

NEWSLETTER

September – October 2018

-TIME TABLE-

September 8, 2018. 3:00 PM. B&MRRHS Membership Meeting. Rogers Hall, 196 Rogers Street, Lowell, Mass. *Carl Byron will present "Crossroads of New England: Ayer Junction from 1845 to Today."* See page 3 for more information

September 15, 2018. Departures 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM. Mass Bay RRE and the Berkshire Scenic Railway Museum present: *Mass Bay RRE Day on the Hoosac Valley.* Train excursions from Adams, Mass. to North Adams and return. Equipment: Former B&MRR RDC-1 No. 6126. www.massbayrre.org/Trips/HoosacValley.htm

September 29 and 30, 2018. Saturday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and Sunday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. *Pepperell Siding Model Train Show.* Varnum Brook Elementary School, 10 Hollis St., Pepperell, Mass. The Society will have a booth at this show. www.psmrc.org

October 13, 2018. 12:00 Noon to 3:00 PM. B&MRRHS Membership Meeting. Plymouth Regional Senior Center (former Plymouth depot), 8 Depot St., Plymouth, N.H. At 1:00 PM David Saums will present: *"Snow Trains on the B&M."* See page 3 for more information.

October 13 and 14, 2018. Both days 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. *Nashua Valley Railroad Association Railfair 18.* Boxboro Regency Hotel, 242 Adams Place, Boxboro, Mass. www.nvrra.com

October 18, 2018. 8:00 PM. *Massachusetts Bay Railroad Enthusiasts meeting,* Union Church in Waban, 14 Collins Road, Newton, MA. Program: Vincent Bono, President of Boston Surface Railroad Co. www.massbayrre.org/meetings.htm

November 3, 2018. 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. *Great Northern New England Chapter TCA Train Show.* Dover Lodge of Elks, 282 Durham Rd., Dover, N.H. For information contact Ed Martin 603-362-4300, efmenter@aol.com. The Society will have a booth at this show. www.netca.org



B&MRRHS 410 Committee holds Saturday work sessions to preserve B&M 0-6-0 Class G-10 switcher No. 410 and combination coach-baggage car No. 1244. Email Jim Nigzus, 410 Chairman, for details at jamesnigzus@comcast.net

B&MRRHS Archives Committee generally holds its work sessions on the third Saturday of the month to organize, catalog, and preserve our collection of railroad photos and documents. Email Rick Nowell, Archives Chairman, for details at fnowell3@yahoo.com

B&MRRHS Hardware Committee generally holds its work sessions on Thursdays to preserve our collection of railroad equipment. Email Richard Nichols, Hardware Curator, for details at railroad.nichols@gmail.com

BOSTON & MAINE RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

is a not-for-profit, 501(c)(3) organization composed of people who want to share their knowledge, and learn more about, the history and operations of the Boston and Maine Railroad, its predecessors, and successors. Formed in 1971 by a group of interested B&M employees and railfans, the B&MRRHS now has nearly one thousand active members.

Our principal activities are publication of our journal, the *B&M Bulletin*, and our *Newsletter*, monthly speakers, archives and hardware preservation, preservation of the B&M 0-6-0 switcher No. 410 and coach-baggage combine No. 1244, participation in railroad shows, and maintaining two web sites: www.bmrrhs.org and www.flickr.com/photos/bmrrhs. If you would like to join the Society, you can join on-line or download an application at www.bmrrhs.org

OFFICERS

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FIRST ROAD

The Andover and Wilmington Rail Road, the first segment of the B&M, opened on August 8, 1836. It was 7.75 miles long

NEWSLETTER

The Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society *Newsletter* is published six times a year. We welcome articles, photographs, and news items about the Society, the Boston and Maine Railroad, and current railroad events in New England. It is best to query the editor before submitting material. This issue was edited by Rick Nowell fnowell3@yahoo.com

Opinions expressed in the *Newsletter* do not necessarily represent the views of the Society, its officers, or members. Reference in the *Newsletter* to products or services is for the convenience of readers and does not constitute an endorsement by the Society. © 2018 B&MRRHS.

