LIFETIME MEMBERS
Mary Sales & Ed Strauss, Philadelphia, PA

NEW MEMBERS
Mary Lee Fitzgerald, Montrose, PA
Lynn & Joe Kovac, Allison Park, PA
Barb Phillips, Jermyn, PA
Richard & Mary Rylyka, Effort, PA
Melvin Seely, Honesdale, PA

RENEWING MEMBERS
Kathy & Ed Ameika, Duryea, PA
Eileen & Bruce Baessler, Montrose, PA
Rebecca & Alan Bennett, Montrose, PA
Jack & Ruth Bertolino, Newtown, PA
Michael & Janet Bischak, Nutley, NJ
Peter & Marian Borick, Herrick Center, PA
William & Alice Burrell, Carbondale, PA
David Butler, Vandling, PA
Robert Calabria, Jermyn, PA
Pat Cembalest, Waverly, PA
Kathryn Lesoine & William Chamberlin, Dalton, PA
Joe & Ann Cherney, Starlight, PA
Wayne Chudleigh, Union Dale, PA
James Clayton, Thompson, PA
Len & Rose Marie Coddington, Dingmans Ferry, PA
Owen Conaghan, Carbondale, PA
Frank Currier, Cliftonwood, NJ
Joseph Dolce, Thompson, PA
Heather & David Eigner, Landenberg, PA
Daniel & Tracy Fenton, Hopewell, NJ
Paul Fogal, Jim Thorpe, PA
Jack Fries, Vandling, PA
Paul & Mary Gere, Montrose, PA
Ed Gionbetti, Jessup, PA
Jose Gonzales Family, Leonia, NJ
Cathy & Bob Guzzi, Dalton, PA
Ken & Joan Halbach, Forest City, PA
Michael Hapstak, Scranton, PA
Otto Heitrick, Hawley, PA
Amanda DeLIsbrune & Dawn Howell, Clifton Twp, PA
Bob Hunter, Union Dale, PA
Jim & Verna Johnson, Pompton Plains, NJ
Neil Jordan, Forest City, PA
Jim Kasten, Hallstead, PA
George & Michele Kelly, Germantown, MD
Father John King, Starrucca, PA

D&H Distance Run
September 8, 2013

Do you like to run? Have you competed in shorter races but always wanted to test your ability with a distance run? Join us on Sunday September 8th to celebrate the 6th annual D&H Distance Run! Volunteers and spectators will gather at the Forest City Trailhead as we welcome both experienced and novice runners to compete in this 13.1 mile race. The course is basically flat with a slight upgrade going north and a slight downgrade back, making it a perfect first half-marathon. Every year our race grows in popularity, introducing more people to the D&H Rail-Trail. We registered 275 runners last year and hope to reach our goal of 325 in 2013.

You can help spread the word by sharing our event with your friends on Facebook. Runners can register at www.GetMeRegistered.com or our website www.nepa-rail-trails.org. Take advantage of our early registration fee by registering before August 18th. If you would like to be a sponsor or volunteer give the office a call at 570-679-9300 or email trails@nep.net.

So whether you are a runner or want to cheer for one come out and join us for this year’s race. We promise you’ll get caught up in the excitement.
Few today are aware of the role that telegraphers played in providing global communications and operating the railroad system in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. These “wizards of the wire” enabled ordinary small-town people to receive news and personal messages from afar; they prevented railroad collisions and enabled trains to run on time.

Telegraphic signaling was first used by Charles Minot on the Erie Railroad in 1851. The depot telegrapher became the “air traffic controller” of the railroad industry. Western Union usually supplied the depot equipment and the railroad paid the operator. The earliest telegraph receivers were printing telegraphs that printed out dots and dashes on paper tape (Samuel F. B. Morse’s first message was in 1844). However, the operators quickly learned that it was faster to listen to the clicking of the sounder and receive by ear.

