



VOL. 19 - NO. 2 SHELburnE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER
SUMMER 2010

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF THE SHELburnE FALLS & COLRAIN STREET RAILWAY

From The President

Word of Mouth: Many of our new guests tell us that they heard about SFTM from friends who recommended visiting us. You can help with this no-cost promotional technique in two ways. First, obviously, is to tell everyone you know about SFTM and the enjoyable afternoon a family can have here. Don't oversell us, just tell it like it is. (If you feel that SFTM isn't worth a visit, please tell me why, sam@sftm.org!)

Secondly, you can write reviews on online travel sites like yelp.com or googlemaps.com or mylocal.com, or send us a review to include on our website. Include us in your blogging, if relevant, or mention us on Facebook (search for "Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum"). Link to www.sftm.org whenever you can, see our Links page for a recommended description.

Events: See Page 6 for **Member's Day** details. Also, on Saturday Sept 11 our pump car will be at the **Glory Days Festival** in White River Jet VT, along with other railroad and history displays and activities, see <http://www.glorydaysoftherailroad.org/> for details. Saturday Sept 18 is the **Salmon Falls Street Fair**, make a day of it in Shelburne Falls, not only trolley and pump car rides, but "Live music, vendors, street performers, children's games and much more." down by the Potholes. We'll be doing 'Nickel Ice Cream Cones' again in the afternoon, thanks to Snow's Ice Cream. And don't forget **Moonlight Magic** on the evening of Nov 26, right after Thanksgiving, with holiday lights and entertainment. This chance to ride No 10 in the evening, all lit up, and to warm up in the caboose, is a seasonal favorite of many. Check www.sftm.org for updates on all these events.

Trackwork: Now that the heat of summer is easing and vacations are nearly over, we will be starting a trackwork project at the museum. Contact me at sam@sftm.org or 413 624 0192 and let me know what days you would be available to help us move a switch.

Financial Summary: Ridership is down about 10% as of the middle of August (hot July, poor economy?). On the up side, our costs (especially our big ones, mortgage and insurance) have stayed steady and we currently have all our rentable space occupied so we are slowly accumulating a cushion in the bank for rainy days. As always, donations, either specifically for the car barn, or for the general fund, are appreciated at any time.

Car barn Progress: We are working with Chris Farley of Austin Designs (in Griswoldville) to get through the building code and permitting issues for our 40'x50' car barn, to be sited where the small wooden building and the pump car shed are now. This building will be a clear-span metal building, with attention to making it not look like a modern metal building. It will be two tracks wide and initially one car long (total of two cars), but sited so that in the future we can extend it for a total of four cars.

The project is planned in phases, so that we can begin track and foundation work before we have all the needed funds, estimated to be \$150,000.

There are some projects that need to be worked on in conjunction with the car barn project, like assembling and installing the overhead wire brackets on the poles on the House Track, that are waiting for the right person (maybe you?) to step forward and take on the project.

And, of course, we have a lot of money to raise to be able to finish this car barn. As of our last report we had \$11,234 in restricted funds already donated for this project. There are additional unrestricted reserves that can be applied as needed, currently about \$5000, so we have about one-tenth of what this total project may cost already on hand. Grant applications for car barn funds will be going out soon. As always, we appreciate any donation you can make to the **Car Barn Fund**, or to the General Fund.

Fitchburg and Leominster Street Railway No 60: To refresh your memory, F&L No 60 is a 1904 Wason trolley currently residing as part of a building in Ashburnham. The board intends to keep No 60 in place for the time being, since it is protected from the elements where it is. Once we can keep it under cover in the new car barn we intend to move here to begin restoration of the beautiful mahogany marquetry interior.

Motors: The second spare motor for No 10 has been overhauled. The plan is to replace the in-service motors with the overhauled ones and eventually get the present motors overhauled as well. The **Motor Fund** is also awaiting your generous donations!

Sam

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