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

Join us on-line or renew your membership on-line at bmrrhs.org. Credit cards may be used if you join or renew on-line. Dues are also payable by check, money order, postal money order, or cash (in person only). All payments in U.S. dollars. Please allow four to six weeks for processing.

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

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

- Notices are sent monthly based on members' renewal dates. Envelopes are clearly marked "RENEWAL NOTICE."
- If a member does not pay within the renewal month, he or she may receive two reminder letters. Not responding may result in removal from the member list.
- When members renew, typically the month of renewal does not change. (A member with a 06/16 renewal date who pays in August would have a 06/17 update to renew.)
- Please review your label for the renewal date. Refer questions to the Membership Secretary
- Renew by credit card at bmrrhs.org. Renew by mail using check or money order. You may pay by cash at a membership meeting or trains show at which the Society is present.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please advise the Membership Secretary of your new address before you move. Returned and forwarded mail costs the Society money. Write Kathy Winiarz, Membership Secretary, B&MRRHS, P.O. 9116, Lowell, MA 01853

DIRECTIONS TO SOCIETY MEETINGS

Meetings in Lowell are usually held at Rogers Hall, 196 Rogers St., Lowell, MA 01852.

From I-495 take exit 38 and go north on Mass. Route 38; this is Rogers Street. Approximately 1.3 miles from I-495, Rogers St. forks to the left at a stop light, so bear to the left here. Rogers Hall (white pillars) is about 3/10 of a mile farther on your right. Directly across the street is Rogers Park where parking is available.

From Mass. Route 133 (which is Andover St., Lowell, coming west from Tewksbury): Follow Route 133 west. After going straight through the intersection of Route 38 take your third left on to High Street. Take a left on to Rogers St. Rogers Hall will be on your left. Directly across the street is Rogers Park where parking is available.

From Mass. Route 38 or Mass. Route 113 in Dracut: Get off at the overhead traffic circle as if going to Saints Hospital. Follow this to the intersection of Routes 38 and 113, take a right on to Andover St., and take your third left on to High Street. Take a left on to Rogers St, Rogers Hall will be on your left. Directly across the street is Rogers Park where parking is available.

By MBTA commuter rail from Lowell: If you come to Lowell by train, take the LRTA Route 2 "Belvidere" bus from Gallagher Transportation Center. This bus stops at Rogers Hall.

CANCELLATIONS

During the winter months, call the Society's answering machine at 978-454-3600 after 11 a.m. on the day of the meeting, or watch the Society's website to see if the meeting has been cancelled due to weather.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM: CROSSROADS OF NEW ENGLAND

At 3:00 PM on Saturday, September 8, 2018 the Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society will kick-off the 2018 - 2019 season with a presentation by Carl Byron entitled "Crossroads of New England: Ayer Junction from 1845 to today." The B&M RR's historical connection to the west, the Fitchburg Division, passes through Ayer, and still hosts Pan Am (and Pan Am Southern) through and local freights as well as a daily parade of MBTA commuter trains.

Carl's Power Point program will show how numerous branch and secondary lines intersected and crossed the Fitchburg route at Ayer. His knowledge of B&M history will provide interesting commentary, and he enjoys taking questions. Get on board. The location is Rogers Hall, 196 Rogers St. in Lowell, Mass. Note the new Lowell meeting start time of 3:00 PM. Free parking across the street.

OCTOBER PROGRAM: B&M SNOW TRAINS

Join us at the historic Plymouth station at 1:00 PM on October 13, when Dave Saums will entertain us with "Snow Trains on the B&M." Learn how the B&M planned to provide an unusual weekend service for winter sports enthusiasts by using idle commuter equipment and how the surprising and immediate success of the first run in January 1931 developed into a very diverse set of excursions to New England hillsides. This presentation will include photographs, advertising, examples of snow train posters, and will follow the development of the concept into the early 1970s. You'll discover how, in the depths of the Great Depression, Snow Trains transformed skiing from a sport reserved for the well-to-do to low-cost weekend entertainment for single people living and working in Boston.

