

WAUSHAKUM JOURNAL Spring 2014

Passenger Trains Running ...



... at the May Steam Up.

In the Summer Issue



Photo, Top: The club's Hudson on the Steaming Bay turntable in May 2014. **Photo, Left:** Club Hudson in steam. Photos in WJ 32 No 3.

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WAUSHAKUM JOURNAL

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From the Editor

J.B. Mentzer, Editor, Layout Designer and Lead Photographer

Thank You ...

A nod to the members who helped bring this issue to you:

Gary Phillips for submitting photos of the Spring meet.

Jim O'Brien and Dan Connor for proofreading and Dan for managing distribution of the *JOURNAL* via email and snail mail.

The *JOURNAL* Seeks Reporters

The Editor seeks a few members to volunteer to take notes at meets in 2014.

To have an adequate number of photos for each meet's report, the *JOURNAL* wanders the property actively shooting everything that moves.

At busy meets, being deployed at Page Station or along the Broadway between the High Line bridges, precludes visiting the Steaming Bays to interview engineers. Notes from these interviews provide the source for the captions that accompany photos in the meet photo galleries.

Interested in writing for the *JOURNAL*? Say hello! I look forward to speaking with you via email or at a club event.

A Word About Submissions ...

The *JOURNAL* reserves the right to edit any content received.

Stories may be corrected for spelling, readability or to fit the available space.

Photographs will be sized to fit space allowed. Adjustments may include cropping, rotating or adjusting for optimal appearance.

... and the E-Mail Version

If the emailed Portable Digital File (pdf) version of the *Journal* doesn't display on your computer, please email the Editor.

To determine how to correct your issue, name your PC's operating system (OS), include the versions of the OS version and the version of Acrobat you're using.

Club Business Update

Jed Weare, Secretary

January 9, 2014

The January 2014 meeting was held in the Holliston Historical Society House and was called to order by the President at 8:08 PM, with 12 members present.

Minutes

The Minutes of the December 2013 meeting were read by the Secretary.

A motion to accept the Minutes as read was proposed by Ken Gates, seconded by Bob Newcombe and passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Mark Arsenault reported there has been no significant activity, apart from fitting the new starter to the bulldozer.

Old Business

The New Year Meet was a success, with a good turnout, estimated at 120-150 people. Weather was good. 3 highline steamers and 2 groundline diesels as well as a handcar were operated. There was plenty of food. Donations of \$59 were received.

The lifts were inoperable at the meet, probably due to water in the air-over-hydraulic system freezing in the extreme cold preceding the meet. Also due to the extreme cold, the entry shed outside water spigot froze up.

Howard Gorin suggested we should replace the lifts with newer, airless components. He also suggested the unloading turntable be replaced with a lifting table so as to make vehicle alignment easier.

The President and Pat Fahey are working with Dario on fitting insulation, water gauge, etc. to the Hudson. It will probably be steamed next week.

The driveway did not get plowed-in, so it looks like the mailbox idea is working.

New Business

An application for membership was received from Richard Kadrmas of Amherst NH, but was not acted upon as he was not present.

Bob Huston, seconded by Ken Gates, proposed that nominations for the election of club officers for 2014 be closed. As there were no candidates, the Secretary proposed that the current officers be re-elected. The motion was passed unanimously. The Officers for 2014 will be Jim O'Brien, President; Bob Newcombe, Vice President; Jim Abrams, Treasurer; and Jed Weare, Secretary.

The 2014 event schedule was made available by the President. The dates of scheduled work days will be published in the Waushakum Journal.

Door codes at the track will be changed next week. The old codes will still work until the end of March.

Membership cards will be distributed by the end of January.

The President remarked that 2015 will be the 60th Anniversary of the club. He asked members to consider whether we should have another video made, as for the 50th, which made a lot of money. Other ideas for merchandizing were solicited.

The publication of the event schedule in magazines and websites was discussed. The Secretary will investigate.

Access to the track is difficult due to snow and ice. Members are cautioned to take care.

The Holliston Historical Society train show will be February 15th and 16th, with setup on 14th in the afternoon.

February 13, 2014

The February Business Meeting was cancelled due to a winter storm. It was not rescheduled.

March 13, 2014

The March 2014 meeting was held in the Holliston Historical Society House and was called to order by the President at 8:10 PM, with 22 persons present.

