THERE IS STILL A LOT MORE TO SEE AND DO AT SEASHORE THIS YEAR

**Member’s Day is on 9 September** this year and along with a chance to catch up with friends and take a look at all the improvements, completed and in process this is a most special day.

The “Town House Restoration Shop” will be renamed “The Donald G. Curry Town House Shop.”

President & CEO, James Schantz noted that we feel it is a small token of our appreciation for Donald’s unparalleled devotion and effort to develop the shop over the past seven decades.” Donald was the museum’s first paid summer employee while he attended BU. While he taught for 29 years and played bassoon for the Portland Symphony Orchestra for 25 years, he remained involved with the museum during his vacations. When he retired from teaching in 1989 he became the museum’s director for nine years, then returned to his “roots” as a restoration shop employee. The building rededication and unveiling of a new sign will take place on September 9, 2017 at 11:00 am.

**Pumpkin Patch is 23, 24, and 30 September plus 1 October -**

A really fun family-favorite fall event. Pumpkins for everyone! Games and trolley rides! Lunch service on site.

**Transit Day is 7 October 7 @ 10:00 am - 5:00 pm**

If you like to see lots of things running this is the day to come! In addition to trolleys, we operate buses, trackless trolleys and subway cars. Lunch service on site!

And don’t forget Trolley-ween on 29 October@ 10:00 am - 5:00 pm with treats for the kids on the final day of our regular season!
Sally Bates, Executive Director  7/13/17

Members have already heard this piece of recent good news: In July we received a $25,000 grant from Davis Family Foundation for the Fairview Barn expansion. This grant will be used as a match to the 20th Century Electric Railway Foundation challenge grant.

Wednesday morning “Seashore Trolley Story Time” is in its 5th year and picking up steam (um, current). Conductor Nate Randall (red suspenders) reads a story and sings a song that all the kids and adults can chime in on. Conductor Claude Engle performs a simple magic trick. Then Nate and Claude go on the trolley ride with the whole group. On July 5 and July 19 we had to send out two trolley cars, because there were more people than one car could carry!

Members are availing themselves of the payment features in place on the newly designed Trolleymuseum.org to make donations and renew memberships.

Visitors notice how we present the collection, buildings and grounds. Volunteer Brendon Tirrell keeps the operating and exhibit cars clean and beautiful all season long. Volunteers from several organizations come by to rake out barns and help with cleaning and volunteers and sponsors maintain gardens.

We expanded the scope of our annual weed control program this year to reduce the risk of fire in railyards and maintain a tidy campus.

Fairview Barn Expansion – we are sooooooo close to our initial fundraising goal! Phase 1 should be completed before December 1 if we reach our goal!

On May 20, 2017, the Board of Trustees voted unanimously to rename the restoration shop as “The Donald G. Curry Town House Shop”.

President & CEO James Schantz noted “This is a change we don’t make lightly, but we feel it is a small token of our appreciation for Donald’s unparalleled devotion and effort to develop the shop over the past seven decades.”
Mark your calendar MEMBERS DAY! SEPTEMBER 9TH, 10 TO 5!

We love our members, and this is the day we set aside to show it!

Activities will include

- Complimentary morning coffee
- We will publicly unveil the new sign at the “The Donald G. Curry Town House Shop” at 11:00 am.
- Special video presentations by Don Curry.
- “Be A Motorman” will be offered to members on a “pay what you wish” basis. (First come-first served; sign up sheet at Dispatch Desk that day)
- Lunch service will be available on site.
- Complimentary ice cream social in the afternoon.
- Special Store Sales for members only
- More details about the day will be posted on trolleymuseum.org.

We want to help you feel connected by posting frequently on Facebook. Here’s a link to a recent post that attracted a lot of views. To get your Seashore “fix” visit Facebook, twitter (@Seashoretrolley) and instagram(seashoretrolleymuseum) often!

https://www.facebook.com/neerhs/photos/a.418854272931.211643.8036307931/10155661689767932/?type=3&theater

The generosity of Members like you is what sustains your museum, and most of us need to develop a strategy for how we can afford to support the causes that are important to us. These tips may help:

Did you know that you can spread your donations out over the year?

