

Read

Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society
19 *Incorporated* 71

NEWSLETTER

Meeting/Membership Telephone Number (978) 454-3600

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January – February 2017

Bob Warren, Editor (bmbobwarren@comcast.net)

Visit the B&MRRHS on the web at: www.bmrrhs.org

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B&MRRHS CALENDAR

Meetings commence at 3:30 pm on the second Saturday at Rogers Hall, Lowell, MA unless otherwise indicated.

January 14th Dispatching *The Route Of The Minuteman*.

Guest speaker, Carl Senfleben, spent 18 years with the B&M RR and 18 more with Amtrak. Starting as night clerk at B&M's Fitchburg yard, then working various towers and operating jobs, advancing up the B&M dispatcher ranks, he eventually became Chief Dispatcher and then Superintendent of Train Operations for Amtrak-Boston. Carl will relate his experiences from B&M "common carrier status" to Amtrak *Acelas* and our now intense Commuter Rail, with insight and humor. He probably knows it all because he has seen it all!

Do not miss this!!

Location is Rogers Hall on Rogers St. in Lowell, Ma.

Free parking across the street.

February 11th, 3:30 PM in Rogers Hall in Lowell.

Railways Beyond Our Borders. Digital slide presentation of many foreign railways by Jay Epstein and Scot Osterweil. Both men have traveled extensively and photographed diesel, electric, and steam operations in many countries, with many gauges and many languages.

Directions To The Rogers Hall Society Meeting Location

From Rt. 495 take exit 38, which is Rt. 38; go right, this is Rogers St.

If you come from the north or south there are six and seven sets of lights respectively. Approximately 1.3 miles from Rt. 495 are the last set of lights (working) bear to the left here. Rogers Hall is about 3 tenths of a miles on your right. Directly across the street is Rogers Fort Hill Park, parking is available there.

If you come from Rt. 133 (Andover St.) follow that until you intersect Rt. 38 in Lowell. Go through this intersection and take your third left, which is High St. Go to the end, and take a left and this will take you to Rogers Hall on your left and Rogers Fort Hill Park on the right.

If you come from Rt. 38 or Rt. 113 you need to get off at the overhead traffic circle as if going to St. Johns Hospital. Follow this to the intersection of Rts. 38 and 133 and follow the above directions to High St.

MEMBER INFORMATION

Newsletter

Correspondence concerning the Newsletter can be sent to either

2285 Stagecoach, Los Lunas, NM 87031

or emailed to:

bmbobwarren@comcast.net

All Other Correspondence goes to the following address (or by email) including catalog orders, correspondence with the Board of Directors, Archives, Historian, or Bulletin.

B&MRRHS, P.O. 469, Derry, NH 03038

bmrrhs@gmail.com

In all instances involving money DO NOT send cash as the society will not be held responsible for if lost.

Make checks, etc. payable to **B&MRRHS**

Address Change: if you change your address please let the Society know by mail or email. When you do not let us know, it costs extra for postage: first mailing, returned postage and second mailing, i.e., three mailing costs to one person.

Society Officers, Directors and Staff

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Treasurer	Paul T. Kosciolk
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MEMBERSHIP

- Please renew your membership within the ninety-day renewal period or you will be deleted from the membership list. • All renewing members are provided a preaddressed renewal envelope, containing your membership data on the flap. Please

DO NOT over tape the flap.

- Write any address changes on an additional piece of paper and include within the renewal envelope
- Payment is by check or money order ONLY... please do not send cash. You may pay by cash if you attend a Membership meeting or train show at which the society has a presence.
- If you do not get society publications after renewing, contact the society at the address below.
- Prior to moving, please notify the society to insure continued receipt of society publications, etc. Failure to do so requires additional expenditures to have returned mail forwarded to you if your new address becomes known.
- A RED DOT on your address label indicates that this is the last item you will receive from the Society, as you have not renewed within the allotted timeframe.
- All questions regarding your membership should be addressed to:

Membership

c/o B&MRRHS, PO Box 469
Derry, N.H. 03038-0469

B&MRRHS Membership Dues

All values in US dollars. Dues are payable by check, money order, postal money order or cash. Sorry, but we are unable to accept charges. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for processing.