The Minutes of the January 2014 meeting were read by the Secretary.

A motion to accept the Minutes as read was proposed by Bob Mitchell, seconded by Ken Gates and passed unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

Mark Arsenault reported there has been no significant activity or expenses. He had visited the track and it looked mostly OK. The Maintenance shop was wet inside, with resulting damage to tools, due to ice building up on the outside of the roof.

Old Business

The February meeting was cancelled at the last minute due to bad weather. Email will be used in the future to distribute notices about cancellations. If possible, notice will be given the evening prior to the event. Members are requested to ensure their email addresses are accurate, and also to assist in passing on messages to members without email.

The Holliston Historical Society train show was also cancelled due to weather conditions. HHS is probably going to change the date to early April next year.

Superintendent's Report

Marc Arsenault

WLS Superintendent's Report

Here we are in the middle of May, 2014 and we've just started our Wednesday work schedules. Usually, we begin our work projects in mid March, but this year, Mother Nature gave us what seemed like an endless series of cold rains on Wednesdays until last week. Now, hopefully we can get some traction going.

After a long winter season, our scheduled Saturday May 4th WLS workday turned out to be one of our more successful ones with 40 plus members showing up ready to work. Tents went up, fire hoses were reinstalled and checked out and water bucket filled. The grounds were leaf blown cleaned and brush cut. Jim OB and Ken Larson were busy at the cook tent flipping hamburgers. New members got acquainted with the club's seasonal routines and many got to know regular members on a more personal level.

Looking back on last year's accomplishments, 2013 was again a success. We started new projects, while upgrading and repairing others throughout the work year. We also addressed and corrected many minor ones, which had a positive effect on the every day life at the club but too numerous to mention here.

Included in our major accomplishments are the completion of the train container shed roofs and the re-leveling of more steaming bays that were dislodged by years of frost heaves. We also installed more lighting in the container spaces and upgraded the maintenance shop lights with donated material. With the donation of Guy Jones's company laborers for a day, we managed to replace the original temporary turntable connecting spur with a more permanent design. The long talked about electrical outlets facilities for the on site campers, is becoming closer to a reality. We started the project in October of last year and we anticipate a completion date before the August meets.

Our Wednesday work crew members include Bob Delisle, Roger Austin, Don Cornell, Gerry Barton, Bob Huston and Art Downer. They have shown consistent dedication to improve the WLS facilities. It's always a pleasure to work with this fine group of members. Thank You.

Photo 1: Members turn out for the Workday on May 3, 2014.
Photo 2 and 3: The tarps go up quickly with so many hands on deck.



Unknown to most folks that run at Waushakum, Dick Ball has been quietly keeping things running smoothly by working week days, re-leveling and re-ballasting the ground lines and removing tree roots that cause the tracks to heave and twist. Bob Newcomb and Jed Weare have also been keeping the switches, track and electrical signals repaired and upgraded.

The toilet trailer is on the move again. Its present location proved to be a source of irritation to many members. It was originally moved there to accommodate federal and state environmental regulations in place at the time, while providing a solid ground site for the sewage trucks to access it without getting stuck in wet weather.

Since then, the area wet lands oversight authority has been changed and we are now only responsible to the town regulations, which do not list restrictions on self contained toilet trailers placed within the vicinity of low lands. It will be relocated back to its original

location on the far end of Mary's park near the fire road and dumpster.

Marc Arsenault
Superintendent
Waushakum Live Steamers

A Successful Work Day

Jim O'Brien, President, WLS

The first scheduled work day of the year was a huge success. We had 41 people that were signed in and I think there were a few others that we may have missed. Everything we planned on getting done got done in record time. I'd like to thank everyone who brought rakes and blowers and did the clean-up, those who helped put up all the tarps, those who helped Dick Ball with the fire hoses and water barrels, and those who cleaned up the Hilton. I would assume you all enjoyed the hot dogs and hamburgers because at the end of lunch they were all gone. I would like to get this kind of turnout for the next 3 scheduled work days,

it just makes things go much better. Thank you again for the great turnout and a job well done.

