



Guest Speaker, Peter Iorio, receiving a Certificate of Appreciation from President Gladys Slentz.

Members of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum enjoyed a memorable talk on **Memories of the Rails**.

From his speech: "The words *RAILROAD* and *TRAINS* have a special meaning to me. I can associate these two words with my Grandfather, Pietro, and my father, John, known as Giovanni.

My Grandfather, Pietro Iorio, was born on April 20, 1888 in Naples, Italy. He was an only child and his parents died young. As a young man he left his homeland and immigrated to the United States of America with his cousin, Giovanni, Iorio.

They arrived at Ellis Island and resided in Jersey City, NJ, in 1909. He migrated to an Italian neighborhood where he was introduced to Rose Donatelli. Rose was born in 1913 in Abruzzi, Italy and was one of 16 children. Pietro and Rose were married in 1911 and started the first American Generation with their family of five children. The first born was my (to page 2)

(from page 1) father Giovanni, born in 1913 and later known as John. My grandparents moved to the Fordham area of Bronx in NY to raise their family. Pietro and his cousin both worked for the New York Transit Authority. Pietro's badge number was 2. He had helped build the tracks to other boroughs. He maintained the tracks throughout the years.

As my grandfather was laying tracks for the city and expanding city transit on a larger scale, his son, John began building his own HO and Lionel scale model trains. He was a member of the HO and Lionel clubs of Long Island, New York.

John would build the trains from scale models and design his own layouts on wooden platforms. He would imitate and create his own city, towns, villages and mountains. The details of his work would not go unnoticed. Once he switched on the transformer his work would come to life. You would become part of his world and were fascinated by it. He retired at age 72.

When I was young and rode the city subways, I was reminded that he'd built the tracks. Hearing the clickity clack of the train wheels on the rails made me proud of his hard work. It paid off for millions of people to commute to the five boroughs of New York City. He retired at his country house in Lake Carmel and enjoyed growing vegetables in his garden. He died April 19, 1977, at age 89. His wife Rose died at age 101 in 1991. They considered the United States their home and had lived the American dream.

I am proud that my grandfather was part of the building of this industry in the inner city of New York City. Today when I see and hear a train, or see a crossroad, or stop as a train passes by, my memories of my grandfather and father live on. I have a 25-cent subway token from that time period as well as a very special box containing one of my father's HO scale trains that still runs today. I am saving these family treasures for future generations to help them remember our wonderful heritage. The Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum that I take an active part in also keeps railroading and family history alive in my heart."

(Editor's note: Peter is an enthusiastic trustee currently in charge of public relations and donations. We are glad to have you "on Board".)

Executive Director Resigns

Our Executive Director, Julie Kupris, has submitted her resignation from that office. The Board of Directors of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum has accepted her resignation and would like to thank her for her service for the last year. The board has selected Pat Gifford and Dorothy Pierce to be Co-Executive Directors for 2015.

Up and Down the Tracks

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***One of our biggest events of the years 2011-12 & 2013 will be remembered is our CHRISTMAS IN JULY. Each year the Museum was filled with Christmas decorations and trees decorated for the contests. In 2011 the first prize winner was Laurie Hotaling for her Memory Tree of Hope decorated with pink roses and ribbons with names of those who have lost the battle with cancer. Second prize was awarded to Bonnie Jean Bauer who beautifully dressed her tree with hand crocheted bells, angels and snowflakes. Phebe Bassett not only was third place winner on her decorated tree but was the first person to attend the Museum for a free tour on the big day. All received gifts. Approximately 50 people went through the museum and all enjoyed refreshments and being among the first people to see our new model trains run.

***2012 In August the sad passing of our dear friend and lifetime member, William S. Young. He has written books to include very special ones about The UVRs & Museum. We will remember him for many years to come for his generous donations and his many Guest Speaking events. Guest Speakers for this year included Alan Fairbrother The Loomis Gang; Mark Simons Oneonta Rails History, John Taibi NYO & W Local Railroad Families.

***2013 Wonderful Speakers included Ray Adamson; Don Rickard, Fred Lanfear; Mike Parsons who showed many Vintage Indian Artifacts, and knowledgeable information on Indian Relics; Dorothy Pierce did a Salute to Veterans; Paul Straney, showed some of his vast collection of railroad pictures and started a web site for us; John Ginter talked on some of his many interests to include woodcarving, photography, fossils, stamps, fishing, hunting and using his metal detector along old railroad tracks. In August the Otsego County Fair gave us First Prize for our Thomas the Train float, designed by Alan Fairbrother, this made 3 years in a row we won with our floats.

