

BOSTON & MAINE R.R.

Historical Society, inc.

NEWSLETTER

P.O. BOX 302 · READING, MASSACHUSETTS 01867

February 27, 1976

Dear B&M Fans:

The March meeting of the Boston and Maine Railroad Historical Society, Inc., will be held at the First Unitarian Parish Church, corner of Winn and Pleasant Streets, Woburn Square, Woburn, Mass., at 8:00 P.M. on Saturday, March 13, 1976. Following the regular monthly business meeting, Mr. Ken Patton will present a selection of his excellent color slides. Mr. Patton put on a most interesting show several years ago when the Society was meeting in the Reading Depot.

FEBRUARY MEETING: The February meeting may be termed a very good success. There were several members with slides or movies to show, including 8mm movies of the last run of eng. 3713, and some 16mm movies of the Central Vermont and Canadian Roads in steam days. The Society wishes to thank all of the members who brought their pictures along for helping to make the evening most enjoyable. The meeting was attended by approximately 100 members and guests.

APRIL MEETING: The April meeting of the Society will be a joint meeting with the Mass. Bay Railroad Enthusiasts, and will be held on their meeting night, April 22, 1976 at their meeting place. Entertainment scheduled for the meeting is to be provided by Mr. H. Arnold Wilder and Mr. Dana D. Goodwin. These two gentlemen have been around, and it should be quite an evening. The program, according to the RRE, will be Steam in New England, 1930-1960!!! The RRE's meeting place is the Newton Highlands Congregational Church, 54 Lincoln Ave., Newton Highlands. (1 Block west of MBTA-Riverside Line stop at Newton Highlands.) Time of the meeting is 7:30 P.M.

MAY MEETING: The May meeting of the B&M Historical Society will be held in the Western Part of the State. Plans are being made now, and details will be in the next NEWSLETTER.

NEW MEMBERS: It is with pleasure that we welcome the following new members to the Society; Mr. Abbott L. Deroo, Ashland, NH, Mr. Bernard T. Dover, Liverpool, NY, Mr. Edward J. Maloney, Pittsfield, MA, Mr. T. Nick Toutsch, Maquoketa, IA, Mr. Roy Freundberg, Brockton, MA, Mr. Hugo A. Bourdeau, San Antonio, TX, Mr. Frank M. Little, Sr., Shreveport, LA, Mr. Roger P. Cook, Oradell, NJ, Mr. Charles A. Briggs, North Dighton, MA,

S. A. Collins, Wollaston, MA, Anson A. Mason, Pownal, VT, Peter Dennett, Plainfield, VT, Dr. Donald J. Neely, Woodstock, VT, Thomas J. Humphrey, Waban, MA, Scott J. Whitney, Claremont, NH, Gerard Therrien, Jr., Monteval, PQ, Canada, Robert W. Morse, West Mystic, CT, Edward A. Lewis, Strasburg, PA, Douglas G. Low, Greenwich, CT, Paul E. Fennyery, Springfield, MA, Clark H. Bagnall, Exeter, NH, David A. Saunders, Ann Arbor, MI, William R. Potter, New London, CT, John E. Bock, Holden, MA, Henry A. DeKeyser, Huntington Beach, CA, William G. Dodge, New London, NH, Edward P. Scheibly, Rennselaer, NY,, Leon D. Taylor, Milton, FL, John R. Butler, Hudson, MA, Joseph M. Patalano, Rutland, VT, Ronald Johnson, South Portland, ME, Lewis M. Schneider, Waban, MA, and the Ontario & Western Chapter, NRHS, Middletown, NY. The Society Now has a total of an even 700 members.

PUBLICATIONS: We have now received the complete bill for the Central Mass. book. It was substantially greater than the original estimate on which the price for the book was based. This plus the recent postal rate increase necessitates adjustments in our publications pricing and mailing policies. The following changes are being made.

1. All orders for back issue Bulletins, drawings, timetables, poster and menus are now being mailed SECOND CLASS. This means that they will take a little longer to get to you, but it will prevent another substantial price increase for these items. To insure the fastest service, always include a check or money order for the proper amount with your order and send the order to DEPT. B.

2. Effective immediately, all back issue Bulletins will sell at \$2.00 each to non-members if ordered by mail. The members' price will remain at \$1.75.

3. Beginning April 1, the Central Mass. Book will be priced as follows:

MEMBERS - \$6.00

NON-MEMBERS - \$7.95 plus \$.50 for postage and handling on mail orders

Use the order blank in this issue to order your copy now if you have not already done so. Be sure to enclose your check or money order and address the order to DEPT. CM. DO NOT ENCLOSE ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE WITH BOOK OR BACK ISSUE ORDERS. Book orders received on or subsequent to April 1 which are not accompanied by payment at the new rate will be returned.

The following back publications are presently available. All prices include postage.

BULLETINS - Winter 1974-75, Spring 1975, Summer 1975, Fall 1975 and Winter 1975-76
Price per copy! \$1.75 to members, \$2.00 to non-members.

Timetable - Springfield Terminal Ry., 1900 (reprint)
Price: 25¢

Drawings - 2-6-0 1388 (plan view) by Jim Ickes
2-6-0 1470 at Milford, N.H., by Dick Symmes
Price: 70¢

Menu - Snow Train, 1932 (reprint) Price: 25¢

DONATIONS: The Society would like to thank Mr. Freeman Fogg of Stoughton, Mass., for his donation to our archives of a photograph showing B&M officials about 1905. The photo depicts such officials as Charles E. Lee and William Mooney (General Superintendents), Frank Barr (General Manager), Henry Bartlett (Superintendent of Motive Power), C.H. Wiggin (Assistant Superintendent of Motive Power), and C.M. Burt (General Passenger Agent), in addition to a number of Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents for the different divisions of the B&M.

