PENDRAGON

Vol 25, No 2 April-June 2015

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

Lantern Light on Jim Carney

We shine our lantern light in this Pendragon on Life Member Herman James "Jim" Carney. Jim is known to our members as the man who has sent the highest number of donations to our roof repair fund over the last 3 years and has encouraged us enough so we are now getting updated estimates for our main summer project of stopping the leaks.

Jim's life was mostly centered in a 30year Naval career. When Jim was asked about his interest in the Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum, our area and railroading in general, he had this to say.



"I was born in Guilford NY in 1935. My mother was Marcia C. (Alcott) Carney. My Father was James A. Carney. We lived on a small farm up by Godfrey Corners about halfway between Guilford and Mount Upton, NY. My whole education was at the Mt. Upton Central School in Mt. Upton. The UV Railroad ran right past the school and I always tried to be seated in class where I could watch it go by. My first recollection was of the "Steamer" and later the diesels. What really got my interest was all of the different railroad line abbreviations on the cars. I had a note book that I would write down the abbreviations and then look up the names when I got home. I had a lot of railroad magazines I could use for reference. To be honest with you, with all the waiting and watching for the train to go by, it was a wonder that I was able to graduate from high school. Of course, my notes and magazines are all long gone. After graduation and since I was a farm kid, I was eligible for the armed services draft. (to page 2)

Psst. Want to double the power of your money AND get a tax deduction? An anonymous member of our organization has offered to match all donations to the UVRS&M Roofing and Remodeling Fund made between now and July 1st, up to a total of \$1000. Write your check to the UVRS&M and send it to PO Box 751, New Berlin NY 13411. Be sure to note 'roofing and remodeling fund' in the memo. Our thanks go out for this great offer.

"Korea was still going on and I knew that I didn't want to be drafted into the Army or Marines, so it was either the Air Force or Navy and the Navy got me first. All through my Navy career I worked with and on reciprocating steam machinery of one form or another and all of that reflects back to the steam engines from my "school railroad days". I still enjoy steam reciprocating machinery.

"While in the US Navy I was stationed on many ships. My primary enlistment classification was Machinist Mate which essentially translates to "Steam Engineer". I held this position for 16 of my 30 years career in the Navy.

"While on active duty I met my wife Noriko "Judy" who lived in Yokohama and Tokyo, Japan. We were married in 1958 and two years later our first child died at 1 day old and is buried in Maplewood Cemetery in Mount Upton. We now have two sons, Patrick and Mark, and two grandchildren. My brother, Kenneth Carney, and his wife live in Norwich, NY". (Editor's note: they are also life members of the UVR Society and Museum).

Mr. Carney has always had a love affair with steam engines and railroading, and we are all the more fortunate to have him as a member of our Society.

Up and Down the Tracks

****Thank you Charlie Ackerman and Evan Wesolowski for your help at the Museum on Friday March 13th. Moving all the chairs and checking the building and so forth is appreciated. These two boys are the faithful engineers of our model trains that run through the villages that have many interesting buildings, animals, a pond, and more. Children really enjoy watching the trains moving on different tracks at the same time.

***Mark your calendar today for the April 18th meeting with guest speaker Rainer Morgan. Her topic is A JOURNEY THROUGH WALES. Rainer grew up in Wales and came to the U.S. about 30 years ago. She's had many different jobs but her favorites were geography teacher and newspaper editor. Rainer's family is spread around the world so she travels a lot and writes about it as well as her childhood in Wales. She's recorded a CD of children's stories called "Little Teggy: Tales from Wales" which received a great review in the "School Library Journal". Rainer teaches evening classes on Welch culture at local colleges and enjoys cycling, gardening and editing her bucket list. She lives in New Berlin with her husband John Rzuidlo.



***Do you want to be an Engineer? You can make a reservation during the months of April, 2015, through December 20th, 2015. The training includes full instruction and supervision, 16 mile round trip from Milford to Cooperstown and back and a Certificate of Completion. You must be 18 years of age and it is not handicapped accessible. More information is available at 607-432-2429.