Jim O'Brien
President
Waushakum Live Steamers

Marc Arsenault	Ken Jackson
Roger Austin	Richard Kadrmas
Dick Ball	Kent Larson
Dave Barker	Tom McCune
Jay Berry	Jim McGrath
Qylan Berry	Robert Mitchell
Chris Bourgeois	Joe Ng
Elizabeth Bronson	James O'Brien
James Bronson	Tom O'Neill
Raymond Burke	Cap Purinton
Arthur Butler	David Remington
Edward Coughlin	Jimi Smith
Dan Connor	Hayden Spinney
Jimmy Connor	Peter Spinney
Art Downer	Colt Stewart
Paityn Duffy	Karen Taylor
Patrick Fahey	Gary Taylor
Alvan Fletcher	Paula Martin
Maggie Goeller	Hank Walther
John Goeller	Jed Weare

Club Business Update

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The general consensus was that a video for the 60th Anniversary in 2015 was a good idea. The Treasurer will get some pricing information. There was some discussion about other methods for raising cash. John Mentzer asked if there was interest in an HO gauge club special run freight car. He expected it would sell for about \$25. Bob Mitchell said the Worcester Model Railroad Club recently sold 300 of them for \$25, the cost being \$12. Other ideas mentioned were decals, bumper stickers, belt buckles and challenge coins.

Dario is making good progress on the Hudson.

New Business

Applications for membership were received from Richard Kadrmas of Amherst NH, who was sponsored by

Dave Barker, and from Ed Coughlin of Wilmington, MA. Both were elected unanimously as Full Members.

The *WAUSHAKUM JOURNAL* will be distributed next week via email.

New door codes at the track have been set. The old codes will be deactivated after the April meeting.

Membership cards, with the new door codes, will be distributed next month.

The membership list has been updated. Members two years delinquent will be removed from the list, and reinstatement will require payment of missing dues. We have around 220 members.

There will be four scheduled work days this year, the first being on May 3rd, 9AM - 4PM. Food will be supplied. Please bring your own tools.

The 3rd Annual Members Only Meet will be held the following day, May 4th. Food will be supplied for the meet.

The Safety Committee met just prior to the meeting. The Committee is working on a set of safety and operations rules, which will be produced in booklet form, to be provided to members and visitors. The Committee's draft will be circulated via email for members' review when it is ready.

An insurance adjuster will visit the track in April or May this year.

Access to the track is still difficult due to ice. It is also muddy.

Bob Mitchell reported that the Steaming Tender restaurant in Palmer will be having an Amtrak Day on May 10th. He thought it would be a good idea if we were to

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Member's Run Day

Photos by J.B. Mentzer

May 4, 2014



GARY PHILLIPS

Photo 1: Russ Page fires his 3/4" Union Pacific 4-8-8-4. **Photo 2:** Pat Fahey keep UP 4025's fire hot and the water glass full. **Photo 3:** Larry Simoneau and his Three Truck Shay lead a double header. **Photo 4:** Demetra Huston runs a critter with a train of V.I.P's. **Photo 5:** Colt Stewart and Jimmy Connor work on Colt's 0-4-2 at it's first run at WLS.

Dedication of Original Hudson Boiler

Photos & Story by J.B. Mentzer

Mar 4, 2014



WLS President Jim O'Brien presided over the Dedication of the original boiler from the club's ground line 4-6-4 Hudson.

The boiler, with sections cut-away to reveal internal

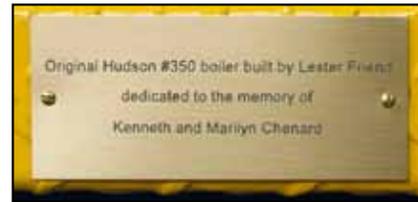
parts, was dedicated to Kenneth and Marilyn Chenard. The Steam Up Meet each year, the club memorializes them each year.

Ken and Bernie Berniger led the last rebuild of the boiler when the engine was in service at the Charlton Live Steamers.

Built in 1948 by Lester Friend of Friends Models and lettered for the Joy Town & New York Central, the engine ran at the Topsfield Fair for many years (see also: "Joy Town Hudson" *WAUSHAKUM JOURNAL* Vol. 31 No. 3, Summer 2013)

After the Charlton Live Steamers closed, the 4-6-4 and other equipment found its way to the WLS.

Sections of the boiler shell were cut away to expose internal parts. Several colors were used repainting to assist in interpreting their function on an operating locomotive.



Two generations of the Chenard family were on hand at the dedication.

Photo 5: Christine Chenard (L) with Pres. Jim O'Brien. **Photo 6:** Ken and Marilyn's children and grandchildren with the 1948 Friends Models Hudson boiler cut-away display.



