OFFICIAL BALLOT INSIDE

THE SEMAPHORE

NEWSLETTER OF THE ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

VOL. 69 NO. 3-11
JUNE-NOV. 2026

NEXT MEETING:

November 19
Members Slide Night
and
Annual Elections



The multi-year restoration of our General Electric 110-ton switcher was completed this summer with the application of GE logos to the cab.

Election Special

INSIDE

Holiday Party

Board Updates

Santa Trains

Election Ballot

Happy November to our museum members and supporters! I know we haven't been in touch in a while, we didn't forget about you. We've had a busy year at the Museum, with a number of major projects completed and several others moving forward. This month also brings our annual election; included with this special issue of THE SEMAPHORE, you will find a copy of the ballot along with voting instructions.

One of the most visible accomplishments this year has been the completion of significant track work on the museum railroad. Tartaglia Railroad Services resurfaced and tamped the line from just north of Switch 5 to Milepost 0.4, as well as the Upper Yard north of the Restoration Building. The finished work is an impressive sight and, more importantly, provides a noticeably smoother ride with new ties and fresh ballast.

This work was funded through an award from the New York State Passenger and Freight Rail Assistance Program that we received two years ago. Before the contractor arrived, volunteers spent many hours this spring preparing the railroad for the project. That work included track repairs, removing electrical systems and displays from the work area, and coordinating the loan of a ballast hopper from the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville Railroad. Using that car, we successfully distributed more than 400 tons of ballast in preparation for the resurfacing work.

The Mechanical Department has also had a productive year. Restoration was completed on our General Electric 110-ton locomotive, former Rochester Gas & Electric No. 8. The locomotive has been restored to the General Electric *(continued)*

www.rgvrrm.org

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THE SEMAPHORE
The official publication of
the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum

Volume 69, Nos. 3-11

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demonstrator paint scheme it wore while touring the country in 1967. It is now fully painted and lettered and has already pulled several public trains this fall. As with any recently restored piece of equipment, work continues to address minor electrical and mechanical issues as they arise.

After several quiet years, our Fairbanks-Morse H-16-44 diesel locomotive, U.S. Army No. 1843, received renewed attention. Its auxiliary generator was repaired, reinstalled, and successfully tested under power. Meanwhile, locomotive R&GV 54 is currently in the shop with its cooling system drained while aging plumbing is replaced. Our New York Central caboose is also receiving some updates and repairs to its air-brake system.

With most of the operating season now behind us, we can also look back on another busy year of public events. In September we hosted another successful Rails & Ales event. We wrapped up our Pumpkin Patch events in October, and coming up in December are two sold out weekends of Santa Trains. Many thanks to everyone who helped make this year's operating days possible. It takes a tremendous amount of work behind the scenes to prepare equipment, staff trains, welcome visitors, maintain the grounds, and keep each event running smoothly.

I know I'm leaving many of our accomplishments of the past several months out, but space is limited and there is more happening around the Museum than can fit into this update. We look forward to bringing you expanded updates in the next issue. Volunteers have remained busy throughout the year with restoration, maintenance, operations, and planning for the future. Work is already underway on our 2027 schedule of events and major projects, and I look forward to sharing another update soon with more details about what's ahead.

—David Scheiderich, Editor

MEETING & HOLIDAY PARTY FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2026

Our December meeting will double as our Annual Holiday Party. There will be no formal program, but everyone is invited to enjoy some holiday cheer at our Industry Depot, starting Friday at 6:00 p.m. Please bring a dish or snack to pass!

BOARD UPDATES

With election season upon us, we wanted to highlight a few recent changes to the current Board of Trustees. In October, Adam Lloyd resigned from his position as Trustee, and David Kehrer was appointed Recording Secretary. Thank you both for your service to the museum.

SANTA TRAINS

Our Santa Train Rides to the North Pole will take place December 5-6 and 11-12. As in past years, the first train will depart at 3:00 p.m., with the final departure at 7:30 p.m. We are still looking for volunteers to help staff these popular events. If you can lend a hand, please reach out by email or sign up at **rgvrrm.org/volunteer**.

BALLOT

Along with this newsletter you will find the official 2026 Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum ballot. Please detach and complete it according to the enclosed instructions. All officer positions are up for election this year, along with two Trustees for full three-year terms and one Trustee to complete the remaining year of an unexpired term.

Once completed, ballots may be returned by mail to our post office box or delivered in person at the November 19 Membership Meeting (including Members' Slide Night). If mailing your ballot, we recommend sending it by November 12 to allow enough time for delivery. Ballots received after the deadline cannot be counted.



For our August 20 member meeting, we operated a special "double-header" powered by former LA&L Alco RS-1 20 and former USA Fairbanks-Morse H-16-44 1843.

★ ★ ★ OFFICIAL 2026 BALLOT ★ ★ ★

ROCHESTER & GENESEE VALLEY RAILROAD MUSEUM

In accordance with Articles III and IV of the RGVRRM By-Laws, the Nominating Committee has nominated candidates for election to fill the expiring terms. The names of those selected by the committee are listed below. Vote for candidates by placing an "X" in the appropriate box [ ].

1. President Two-Year Term (Vote for ONE candidate)

[ ] Joe Nugent [ ] Write-In: _____

2. Vice President Two-Year Term (Vote for ONE candidate)

[ ] John Guglielmo [ ] Write-In: _____

3. Treasurer Two-Year Term (Vote for ONE candidate)

[ ] Dave Peet [ ] Write-In: _____

4. Corresponding Secretary Two-Year Term (Vote for ONE candidates)

[ ] Dave Shields [ ] Jeremy Tuke

[ ] Write-In: _____

5. Recording Secretary Two-Year Term (Vote for ONE candidates)

[ ] Dave Kehrer [ ] Write-In: _____

6. Trustee One-Year Term (Vote for ONE candidates)

[ ] Rob Burz [ ] Charles Rothbart

[ ] Otto Vondrak [ ] Write-In: _____

7. Trustee Three-Year Term (Vote for TWO candidates)

[ ] Jacob Anderson [ ] Dave Buckner

[ ] Lisa Talty [ ] Write-In: _____

[ ] Write-In: _____

_____

NAME

_____

SIGNATURE (For membership verification only, ballot will NOT be counted without signature)

Elections will take place at the November 19, 2026, membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. located at 933 University Avenue, Rochester, N.Y. Please bring your ballot with you, or mail your ballot to: RGVRRM Ballot, P.O. Box 23326, Rochester, NY 14692

MAIL YOUR BALLOT BY NOVEMBER 12

RGVRRM BALLOT
P.O. BOX 23326
ROCHESTER, NY 14692-3326

PLEASE
PLACE
POSTAGE
HERE

See the other side for official 2026 ballot. Please bring your completed ballot to the November 19 meeting in person, or mail your ballot by November 12 to make sure your vote is counted!