***2014 Under our New Executive Director, Julie Kupris, the format for our Pendragon publication got a new look. Our guest speakers were; George Wolfangle; William Fleidner, our Keeper of the Museum Inventory; Tom DeForest, our Webmaster and detailer of this issue of the Pendragon; and Jim Howard, Head of the Marketing Department of the NY Susquehanna and Western Railroads. Each Speaker was extremely interesting and we look forward to them speaking again. The Annual Picnic was again held at Alan Fairbrothers' with a record number attending.

***UVRs&Museum members are sad to hear that Ralph Scopo's mother passed away recently. We send our Condolences.

***Do you know that about 20 years ago the first five men got together with ideas of making the old O&W depot into a Museum? George Wolfangle started the Society in May, 1995, and is still a faithful active member of the Museum. For all these years he gave tours every Saturday in the summer from 1 to 5 as well as collecting and donating thousands of artifacts to the Museum.

***One of the first Artifacts in the Museum was a railway baggage cart purchased in Bridgewater NY. We currently have our float on it that won us first place in several parades. It is our version of Thomas the Train and children have really loved it. Hundreds of pictures have been taken with happy children. Alan Fairbrother was the designer and engineer of the float.

***Do you know why our Newsletter is called the Pendragon??? It was the name of the UV Railway's first locomotive. The Pendragon's first printing was September, 1996.

***In 1997 membership numbered 55. In 2000 the members totaled 83 and today we have had 177 members.

***Ten years ago George Wolfangle asked Pat Gifford to be the first paid Director of the UVR Society and Museum. Pat said OK and was paid \$1.00 per year. Her dues were \$15.00 a year and paid faithfully until Receiving her retirement in December of 2013 when she was given a Life-Time membership.

***Among our early floats was Don Rickard pulling with his lawn mower in 2006 with Railroad trunk and Train Memorabilia on the baggage cart.

*** In the 2007 Pendragon there is a picture of our Famous Half Car with the following people beside it: Milton Moore, Don Rickard, Stan Sapinski, Steve Sapinski, Ralph Scopo, and George Wolfangle. Sadly the half car is boarded up and in deteriorating condition today.

***Chris Lord was Treasurer in 2008 and Vince Bauer supplied us with a beautiful Photo/Artwork of our Depot that we have proudly displayed several times in our Pendragon newsletter.

***In 2009 Sam Senn was President, we had 129 on the mailing list, George Wolfangle showed the old workmen's shanty and the Museum to a group of young students from the Unadilla Valley School. The shanty is in our parking lot and has markings on the walls including dates in the 1800's. The shanties were located halfway between train stops near the tracks so workmen who walked the tracks could store tools and get in out of the snow or rain.

***The Spring 2009 issue was in memory of Milton Moore and pictured him and Biff Pylinski watching Dorothy Padgett looking into the eyes of our Mas-

cot Charlie lying on the float they were building for the Youth Day Parade. We did win first place and received a trophy that is proudly displayed with all our other trophies.

***Spring of 2010 was an exciting year with Ralph Scopo as President, Ernie Clemens as Vice President and Bonnie Jean serving another year as Treasurer. A very enjoyable Guest Speaker, Fred Lanfear, President of the Oxford Historical Society and Author of "Railroad Days", came to the Museum to speak. William Young had a New Book signing from 12 to 3 at the Museum in September.

***In May Chris Lord was our guest speaker and told about the History of the Cooperstown-Charlotte Valley Railroad as well as the Cooperstown and Susquehanna RR that was organized in 1865. He gave us a lot of knowledge about the round house in Cooperstown that was destroyed by fire in 1885 and the 14 trains a day in the early 1900's that came to Cooperstown 43% loaded with coal followed by textile and hops. Chris is employed by the Leatherstocking Railway Historical Society. Chris joined us in 1996 and is a loyal member of the UVR Society & Museum.

***Mike Holdridge, has been our guest speaker several times. He is really knowledgeable on railway subjects. His talk about the "**Corn Popper**" stands out in our minds. In the Spring 2010 edition of the **PENDRAGON**, Mike's story about his experience with seeing the Corn Popper is told along with a picture of the #300. It also was published in William Young's book **UV THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A SMALL RAILROAD**. Mike lives in Williamsburg, PA where he helps with his Mother's care. Mike was raised in New Berlin and has a Life Membership to the UV R Society & Museum.

