

PENNDRAGON

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Summer-2013

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

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Pictured in front of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum Depot from left to right are Ralph Scopo, Madeleine Scopo, Harry Simrell, George Chevalier, Samuel Senn and Hezekiah Welch.

Remembering the late William S. Young

Life-time Member of UVRS & Museum and Famous Author

Excitement was felt by all who attended the UVRS & Museum early on June 24th when Harry Simrell called and said he was bringing the last of the famous railroad books written by his Uncle, William Young. Our Unadilla Valley Railroad has been honored to have Mr. William Young leave to us in his will, the remaining books from his last published book "UV THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A SMALL RAILROAD, A Definitive Account of the Unadilla Valley Railway." This book features 12 wonderful Chapters all about the Unadilla Valley and railroad days long gone.

Harry Simrell, and his friend George Chevalier, arrived early with a truck containing the last few books available now and some of the memorabilia from "Bill's" collections. The books are selling fast and several people have purchased an extra one for a gift. The readers say with more than 60 pictures, 15 maps and about 700 people's names. Cont. on page 3



Alan Fairbrother is checking the missing copper pipes that had been hooked to our furnace. An investigation turned up no guilty person and we were informed that several people in the area were missing copper pipes from their homes. Now at this time the new oil tank

has been delivered and plans are in the works to place the tank inside to prevent further problems with thefts of this kind. Thanks to all involved in the current tank delivery as well as donations sent to help replace the missing pipes.

April 20th Meeting

John Ginter, is retired after 30+ years as a Police Officer in Albany, NY. Now a busy local resident and one of our newest members of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum.

John was our Guest Speaker in April and gave us a very informative speech on a few of his many interest's. John is a woodcarver, photographer and collects many things to include fossils, stamps, and all kinds of plants for his gardening interest. He is using his metal detector along old railroad tracks, and goes fishing, hunting and much more. John and his wife, Pam live on County Route 13, (just 3 1/2 miles out of New Berlin.). If you pass a house that has many gardens and a big pond with gold fish and water lilies starting to grow in it that is his place.



President, Gladys Slentz, presenting John Ginter a Certificate of Appreciation for his informative Speech on 4-20-13.

Calendar for 2013

June 15th	Guest Speaker	Paul Straney	"UVR Train Picture Collection & More
July 2nd	Board of Directors Meet at 2 pm	Methodist Church	South Main Street in New Berlin, NY
July 20	Christmas in July HUGE SALE	see page 4 for details	UVR Museum 3 Railroad St, New Berlin
August 6th	Board of Directors meeting at 2 pm	Methodist Church	South Main Street in New Berlin, NY
August	Otsego Co. Fair	July 31-Aug.4	Otsego County Fair Grounds Morris, NY
also August 17th	Work Day and Cleaning Museum		for the William Young Appreciation Day
August 24	New Berlin Youth Days Parade at 6 pm	featuring our Railway Float designed by Alan Fairbrother	
Sept. 3rd	Board of Directors meeting at 2 pm	Methodist Church	South Main Street in New Berlin, NY
Sept. 14th	Annual Picnic at Alan Fairbrother's home	Route 1096 County Hwy 13, New Berlin-Morris Road	
October 15th	Regular Speaker and short Business meeting at 2 pm	Methodist Church, New Berlin, NY	
November 5th	Nomination of Officers & Business Meeting at 2 pm	Methodist Church, New Berlin, NY	
December 3rd	Business Meeting and Election of Officers	at 2 pm	Methodist Church, New Berlin, NY

Please Note the date changes and places and times

Please mark your calendars now. Notify Gladys Slentz or Office of the Aging 337-1770 if you will attend the Senior Luncheon at 12 the same day and place as the business meetings that are held the first Tuesday of each month so she can have enough food.

continued from page 1... 700. peoples' personal names listed in alphabetical order in a Personal-Name Index and a list of over 150 UV employees also listed, everyone wants a copy. Interesting are the * (Asterisks) marking early employees that were hired before 1900. It must have taken years to gather all these names! These sure are some of the reasons the books are selling so fast.

See the Picture of his book on the back of this Pendragon

The Board of Directors and our members have decided to have a "Special", with the donation of only \$20.00 we will mail you his book postage free until 9-1-13. (while they last) This is a 20% savings. So order today William Young's book by calling any officer or Pat Gifford at 607-847-9484, or use Pat's e-mail address sunshinepat@stny.rr.com.

