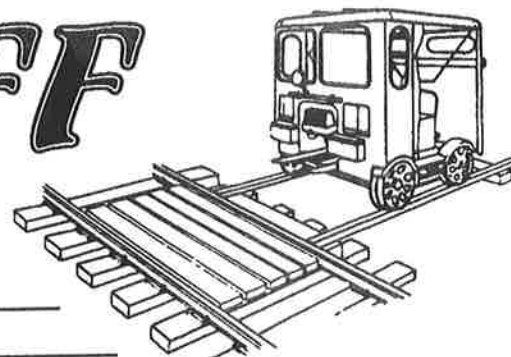
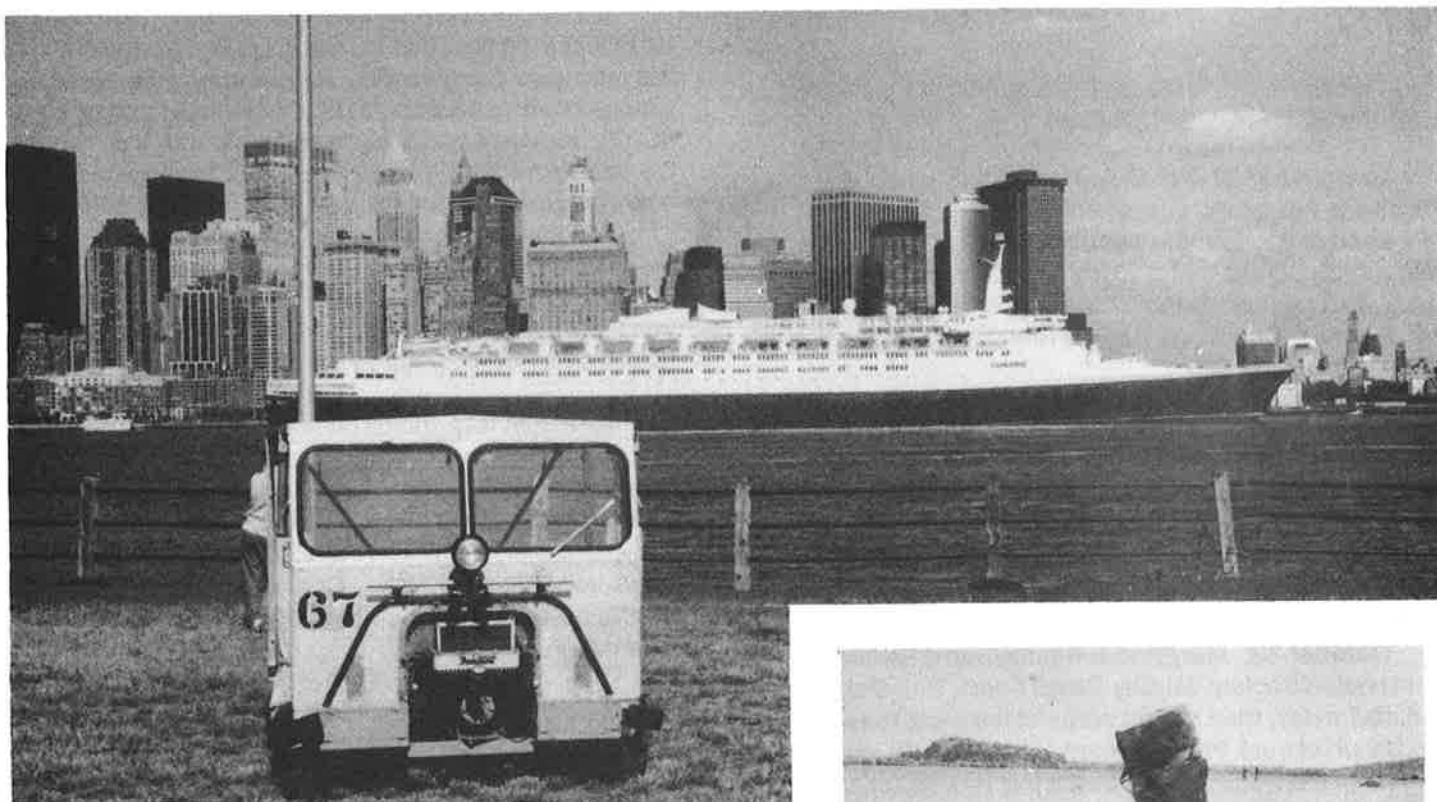


THE SETOFF



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH AMERICAN
RAILCAR OPERATORS ASSOCIATION (NARCOA)

