

VOL. 24 - NO. 3 SHELBURNE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM NEWSLETTER FALL 2015

DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE HISTORY OF THE SHELBURNE FALLS AND COLRAIN STREET RAILWAY



Volunteer Appreciation Day participants listen as President Bartlett opens the Golden Spike ceremony



David Goff lays the final, Golden Spike

Golden Spike Driven for the New Car Barn tracks

At Volunteer Appreciation Day on November 1, 2015 we celebrated the work of our volunteers who have built the two turnouts and associated track to connect the New Car Barn with the House Track. This has been a long and important project, what good is a Car Barn without tracks? Dave Goff used a (painted) golden spiking maul to drive home the (painted) golden spike, showing better form that Leland Stanford

did at Promontory Summit, Utah in 1869. There is still work to be done here, but the tracks are sufficiently completed to allow the caboose to be moved into the New Car Barn for rides up and down the House Track, and for rolling stock to be moved into the New Car Barn once it is ready for occupancy.

New Car Barn Report

Most of the Car Barn progress since our last newsletter is not very evident in a casual inspection. We put much of our effort into getting the two tracks connected. We have also been working on building the frames for the door leafs. We have two 14 foot wide openings and one 12 foot opening, each nearly 18 feet tall, that need to have two carriage-style door leafs crafted for each of them. Sam and Larry have been busy cutting and grinding and thinking and welding to get these six frames built, so far only one has been completed and hung. Bill has helped out by getting some of our new (at least to us) tools operating, a new horizontal metal-cutting band saw, a large used vertical metal and wood-cutting band saw and a used air compressor. Gary, Dick and Sam primed some of the Sam and Larry finished the door and door frames. window trim and siding on the east end and put up the TROLLEY MUSEUM sign, making that end look much more finished. Dick and Sam have started the siding for the west end. The Franklin County Technical High School electricians have spent every other week placing conduit, building frames and pulling wires for the overhead lights (LED!), exterior lights, phone, Ethernet, emergency lighting, security system and many outlets. The upcoming weather will play a role in what happens next on the Car Barn, if you want to help out, let us know!

Volunteer of the Year



Marie Bartlett is Volunteer of the Year

Each year since 2000 the Board of Directors has chosen an individual to recognize as Volunteer of the Year. We pick someone who exemplifies what we are looking for in a volunteer, someone who can handle various responsibilities and brings enthusiasm and enjoyment to the museum, its visitors and other volunteers. This year the Board chose to recognize Marie Betts Bartlett for her years of dedication. Marie is known to many as the author and illustrator of The Little Yellow Trolley Car. She has been a motorman and conductor for many years and has recently started wearing the hat of Events Coordinator, as well as helping Polly as Education Coordinator. This spring Marie, Betsy and Polly revamped the Visitors Center lavout. Marie has been a big part of Trolleyfest even before she started organizing the entire event. She can be found every Moonlight Magic in the caboose, cooking up hot drinks, welcoming visitors and helping them make trolley-related tree ornaments. She has also helped with painting, building and clean-up projects. This year when Dave Bartlett's passing left the position of Membership Clerk open, she stepped up to bring new vision to that important and thankless aspect of our organization. You can thank her by sending in your membership renewal now! See the included Membership, Donation and Volunteer Form.

Please Renew your Membership

A new year is upon us, and that means that it is time to renew your membership. Of course, if you select a \$1000 Life Membership, then you never have to renew again. See the included **Membership**, **Donation and Volunteer Form** to learn about the benefits that come with various levels of membership. We'd be glad to have you renew at a higher level if you can. Members are vital for our museum, and your Membership Dues

helps keep the bills paid. We get some of our income from our guests in the form of donations, ticket revenue and gift shop revenue, and we get some income from renting out our excess space. But without your Membership donations (tax-deductible) we would be hard-pressed to make ends meet. All the details for renewing your membership are on the included **Membership, Donation and Volunteer Form**. And new this year you can renew online via PayPal or Credit Card, at <u>http://www.sftm.org/join.shtml</u>. Please renew now while you are still thinking about it.

UMass Engineers help lay track

Members of the UMass Civil Engineering Club visited twice recently to provide some young backs for trackwork, in exchange for some hands-on experience building railroad track. They learned about placing ties and tie plates, placing rails with the boom truck, spiking rails to ties, gauging track, bending rail with a come-along or rail bender and tamping ties. We all appreciated their energy, enthusiasm and all the work they accomplished.