Harry Simrell lives in Ithaca and George Chevalier is the Hartford Town Historian. George told about his friend Jim Doss, it sounded so interesting that I looked it up on the Internet and found him to be VERY interesting. Maybe he will come and be our guest speaker. Both Harry Simrell and George Chevalier were impressed with the construction of our Depot. Thank you both for bringing us the books, photographs and all the memorabilia that William Young willed the Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum.



JUNE SPEAKER PAUL STRANEY

Receiving a certificate of appreciation From Ralph Scopo on the right and Pastor William Fliedner, on June 15, 2013

Paul Straney and his wife Edna are life-time members of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum. We were honored to have Paul instructing us on how to update our web sight. He will be the Director of the web-site and now needs each member to help by doing their part in supplying him with the material he needs to make it successful.

While instructing the members he showed a film, "Berkshire Botanical Gardens", Paul pointed out the reasons we need a web-site and how to accomplish it.

After the lesson we were treated to some of the hundreds of wonderful pictures of the local railroad and some connecting railway pictures from Paul's vast collection. It was a very informative and interesting meeting. Thank You Paul.

A note from your Director, Pat. It is hard getting old. I am at the point of needing someone to step up and take over the Director's Job. It should be an easy job and everyone should want to do it!!! Please let any officer know if you would like to relieve me of this commitment. In the 1012 summer issue of the Pendragon I asked for someone to Please help me following many nervous days of Life and whatever??? Now I need someone to really take me seriously and help me as my health is not good and I am not getting this work done on time. I will be happy to help anyone who takes the position and try to keep the interest in Railroading alive for the generations to come. I can be reached at 607-847-9484.

Bring your children to see our new world of 0 Gauge model trains as they run thru picturesque layouts of hills and villages. Join the Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum to keep the memories of yester-years alive for the future generation. Call an officer to let you in and we will be their for you and your children. We are also available for school tours.

A Note to Contributors

The Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum 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

Station Calls up and down the TRACKS

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July and August will be busy months at the Museum.

Christmas in July

Because we had a lot of leftover sale items from our May sale, we need to plan on selling the rest of the items at our Christmas in July meeting on July 20th. Christmas trees to be donated or just displayed need to be at the museum by July 15 so we can get them ready for the event. We still need volunteers to help make our displays of the sale items ready. Perhaps someone out there has an idea for fast sale of the items? Please let any officer know. Beside dishes, bric-a-brac, bedding, shoes, men's and women's clothing, some books, some art magazines, two chest of drawers, a table, (organ well worth the five dollar price tag on it), new matching tire rims, an electric grill (New in the box) bread maker, and far too many items to list here.

August Schedule

Our Business meeting for August is the 6th. It will be at the Methodist Church at 2, following the Senior Citizens luncheon. If you are not attending the meals on a regular basis please let Gladly know that you will be there at the meeting dates so she can have her orders in for enough food. Phone is in red page 2.

July 28 the Otsego Co. Fair starts and we should be set up by July 29th to start the week. As the Otsego County Fair plans have not been completed yet and our July Business Meeting is yet to come we can not know for sure if we will participate in the Fair this year. It takes a lot of dedicated people to make this successful and the last few weeks have found many of us with obligations that week. Please check the newspaper for details (New Berlin Gazette or the Norwich or Oneonta Papers.)

August 17th Work Day and Cleaning the Museum is the scheduled and much needed to prepare for our Appreciation Day. The celebration will be scheduled at the convenience of the family members of the Late William S. Young.

New Berlin Youth Days Parade starts at 6 pm sharp on Saturday August 24th. We usually have a float and some members in the parade a worthy note is that we have always won first place prize with our current floats designed by Alan Fairbrother.

++++Vince Bauer has returned home after two recent surgeries. His wife Bonnie Jean reports he is slowly getting better. Vince and Bonnie Jean are Life Members of the UVR&S Museum here in New Berlin, NY.

Our first annual picnic was held on September 11, 2010. This year will be our fourth annual picnic. We are so fortunate to have the very talented, Alan Fairbrother, opening his very unusual and fascinating home and land for us to enjoy all the festivities. He puts on a spread of gourmet food and fancy treats the likes of which many can not beat. We bring a dish to pass and the hours of fun, games, singing, eating and laughter go by so fast. We often talk about all the fun and close relationships we have made from year to year. Please mark your calendar now for September 14th, again at Alan's home. If you need directions to his place or suggestions what to bring, please contact him at 847-8142.