Please send membership requests to:

B&MRRHS - Membership

PO Box 469

Derry, NH 03038-0469

Basic	\$35
Basic & Spouse	\$38
Contributing	\$40
Canada & Overseas	\$55
Sustaining	\$50
Supporting	\$75
Benefactor	\$100
Corporate	\$500

Help Wanted: *B&MRRHS* Newsletter Editor

The Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society seeks a qualified person to succeed Bob Warren as our *B&MRRHS Newsletter* editor. The transition will occur by the end of 2017. Bob will train and assist his successor during and after the transition.

Duties:

- * Oversee the production of six *B&MRRHS Newsletters* in each calendar year
- * Acquire and accumulate copy and photos for inclusion in the *Newsletter*
- * Solicit articles from knowledgeable persons
- * Using desktop publishing software, assemble the master copy of the *Newsletter*
- * Proofread the master copy
- * Send the master copy to the printer by deadline date to enable mailing to members on time

The editor's duties do not include stuffing or mailing of the *Newsletter*.

Qualifications:

- * An interest in the Boston and Maine Railroad and New England railroad history
- * An interest in current events in New England railroading
- * Ability to organize paper and electronic documents and meet deadlines
- * Familiarity with computer software and email
- * A knowledge of English grammar, usage, and punctuation
- * Ability to edit news stories and articles to fit available space.
- * Ability to use desktop publishing software to produce an attractive publication

This is a volunteer position and a way to serve the Society in a vitally important area. You do not have to live in New England to qualify.

If you would like to be considered for the position of *Newsletter* Editor, please contact Rick Nowell, *B&MRRHS* President, by emailing him at fnowell3@gmail.com

Ellis E. Walker Jr. 1925 - 2016

Ellis E. Walker, 91 of Concord, a longtime member of the Society, died Friday, October 28, 2016 at his Concord home. He was the husband for 62 years of Phyllis (Pitman) Walker. Born in Augusta, Maine on July 26, 1925. He attended Augusta public schools and graduated from Cony High School in 1943. He attended Northeastern University in Boston for a short time before enlisting in the U. S. Marine Corps where he served as a Sergeant during World War II.

For many years prior to his retirement in 1990 Ellis was employed with the Foxboro Company in Plymouth. As a young man, he worked for the Maine Central; he also worked for the B&M at the Billerica Shops in the early 1950 when steam power was still being repaired and maintained there. He was the fourth generation of Walkers to work in the railroad industry.

Ellis was a Concord resident for the past 59 years. He was active in the Trinitarian Congregational Church, active in Boy Scout Troop 149 where he was on the Troop Committee for many years.

He was a railroad enthusiast and historian and was especially active in the Wiscasset, Waterville & Farmington Railway Museum, where he wrote a column in the monthly newsletter. They were collected and published in a book called *Wiscasset, Waterville & Farmington Musings*.

Ellis was also active in the Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society, serving as a director of the Society and as a Member Emeritus of the Archives Committee. Rick Conard recalls that Ellis' entertaining, low-key way of talking and his wealth of personal recollections that greatly added to our Archives meetings. Rick also remembers that Ellis served with John Alden at the *B&MRRHS* tables at railroad shows in the 1970s. Ellis also worked at the short-lived Steam Village tourist RR in Gilford, NH. His fellow Society members will remember him as a soft-spoken, knowledgeable gentleman who was an outstanding representative of the railfan community.

Massdot Reveals \$2.2 Million In Industrial Rail Grants

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation awarded seven grants allowing Am Southern Intermodal Facility Pad Enhancement, Ayer. The intermodal facility pad improvement project will allow Pan Am to handle 29,500 additional containers each year.