***Many thanks to Richard Palmer for sending all the articles and pictures. Some are included in this Pendragon. Have a safe trip to Florida; February is a good time to go. Let us know how the weather is. Come back rested and we will see you on June 20 at 2 pm at the Unadilla Valley Railway Museum as guest speaker and sharing your pictures.

***You probably have noticed by now the new look in our Pendragon. Thanks to Tom DeForest, our webmaster. Without him we would still be waiting and ending up with much less copy presented as nicely as you see here. He is also responsible for the clever Cat's Meow figure of the UV #200 locomotive made in wood that is 7" wide by 3.5" high, and on sale for only \$20 now (see small picture at the top of page 10). It can be ordered through any of the Board of Directors (listed on page 7). Thanks again, Tom.

***Our fund raising committee for the badly needed roof repair or replacement thanks Jim Carney for contributing the large sum of money over the

last 3 years. A package is being mailed to him this week as a token of our appreciation. Jim lives in San Diego, California. He and his wife are Life members of the Museum. We have already made three quick repairs to the roof from that fund to keep the water out of the furnace room, the roof above the model train and where the roof blew up on the road side during a storm recently. We all really appreciate his generosity.

***Our Vice-President and Grant Writing Chairman, Warren Genung, is in the hospital at this writing. He has been in and out a number of times over the last several months. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

***Please mark May 2nd on your calendar right now for our **UV Railway Society & Museum Chinese Auction and Lunch**. You will not want to miss this huge event which will take place at the United Methodist Church in New Berlin.

***In the Spring 2010 Pendragon we have several nice color pictures. One page has the following people on it with their picture: Dr. Don Elliott has a shovel given to him by Bruce Harshbarger while the tracks were being taken up as the last train made its final run. Ruth Gregory is helping him hold the shovel, while Mark and Harla Lazur are looking on. Next a picture of George Wolfangle and Alan Fairbrother being given a gift of two glass-enclosed cases of keys for the railroad taken from the desk drawer of Ron Jenkins's grandfather, Harry Broome. Pictured is Ron in his home in Worcester NY in October, 2010. Ron has donated many other artifacts as well as speaking at our November meeting that year. In the middle picture, George Wolfangle had just finished a tour of the Museum to the following people pictured with him: Will Davis, Glenmont; John Taibi, Munnsville; Stan Hamlet, Under Hill Center VT; Les Scangas, Colchester VT; Alan Fairbrother and Samuel, Senn both of New Berlin. Down in the corner of the page is Ralph Scopo, President, shoveling snow in front of the Museum in March.

***Did you know that one of the earliest stationhouses (Deansboro) and the largest (New Berlin) are still in existence? These are testaments to the railroad's construction and care. These buildings have stood the test of time, and with a little more tender loving care will forever be a tribute to the days when Oswego Midland Railroad opened up the interior of New York State for habitation and industry. The Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum purchased the building for \$50,000.00. That is a lot of money, but for the price you get a lot of history as well as a unique stationhouse the likes of which will never be seen again. Our Building is nearly four times as large as the Deansboro one and they had an \$18,000. grant from Oneida County for its purchase while we have raised the money and have it paid for. Now the task of restoring it is upon us. A major problem is the roof and now in our

third year of fund raising we have hopes of receiving enough to repair it this summer. The building is approximately 146 years old.

***Did you know that in Jan, 1911, the roof caved in on both engines 1 & 2? The North trusses and six timbers that supported the rafters had caused the problem by 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. However the building today is in grave shape. A roof that is almost completely useless and trees that have fallen recently make us sad. Our efforts to maintain the Depot a few blocks away remain our primary concern.

HURRY HURRY HURRY while they last !!!!

WE NOW HAVE A VERY SPECIAL SALE ON THE BOOK WRITTEN BY WILLIAM YOUNG. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A COPY, IT IS WELL WORTH THE SALE PRICE OF ONLY \$20. Sale ends March 1st.