Photo 2 1~3: WLS President Jim O'Brien unveils the club Hudson's original boiler in its new role. **Photo 4:** Members and visitors at the ceremony.



National Train Day

Photos & Story by J.B. Mentzer

May 10, 2014



Some members of WLS participated in National Train Day activities at the Steaming Tender restaurant in Palmer, MA

A national event, fine cuisine was served in the 1884 depot while outside trains big and small entertained visitors.

Freights run by CSX and NECR passed the station. Amtrak's *Vermont* and the westbound Boston section of *Lake Shore Limited* made appearances.

Photo 1: Ken Gates with his P&W M420R with the NECR Palmer station sign beyond. **Photo 2:** Hank Walther starts his "Putt Putt", a 1945 Fairmount M9-E, before offering the Editor a ride. Rare mileage is where you find it! **Photo 3:** Colt Stewart running his 1"



scale Heisler on portable track. The Steaming Tender's 1915 Porter 0-6-0 is in the background. **Photo 4:** Janice Gates talks about the M420 with Steaming Tender co-owner Blake Lamothe. WLS member Bob Mitchell looks on.



Club Business Update

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bring a loco for show and/or demonstration. Contact Bob if interested.

Mark Arsenault said that the Maintenance shop roof was in poor shape, and we ought to add a wooden roof above it, as for the other containers. He estimated it would cost about \$1800. As it is not planned to do this job until after the Annual Meet, a motion for funding was tabled until August.

The location of the toiler trailer was discussed at length. The current location is bad, but other locations have disadvantages too.

Bob Huston said an acquaintance wants to sell a bell from a New Haven locomotive, and asked if the club was interested in buying it. He did not know which loco it came from.

The President said that Al Blanchard of Plymouth Cable Access wanted to film our meet. The consensus was that it was not a good idea.

J.B. Mentzer offered a number of slide carousels free to anyone who can use them.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was proposed by Bob Foster, seconded by Bob Huston, and passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jed Weare
Secretary

2014 Waushakum Calendar of Events

Edited by J.B. Mentzer

Live Steam meets for May ~ October 2014 are listed below by date. Not listed: New Year's Day Meet on January 1st, 2015.

Unless noted, the Cook Tent is **closed**. Soft drinks are available at the soda machine all season.

Saturday May 3rd, 2014

Spring Work Day: Members new and old come get the track ready for another season.

Sunday May 4th, 2014

2ND Annual Members Meet

Members Only

Cook Tent: Hot Dogs & Hamburgers

Sunday May 18th, 2014

Marilyn & Ken Chenard Memorial

Spring Steam-up Meet

Sunday June 22nd, 2014

13th Annual Van Brocklin Meet

Cook Tent: Hot Dogs & Hamburgers

Sunday July 20th, 2014

12th Annual Antique Car & Motor Cycle Club Meet

Cook Tent: Hot Dogs & Hamburgers

Annual Meet 2014 ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Thursday August 21st, 2014 6:00 pm

Annual Diner

August 22nd, 23rd, & 24th, 2014

44th Annual Meet

Full Cook Tent • Saturday Night Dinner

Sunday September 21st, 2014

13th Annual Neighborhood Appreciation Day
Members & Invited Guests Only

Cook Tent: Hot Dogs & Hamburgers

October 19th, 2014

Charles > Purninton Sr. Memorial

Fall Blow-down Meet

2014

MAY

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31								

SEPTEMBER

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OCTOBER

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26	27	28	29	30	31			

Happy Holidays

Spring Steam Up

Photos by J.B. Mentzer

May 18, 2014



Spring Steam Up 2014 • 2011 • 2007

Photo 1: BIG Thank You to the Diner Crew. From left: Kent Larson, Bob Mitchell and Bob Newcombe. **Photo 2:** Trains on the main at WLS, a sure sign of Spring. **Photo 3:** Dick Ball relaxing at Page Station. In the foreground, ground line



gondolas Dick recycled as flower boxes. **Photo 4:** Bill Shields from Pennsylvania stops at the station area with junior members in attendance in 2011. Some of the young faces should look familiar to *JOURNAL* readers. **Photo 5:** From flower boxes to a flower bed, spring flowers among the rocks at Page Station thanks to Dick Ball.