The use of telegraphy advanced with the advancement of the railroad, because the telegrapher’s primary duty was maintaining communication between the train dispatcher, who was usually many miles away, and trains and the whole rail system. He copied train orders and messages for the train crews and reported to the dispatcher the passing of trains. The telegrapher was the eyes and ears of the train dispatcher.

Before the D&H began installing Centralized Traffic Control (CTC), the terms “Cabin” and “Tower” were used in location names, and did not necessarily describe the facility. Most towers were two-story buildings, and all towers controlled interlockings. Some cabins were one-story buildings. Some cabins controlled interlockings, and some were simply outlying train order offices.

When the D&H began installing CTC in the early 1930’s, the remotely controlled interlockings were termed “Cabins.” So during that transition period, some cabins were manned offices, and some were remotely controlled from distant control stations. As an example, at one time SW Cabin at Nineveh was a train order office and control station, which controlled interlocked switches and signals at several cabins between SW and KY, inclusive, and between Afton and Harpursville on the Susquehanna Division.

The Cabin itself was typically the small equipment hut or box that was at the end of each passing siding or crossover or junction that was controlled remotely by a Dispatcher or a control station through the railroad-wide Centralized Traffic Control system. This hut housed the electricals and relays that operate the turnout motor and the typically three sets of signal heads at each end of a siding. The hut had a square sign attached to it prominently displaying the cabin designation for its location for all employees to see.

Below is a list of ‘cabins’ on the Jefferson Branch of the D&H that are often referred to in D&H literature and well-know to railroad workmen.

Thanks to Gordon Davis for review of the article, edits and suggestions.

Researched by Lynn Conrad

References

The Radio Telegrapher by Jim Thompson.
RAILROAD.net  www.railroad.net/forum

Cabins on the D&H

D&H Jefferson Branch Cabins (North to South)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cabin</th>
<th>Milepost Distance to Albany</th>
<th>Town/Area</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SW</td>
<td>A118.2</td>
<td>Ninevah Junction</td>
<td>Junction of D&amp;H Pennsylvania Division, Nineveh Branch, with Susquehanna Division (Albany-Binghamton)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KY</td>
<td>A136.5</td>
<td>Cascade Wye</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LS</td>
<td>A138.8</td>
<td>Lanesboro</td>
<td>Under the Starrucca Viaduct</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JN</td>
<td>A140.7</td>
<td>Jefferson Junction</td>
<td>End Nineveh Branch, Begin Jefferson Branch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CF</td>
<td>A145.7</td>
<td>Melrose</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KA</td>
<td>A148.0</td>
<td>Starrucca</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PO</td>
<td>A158.4</td>
<td>North of Ararat</td>
<td>Named for Percy O. Ferris, D&amp;H Chief Engineer and son of George Washington Gale Ferris, developer of famous amusement wheel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YD Tower</td>
<td>A156.3</td>
<td>Ararat Summit</td>
<td>Not a control point, eliminated after D&amp;H installed CTC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BN</td>
<td>A159.1</td>
<td>Burnwood</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HC</td>
<td>A162.9</td>
<td>Herrick Center</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UD</td>
<td>A165.0</td>
<td>Uniondale</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FT</td>
<td>A169.6</td>
<td>Forest City</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WC</td>
<td>A174.6</td>
<td>West Carbondale</td>
<td>The Carbondale Yards extended 1.7 miles from WC to DF Cabins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DF</td>
<td>A178.3</td>
<td>Dundaff Street</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Several other cabins on the Ninevah Branch between SW and KY are not shown. Their configuration varied over time.
Walk with “Friends”

“Friends of the Starrucca Creek” are a recent ‘facebook’ group interested in cleaning up the Starrucca Creek in the Lanesboro and Brandt areas. The D&H follows the Starrucca Creek for about 9 miles on the northern end of the trail. They have had two extensive creek and trail cleanups over the past two years and have made a huge difference in the area. Last cleanup collected 1.5 tons of scrap metal, 4 tons of garbage and 20 tons of tires. In order to celebrate their efforts, the RTC is sponsoring a walk (or bike) along this section of trail on Saturday, October 26th at 10 AM.

