



Amherst Railway Society
P. O. Box 2351
Amherst, MA 01004-2351
www.AmherstRail.org

The next meeting of the Amherst Railway Society will be 8 pm EDT Tuesday, April 19, 2011, at the Amherst Regional Middle School Auditorium

Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show – West Springfield, MA January 28-29, 2012

"F40 Historical Society" by Rowan C. de la Barre

Rowan C. de la Barre will be delivering a presentation on the historical as well as the technical aspects of the F40PH and the role it played in passenger railroading. Rowan grew up in Massachusetts and in his youth would often ride his bike down to the railroad tracks just to witness the twice daily Vermonter go by; this is where his passion for F40PH arose. Upon hearing of there dispersion Rowan tried to find a way to help save these locomotives by starting the "Save the F40PH" project which evolved into the [F40PH Preservation Society](#). It is the F40PH Society hope to preserve these locomotives here in New England.



From the Treasurer

All donations to the Amherst Railway Society may be tax deductible. As Amherst Railway Society Inc. is a 501 C(3) tax exempt organization, your donations (of either cash and/or property) may be deducted on your Schedule A, Form 1040 of your Federal income tax. Consider the Amherst Railway Society in your estate planning. Your gifts can be restricted or non-restricted (you can pre-determine how you want your donation used). Upon request, and proper documentation of course, the Treasurer will issue you a letter to be used as justification for your tax deductions

From the Clerk

If your email, or mail envelope says 2011, your membership expires this coming June 30. Please remember that ARS memberships expire at the end of June, the year of your membership expiration. A one year membership is good for one show pass. Members that joined in the fall of 2010 for a one year membership need to renew when their membership expires in June.

Upcoming Amherst Railway Society Programs (subject to change)

May 17 "Lining Towers: Precision Surveying in the Construction of the Hoosac Tunnel" by Jerry Kelley
June 21 Annual Business meeting, and silent auction. "Building a Railroad Museum." by Bob LaMay

Attendance this year

- (September 2010) New Age of New England Railroading " by Kevin Burkholder (94)
- (October 2010) Railroading Along the Thames River in Conn by Tom Nanos (88)
- (November 2010) "NYC – Subways and Trolleys – Part 2." by Richard J. Solomon (69)
- (January 2011) Show canceled for weather, attendance not taken. Our apologies to those that didn't get the word that the meeting was canceled.
- (March 15) "Connecticut River Railroads" by Ira Laby, (74)

From the Webmaster:

Photos of my train trip to Albuquerque are now on the Amherst Railway Society Member Photo Gallery at:
<http://www.amherstrail.org/memberpages/AmtraktoABQ.html>

Members are encouraged to send me your own railroad photos for the gallery. Please size them not larger than 600 pixels in height and not larger than 800 pixels in width. Please label the photos so we know what they are.

Or, put them on your own website and send me the link.

Joe Kurland, Webmaster
Amherst Railway Society
webmaster@AmherstRail.org

Message from the Amherst Belt Lines:

*From the **AMHERST BELT LINES...***

Final Show This Season...

The final show of the 2010-2011 season was the Nashua Valley Railroad Association *RailFair 2011* on Sunday, April 10, 2011. Setup started on Saturday at the Shirley Middle School in Shirley, MA. The school is not far from their club house and we have stopped by to see the progress on their layout in years past and can't imagine that this year would be too different!



Show Schedule Update

The Belt Lines attends about six shows per year from September through April. If you would like to mark your calendars for shows we will be attending, here are the dates for the rest of the 2010 – 2011 Season:

- April 10, 2011: Nashua Valley Railroad Association *RailFair 2011* – Shirley Middle School, Shirley, MA

Message from the Show Director:



It was great to see everyone at the March meeting. Ira's slide show was really great and for those of you that got there early, we were showing the RHS (Railroad Hobby Show) promo video, which was taken during the 2011 Show, to be used for next year.

While we have had one meeting to informally discuss the Show, our formal "Hits and Misses" meeting is this week and I will be able to report to you during the next column. Our work this year – in preparation for the 2012 Show, focuses around a couple of areas: First, we will be expanding the clinics for next year and second, we continue to improve the Reception Center to find that perfect mix of Info Central, Membership in ARS and our Company Store. Most other items went off without a hitch with so many exhibitors telling us that they had a great show this year compared to others in the past. The new technology additions (projection screen and flat screens) went over well with many compliments. The folks at the Eastern States Exposition continue to take great care of us and we are working on a couple of projects with them to insure that we continue to partner in years to come.