Progressive Railroading September '16 newswire



Good news for a B&M loco, not as good for the intended paint scheme...

Mad River & NKP Railroad Museum

We're excited to announce a brighter future for one of our significant pieces!

Boston & Maine #864 was built in 1954 by the American Locomotive Company of Schenectady New York. It's a model S-5 which only 7 were produced. Out of those 7, the 864 is the only survivor. The S-5 was the first switcher locomotive to feature the newly designed 251 prime mover which proved to be a success for ALCO.

Our Museum has recently come to an agreement that will transfer ownership of the locomotive to The Youngstown Steel Heritage Foundation with the intent that the locomotive will be cosmetically restored and possibly made to operate again. President of YSH and Project Manager Rick Rowlands has already made numerous trips to Bellevue with other volunteers. Work has already begun to stabilize the locomotive's condition, and possibly get it painted before winter. The locomotive will remain in Bellevue for the near future.

For more information about YSH visit <http://www.todengine.org/>

Membership Badges Now Available

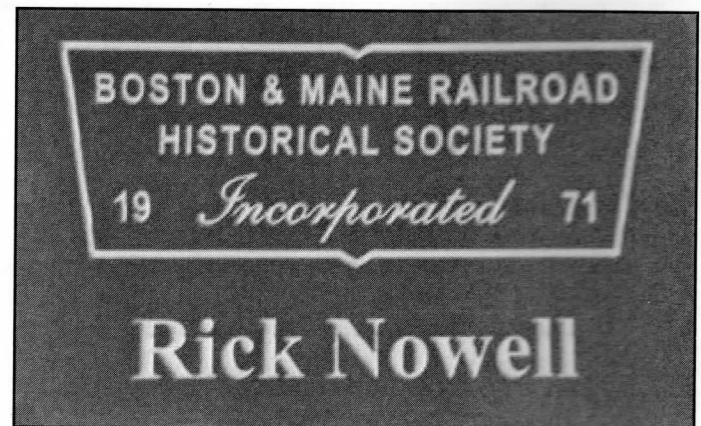
B&MRRHS members are entitled to wear the official membership badge at all Society events. The badge is a nice shade of blue with white letters, 3 inches wide by 2 inches tall. It has a magnetic attachment system that eliminates pinholes in shirts and sweaters.

We sell and mail membership badges at cost. Make check for \$12 payable to B&MRRHS and send to:

**Name Badge, B&MRRHS, P.O. Box 9116,
Lowell, MA 01853.**

Please specify name for badge. Get yours now.

NOTE: Magnets are known to be harmful to people who wear pacemakers.



15-Year-Old Buys 44,000-Pound Boxcar Now Comes The Hard Part

Hartford Courant

Reporter Bill Lockhardt

Orion Newall Vuillemot, a lanky 15-year-old from Woodstock who collects old tractors and makes maple syrup for sale, showed up at 7 a.m. at the Naugatuck Railroad Co. yard to collect his project.

A team of a dozen volunteers prepped the badly worn and weathered Boston & Maine boxcar – #72249 – from its longtime parking spot in the NRC yard.

It led to Orion raising about \$4,000, assembling a bunch of people interested in helping him bring his train car home to a 50-foot-long section of track he built in the family yard.

The freight car now is mostly paint-bare wood, with blotches of faded red paint freckled on the boards and the exterior metal frame.

All day, he buzzed around the rail yard, helping a volunteer plumber take off undercarriage brakes. He carried railroad sledgehammers and yard-long wrenches to workers. He hauled old equipment out of the long-unused boxcar. He happily scrambled onto the diesel locomotive that the non-profit Naugatuck Railroad Co. leases to move its rolling stock around.

“The boxcar was surplus and we wanted to get rid of it. Advertised it for \$1,500 among the historic railroad community and got a few nibbles. Nothing panned out,” Pincus said. “When Orion contacted me in August and told his story, it pulled me in. We offered it to him for \$1.”