ARCHIVES: The Society is always welcoming donations to its archives and its collection grows steadily. But, we need help in cataloging plans, photos, etc. If anyone would like to volunteer their services for this, please contact member William J. Cashman, Jr., at the Society's address.

B&M BULLETIN ARTICLES: We are still looking for photos and/or information on the following subjects for future use in the B&M Bulletin:

- 1) Passenger trains in the White Mountains of New Hampshire
- 2) B&M milk cars (especially the old ones)
- 3) Profile & Franconia Notch RR (B&M Profile Branch)
- 4) B&M Waumbek Branch
- 5) Recent and old photos taken along the Western Route main line between Oak Grove and North Station, and photos showing operations on the new MBTA Haymarket North extension to Malden.
- 6) Wayland, Mass. (especially pre-1930)
- 7) The "East Wind" passenger Train
- 8) B&M wood diner No. 90 and similar cars (later were converted to work service cars, two of which are M3285 and M3288)
- 9) B&M 3225 series baggage cars, converted from troop sleepers (later in MOW service)
- 10) Saratoga & Schuylerville Railroad (former B&M Saratoga & Schuylerville Branches)

If anyone has ideas or suggestions for future B&M Bulletin articles, and if they feel that they can contribute time, information or photographs towards the preparation of articles on those subjects, they should contact Rick Conard, Publications Editor, at the Society's address.

Anyone having photographs that they would like to see in the Focal Point section of the B&M Bulletin is requested to send them to Mr. Kenneth Patton, photo editor, at his home address:

316 Park Street
Wrentham, Mass. 02093

NEWS AND OBSERVATIONS: Anyone remember the name of R-1 class 4-8-2 4108 ? If you said "Lily Pons" you're right. Engine 4108 was named after a famous Opera singer by the name of Lily Pons, who recently passed away. Anyone owning a December, 1937 B&M Employees Magazine will find pictures of the 4108 at North Station with Miss Pons in the cab. My thanks to member John C. Alden for bringing this to my attention.

Member Don Provencher of Gorham, NH writes: "I like the A-cabs very much & hope to see more photos of same. My favorite is 4268A. The only one around now has been 4266. Can you inquire if anyone knows where 4265A is? I also would like to know more about 4268. I understand it is being scrapped at Billerica Shops! Anyone have any further info? ...Where can I get some of the original paint....maybe someone might know the paint no.s?"

In answer to your questions, Don, 4265A is out behind the Shops at Billerica, very much dilapidated, and I doubt that it will ever run again. It was involved in a serious electrical fire at Fitchburg Mass. in the Spring of 1973 and has been at Billerica Shops ever since. As for 4268A, you are right in that she has been scrapped. All that remains in Billerica is the shell, minus the front door. This too, is out behind the shops. Finally, I doubt if you could obtain any original paint, as a friend and I tried the same thing year's ago, by going to Billerica and asking if any records were on file as to paint chips, numbers, etc, and were told that these records had been thrown out. However, a very close representation can be had by using Accu-paints, produced by Scale Model Product of Bolton, Mass. They make both B&M engine marron and the yellow for stiping, plus the decals, even including the reflectorized number boards! If you cannot find these items in a hobby shop, they should be ordered from Jack's Trains, Christmans Tree Lane, Rutland, Mass.

Member David D. Ashenden writes "Saw Providence and Worcester 2002 in East Deerfield 2/20/75 6:00P.M.". "...Also out of four units on a northbound Conn. River line freight two wer CP engines- 4217, some sort of Alco or MLW Century series, and 8773, a RS-18."

P&W 2002 was at East Deerfield for repairs, Dave and was returned to the P&W the day after you saw it, used as a helper on an Eastbound Coal Extra to Gardner. As for CP 4217, it is an MLW Century 424, several of which have been showing up on 8904-JS-4 SJ-1-8917 recently, along with CP 5000 series GP-35s and some 4400 series F-7b units!!All this makes for rather interesting train watching on the Conn. River.

On February 8, 1976, B&M freight SJ-3 derailed 13 cars North of Claremont Jct, NH, in the Town limits of Cornish. One of the cars was a tank car loaded with Sulfuric acid, which ruptured and poured into a stream which empties into the Connecticut River. However, Vermont authorities sais ther was no immediate danger to persons in the area or downstream water supplies. While clean-up operations were underway, passengers on Amtraks Montrealers were shuttled to and from Bellows Falls and White River Jct. by bus.



F-unit heaven!! Units 4268A and 4266A face each other at White River Junction, Vt. on June 17, 1973. 4268A, along with 1568 and 4227B had come up from Springfield on SJ-1, while 4266A, along with 4267B and another GP-7 had come down from Newport on No. 8904. I didn't know it at the time, but this would be the last time I would see four cab units in operating condition on the B&M.
Photo by Wayne D. Hills

This NEWSLETTER was mailed on Thursday, March 4, 1976, and is late due to several members of the Society's staff being ill, including myself. Deadline for the next NEWSLETTER is Monday, March 15, 1976.

Best regards,
Wayne D. Hills
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