UV THE LIFE AND TIMES OF A SMALL RAILROAD A Definitive Account of the Unadilla Valley Railway

A picture of the book is on page 10. It is very special as it has 700 names of people involved with the UV indexed to the page where they are talked about. If you have relatives that worked on the rails during its history, chances are their name will be included. Contact any officer listed below, write to us at PO Box 751, New Berlin NY 13411 or call Pat at 607-847-9484 to order the book.

Our Board of Directors for 2015

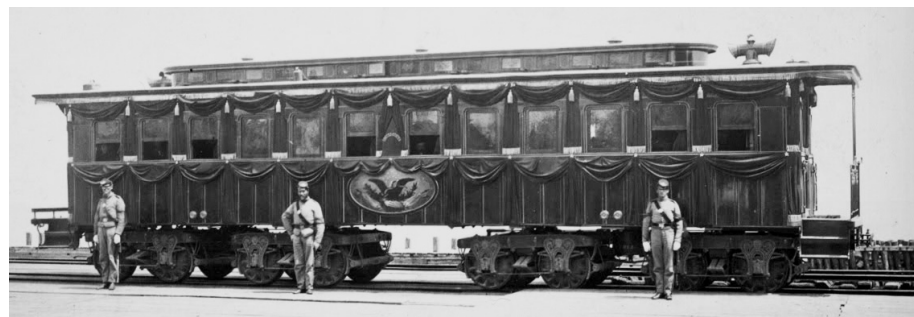
President: Gladys Slentz
Vice President: Warren Genung
Executive Advisor: George Wolfangle
Co-Executive Directors: Pat Gifford, Dorothy Pierce
Treasurer: Ralph Scopo
Secretary: Margaret Behnke
PR/ Membership and Donations: Peter Iorio
PR/ Fundraising: Dorothy Pierce
Corresponding Secretary: Marie Dunckel
Hostess: Laurie Hotaling
Recorder of Museum Inventory: William Fliedner
Parade Director/Engineer: Alan Fairbrother
Yard Activities Director: Samuel Senn
Webmaster: Tom DeForest
Chaplains: Lyle Linder, Mary Ann Linder,
Ernest Clemens and William Fliedner

Lincoln Funeral Train to be Reenacted

As we all learned in history class in high school, President Abraham Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth on Good Friday, April 14, 1865, while attending the play *Our American Cousin* at Ford's Theatre in Washington, DC. Lincoln's body traveled by funeral train from Washington, D.C., April 21 through May 4, 1865, to its final resting place in the Oak Ridge Cemetery in Lincoln's home town of Springfield, Illinois.

April, 2015, is the 150th anniversary of the assassination. Many events have been planned from Washington to Springfield, including the reenactment of the funeral train procession. If you have any interest in the Lincoln Assassination, the Funeral Train or the reenactment of these events, there are a large number of resources available on the internet. Please see one of the following or use your favorite internet search engine to search for 'Lincoln Funeral' to find more.

The railroad car below carried assassinated President Abraham Lincoln from Washington, DC, to the funeral and his final resting place in Springfield, Illinois.



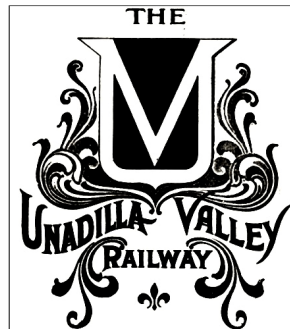
New UVRS&M Web Site is Up and Running

Our thanks go out to Paul Straney for his work on the original website. Paul has now turned this work over to Tom DeForest. The new website is now up and running as **www.uvrs.org**. Now the rest of us need to submit more articles and other content to be included. Contact Tom by email at tomdef@stny.rr.com or call Pat Gifford at 607-847-9484.

Timetable — Schedule of upcoming events

Mon, Jan 5	5 PM	Board Meeting	UMC
Sat, Jan 17	2 PM	Peter Iorio	UMC
Memories of the Rails			
Tue, Feb 3	2 PM	Board Meeting	UMC
Sat, Feb 21	2 PM	Alan Fairbrother	UMC
Father of the Railways			
Tue, Mar 3	2 PM	Board Meeting	UMC
Sat, Mar 21	2 PM	Ray Adamson	UMC
History of Train Powerplants			
Tue, Apr 7	2 PM	Board Meeting	UMC
Sat, Apr 18	2 PM	Guest Speaker	UMC
Sat, May 2	10-5	Chinese Auction	UMC
Tue, May 5	2 PM	Board Meeting	UMC
Sat, May 16	10-4	Work Day	UVRs
Sat, May 23	2 PM	Dorothy Pierce	tbd
A Salute to Veterans Remembered			
May 30—Aug 29	1-5PM	Open House tours	UVRs
Tue, Jun 2	2 PM	Board Meeting	UMC
Sat, Jun 20	10-2	Work Day	UVRs
	2 PM	Richard Palmer	UVRs
Local Railroadng (with lots of pictures) (also: 20-Year Anniversary Celebration)			