NEW MEETING START TIME (LOWELL MEETINGS)

To get our members home earlier from Saturday meetings at Rogers Hall, the Board has approved a new meeting start time of 3 o'clock. Our officers will make every effort to start at 3 PM.

NOMINATIONS

Nominations for officers and directors of Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society, Inc. are due at the Society's post office box no later than September 15, 2018. If you nominate someone other than yourself, be sure to get an OK from that individual before submitting his or her name. Submit to: B&MRRHS Nominations, P.O. Box 9116, Lowell, MA 01853

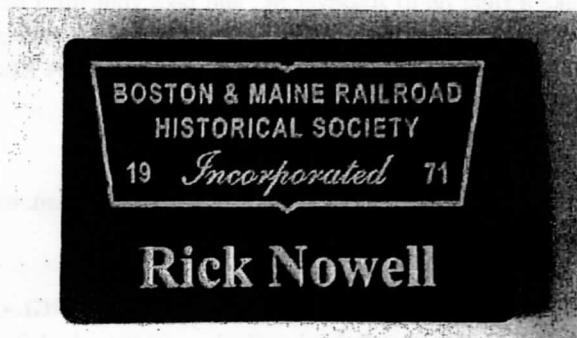
ON THE WEB

Visit our web sites: www.bmrrhs.org and www.flickr.com/photos/bmrrhs

B&M CORPORATE HISTORY

The Corporate History of Boston and Maine Railroad is available in six parts, plus an addendum, on the Society's web site. Every corporate entity that was part of B&M and its predecessors is listed. You will find information as to dates routes opened, their mileage, and when and by whom they were leased and operated. An addendum brings down to the present day the stories of some 40 corporations that were active in 1916 when the Corporate History was written including line sales and abandonments.

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 pin-holes from 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 and we will order a badge with the standard pin clip if you prefer.

BOOK REVIEW

The Train on the Beach: Forgotten Railroads that Transformed Winthrop, Orient Heights, and Revere Beach, Massachusetts, by William Lieberman. St. Petersburg: booklocker.com, 2017. 235pp. ISBN No. 978-1-63492-183-1.