Pincus threw in a few things the buyer would need: 50 feet of track rail and a keg of brand-new spikes to build the train section the boxcar requires for support. Track ties – the wood cross pieces that the rails in place – were Orion’s to find. He did, and in recent months he and volunteers who donated time and equipment built the 50-foot track in the family yard.

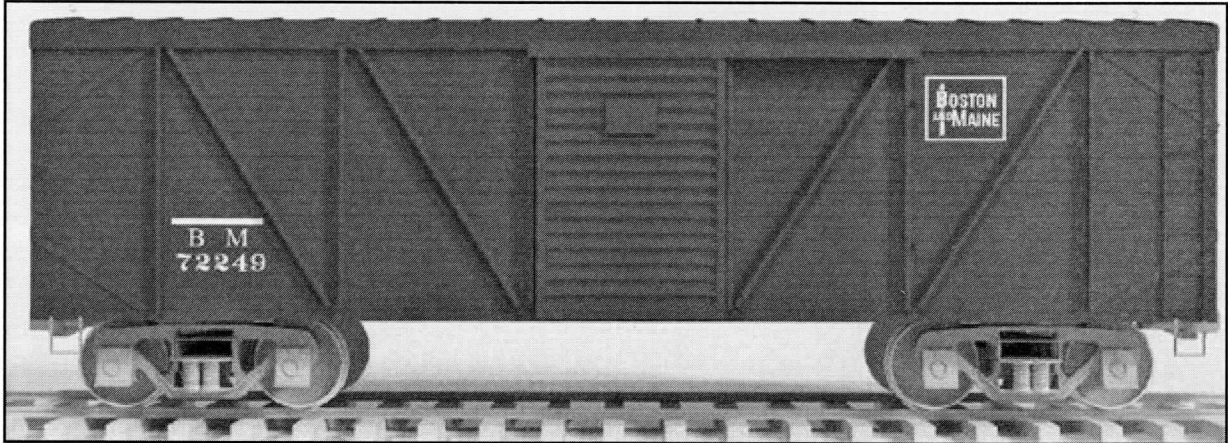
Orion’s Facebook postings of the project, his fund-raising page and other B&M #72249 information on the Internet even caught the attention of staffers at Steamtown National Historic Site, a heritage railway and museum operated by the National Park Service in Scranton, Pa.

“We just saw it today on Facebook,” Kenny Ganz, Steamtown park ranger and volunteer coordinator, said Wednesday by telephone. “The boxcar looks in OK shape. We could see it is missing the roof walk. It’s a rare piece of rolling stock with that exterior steel frame.”

Orion’s zeal to save the boxcar and restore it is remarkable, especially because most people opt to fix a caboose or passenger car, Ganz said.

Howard Pincus pix





Scale Model of the prototype

These are pictures taken on Nov. 17, 2016 at the Hardware collection in No. Chelmsford.



Chairman Rich Nichols at left, Fred Brown seated and Dan Hyde at right.