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- ***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.
- ***Anyone who has donations for our Chinese Auction that will be held on May 2nd please contact Dorothy Pierce, Chairperson for that event, at 287-4778.
- ***Tickets are being presold for the pizza lunch at our Chinese Auction at the Methodist Church on May 2nd. For a donation of \$5.00, you get a lunch ticket as well as an entry in a drawing for \$50.00 worth of groceries.
- ***Thanks to our web site, Thomas Van Horn from Humboldt IA ordered two of our books recently. Let us know how you enjoyed them. Tom. We are very proud of our authors and their writings about the railways in our area and hoping to keep trains alive for generations to come.
- ***We are looking for volunteers to be a Chapter Storekeeper. This would include making sure our articles for sale are at the meetings and take them when you can to other meetings to sell them. We need money for major repairs to the Museum. Contact Glady Slentz, President, or any officer.
- ***Remembering Mr. Charles Sage, UVRS&M member from Oneonta. He and his family donated several hundred train magazines and other memorabilia to our museum. He passed away 3 years ago on March 3rd. Charles is still remembered each time we read or sell one of the magazines he donated.
- ***Please let us know if your postal or email address changes so we can keep our records up to date. If we do not have the proper address we are unable to send you the Pendragon and other news items.
- ***Please help us save money by receiving your Pendragon newsletter by email. Did you know it costs about \$1 for printing and postage? If more people would sign up for email delivery, we could avoid those costs and grow the Pendragon to be even larger and include more color pictures. Please send an email to sunshinepat@stny.rr.com if email delivery would work for you.
- ***If you might be interested in placing an ad in The Pendragon, please contact Peter Iorio at 607-847-8344 or Pat Gifford at 607-847-9484 for details.
- ***We now have a few **Leatherstocking Rails**, **A history of Railroading Along the Upper Susquehanna** books available. The author is Jim Loudon. This amazing book of 258 pages is filled with hundreds of pictures, maps and stories. You will always be happy reading this very informative book. The price is only \$39.95. If you order by July 1st, there is no charge for shipping and handling.
- ***Thanks to Vince and Bonnie Jean Bauer for the donation of a nicely framed glass covered painting of the Town of New Berlin in 1807-2007 painted by Jim Parker, Folk Artist. His paintings recreate the Charm and Beauty of upstate New York and its people. This picture was part of the Bicentennial celebration of the Town of New Berlin in 2007. For more information on the artist Jim Parker, go to his web site: jimparkerartist.bigstep.com.
- ***Ralph Scopo came through his surgery just fine and appreciates prayers.

- ***Peter Iorio will have major surgery on April 16th.
- ***Warren Genung is recuperating at home now and is reported to be doing better after a skin graft on his right foot. Warren has had trouble with his foot for several years. He had the skin graft done in St. Joseph Wound Care Center in Fayetteville, NY. recently.
- ***Local Railway enthusiasts are celebrating one hundred twenty years since the railroad came to New Berlin and also celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum chartered in 1995 as the vision of five local citizens began the quest to make it a reality. Members and friends will gather May 16 at the Depot which houses the Museum at 3 Railroad Street in New Berlin for free tours and refreshments. Everyone is welcome.

A Chinese Auction to benefit the Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum will be held at the First United Methodist Church in New Berlin on Saturday, May 2nd from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. We expect to have many great items to be auctioned, but we could always use a few more. Pizza lunch will be available. We hope to see you there.

Ray Adamson Speaks at March Meeting

Presenting the Certificate of Appreciation at March 21, 2015, Meeting of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum to Featured Speaker, Ray Adamson (right), is Sam Senn (left), long time member, past president and avid supporter of railroad history.



Mr. Adamson provided history about the term "Choo Choo Train" and took those assembled though an historical journey beginning in 100 AD when an Egyptian wrote about "steam power which was at that time considered a novelty with no practical purpose".

The journey progressed to 1606 Spain and the first practical steam engine,1698 and the first patented steam pump with the first commercial true stream engine using a piston to pump the water that was invented in 1712 by Thomas Newcomen, an English ironmonger and Baptist lay preacher, who wanted to improve ways to pump water out of flooding mines.

He told of advances in the late 1780's and 1800's that heralded the industrial revolution, the race to provide a transcontinental railroad and the Great Railroad Chase of the Civil War concluding with the demise of privately owned Railroad Passenger Trains as the popularity of automobiles increased as extraordinary competition for passengers and freight with automobiles, buses, trucks, and aircraft began, all of which were heavily subsidized by the government road and airport building programs. Thank you, Ray, for this presentation.

for everything that counts



Member FDIC



Our Trip To Steamtown in Scranton PA

Introduction

One Saturday back in October, 2014, Susan and I took a trip to Steamtown in Scranton PA. The drive took just over an hour from Endicott. From the New Berlin area, you can expect it to take about 2 hours. Simply take NY-12 or I-88 to Binghamton, pick up I-81 south to Scranton and take exit 185. At the first traffic light turn left on Lackawanna Avenue, continue past the mall and turn left on Cliff Street. Find more information about the museum at their website, http://www.nps.gov/stea/, or call them at (570) 340-5200.

