroads.

Mr. Young passed away on August 8th, 2012 in Susquehanna County, PA. His family and friends gathered at his home to pay tribute to this extraordinary man.

"Bill" as we called him, lived in a charming home filled with his many rail-

road books and memorabilia surrounded by his collections of artifacts rail articles and hobbies. It was easy to see and imagine him there comfortably writing to his many friends and completing yet another book. Four members of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum attended this event, Mike Holdridge of Williamsburg, PA, Hezekiah Welch and Pat Gifford of New Berlin, and Laurie Hotaling of Norwich, NY.

In his last published book, 'UV the Life and Times of a Small Railroad, a Definitive Account of the Unadilla Valley Railway' he has 12 wonderful chapters all about The Unadilla Valley and railroad days long gone. A quote in the first paragraph of his book "The gestation period for this book, sixty-five years, may set some kind of dubious record. A letter to me dated June 1, 1944, from L. L. Schomo, superintendent of motive power and equipment for the Unadilla Valley Railway at New Berlin, NY. shows that at age fifteen I already wanted to tell his railroad's story. I had written him to explain this and to ask if I could have a ride on the UV. I didn't say how old I was." Bill peddled 67 miles to New Berlin on a one speed bicycle on September 4th, 1945. When reading about his trip and the very interesting remarks about our familiar villages, towns and

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Please mark your calendars and plan attending our meetings on the
THIRD SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

See calendar details on page 2

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rivers, one cannot put his book down ... you just feel like reading all 12 chapters without stopping. His book is enhanced with more than 60 pictures, 15 maps and approximately 700 people that are named and listed in the Personal-Name Index as well as a list of about 50 people hired before 1900.

Bill spent many hours organization, collating, and binding his book to save cost for us to be able to purchase his books at a very reasonable price of only \$20. The work he did on each book would have doubled the cost to us if he had hired it done.

Personal letters from Bill to our director, Pat Gifford, showed his heart felt love for our members. After traveling way up here from his home in Starrucca Creek Road PA early in May, 2010 he wrote, "Thank you everyone for

your kind hospitality last Saturday. It was a most enjoyable time for me, I appreciated very much being able to review the Jenkins/Brome papers."

He took time to advise us about filing for tax exempt status with the IRS that needed to be done by May 17th 2010, otherwise they could cancel our tax exemption. In recent mail and phone calls we are advised of the following from William (Bill) Young's family that he is continually thinking about us. His Last Will and Testament states "I give and bequeath to the UNADILLA VALLEY RAILWAY SOCIETY AND MUSEUM. New Berlin. New York. All of my photographs, papers, and artifacts relating to the Unadilla Valley Railway, along with my copyright to the book UV (The Life and Times of a Small Railroad)." This gift is a huge asset to our organization. This Spring his family plan on coming to New Berlin to tour the Museum and present us with his legacy to the UVR which he was enamored with thought his life.

Calendar for 2013

January	19th	Guest Speaker was Ray Adamson	Meeting 2 pm	United Methodist Church
February	16th	Guest Speaker Don Rickard	Meeting 2 pm	United Methodist Church
March	16th	Guest Speaker Fred Lenfear	Meeting 2 pm	United Methodist Church
April	20th	Guest Speaker Barbara Vanderbunt	Meeting at 2pm	United Methodist Church
May	18th	Guest Speaker Paul Straney	Meeting at 2 pm	UVR Museum Depot 3 Railroad St.
ALSO May 18th		New Berlin Garage Sales 10 to 4 pm	at	UVR Museum Depot 3 Railroad St.
June	15th	Spring Cleaning of Museum	Guest Speaker?	UVR Museum Depot 3 Railroad St.
July	20th	Christmas in July & Speaker		UVR Museum Depot 3 Railroad St.
See more details in Spring Pendragon				
August see Summer Pendragon		for details of Speakers and		
September 21st Annual Picnic at		Alan Fairbrother home Route 13, New Berlin-Morris Road		

News from Michael Holdridge about the Unadilla Valley Locomotive GE 70 Ton Diesel now available for Model collectors

To those of you that always wished there was a model of the locomotive that operated on your favorite railroad, the Unadilla Valley Railway, your wish has finally come true.

Bachmann Trains, now offers in "HO"(1/87th scale), an operating model of the same type of locomotive that operated on the Unadilla Valley Railway, a GE 70 Ton Diesel.

This locomotive comes in a variety of paint schemes, but Bachmann Trains item number 60611 comes already

painted in the familiar cream & orange w/black trim, paint scheme that was used on our UV # 200 & earlier UV #100 GE 70 ton diesels.

The Salzburg acquisition of shortline railroads, were at one time, seen in the states of Louisiana, Arkansas, Iowa, Pennsylvania, Vermont, and our own New York State, of which there was the Unadilla Valley, Jamestown Westfield & North Western, and the Southern New York railroads. These Salzburg railroads that

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Unadilla Valley Historical Society, Mt. Upton, NY

The Unadilla Valley Historical Society of Mt. Upton received a gift of the newly restored baggage cart seen here.