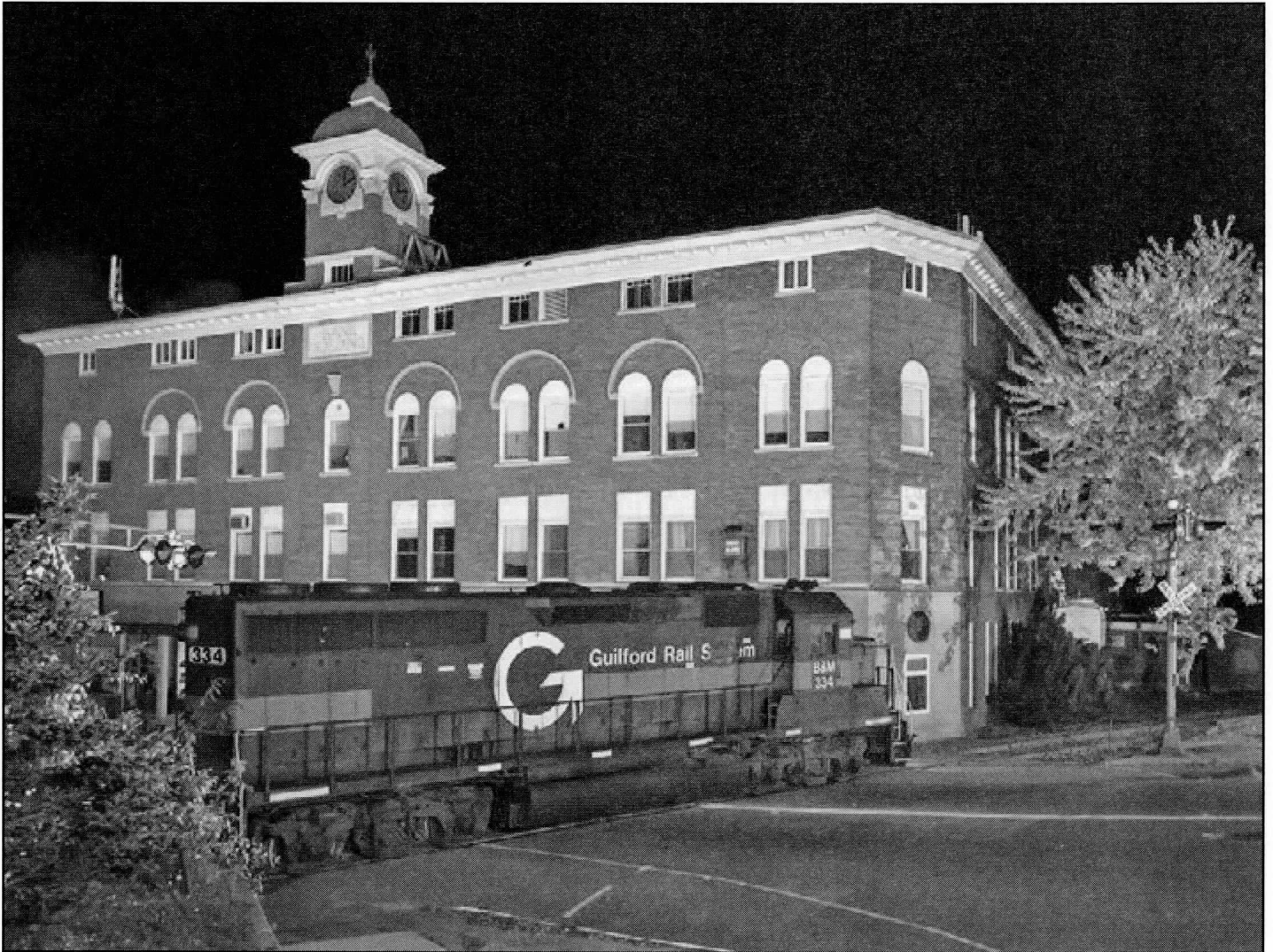
Rich, Fred and Dan are quite diligent in saving and displaying B&M RR historical hardware items



the “working” part of the place, with unsorted items on the baggage wagon.



display typical of other arrangements at this location.



Nighttime Chasing Trains

After a bit of breakfast I was onto I95 with the cruise control set at seventy-four, northbound for Pan Ams District One. First stop.....Livermore Falls, in an attempt to catch the RUPO job (Rumford – Portland) coming south with the Bank Building as a backdrop.

My scanner is programmed for the District One dispatchers frequency, which is separate from the rest of the Pan Am dispatchers, district two and three. The dispatcher comes in tonight like he is next door, I hear him give an RUPO permission from m.p. 113 down to Leeds Jct. After maybe thirty min. Hear an air horn but from the south! Eventually a PORU slowly comes into town and through the scene with GP 40-2 B&M 334 leading in Guilford colors. Trailing engine is the 313 whose number boards and headlights.