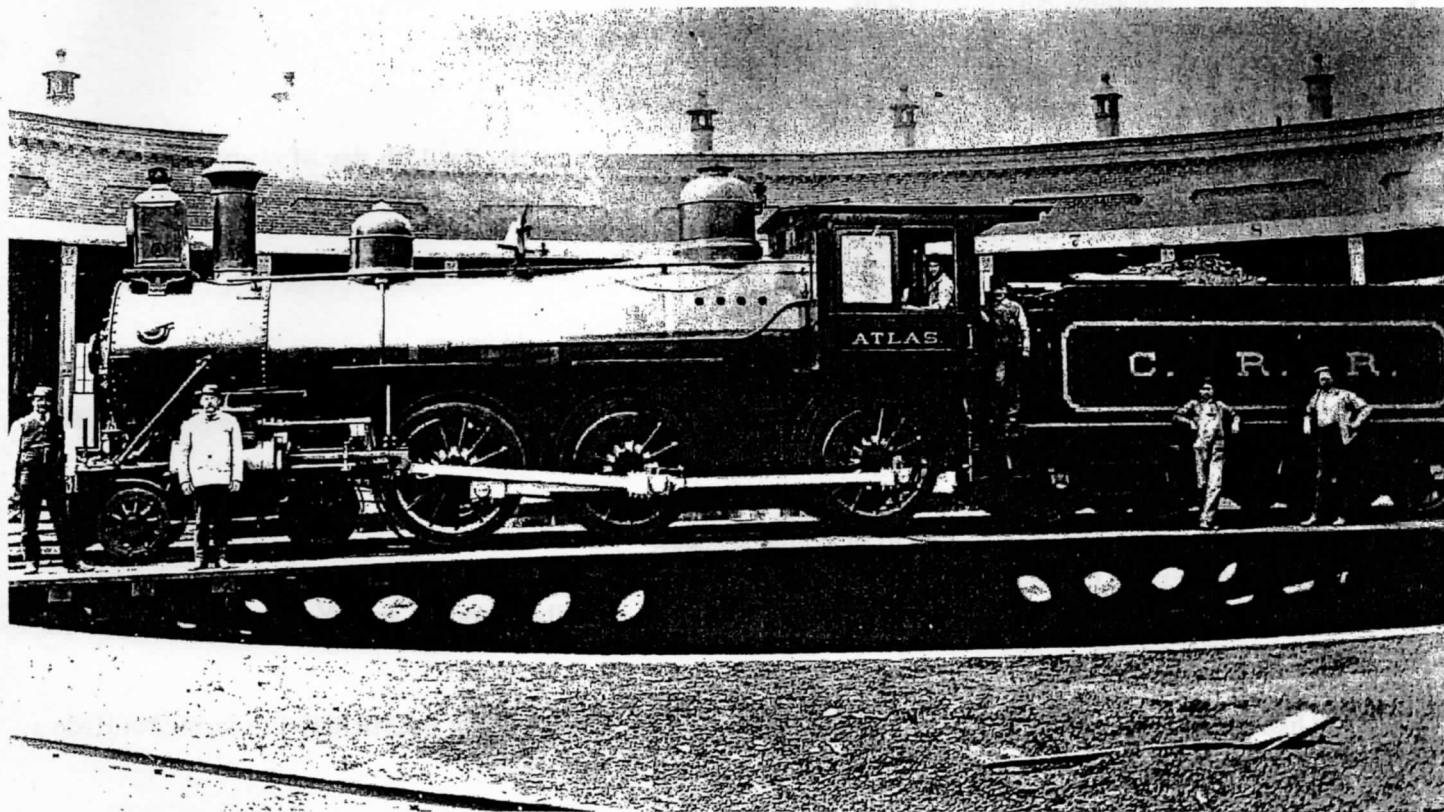
Aficionados of the Boston, Revere Beach & Lynn Railroad, B&M's Eastern Division, narrow gauge, and electric railroads will enjoy Bill Lieberman's account of rail service in and around Winthrop, Massachusetts. With several clear and complete maps to assist the reader, Lieberman develops the evolution of a horse railroad through the adoption of steam traction into an extension of the BRB&L's electrified narrow gauge system. Interspersed with all this is some very interesting historical detail about the development of Winthrop as a summer resort. The author does not neglect the presence of the Eastern Railroad in the area and how it related to the expanding and contracting rail system of Winthrop and Revere.

In organizing his work, Lieberman first tells the story in a general way for the general reader, although as a railfan I found there was plenty to digest. The second part of the book covers stations, rolling stock, real estate development, steamboat service, and operating details in abundance. There is also a useful appendix with rosters, time tables, and references.

Beyond its appeal to those interested in rail history, your reviewer thinks this book will be eagerly devoured by modelers and by those who enjoy railroad archaeology and hiking the routes of abandoned railroads. FNN



ARCHIVES PHOTO



Concord Railroad No. 48 ATLAS (4-6-0) at Concord (N.H.) roundhouse, c1889. ATLAS was built by Manchester Locomotive Works, January 9, 1889. In the same year it became Concord & Montreal RR No. 48. Sydney F. Towle Collection, B&MRRHS Archives. Gift of James Teed

TRACK REMOVAL IN LAWRENCE

Tracks at the Broadway crossing in Lawrence were removed on the night of August 5-6, 2018. The last customer on the Manchester and Lawrence branch had received plastic pellets at a location just north of the Lowell Street overpass. These deliveries ceased several years ago. (Submitted by Allan M. Zecchini)

DID YOU KNOW?