On June 15th, 2013 at 2 pm they are having an APPRECIATION DAY to thank Lewis Moors and his friends for donating the baggage cart and Tyler

Pope for all his help. Tyler earned his Eagle Scout Badge by work he did at the Depot.

We have others to thank for their help also. The Unadilla Valley Historical Society of Mt. Upton hold their meetings the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30. October-May they meet at the Mt. Upton Firehouse while June-September they meet at the Depot on Main Street Route 8.

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had GE 70 tonners were all basically painted the same cream & orange w/black trim scheme that is pictured.

The locomotive model comes unlettered in road name, so it can be decal'd by the modeler for their specific road name the modeler is interested in. Right now Unadilla Valley Railway Co. decals were available several years ago, but right now they are pretty hard to find. It is to be remembered though, that in the last year of the UV railroad, the locomotive was repainted but not re-lettered in the large letters on the sides of the engine hood. Work is being done by Piney Creek Model Works, to make decal sets for the UV and the other Salzburg shortlines that operated GE 70 Tonners, in the cream and orange paint scheme, available again.

Working with Bachmann to provide the information for the Salzburg paint scheme on the GE 70 Tonner locomotive was a pretty interesting project, and they are the only manufacturer that currently offers a plastic ready to run "HO" model of the GE 70 ton diesel(s) that operated from late in the year when they were delivered new to the UV railroad, of 1947, with UV#200 continuing its service through all the years, till the railroad's abandonment in November of 1960, on our UV trackage.

Submitted by Michael Holdridge.



Michael Holdridge of Piney Creek Model Works, Williamsburg, PA., is donating to the UV Historical Society and Museum, a Bachmann "HO" GE 70 ton locomotive, to be raffled off for this summer's fund raiser. Pictured above!

This scale model locomotive, which besides being factory painted in the paint scheme, representing the UV coloring, features a factory installed duel mode DCC digital command control decoder, which enables the locomotive model to operate in standard DC (direct household current), or DCC (digital command control), and comes ready to operate, right out of the box. The Suggested retail price from the 2013 Bachmann catalog is \$89.00. Thank You Mike for this generous donation.

Miscellany up and down the tracks

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*** From June 2007 notes .. The Unadilla Valley Railway Historical Society and Museum in honor of the Village of New Berlin's Bicentennial Celebration, is proudly presenting "An afternoon with William S. Young", noted railroad historian, photographer and author. Mr. Young will be on hand all afternoon to share his many UVRH experiences, answer questions, and present a slide show at 2pm on the Unadilla Valley Railway Co., and other upstate short line railroads. Mr. Young has had a life long interest in the Unadilla Valley Railway even before he had a license to drive. Bill Young rode his bicycle, with camera along, from his home in Starrucca, PA to New Berlin, and back just to get some photographs of the UV Railroad. These many years later his recorded history and photos of the UV are to be released in a book titled, *UV the Life and Times of a Small Railroad, a Definitive Account of the Unadilla Valley Railway* early in 2008." This event was held in the former O & W rail road station/freight building, (now Unadilla Valley Railway Museum) The record breaking attendance was enjoyed by all.

***The article above is the book referred to on the front page and is available for sale at the Museum or thru members at a cost of only \$20.00.

***In January, Ralph Scopo, President, handed the gavel over to the incoming President Gladys Slentz. Ralph was elected and has accepted the job of Treasurer.

***Margie Behnke was elected Recording Secretary following the completion of Laurie Hotaling's term as Recording Secretary. Several officers are still serving in their respective offices until they fill the required number of years.

***January 2012 we congratulated Peter Iorio for getting the article in the School newsletter and reminding people that dues are now due. Peter sure is a faithful member.

***February found us discussing the loss of copper pipe on the outside of our depot to the furnace as it was stolen. Dave Mondore, our Property Maintenance person is working with Peter Iorio our Past Vice President and Alan Fairbrother our building Engineer to decide what to do about the missing pipe. They reported that

they have moved the oil tank thirty feet nearer the front corner of the Museum and now we need to arrange for the tank to be replaced before it is connected to the furnace as the tank appears to be unusable due to age and rust. **If anyone has an oil tank that we can have for the furnace at the museum it would be appreciated and do not forget we are a 501-3 tax-exempt organization. Let any officer know.**

***Thanks to Bonnie Jean Bauer for donation of 6 Books she purchased from Mark Simonson, who is an excellent PENDRAGON Guest speaker, Historian and writer. He has a column appearing twice weekly in The Daily Star, Oneonta, NY. The books Bonnie Jean donated are 6 Volumes of Reminiscing Across the Valleys. Marks' many books can be purchased on the Web site thru PAY PAL.

***Rev. Ernie Clemens, past member on our Board of Directors and member at large for many years, writes that he received a check on his donation of the Miniature Village homes that he made. He said he is grateful. The villages are now on display in the Museum.