Photo by Gary Knapp

FROM THE ARCHIVES

HORSE RACES – ROCKINGHAM PARK & SUFFOLK DOWNS
1933 – 1941, inclusive

YEAR	NO. DAYS	AV. PER DAY	DESTINATION	PASSENGERS	REVENUE \$	GRAND TOTAL	
						PASSENGERS	REVENUE \$
1933	54	1,117	Rockingham Pk.	60,300	60,179.05		
1933	15	175	Rock. P. (Sulky)	2,635	2,635.00		
Total	69	912 ^a	Total	62,935	62,814.05	62,935	62,814.05
1934	62	1,712	Rockingham Pk.	106,130	106,130.00		
1934	10	104	Rock. P. (Sulky)	1,042	1,042.00		
Total	72	1,489	Total	107,172	107,172.00	107,172	107,172.00
1935	41	1,982	Rockingham Pk.	81,251	81,414.78		
1935	7	71	Rock. P. (Sulky)	499	494.74		
1935	44	837	Suffolk Downs	36,826	11,100.58		
Total	92	1,289	Total	118,576	93,010.10	118,576	93,010.10
1936	40	1,721	Rockingham Pk.	68,852	68,868.47		
1936	53	695	Suffolk Downs	36,860	10,627.90		
Total	93	1,137	Total	105,712	79,496.37	105,712	79,496.37
1937	66	1,745	Rockingham Pk.	115,177	114,592.16		
1937	54	484	Suffolk Downs	26,152	10,146.10		
Total	120	1,178	Total	141,329	124,738.26	141,329	124,738.26
1938	45	1,483	Rockingham Pk.	66,718	66,969.39		
1938	57	553	Suffolk Downs	31,499	8,950.95		
Total	102	963	Total	98,217	75,920.34	98,217	75,920.34
1939	48	1,515	Rockingham Pk.	72,707	73,053.49		
1939	60	401	Suffolk Downs	24,067	6,734.30		
Total	108	896	Total	96,774	79,787.79	96,774	79,787.79
1940	60	1,548	Rockingham Pk.	92,867	92,472.16		
1940	60	510	Suffolk Downs	30,600	7,735.50		
Total	120	1,029	Total	123,467	100,207.66	123,467	100,207.66
1941	66	1,779	Rockingham Pk.	117,401	118,547.00		
1941	60	576	Suffolk Downs	34,587	9,287.10		
Total	126	1,206	Total	151,988	127,834.10	151,988	127,834.10

SUMMARY

YEAR	NO. DAYS	AV. PER DAY	PASSENGERS	*GRAND TOTAL REVENUE \$
1933	69	912	Rockingham Park	62,935 62,814.05

1934	72	1,489	" "	107,172	107,172.00		
1935	92	1,289	Rock. & Suff. Downs	118,576	93,010.10		
1936	93	1,137	Rock. & Suff. Downs	105,712	79,496.37		
1937	120	1,178	Rock. & Suff. Downs	141,329	124,738.26		
1938	102	963	Rock. & Suff. Downs	98,217	75,920.34		
1939	108	896	Rock. & Suff. Downs	96,774	79,787.79		
1940	120	1,029	Rock. & Suff. Downs	123,467	100,207.66		
1941	126	1,206	Rock. & Suff. Downs	151,988	127,834.10		
						GRAND TOTAL	
						PASSENGERS	REVENUE
							\$
9 years	902	1,115		1,006,170	850,980.67	1,006,170	850,980.67

* Revenue includes commissions.

Passenger Traffic Department
 December 1, 1941
 (W.F.S.)



The B&MRRHS Archives are located at 40 French Street, Lowell, Mass. Work sessions are held monthly. Visitors and volunteers are welcome. For more information email Rick Nowell, Chairman, fnowell3@yahoo.com. View our On-Line Archives at bmrrhs.org

^a Yearly average per day: divide total passengers by total number of days.