The oldest company in the B&M System was chartered by King George III in 1772. In that year the king granted a charter to Simeon Olcott authorizing the transportation of people and animals across the Connecticut River between Charlestown, N.H. and Springfield, Vt. Olcott's ferry was absorbed by the Cheshire Bridge Corporation (referred to in other sources as Cheshire Bridge Company) in 1804 when that company started the construction of a toll bridge to replace the ferry. By 1901 Springfield Electric Railway (Vermont) owned the stock of the Cheshire Bridge Corporation. Stock ownership was assigned to Springfield Terminal Railway 1917. The ICC on June 28, 1930 approved the purchase by B&MRR of the entire capital stock of Springfield Terminal Railway Company. In 1985 the company operated the only privately owned toll bridge in New Hampshire. The bridge was purchased by the state of New Hampshire in 1992. Tolls were collected until 2001.

HELP WANTED: B&MRRHS NEWSLETTER EDITOR

The Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society seeks a qualified person to become our B&MRRHS *Newsletter* editor.

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 a master copy of the *Newsletter*
- Check facts and proofread the master copy
- Work with the printer to produce the *Newsletter*
- See that the completed *Newsletters* are delivered to our mailing crew by the 15th day of every even numbered month.
- The editor's duties do not include stuffing or mailing 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 B&MRRHS President Dan Hyde at hydesierrahd@aol.com

NEW MEMBERS

A hearty welcome to new members who have joined the Society since the beginning of the year: Joseph Adams & Mary Phillips, Moultonborough, NH; Scott Baker, North Hampton, NH; Paul Bellagamba, Cheshire, CT; Michael John Bernix, Somerville, MA; Brent Bette, Simsbury, CT; Richard S. Bond, Springvale, ME; David Bragdon, New York, NY; William H. Butler, III, Amherst, NH; William Butman, Chicopee, MA, Richard A. Carter, Alfred, ME; John Richard Comita, Jr., Fort Worth, TX; Joseph Cummings, Hanover, Mass.; Robert Currier, Beverly, MA; Paul Anthony Dallalis, Braintree, MA; Roger Dardinski, Newburyport, MA; Joseph DiGiano, Bourne, MA; Edward Doocey, North Canton, OH; J. Harvey Dorr, Bradford, VT; George Duden, New Ipswich, NH; Magnus Erickson, Appelbo, Sweden; F. Thomas A. Fudala, Mashpee, MA; Dan Gabel, Millbury, MA; Robert W. Gardner, Jr., Ayer, MA; Mel Garelick, Trumbull, CT; John R. Garrett, E. Helena, MT; Richard F. Gauthier, Kingston, MA; Bill Gingrich, Elizabethtown, PA; Glen R. Hansen, Rumney, NH; John Hebert, Warner Robins, GA; Dr. Elliott W. Hoffman, Tiverton, RI; David Howard, Millbrae, CA; James W. Howland, Wilmington, MA; Brian Johnson, Rancho Cucamonga, CA; Chester Kamuda, Manassas, VA, Richard Kavanaugh, Peabody, MA; Rick Kfoury, Auburn, NH, Paul Lavoie, Washingtonville, NY; K.G. Lockwood, Manor, GA; Albert McCarty, Weymouth, MA; William McColl, Schenectady, NY; Robert McGowan, Billerica, MA; Peter Monkiewicz, Georgetown, MA; Paul Moore, Scotch Plains, NJ; William L. Morrison, Milford, MA; Joe Mugno, Earlysville, VA; Richard Michael Mullen, Abington, MA; Michael Osiensky, Wrentham, MA; Michael Paul, Wenham, MA; Jeffrey Plate, Marshfield, MA; Philip Rainville & Guest, Sterling, MA; Richard Reed, Woburn, MA; Gerald A. Rooks, Chelmsford, MA; David Saalfrank, Sr., Burnt Hills, NY; Timothy J. Stevens, Walpole, N.H.; Leo J. Sullivan, Roxbury, MA; Robert Threeton, Arlington, VA; Michael Twombly, Andover, MA; Thornton H. Waite, Idaho Falls, ID; Coleman Walsh, Norwell, MA; Raymond Wilson, Waltham, MA

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

September 3, 1918. The United States Railroad Administration opens a downtown ticket office at 67 Franklin St., Boston, replacing the city ticket offices of B&M, NYNH&H, and B&A.

**Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society
Hardware Committee Report
July, 2018**

The Hardware Committee of Daniel Hyde, Fred Brown, Mal Sockol, Richard Faucher and Richard Nichols had a work session on Thursday, June 21, 2018. Member, Carl Byron has been proof reading the Hardware Collection Inventory and up-dating information to the web-site files.

The following donations have been received:

Brotherhood of Locomotive Lapel Pin, H K. Porter builders Plate #4927, Builders Plate William A. Harris Steam Engine Co., Warning Sign – Keep off Locomotive & Tenders. Two Model Pencil Sharpeners, Telegraph Key with Relay, Five Air-Brake Handles, Five Miscellaneous Handles. Two Brass Valve Covers, Brass Cover to Cross-head oiler – 100 years old.

Donation by; Mrs. Tina Hinchliffe Bellomy.

Metropolitan Transit Hat Badge #3229 & Steam Locomotive Lapel Pin, Box of Date Nails from North Adams, Mass.

Donation by; Richard Faucher

B&MRR Brass Baggage Check #2136, Baggage Master Hat Baggage, small brass Pad-lock no key. Blue Uniform Cap, no badge, Lock Box marked Biddeford.

Donation by; Mrs. Vicky Thomas, from Franklin Richardson, Station Agent, Biddeford, ME.

The Hardware Committee:

We moved over 100 Boxes of Engineering Plans from the Hardware Department to the new storage facility of the Archives Department on the second floor.

With the help of Daniel Hyde, Mal Sockol, Fred Brown, Richard Faucher and Richard Nichols.

The following work has been completed in the B&M Combine Baggage-Coach #1244:

The floor has been repainted by Jim Nigzus, the HO-scale has been upgraded with new Peco Switches, a new section of rail has been added by the Coaling Tower, Added detail to the buildings is in progress along with ballasting the new sections of rail from members Mal Sockol and Richard Nichols.

The next Hardware Committee work session is scheduled on July 19, 2018
North Chelmsford, MA 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon.

2017 items have been registered in the Hardware Collection since July 2013.