Our Show continues to be the focal point and the "kick off" for so many of our exhibitors. I 1/87th club has had such great success that they are having their Annual Conference with us for next year....that means about 500-700 more people! It's been a great relationship so we look forward to working with them in the future. The National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) will be taking space for next year to promote their Annual Conference. We continue to look to ways that we can work together for the greater good of the hobby. So many of our manufacturers use our Show to introduce new product lines, which we all look forward to as well.

My only other note in this short report is that of a reminder for our fourth Annual Silent Auction that we will have just before the final meeting of the season (at the June meeting). As in past years, the auction will begin as soon as we are set up (usually around 6pm) and we will run until 8pm on time to begin our final meeting of the year. Each year – as you know – we accumulate some great items, all of which are donated throughout the year. For this year's auction, we have many new books, an unbelievable New York Central collection (over 30 locos, 100+ cars, buildings, etc., scenery materials, including trees, ground cover and the like, clothing, hats, badges and plaques, new locomotives, structures and more. As always, we will have some bidding fun, allowing you to obtain these items at a VERY low price, and we get to add to the grant fund all at the same time.

See you next time!!!

John Sacerdote, Show Director

From the Trip Director:

Calendar of Trips

- 9-Apr SE Mass Tour de Chooch Self Guided tour of SE Mass. and RI Model RR open houses.
<http://layouttour.com/>
- 10 Apr Shirley MA [Nashua Valley RR Association Railfair, Shirley, MA](http://www.nvrra.com/NVRRRA_2011_Show.pdf)
http://www.nvrra.com/NVRRRA_2011_Show.pdf
- 1 May Cape Code MA Cape Cod MRR show
 Richard Houghtaling: 508-432-2287 e-mail contact: Tom Fitzpatrick: carptom@verizon.net
- 1 May Cape Code MA MBRRE Day Cape Codder
<http://www.massbayrre.org/events.htm#excur>
 Phone: 617-489-5277 or 978-470-2066
 Email: info@massbayrre.org or trips@massbayrre.org
- 21 May Chester MA Chester on Track
www.chesterrailwaystation.org
- 5 Jun Collinsville CT Prototype MRR meet
<http://www.neprototypemeet.com/Welcome.html>
- 20 Jun Tacoma WA NRHS Convention
<http://www.nrhs.com/nrhsconv/index.html>
- 21 Jun Amherst MA Amherst Railway Society Annual Silent Auction
<http://www.amherstrail.org>
- 31 Jul Conway, NH MBRRE Steam Trip on the Conway Scenic Railroad
<http://www.massbayrre.org/events.htm#excur>
 Phone: 617-489-5277 or 978-470-2066
 Email: info@massbayrre.org or trips@massbayrre.org
- 18 Sep Charlton, MA P&W Club Show
<http://www.pwrfc.net/>
- 14 Oct Peabody, MA Model Railroad Clinics
<http://www.modelrailroadexpo.com/WELCOME.html>
- 7 Jan 2012 Conway, NH MBRRE Steam in the Snow on the Conway Scenic
<http://www.massbayrre.org/events.htm#excur>
 Phone: 617-489-5277 or 978-470-2066
 Email: info@massbayrre.org or trips@massbayrre.org

From the **AMHERST BELT LINES...**



Another Season Draws to a Close...

The Amherst Belt Lines attended its final show of the 2010-2011 Railroad Show season on Sunday, April 10. The Nashua Valley Railroad Association held *Railfair 2011* at the Shirley Middle School in Shirley, MA. Our thanks go out to everyone who assisted with the layout over the weekend – as always, we couldn't do it without you! We would also like to thank all of our associates and volunteers that helped out at each of the shows this season. We have fun at every show we do, and hope that you also enjoy these shows either as an associate or as an attendee. We are eagerly looking forward to next season even as this one draws to a close. In the meantime, while we take a hiatus, get some ideas together for a module, see a Coordinator for the specs and plan on joining us next season!

Passing the Torch

After 25 years of being Module Coordinator, Sudro Brown has decided it is time to pass the torch of leadership. Since 1986, Sudro has been at the helm of the Amherst Belt Lines and has been invaluable in the development and furthering of the specifications for the modules. Sudro won't be going far, he will still be attending shows and otherwise participating with the Belt Lines – in fact he will probably be doing as much trouble-shooting and DCC work as he does now, but without having the other responsibilities of Module Coordinator. Thanks, Sudro, for all you have done over the past twenty five years!

The position won't be vacant for long. Another Amherst Belt Lines associate and Amherst Railway Society member has already been railroaded into the post. Jim Fenner has graciously accepted to take up the position of Module Coordinator working with Clark and Alan.

If you see Sudro or Jim at the meeting, please pass on your congratulations or condolences as appropriate!

That will do for this month. Remember, *Modular Railroading is Fun!*