To make recurring automatic donations from a financial institution (bank, brokerage, etc) to New England Electric Railway Historical Society:
1. Donor contacts his/her financial institution to issue instructions for payment.
2. Checks to be mailed to New England Electric Railway Historical Society, PO Box A, Kennebunkport, ME 04046

To establish a recurring donation to New England Electric Railway Historical Society by debit or credit card:
Remember that Retirement Accounts have Minimum Distribution Requirements

Your required minimum distribution is the minimum amount you must withdraw from your account each year. **You generally have to start taking withdrawals from your IRA, SEP IRA, SIMPLE IRA, or retirement plan account when you reach age 70½.** Roth IRAs do not require withdrawals until after the death of the owner. Full information is available on the IRS site.

Charitable Distribution from your IRA

The PATH Act signed into law on December 18, 2015 permanently extends the provisions allowing tax-free distributions by individuals age 70½ or older directly from their IRAs to qualified charities. The bill, allows taxpayers age 70 ½ or older to transfer up to $100,000 annually from their IRA accounts directly to charity without first having to recognize the distribution as income.

How it works:

• You must be 70 ½ or older and eligible to take your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD).
• Your total combined charitable IRA rollover contribution cannot exceed $100,000 in any one year. ($200,000 exclusions may apply for tax payers who are married and filing a joint return).
• Charitable contributions from an IRA must go directly to NEERHS. Contributions to donor-advised funds and private foundations do not qualify for tax-free IRA rollover contributions.
• Distributions can only be made from traditional Individual Retirement Accounts or Roth IRAs. Charitable donations from 403(b) plans, 401(k) plans, pension plans, and other retirement plans are ineligible for the tax-free treatment.
• Distribution must be made directly from the IRA trustee payable to NEERHS.
• In order to qualify for tax-free treatment, you cannot receive any goods or services in return for your charitable IRA rollover gift.
• You must receive an acknowledgement from NEERHS for a rollover-qualified gift.

Volunteers needed for 2 Pumpkin Patch Trolley Weekends: Sep 23 / Sep 24 and Sep 30 / Oct 1

Please email director@neerhs.org or Matt Cosgro (mcosgro@comcast.net) if you can volunteer for any or all of those days!

Mark your calendar to attend Transit Day, October 7, 10 to 5 pm
The ORGANIZERS are planning quite a production, so YOU should plan to make a day of it

We’ll be offering on hot and cold food service for your comfort and convenience!

2016 Transit Day Photos courtesy of Eric Shito

Echo Sierra Photography
Do you want to build or maintain strong muscles? CONSIDER JOINING THE TRACK CREW!

Track Volunteers are ALWAYS needed. On July 24 the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees met with the Superintendent of Track Construction and Maintenance and an extensive list of 2017 (and longer term) priorities were identified. If you are interested in “joining up” or simply want to know more about it, email director@neerhs.org and I will forward your message to the right people!

Sally Bates,
Executive Director

Library Committee
Karen Dooks, Chair

Around 1988 some Seashore members realized that there were not going to be as many people around much longer who had worked for trolley and railroad companies. These members started a project to solicit stories and experiences from members, friends and relatives. Some of these stories are in the library files awaiting cataloguing. A couple more were found in material from Paul Kehoe’s collection. Now some thirty years later, even fewer people who remember the trolley era are still with us. Do you have stories from friends or relatives that would enhance the history of the time period the Museum is portraying? It can be technical, an anecdote, or a memory. Spend a little time and put the information in writing and send it to the Library by mail or email marked for the Library. They can also be your memories!

Thanks to the generosity of member Peter Osgood the Library Committee now has a computer which will be set up in the Administrative area at the Visitor Center. This will be restricted to official Library use only at this point. Also the new Library website should be ready by the Fall. This is planned to make it possible for you to access such items as our holdings on the Maine Library Network and Digital Maine as well as all of the issues of the The Main Line.