We are hoping to raise money for a gate to keep out potential dumpers and are asking for a $5 donation per person. Starting points may vary, but Luciana Park, Lanesboro will be the headquarters. Watch for more information on our website!

Art on the Trail 2013

People are familiar with the D&H Trail as a quiet and safe place to bike, hike and run but on June 22nd this historic corridor also became home to some of the best art and crafts in Pennsylvania. Our second annual “Art on the Trail” event showcased over 25 talented local artists and craft exhibitors who displayed their work in three historic buildings. In addition to art our special events included a bike ride, history walk, nature photography class and an exploration of what lives in the water close to our trail. Approximately 500 people took advantage of the beautiful weather to enjoy a day full of fun activities.

With historic buildings such as Robert Stark’s Susquehanna Studio and mill, the Masonic Lodge and Cable’s Store the area proved to be a great venue for an artistic event. More importantly these gatherings help form partnerships that connect the community to the trail encouraging public engagement and stewardship. This was evident in the commitment of time and resources offered by many local residents. It also introduced new visitors to our trail who we hope will become enthusiastic trail users.

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to making “Art on the Trail” a success. If you would like to be part of next year’s event please let us know.

Trail Updates

There are two trail improvement projects scheduled to begin soon. The bridge redecking project (first bridge north of Forest City) should begin right after the D&H Distance Run. Watch for signs as this section of trail will be closed for at least 2 months. Directions around the bridge will be posted at intersections and online.

Trail improvements from Herrick to Ararat required more permits for drainage issues. They are under review by PA DEP and when approved the project will move to PADOT for design approval. Looks like a Spring project at this point.

Membership Renewal Form

Please renew! The date on the mailing label on the reverse indicates when your membership expires.

- Lifetime/Founding $500
- Patron/Sponsor $250
- Club/Organization $100
- Family $35
- Individual $20
- Senior/Student $15
- I am available for trail cleanups.
- Call me to discuss a corporate donation.
- Send me Sam’s Club Business Membership Card.
- I am interested in finding out more about the “Trail Tender” program.
- Send my newsletter electronically (instead of by mail) to: ____________________________
- Send me a brochure.

Please update your address here if necessary. Make checks payable to Rail-Trail Council of Northeast PA
P.O. Box 32, Union Dale PA 18470 / Phone: 570-679-9300 / E mail: trails@nep.net
Join us for a Bike Ride!
Cedar Bike and Paddle and Rail-Trail Council will host a bike ride on Saturday August 3rd at 10 AM.

This ride will start with a short clinic on bike maintenance followed by a group ride from the Forest City Trailhead. It is open to all ages and ability levels. After the ride, stop by the “Togetherness Summer Festival” in Downtown Forest City featuring a day full of family fun.

In January of 2013, Cedar Bicycle was purchased by Cedar Bike and Paddle. With its 40 year history Cedar Bike provided its customers with a great family atmosphere along with great service. They partnered yearly with Rail-Trail holding bike rides and clinics. Cedar Bike and Paddle continues to offer the same care and service. We look forward to working with them on new and exciting ideas for trail rides and clinics! We hope you can join us and welcome this new multi-family owned and operated business serving bike and kayak enthusiasts. You can visit their website at www.cedarbikeandpaddle.com

Endless Mountains Trail Walk
Join the Council and the Montrose Area Adult School on an interpretive nature and history walk along the EMT on September 28th at 9 AM. Meet at the Lathrop Street Elementary School. You can walk to Tiffany Corners & shuttles will return you to the school or you can walk from Rose Road to Alford, with shuttles for return. See www.montroseadultschool.org or call the RTC office for more information.

“Look deep into nature, and then you will understand everything better.”
— Albert Einstein

Rail-Trail Council of Northeast PA
P.O. Box 32
Union Dale PA 18470
trails@nep.net
www.nepa-rail-trails.org

Address Correction Requested