Respectfully Submitted,



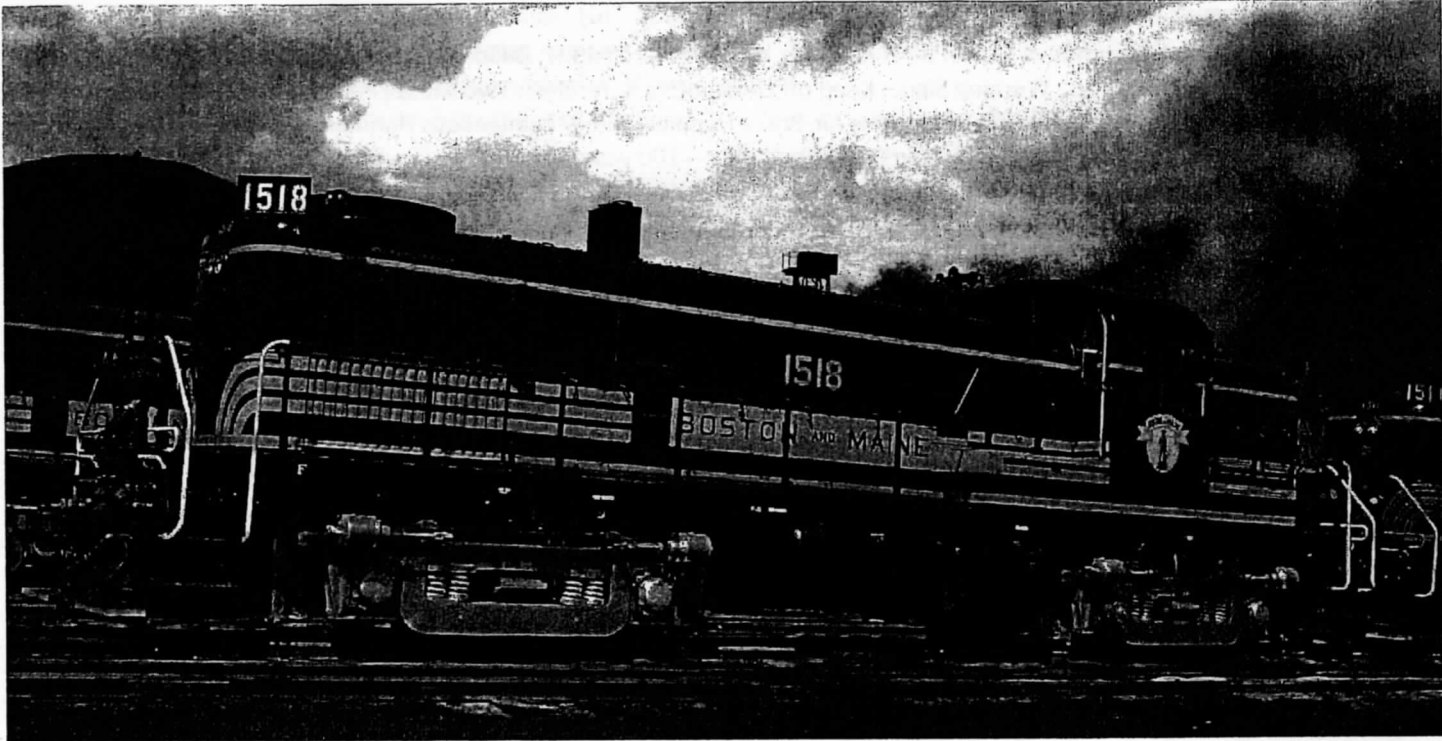
Richard Nichols
Hardware Committee
Boston & Maine Railroad Historical Society



INTERNAL COMBUSTION

Gasoline-powered passenger cars ran on the B&M in the 1920s. An un-numbered Brookville 4-wheel gas locomotive used by the Maintenance of Way Department was acquired in 1928 and retired in 1938. The first diesel locomotive purchased by Boston and Maine Railroad was B&M No. 1102, an Alco HH600 built in September 1934 (construction no. 68068). It was renumbered 1160 in 1940 and renumbered back to 1102, also in 1940. Its four GE 287-D-51 electric motors developed a combined 600 horsepower. No. 1102 was scrapped in December 1947.

ARCHIVES PHOTO



B&M RS3 No. 1518 built by ALCO in April 1955 (construction no. 81162), at Boston Engine Terminal, c1955. Retired May 1976 and sold to Naporano. Robert E. Chaffin Collection, B&MRRHS Archives

MBTA PUBLISHES *FOCUS 40*

On July 30, the MBTA released *Focus40: Positioning the MBTA to Meet the Needs of the Region in 2040*. This draft report notes that long range planning for Commuter Rail is already under way in the form of the *Rail Vision* study due out next year. Examples of the capital investments that *Rail Vision* is considering include “full or partial system electrification, a change in vehicle technology to lower emitting and more flexible rolling stock, double or triple tracking including any associated right-of-way acquisition, and new facilities and infill stations.”

Projects already in the works include modification of the Charles River draw bridge at North Station to provide more flexibility (start 2019), South Coast service to Fall River and New Bedford (open by 2022), purchase 181 bi-level coaches (2019-2023 capital investment plan), stopgap locomotive planning pending decision on electrification, and positive train control (hardware installed by December 2018 and operational by the end of 2020). “There is potential to restore double track segments on which the MBTA has the available right-of-way including the Old Colony Line north of Braintree (a feasibility study is the necessary next step) and one-mile segments along the Haverhill and Fitchburg lines including Ballardvale and Waltham Stations, respectively. The MBTA is currently examining triple tracking for the Worcester Line.”

Focus40 can be accessed at <https://mbta.com/news/2018-07-30/draft-focus40-plan-available-public-comment>