At the July meeting the Library Committee approved the purchase of a digital recorder which Peter Osgood is putting to good use in his interviewing of Donald Curry. The recordings can be transferred directly from the recorder to an MP3 computer file.

Check out the schedule of meetings and workshops below. All are welcome. Let me know if you would like to be put on the distribution list for meetings. We can always use extra help. The notice sent out before meetings will include an agenda and minutes. Also meeting cancellations are sent out via this list. Just send an email to dooks@verizon.net to have your name added to the list.

Don’t forget to read The Main Line written by Ed Ramsdell, the most recent edition is available on the Seashore website http://trolleymuseum.org/ in the Library section. If you want to be added to the direct distribution list for The Main Line, drop a note to TheMainLine@ramsdell.com.
August Meeting and Workshop: August 26, 2017 10 AM at STM
No September Meeting Schedules
October Meeting and Workshop: October 21, 2017 10 AM at STM 2017
November Meeting and Workshop: November 11, 2017 10 AM at STM 2017
Karen Dooks, Chair

Norm Down received the following from Rick Seferian of the New England Moxie Congress reporting on this year’s festivities:

On July 9th, for the 27th consecutive year the New England Moxie Congress celebrated the nation’s oldest carbonated soft drink at our museum. Moxie is the official soda of the State of Maine and many samples were dispensed from a table on the visitor’s center platform to visitors and staff. Both regular and the harder to find sugar free version (which is purported to taste the most like the original Moxie Nerve Food of 1884) were plentiful. Also present were Moxie collectibles for viewing and purchase. The museum store always stocks Moxie t-shirts and soda throughout the year. In the exhibition room the annual visit of MaiNtrak, an N scale modular railroad, saw trains running through the day, including Moxie passenger and freight consists.

Outside the Trolley Dog, Sally and Helen served up hotdogs, chili, and meatballs, all cooked in the Moxie beverage. They were absolutely delicious and many were consumed by NEMC Senators, staff, and visitors. We also want to note as well the continuing annual assistance of Mike Peters, without which this event would be difficult to envision.

During the annual NEMC congressional session Sally accepted a check for three hundred dollars from the New England Moxie Congress, in appreciation of this venue, for our return to the site of the founding of our international organization of Moxie enthusiasts in 1991.

This year Moxie celebrations were in fine locations in Maine for six consecutive days. Union, Waldoboro, Damariscotta, Lisbon Falls, our museum, and Portland all took part in a variety of events.

Make plans to join us on the second Sunday in July for a day of victuals, frivolity, streetcars, and Moxie at Seashore.

New England Moxie Congress Secretary
WATCHING OVER SEASHORE’S RAIL COLLECTION

By
Herb Pence

Over the past 77-years, carbarns full of passenger streetcars, work cars, interurbans and freight equipment have been acquired. Members collecting this equipment have come and gone, yet Seashore is responsible for them. Countless cars are on the property without sponsors, project managers or even people who know why a particular car was collected in the first place.

In order to overcome this chaos, the Board of Trustees created a Curatorial Committee. Jim Mackell is the Chair. The Committee remains interested in new members, wishing to participate in a positive manner. Tough decisions will be made and input is appreciated.

The Committee has a number of challenging goals:

1. Attempt to document what Seashore owns and how the artifact was obtained. There has been no Curator for 15-20 years and acquisition information is incomplete.

2. It will look at the collection. There will be recommendations on how the elements (artifacts) fit into the overall collection. This is most troublesome.

3. The Committee will attempt to establish guidelines for future acquisitions and stewardship. It will be making recommendations for disposal.

Looking to join a committee to better serve Seashore? Tip your toe into the waters of the Curatorial Committee.

Photos from a recent Curatorial Committee meeting (photos by Herb Pence):

L to R: Richmond Bates, Kenyon Karl, Jim Schantz, Rand Leclaire, Chairman Jim Mackell, Don Curry, and Roger Somers

L to R: Chairman Jim MacKell, Donald Curry, Bill Pollman, Karen Dooks, Richmond Bates, and Kenyon Karl

Committee meetings are open and observers are welcome.
Here L to R: Virginia Slattery, Dispatch Co-Editor Norm Down, and Lee Duncan.

