Vol. 16 No.2 SHELBURNE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2007
DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF THE SHELBURNE FALLS & COLRAIN STREET RAILWAY

TROLLEYFEST '07

It was outstanding! On June 23 SFTM was packed with people and cars, exhibits, outdoor dining facilities, and tents.

Tents? Yes, tents. In the interest of security, HSA had arranged for a military detachment to protect Trolleyfest from threats from afar. With most of the regular military otherwise occupied, the agency was nevertheless able to locate a special forces unit for the occasion. Arriving the night before Trolleyfest, the unit cleared the area or unexploded railroad spikes and plates, set up its camp, and kept guard through the night.

When the SFTM staff arrived to get Trolleyfest up and running, all was calm and secure. So it went until about 2pm, when several suspicious persons in gray uniforms were detected infiltrating the perimeter. The obvious intent of these invaders was to seize the pumpcar, and then the trolley. A brief but vicious battle ensued. The enemy was overwhelmed. Several were captured, and since express train service between Shelburne Falls and Gitmo no loinger exists, the prisoners were dispatched on the site. The 10th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Militia, Company C, had won the day, and saved yet another rail line from falling into the wrong hands.

Meanwhile, back at the serving tables, about 80 people feasted on Chef Dane's newest menu. This was a record crowd, but Dane kept the food coming and the serving line crew dispensed it smoothly.

Trolley No. 10 carried nearly 200 ticketed passengers - far and away the largest daily number so far in 2007. Many rode the pumpcar and the caboose, which was propelled by the trackmobileVisitors enjoyed the cider-making operation and a working blacksmith shop where the smithy was turning old railroad iron into ornamental

objects. For the little folks, a portable scale railroad offered rides on its flatcars.

Thanks to SFTM's very hard-working volunteer crew. it would seem a good time was had by all.



Marie Bartlett shows visitors how to make cider, a product which once was shipped in large quanitiies on the SF&C. Behind the ciderworks is SFTM member Winton Pitcoff's ice cream truck, from which Win dispensed his own product to the delight of all who sampled it.

Photo - Sam Bartlett

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