UMass Civil Engineering students help place the last rail in the New Car Barn tracks



The Amtrak Fall Foliage Special passed by the museum four times this fall. Seen here from inside PCC MBTA 3321.

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS - 2015

Polly Bartlett (Asst Treasurer) Sam Bartlett (President) Gerald Besser Alden Dreyer (Vice Chair) David Dye (Vice President, Chair of Board) David Goff Tony Jewell Bill Kaiser Lou Musante (Clerk) Betsy Wholey Osell (Treasurer, Asst Clerk) Jim Wholey

CONTACT US Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum PO Box 272 Shelburne Falls MA 01370 Phone: 413-625-9443 Email: trolley@sftm.org Web: www.sftm.org

TRANSFER is a publication of the Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum Inc., produced for the enlightenment and entertainment of our members and special friends. Spring, Summer, and Fall issues are planned for each year. Comments, contributions, and letters to the editor are welcomed. Sam Bartlett - Editor editor@sftm.org

SIGNING UP FOR eTRANSFER

As a convenience to our members, and as as an attempt to control costs, the TRANSFER is available online as a pdf file. This will give you the option of filing your copies of the TRANSFER on your computer, in case you want to refer back to them at some later time. What's more, eTRANSFER comes out in full color! If you are a current member and wish to receive your future TRANSFERs by email, here's how to do it:

•Send an email to: membership@sftm.org

•In the Subject line, please enter 'eTransfer'.

•In the body of your message please enter just your name. Your address will be entered on a emailing list, and the future issues will come to you by internet instead of by snail mail, thereby saving printing and mailing costs. Save a tree, too!! Please note – if you are an eTRANSFER subscriber, and subsequently change your email address, please be sure that you let us know at membership@sftm.org.

VOLUNTEERING - HOW TO DO IT

See the included **Membership**, **Donation and Volunteer Form**. Indicate what your interests are operating, painting, building stuff, selling tickets and gifts, grant writing, or what. Fill it out and send it to us by mail or email (See CONTACT US), or email your interests, or just come by when we are open. We need you!!!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

At this writing, SFTM has 127 current Memberships. See the included **Membership**, **Donation and Volunteer Form** for more information on Member benefits and giving levels. If your printed TRANSFER does not have this year on the address label, you are not a current member and this is probably your last TRANSFER.

Renew online at http://www.sftm.org/join.shtml Please send mail or email changes of address to membership@sftm.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Brian C. Entrot, Rockaway, NJ Elyon Chaim Falk, Amherst MA Dominic Vellucci, Shelburne Falls MA Darrell Arndt, Englewood CO Sally Boutiette, Shelburne Falls MA Deborah & Sarah Bruml, Shelburne Falls MA Mason Colby, Brattleboro VT Grace Coller, Shelburne Falls MA W.George Cook, Valatie NY April Cowdell, South Hadley MA Connor Elliott, Springfield MA Clifton Fischlein, North Fort Myers FL Matthew Graham-Moga, Florence MA Gail Kainen, Granby MA - Sylvia Orcutt, Goshen MA Joshua Redenz, Amherst MA Patrick A. & Cathy Rolfe, Gifford PA Sally Spencer, Shelburne Falls MA Maynard Stowe, Conway MA Peter Vetterstrand, Hadley MA Liam Walker, Shelburne Falls MA Gordon Dean & Hedley Yost, Shelburne Falls MA

Corporate Sponsors

Please patronize our Sponsors! West End Pub Casey's Grinders Zoar Outdoor Coldwell Banker Upton Massamont REALTORS Berkshire East McCuskers Market Mo's Fudge Factor

Note: The last Transfer (about the PCC cars) should have been labeled Summer 2015 Vol. 24 No. 2, not No. 1. Also, "PCC" stands for President's Conference Committee. It was stated incorrectly in the last issue.

BALLOT

2016 Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum Inc. Annual Meeting Thursday February 9, 2016 – 6:30pm Greenfield Cooperative Bank, - 33 Bridge St. Shelburne Falls MA

Ballot Information

The By-Laws of SFTM allow all Memberships in good standing to vote on Directors and certain Officers at the Annual Meeting. Only one vote is allowed per Membership. If you are not attending the Annual Meeting, and if you wish to cast your vote, please detach and mail the ballot below in time to reach Shelburne Falls by February 06, 2016 to: Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum, Inc. Attention Clerk PO Box 272 Shelburne Falls MA 01370

Otherwise ensure that it is received by Clerk Lou Musante prior to the Annual Meeting on Tuesday, February 10th, 2015. If you wish your vote to be secret, write SECRET on the postal envelope and put your ballot inside another unmarked envelope inside the postal envelope. The postal envelope must have your name and return address to allow for proper counting of votes.