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Seashore In The Travel News -

Flipkey by tripadvisor gave Seashore a great plug in their Aug 10, 2017 “Best Road Trip Ideas From Boston”. In the ten best road trips Seashore was listed as the top activity pick in Kennebunkport. This placed Seashore and our beautiful community in a league with Plymouth, Massachusetts; Rockport, Massachusetts; Hampton, New Hampshire; Providence, Rhode Island; Ogunquit, Maine; Old Orchard Beach, Maine; Saco, Maine; Portland, Maine; Provincetown, Massachusetts; Killington, Vermont; Lake George, New York; and Jersey Shore, New Jersey.

From the Editors’ Desk:

The last couple of editions the DISPATCH have been delayed. A number of factors have contributed to this but late they are. After some discussion with the Executive Director it was decided to publish the electronic versions of the DISPATCH for May-June and July-August per normal as separate editions albeit delayed. However the print version of the DISPATCH will be reconfigured into a combined May-June and July-August edition - Summer Edition if you will. This will save some editing time but more importantly will save the Society the costs of separate printing and mailing of the two editions right on top of each other.

Also for these editions there will not be a transition to the The Electric-XTRA section that normally starts on page 9. As we will produce a separate and combined “Summer” print edition of the DISPATCH the break serves no purpose.

If anyone who does not normally receive the electronic versions, has an email, and would like these particular electronic editions they need simply to let us know at dispatch@neerhs.org.

Norm Down & Ed Ramsdell dispatch@neerhs.org

Membership Dues:
Student military, Disabled, Retired over 60...$30 * Regular Membership..... $35 Family (1 or 2 parents, up to 4 children) * $50 Grandparents (1 or 2, and up to 4 Grandchildren…) $50 Sustaining Membership ...$60 * Contributing Membership .. $120 * Museum Patron. $ 600 Museum Benefactor.. $1200 * Life Membership.. $900 Note: Life membership dues will be placed in the Permanently Restricted Endowment Fund.

The 2017 annual membership dues are currently due. Dues must be paid before April Annual meeting to vote. Please provide all information so we have correct information and make any changes. Make checks payable to New England Electric Railway Historical Society. Please also note: Any questions concerning membership, including payment of dues, should be directed to the Membership Secretary Mark Weinberg at the Museum Office seashoretrolley@gmail.com.

MISSION STATEMENT

New England Electric Railway Historical Society shares powerful connections between the past and present. We preserve knowledge, context, and resources for future generations by collecting, restoring, operating, and exhibiting significant public transit vehicles and artifacts.
The New England Electric Railway Historical Society was established in 1939 in Kennebunkport, Maine.
Images from The Shop -

Our disrupted publishing schedule has placed us out of sync with the Shop Report. Fortunately for the last issue Don Curry provided us with many images so here is the shop in some images if not in prose.

Tom Robertson showing contrast of shellac - old and new.

John Jr. and Sr. installing vents on 5821

John and Chuck painting truck for #41

Cam grinding trans post on 6131

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TRANSIT DAY

Saturday, October 7th 2017

Transit Day is an annual event where seldom seen vehicles in our collection come to life. Our large outdoor campus hosts a rotating exhibit operation with emphasis on our Bus, Trackless Trolley, and Rapid Transit collections. There are special photo opportunities and friendly staff invite you to come and ride.

Shop our store - Hot meal and sandwich choices are available from 11:00AM to 4:00PM*

Don’t miss out! The 2017 program highlights the progress of Boston’s MTA rapid transit technology.

Open 10 AM - Ride all Day - Rain or Shine – See You There!

Regular Admission - Members Free

Seashore Trolley Museum  (207-967-2800)

195 Log Cabin Rd, Kennebunkport Maine

www.trolley museum.org