Background

From the 1960s until 1983, Steamtown USA was a steam locomotive museum founded by industrialist F Nelson Blount that ran steam excursions out of North Walpole NH and Bellows Falls VT. Upon his death in 1967, operations were taken over by the non-profit Steamtown Foundation. Over the years visitor attendance declined, some pieces of the collection were relocated to Scranton PA and the rest were auctioned off. But Steamtown in Scranton was not a success. Within two years the tourist attraction was facing bankruptcy. The US Government agreed to turn it into a National Historic Site. The National Park Service took it over and has operated it successfully since 1995. While my own feeling at the time was that this was a taxpayer-funded boondoggle for PA, it turns out that it is a worthy stop for the railroad enthusiast.

Details

Prior to our arrival, we had reserved a ride on the 1:00 train to Moscow PA (tickets for Seniors were \$22). It was a pleasant surprise to find that those tickets also included admission to the rest of the complex. The museum itself is built around a former DL&W roundhouse in Scranton. Many of the tracks from the turntable are still intact even though some are now inside buildings.

We spent the rest of the morning watching a number of interesting videos and looking at a number of well-done exhibits in the History Museum and the Technology Museum. Because the weather was rather cold and rainy that day, we did not spend a lot of time outdoors looking at the locomotives and other rolling stock.

One small piece of bad news is that the complex has no provision for lunch. We left the grounds and found a nearby Arby's, then came back

to get an even better parking spot.

The train to Moscow left from a covered but otherwise outdoor station near the ticket building. Unfortunately it was really raining by then, but we managed to board the train without getting too wet. The train consisted of 8-10 older passenger cars pulled by the Nickel Plate Road #514 diesel. The trip to Moscow takes about 45 minutes. We disembarked at the Moscow station to find a small vintage depot which contained rest rooms, some more exhibits, some vendors of sandwiches and beverages (hot coffee and cocoa were big sellers that day) and a number of tables run by a local train club where we could buy many railroad-related souvenirs. Overall, we were quite disappointed in the train trip. There was little narration. The scenery consisted of a few minutes of Scranton, a short tunnel and then non-descript travel through a wooded area. (We were in Lancaster PA a few weeks later and found the Strasburg Railroad to be a much more interesting train ride).

The highlight of the whole Steamtown trip was a 45-minute guided walking tour of the locomotive shop. While it was not active on the weekend, it was very interesting to see up close a number of locomotives in for maintenance, repair or restoration and the huge tools used to work on them. This was a very interesting tour at no additional cost.

Summary

While this is not a place for very young children, it's a good stop and not too far away for a one-day trip. Older kids will appreciate many of the museum exhibits and videos and there are other train rides that are probably more interesting than the one to Moscow. If you've never been there, you should check it out. (Submitted by Tom DeForest)

Our Board of Directors for 2015

President: Glady 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

Mohawk Valley Living Publishes 2-Part Article on UV Railroad History

The **Mohawk Valley Living** magazine published a 2-part article on UV Railroad history in their January and February, 2015, issues. The article summarizes the life and times of the UV and contains a large number of pictures. While you are no longer likely to find these issues in the distribution locations, we have a few extra copies available or you can find links to them online on our website, www.uvrs.com -> About Us (then scroll down).

Model Railroad Planning Publishes an Article on Modeling the UV

If you are into model railroads, you might be interested to know that the **Model Railroad Planning** issue for 2015 contains a plan for a model of the UV, "Unadilla Valley, Modeling a New York Dairy Line". Find a copy at your favorite magazine or book store, or see their web site at http://mrr.trains.com/issues/2014/model-railroad-planning-2015.

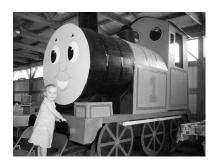
A Day Out With Thomas 2015 Details

The Adirondack Scenic Railroad will host Thomas The Tank Engine during the weekends of June 19-21 & 26-28 at Union Station, 321 Main Street, Utica, NY 13501. Train rides will leave every 60 minutes between 9 AM and 4 PM each day of the event. Tickets are now available at \$24 per person for ages 2 and up. Tickets include 25-minute train ride with Thomas leading the cars, Arts & Crafts, Sir Topham Hat, Storytelling, a Magician, an Interactive Percussion Show, Clowns, Food, Bounce House, lots more activities. Purchase tickets by phone at 1-866-468-7630 or online at www.ticketweb.com/dowt.