Only paid-up (and Life or Honorary Life) MKembers are allowed to vote. You must hold a 2016 or Life Membership for your vote to count. Please check the expiration date on your mailing label. If it reads 2015 or older, your Membership will need to be renewed before or when you submit your ballot. If you are using eTRANSFER and are not sure of your status, contact Membership@sftm.org. Please renew at your earliest convenience. Your support is urgently needed. Thank you.

Ballot for Elections Part 1 – Directors

Under the current By-Laws the Board of Directors has been divided into three classes, with only one class to be voted on each year. The term for incumbents is for three years. New Directors will be asigned to a class by the Board of Directors.

The Nominating Committee has presented the following slate of candidates who are all willing to serve on the Board of Directors. You may vote for no more than 4 by marking an X in the corresponding box. If you wish to vote for a write-in candidate, print the name below and mark X in the box.

- □ Alden Dreyer (Class 1) Incumbent
- David Goff (Class 1) Incumbent
- □ William "Bill" Kaiser (Class 1) Incumbent
- □ WRITEIN

Ballot for Elections Part 2 - Certain Officers

The Nominating Committee has presented the following candidates who are willing to serve as the President and Vice-President of the Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum for the coming year. If you wish to vote for another candidate, you must obtain prior approval from your candidate. Then write his/her name below and mark X in the box.

President	 ROBERT G. "Sam" BARTLETT - Incumbent Writein
Vice-President	 DAVID DYE - Incumbent Writein

If you are mailing in your Dues or Donation and your Ballot, you may use a single envelope.

SHELBURNE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP, DONATION AND VOLUNTEER FORM Go to <u>http://www.sftm.org/join.shtml</u> to Renew or Join online

or fill out and mail this form with your check.

NAME	An address label is
ADDRESS	fine. For renewals we
	just need your full
	name.

Check here if this is a Renewal _____ Check here if this is a change of address_____

SFTM memberships and donations are tax-deductible!

See second page for benefits that come with ascending Membership levels.

All Memberships (except for Life Memberships) are on a calendar-year basis, Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Life Membership is good for the life of the Life Member and spouse.

PLEASE CHOOSE A MEMBERSHIP LEVEL

Junior (under 18) \$12	Contributing \$60	Silver Patron \$350
Individual \$20	Patron \$100	Gold Patron \$500
Family \$32	Bronze Patron \$200	Life Member \$1000+
Friend \$40		Corporate Sponsor \$95

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS

General Fund	Car Barn	PCC Cars	Caboose	Coach	Freight House	Box Car
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Our newsletter *The Transfer* is published three times a year for all our members, and sent by USPS mail or emailed (except Juniors can only get it by email). To get *The Transfer* by email (you get color pictures and save us printing and mailing costs), please put your email address here:

Make your Membership and Donation check to: *Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum, Inc.* or "*SFTM*". Mail or deliver to: **Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum**

Membership Clerk PO Box 272

Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

The Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum, Inc. is a 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization. Keep this in mind if your employer has a donation-matching program.

OPTIONAL VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

If you would also like to be included on the SFTM Volunteer Roster, check your interests below:

_____ Motorman/Conductor (Full training will be provided by SFTM)

Ticket and Sales	Public Relations/Advertising
Restoration Work - Caboose, Coach.	Track Work
Fund Raising	Other Construction Work
Museum-Displays and Acquisitions	Other
Phone Ema	nil@

SHELBURNE FALLS TROLLEY MUSEUM MEMBERSHIP LEVELS AND BENEFITS (If you pay for your Membership in person, this will act as your receipt.)

JR Junior (under 18) \$12	CO Contributing \$60	PS Silver Patron \$350
IN Individual \$20	PA Patron \$100	PG Gold Patron \$500
FA Family \$32	PB Bronze Patron \$200	LM Life Member \$1000+
FR Friend \$40		CS Corporate Sponsor \$95

All Memberships (except for Life Memberships) are on a calendar-year basis, Jan. 1 through Dec. 31. Life Membership is good for the life of the Life Member and spouse.