6
GARY PHILLIPS



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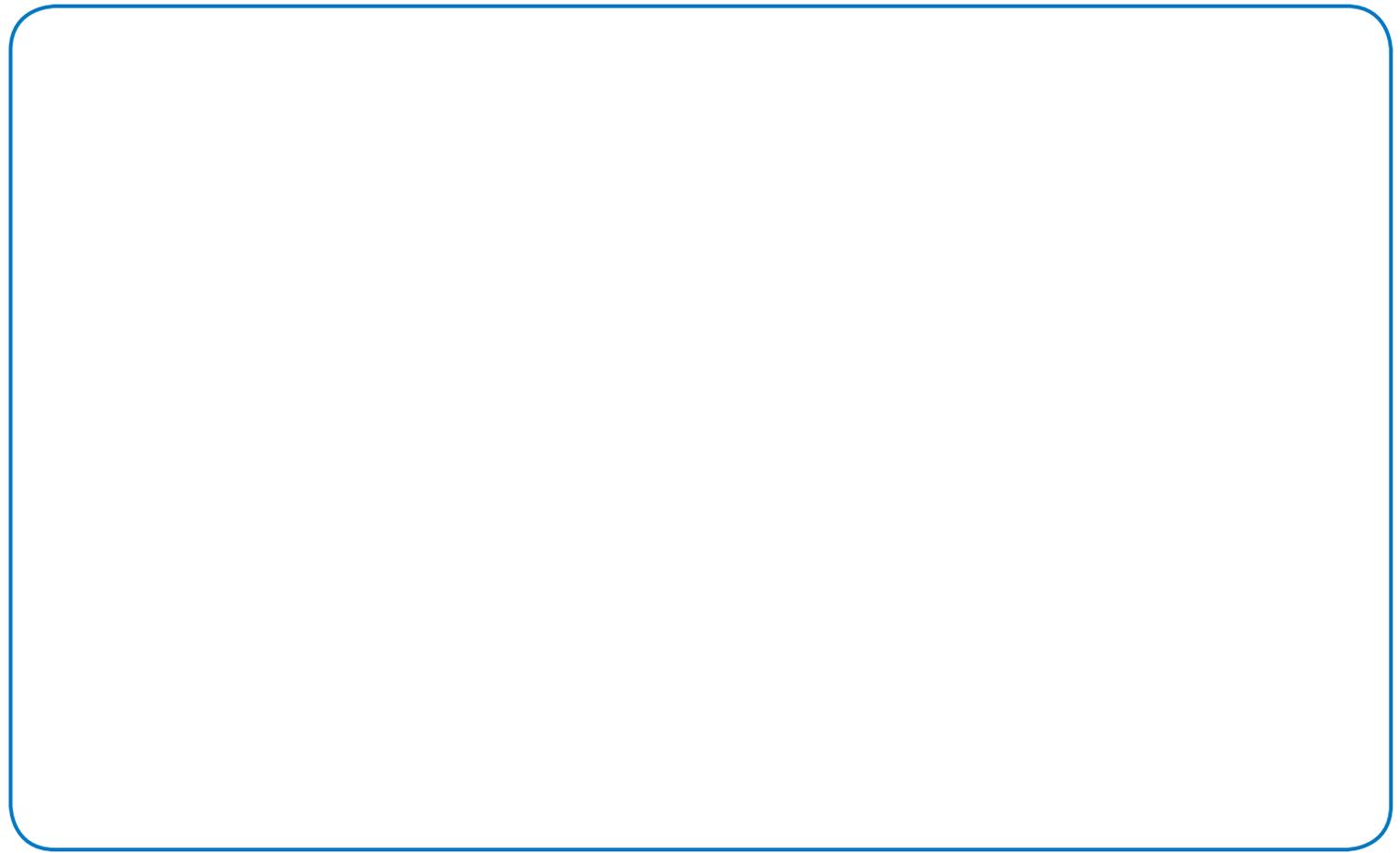
Photo 6: A friendly wave from Conductor Bob Huston. **Photo 7:** Jonathan Leiby opens the throttle of Bill Shields' Mother Hubbard 2-8-0 in 2011. Note the Wooten firebox. **Photo 8:** Student Engineer Paityn takes a turn running the RS3 under Ken Gates watchful eye. **Photo 9:** High water in the Steaming Bay Turntable pit in 2007. **Photo 10:** Happy 18th Birthday to Colt Stewart. The cake was **yummy**, Mark!



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