UVR Society & Museum's Own Thomas

Here are some pictures of our own Thomas the Tank Engine which has been part of many local parades and has won first place each time. Thanks to Alan Fairbrother for designing and building this for us.





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Timetable — Schedule of upcoming events

Tue, Apr 7	2 PM	Board Meeting	UMC	
Sat, Apr 18	2 PM	Rainer Morgan	UMC	
A Journey Through Wales				
Sat, May 2	10-3	Chinese Auction	UMC	
Tue, May 5	2 PM	Board Meeting	UMC	
, ,				
Sat, May 16	10-4	Anniversary Day	UVRS	
20-year celebration of the UVR Society & Museum				
Sat, May 23	2 PM	Dorothy Pierce	BB Ch	
A Salute to Veterans Remembered				
May 30—Sep 1	1-5PM	Open House tours	UVRS	
(Saturdays Only)				
Tue, Jun 2	2 PM	Board Meeting	UMC	
Sat, Jun 20	10-2	Work Day	UVRS	
	2 PM	Richard Palmer	UVRS	
Local Railroading (with lots of pictures)				
Tue, Jul 7	2 PM	Board Meeting	UMC	
Sat, Jul 18	2 PM	(to be announced)	UVRS	
Notes:				

UMC: First United Methodist Church, 51 South Main

UVRS: Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum, 3 RR St

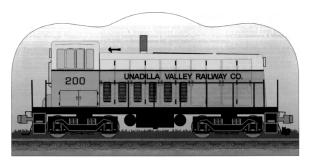
BB Ch: Berean Baptist Church, 18 Genesee St (all addresses are in New Berlin NY 13411)

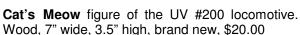


Shovels were required when the snow plow couldn't do the job.

Merchandise Available

CLEARANCE SALE: T-Shirts, size child to XL, \$12, a few Hats left, \$5, Bumper Stickers, \$1, Key Chains, \$0.50





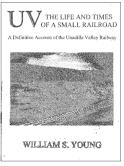
UV—The Life and Times of a Small Railroad, by William S Young, 2009, 120 pages. A definitive account of the UV Railway. Get yours now at \$30.00.

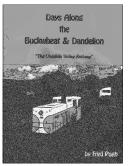
Days Along the Buckwheat & Dandelion The Unadilla Valley Railway, by Fred Pugh, 3rd Printing (1997), 142 pages plus 44-page addendum. Includes a number of color pictures, only a few left, \$45.00.

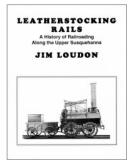
Leatherstocking Rails, a History of Railing along the Upper Susquehanna, by Jim Loudon, 1st Edition (2005), 258 pages. A detailed book about every railroad and trolley line that was ever built -- or planned to be built -- in Otsego County NY. Only a few left, \$39.95. After July 1st please add \$10 shipping and handling.

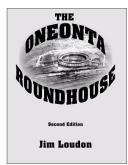
The Oneonta Roundhouse, a definitive account of the birth, life, and death of the world's largest railroad roundhouse, by Jim Loudon, 1st Edition, 1993, 100 pages. Only a few left, \$19.95.

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





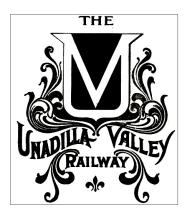




Unadilla Valley Society & Museum Membership Form

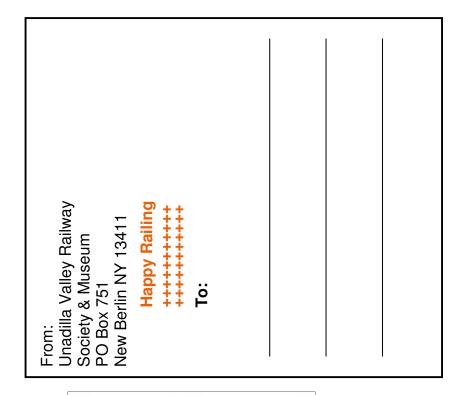
Name	
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email address	
Members	ship levels:
Single Member, \$20 / year	Life Member (Single), \$225
Family, \$30 / year	Life Member (family), \$250
Donation Only \$	
Make payable to UVRS&M, PC) Box 751, New Berlin NY 13411
	n our mailing list, with some Life ers and an increasing number o
Dues are payable on January 1st ship up to date to receive copies invitations to all of our meetings a	•
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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.





The Pendragon, the UV's first engine, was purchased new from the Rhode Island Locomotive Works in 1895.



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