+++Warren Genung has been battling various health problems and he now is at home after several weeks stay at the VETS Home in Oxford. Warren has surely been missed from our group of faithful people. He is the Vice President and in charge of our Grant Writing process. Welcome back Warren.

UTICA TRACK SIDE PICNIC 8-9-13

+++From the TOWER TOPICS- The official Bulletin of the Utica Mohawk Valley Chapter and a reminder from Harla Lazur, The Annual Trackside Picnic is scheduled for Friday, August 9 at 5:30 pm. It is held on the trackside, behind the Utica Union Station. The picnic is held rain or shine. Please bring a dish to share and a chair would be helpful. The Utica Group supply the picnic basics (meats and the grill, rolls, condiments, drinks etc.) A donation box is available as a free will offering will be gladly accepted to help with expenses. Harla is the Chapter Store Keeper and her husband Mark is the National Director, and both are Life Members of our group, often at meetings and speaking as well. We had a nice group from UVR&S & Museum attending last year's picnic. Sam, Pat, Hezekiah, Louie, Dorothy, Warren, Marie, George, and Beverly.

+++Utica & Mohawk Valley Chapter will have their next regular meeting September 13, Friday at 7pm—Program is by Wayne Freed, video of trip on private car "Chapel Hill". They meet at the Zion Lutheran Church Hall, French & Burrstone RDS in New Hartford, NY.

+++May Board meeting Talked about the Otsego CO. Fair to be decided at the next meeting. Peter did get the Corner ground for Garage Sale days. Engine House Hoist talked about, Income for roof repairs, Thank You to the Herman Carney Family for roof repairs donations.

+++June Business income from Sales in May totaled \$405.59, Insurance due \$1,070.43. Speaker at the regular meeting in June was Paul Straney. He is setting up a web-page for us. We are very excited to now have our web page that will be active and updated. Check the next Pendragon for details.

+++The past 3 Saturdays have found our museum not open. Apparently the faithful members are busy and not opening up. Many people have called and some had traveled miles to see the museum. Please attend the next meeting and help us decide what needs to be done now to keep the Museum open to the public.

+++About the Engine House we own on Sophie Ave...Did you know that In Jan. 1911 an employee by the name of Hobart Moore came to the superintendent Perkins home at 3 am and delivered the message that the roof of the engine house had caved in on both engines 1 & 2. The north trusses and six timbers that supported the rafters had caused an undue problem with the weight of the heavy snow. Then on April 29th a tremendous fire destroyed the old engine house. A new one was built on the same location which had three stalls. This Building was 80 feet long and 77 feet wide. A newer addition to the engine house still stands today. Several business have come and gone since but IT&CA Welch and Talbot of W. Edmeston, lasted thirty years. Tractors soon replaced horses and trucks replaced the cars this hurt the UV Railroad immensely.

OUR THANKS TO PETER IORIO AND HIS COMMITTEE

FOR THE RECENT DONATIONS TO THE Unadilla Valley Museum

The pictures below were taken by Ralph Scopo, our Treasurer and presented to the local businesses by Peter Iorio, Director of the Membership & Fundraising committee. This year has been extremely costly due to many improvements needed to our building and grounds. All donations are greatly appreciated. To become a member or make a donation please read the form below.



BARBIE MONTOURI

HOMESTEAD PET & FARM SUPPLY



BRIAN BURTRON

NBT BANK NEW BERLIN



DEBBIE BRUNSCHMID JOANN SMITH
COLLEEN HESS

GATES COLE INSURANCE



DARLENE LABRIE, DIRECTOR

NEW BERLIN LIBRARY & MUSEUM



JEFF WILLIAMS, OWNER

WILLIAMS TIRE & AUTO SUPPLY



ROSARIO BAIO

NEW BERLIN PIZZERIA

Unadilla Valley Railway Museum and Society Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

e-mail address _____

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

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

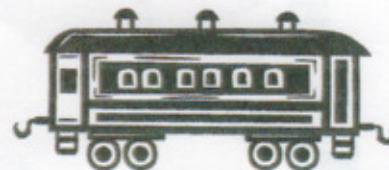
Life Member (Single) ... \$225.00

Life Member (Family)\$250.00

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

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.

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



Society and Museum

3 Railroad Street

PO Box 751

New Berlin, NY 13411

Happy Railing !

TO: _____



UV THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A SMALL RAILROAD

A Definitive Account of the Unadilla Valley Railway



WILLIAM S. YOUNG

In Memory of William S. Young we have his last books on sale for 20% savings, a total of \$20.00 to include postage if purchased by September 1, 2013.