UMC: First United Methodist Church, 51 South Main
 UVRs: Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum, 3 RR St
 tbd: to be determined
 (all addresses are in New Berlin NY 13411)



Merchandise Available

CLEARANCE SALE

T-Shirts, size child to XL, \$12

Hats, a few left, \$5

Bumper Stickers, \$1

Key Chains, \$0.50

Cat's Meow figure of the UV #200 locomotive.
 Wood, 7" wide, 3.5" high, \$20.00

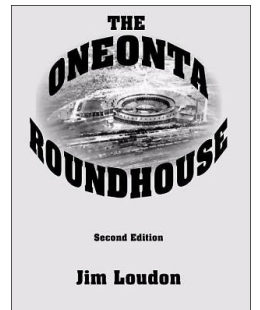
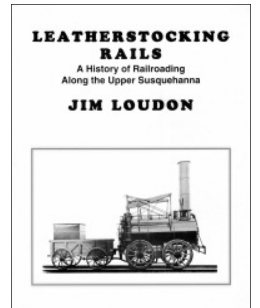
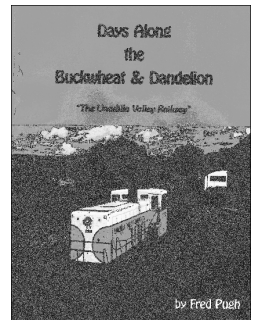
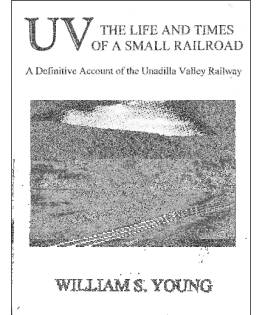
UV—The Life and Times of a Small Railroad,
 by William S Young, 2009, 120 pages. A definitive
 account of the UV Railway. On sale at
 \$20.00 until March 1st.

Days Along the Buckwheat & Dandelion
 The Unadilla Valley Railway, by Fred Pugh, 3rd
 Printing (1997), 142 pages plus 44-page adden-
 dum. Includes a number of color pictures, only
 a few left, \$45.00.

Leatherstocking Rails, a History of Railing
 along the Upper Susquehanna, by Jim Loudon,
 1st Edition (2005), 260 pages. A detailed book
 about every railroad and trolley line that was ever
 built -- or planned to be built -- in Otsego County
 NY. Only a few left, \$39.95.

The Oneonta Roundhouse, a definitive ac-
 count of the birth, life, and death of the world's
 largest railroad roundhouse, by Jim Loudon, 1st
 Edition, 1993, 100 pages. Only a few left,
 \$19.95.

**These are available at any meeting of the
 UVR Society, or call Pat at 607-847-9484.**



Unadilla Valley Society & Museum Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone () _____

email address _____

Membership levels:

- ☐ Single Member, \$20 per year ☐ Life Member (Single), \$225
☐ Family, \$30 per year ☐ Life Member (family), \$250
☐ Donation Only \$ _____

Make payable to UVRS&M, mail to PO Box 751, New Berlin NY 13411

We now have 177 members on our mailing list, with some Life Members, many Single Members and an increasing number of Family Members.

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Dues are payable on January 1st of each year. Keep your membership up to date to receive copies of our Pendragon newsletter and invitations to all of our meetings and special events.

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The Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum is a 501 (c)(3) not-for-profit organization. Donations may be deductible depending on your tax situation.



UV Engine #4

<p>From: Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum PO Box 751 New Berlin NY 13411</p>	<p>Happy Railing</p>	<p>To:</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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While they last
>> Best Buy <<

**UV THE LIFE
AND TIMES
OF A SMALL
RAILROAD**

*A Definitive Ac-
count of the Una-
dilla Valley Rail-
way*

by William Young

120 pages, color and black & white pictures,
700 people's names and index.

Price reduced to \$20.00
BUT ONLY until March 1st.