***Sad to report the deaths of Charles Sage, William Young, Elrena Clemens and Tom Trencansky in 2012.

***Recently when two UV railroad members were traveling just south of New Berlin on the old route 8 they stopped to take a picture of an interesting yard train. Inquiring they found out the train is owned by Jean and Ed Haddon and was made by John Rzucidlo. Very interesting reminder to Ed of his 32 years working as Conductor on the Long Island Railroad.

***This year a new schedule for the Board meeting time was accepted to be the first Tuesday of the month at the Community Center, New Berlin, at 2pm. The continuation of having our Regular Speaker meetings will be the third Saturday of the month. In May we will move from the United Methodist Church into our Museum on Railroad Street.

***At the Chit-Chat and Chew meeting last year January Dorothy Pierce presented the Museum with a TRAIN shaped lamp now on display at the museum. Good attendance and all enjoyed the meal that was prepared free for the community and held at the St. Andrews church.

***Guest speakers for last year included Sam Senn in December and Julie Kupris in November,

Louis Langone spoke in May and Sue Ackerman, President of the Historical Society and Kayrl Turner, Town of Pittsfield Historian, presented very interesting talks about the effects of railroading on the Town of Pittsfield. Mark and Harla Lazur attended again with their books and fund raising items for the Utica-Mohawk Valley Chapter in July as we all enjoyed Lasagna made by Gladys Slentz. One of the most interesting and best attended events is always the annual picnic held at the home of Alan Fairbrother. Thank You Alan!

***Youth Days found us on the grass lot of the four corners of New Berlin's main street., thanks to Peter Iorio's advance thinking. We were able to have our "Thomas the tank look alike" float available there for selling pictures taken with children on the float. This long day event included sales of items brought in by our members and made us a profit of \$337.16 We won first prize again for the float entry.

***Several members have donated money toward the roof repair. Thank You!!!

***In January, 2013 we had Ray Adamson, guest speaker. If you missed this, you missed a very knowledgeable talk on Railroads and their effect on Agriculture. Ray is a Morrisville Grad., he has an Engineering Degree and he has been a dairy farmer for over 40 years and worked for Pratt & Whitney Aircraft for 11 years. He worked on Project Spy the Blackbird SR71, fastest Spy plane ever manufactured.

***In August Peter Warren donated 6 double florescent lights. Thank you Peter. We need helping hands to install them any volunteers?

***Jerome Kupris donated several VCR railroad tapes and a nicely framed certificate now on display at the Museum..

***We were honored to have Senator James Seward visit our museum with Councilman Roy Stockwell. Article and picture appeared in the Fall issue 2012 of the Pendragon.

***Dorothy Pierce would appreciate ideas for Fund raising. Please send ideas to her at 4774 County Hwy 18, New Berlin, NY 13411.

***Still looking for volunteers to help Grant research & writing. A meeting scheduled for March 5th at 3pm following the Board of Directors meeting at 2pm, at the Terrace Heights Senior Center in New Berlin.



Buddyboys R/C Toys and Trains

Specializing in R/C Racing and all

George Sarpriacone is presenting a gift to Dorothy Pierce & the UV Museum with a 0-27 Freight Car Santa Fe rolling stock train. Dorothy will add it to a fund raiser she is preparing for the July 20th, fund raising meeting. More details in the Spring Pendragon.

Certificate of Appreciation for Donald Rickard

Bonnie Jean Bauer is presenting a Certificate of Appreciation and a UV Railway Bumper Sticker to Donald Rickard of Unadilla after his talk on February 16th at the monthly Guest Speaker Meeting.

Mr. Rickard showed a DVD of Steam Engines in the area from Scranton, PA to Utica, NY and more.

Don and Bonnie Jean have held several positions on the Board of Directors of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum since 2002. Both are life members and continue to help keep railroad history alive for future generations.



A Note to Contributors

The Unadilla Valley Railway Museum & Society is a 501 ©3 tax-exempt organization chartered by the New York State Board of Regents. Checks payable to Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum may be sent to P.O. Box 751, New Berlin, NY 13411

Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum

3 Railroad Street

PO Box 751

New Berlin, NY 13411

Happy Railing !

TO: _____



Certificate of Appreciation

Mr. Rickard showed a DVD of Steam Engines in the areas from Scranton, PA to Utica, NY and more. Donald Rickard of Unadilla after his talk on February 16th at the monthly Guest Speaker Meeting.

Send To: Ralph Scopo, Treasurer, of UVRS&M PO Box 751, New Berlin, NY 13411.

All joining now or renewing will cover you until 1-1-2014 A membership card along with the Pendragon publications will be sent to you.

Donation only.....\$ Thank You!

Life Member (Family)\$250.00

Life Member (Single) ... \$225.00

Family Member...\$25.00 per year.....

Single member.....\$15.00 per year.....

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Zip. Phone

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Name

Unadilla Valley Railway Museum and Society Membership Form

Families and children welcome

and enjoy events with us.

and receive our newsletter

are or have been members

Join the 170 people who