	Membership Levels						
Benefits	JR \$12	IN \$20	FA \$32	FR \$40	CO \$60	CS \$95	PA,PB,PG, LM
Membership Card		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Free All-Day-Passes for:	You	You	Family*	Family*	Family*	Employees	Family*
Additional Free Passes per visit	0	0	0	2	4	4	No Limit
Gift Shop Discount	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
The Transfer, our Newsletter	√ **	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark
Free Instant Motorman per season	0	0	0	1	2	2	No limit
Tax Deduction	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark
Car Card Ad in Trolley							
Company Name in <i>The Transfer</i> and our website						\checkmark	
The great feeling that you are supporting something important	\checkmark		\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark

* A Family covers two adults living in the same household, and all children under age 18 related to at least one of the adults.

** Junior Members receive only the emailed version of *The Transfer*. All other Members may get it mailed or emailed. We encourage you to get it by email because you get color pictures and save us printing and mailing costs.

Your Membership Card will be mailed to you shortly after we receive your payment.

Our Members are the lifeblood of our Museum, please join and give as generously as you can.

President's Report

Ridership – 2015 was a good year for ridership, with 2209 adult, 388 youth and 905 non-revenue (members, kids under 6, etc.). Overall (in terms of tickets sold, not counting free tickets) we were solidly in the top third of our 16 years, improving over the last few years but not as good as some of our earlier standout years. In terms of ticket revenue we set a record, 7% better than last year, because of the 2013 price increase.

Moonlight Magic – This holiday event was a mad house, we sold 331 tickets and had 101 non-revenue riders (kids and members), for a record Moonlight Magic in terms of overall riders! We were 10 short of a record for paying tickets but made up for that and more with the large number of free children and members. And because we raised our ticket prices a few years ago, this year's Moonlight Magic ticket revenue was a record as well. Moonlight Magic is a lot of work for one short evening, but it is worth it. It is always fun to see the lighted trolley rolling along the tracks, headed toward the warm and illuminated caboose. Thanks to Marie, Dick, Larry, Dave G, Dave D, Bill, Jim, Betsy, Martha, Alden, Lou and Nancy for keeping the holiday cheer going.

PCCs – The two new MBTA President's Conference Committee cars reported on in the last issue are waiting for some time and money and warmer weather. We are looking for grants for blasting the rust off, priming and painting and for buying replacement windows. At this point our efforts are going toward the New Car Barn. Once No. 10 can be moved into Stall 2 it will free up the Old Car Barn as a paint shop for PCC car MBTA 3321. Note that there is a line to make a donation to the PCC cars on the **Membership**, **Donation and Volunteer Form**.

Caboose – Dave D has been trying to stay ahead of nature's efforts to turn CV 4015 into compost, he is winning but can't rest on his laurels. Dave has re-installed some of the handrails and replaced some failed siding and window trim. We hope to be able to keep the caboose under cover in the winter once the New Car Barn is completed.

Web – You can now renew your Membership or make an additional donation online at http://www.sftm.org/join.shtml



The first train into the New Car Barn, on Volunteer Apprecation Day. CV 4015 and the flat car enter Stall 1 of the New Car Barn, hauled by the Trackmobile.

Freight House – We hired (thanks to the H. Albert Webb Award) a contractor to replace the missing and deteriorated clapboards on the east end of the Freight House. Since the new clapboards were pre-primed at various times they are several different colors. We tried to save some of the original(?) clapboards as well, so right now that end looks a bit odd, but better than it did before. It is waiting for YOU to volunteer to finish scraping the old clapboards and paint the whole end Cream. There is also more clapboard work, easily reached from the dock, on the north side, if you want to do that. We plan to hire work on the slate roof this winter.



The variously-primed clapboards of the Freight House. Paint is next.

Miscellaneous – Shirley put in many hours improving the appearance of our porch by painting some of the sections that were missed earlier or had already suffered from extensive use. Dick did some touch-up painting in the Visitors Center. **Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum PO Box 272** Shelburne Falls MA 01370-0272



413/625-9443 www.sftm.org/

If your address label does not say '2016' or '2100' please renew your Membership today. You can visit our FaceBook page at <u>https://www.facebook.com/ShelburneFallsTrolleyMuseum/</u> Be sure to visit us at the Big Railroad Hobby Show January 30 and 31, 2016 http://railroadhobbyshow.com/



The sheathing is on the east end of the New Car Barn.





Betsy watches Rowan and Polly ride the first rolling stock into the New Car Barn.

Off with the old, on with the new Freight House clapboards. Photos in this issue courtesy of Jeannie Bartlett, Sam Bartlett and David Goff.