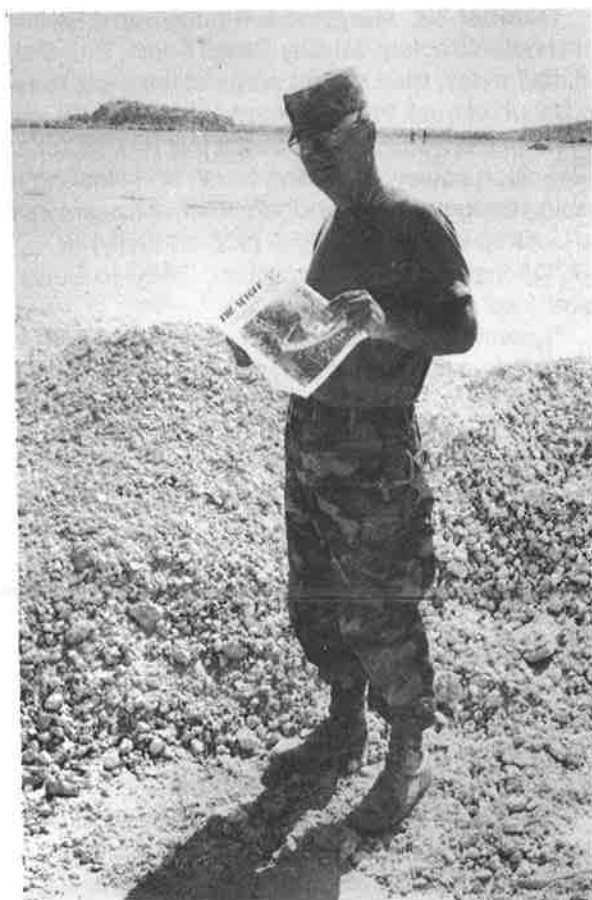
Summer 1991



Dick Ray photographed his M9 at Jersey City, New Jersey's Rail Expo XIV held this past May. In the background is the Queen Elizabeth II.

MEET THIS MEMBER:

We'd like you to meet Mike Stephens, at right, of Smithsburg, Maryland, shown reading his copy of THE SETOFF in the Saudi Arabian desert. Mike is a member of a U.S. Army Reserve unit, the 351st Ordnance Company. Scheduled to return home at the end of August, he has enjoyed reading THE SETOFF, which was sent over by his wife to help pass the time. This picture was taken in Northeastern Saudi Arabia near the Kuwait/Iraq border.



UPCOMING MEETS/EVENTS

(EDITOR'S NOTE: NARCOA encourages its members to organize meets for the membership, and to report these events to Dick Ray, 5 Hemlock Place, Randolph, NJ 07869. Dick is the Meet Coordinator for NARCOA. All events reported will appear in this space, and meet organizers are encouraged to plan two months in advance of publication date for timely inclusion in THE SETOFF.)

Events based either on membership in the Society or on having NARCOA insurance:

September 21-22: Cuyahoga Valley Line, Cuyahoga Falls, OH: Come work (brush cutting and light trash pickup) on the beautiful C. V. L. on Saturday, then run on Sunday. Membership in C. V. L. required (free). \$10 per car. Send SASE to R.R. Hixenbaugh, P.O. Box 141, Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221-0141, or phone (216) 923-0298.

September 28: Wilmington & Western RR, Wilmington, DE: Work/run meet on the W&W RR. NARCOA has had a long and productive relationship with this RR, and we'll work half a day, then run the rest of the day. Motorcars and handcars invited. Membership in W & W RR required (\$15 annually) or NARCOA insurance. Send SASE to Gene Tucker, 1004 North Kentucky St., Arlington, VA 22205.

October 19: Maryland & Pennsylvania Railroad Preservation Society, Muddy Creek Forks, PA: Come work half a day, then run on some of the most historic and beautiful track in the eastern U.S.! Ride the curviest rail east of the Rockies, and assist this new historical preservation society in cutting brush and clearing road crossing flangeways. Handcars and motorcars invited. Membership in the M&PRRPS (\$25 annually) or NARCOA insurance required. Send SASE to Gene Tucker (see above).

November 2-3: Wilmington & Western RR: Handcars and steamcars only. Come join in the third annual handcar (also velocipedes and railbikes, and steamcars this year) meet on the W&W RR. Two days of unbeatable scenery and the company of the most physically fit members of NARCOA. Send SASE to Gene Tucker (see above).

Events not requiring insurance:

September 21-22: Delaware & Ulster RR, Arkville, NY: Two days of running in the Catskill Mountains just when the colors are beginning to turn. For further information, contact Joel Williams, Box 82, Greendell, NJ 07839 (send SASE), or phone (908) 852-6294.

September 29: New Castle Historical Society: Display your motorcar on Sunday in conjunction with the NCHS's event. There is a \$5.00 fee to display your

railcar. Contact Ric Tritsch, P.O. Box 365, Lyndora, PA 16045, or phone (412) 282-6775.

ORGANIZATION NEWS

By Joel Williams

It's not too early to think about 1992. The 1992 NARCOA calendar, that is. Doug Leffler will again do the editing for the calendar. Please send your photographs or slides to Doug at 622 Pawnee, Jackson, MI 49203. Include a description of the car with the owner's name and information about the railroad or scene where the photograph was taken.

The photograph should show a trackcar or handcar on a railroad in an interesting setting. Remember seasonal scenes for the fall and winter months. If you want your material returned, please include a note to that effect when sending the photos.

NARCOA has chartered another local chapter, The First Iowa Division, covering the state of Iowa. The officers elected are: Division Masters - David Pratt, Carl Schweider, and Bob Murphy; Board Chairman - John Hollister; Safety Chairman - Mark Gunton; Secretary-Treasurer - Elton Freeman. Contact Dave Pratt at Colfax Northern RR, Box 34, Colfax, IA 50054 for membership information.

When you do a lot of mailing, as we do in NARCOA, you occasionally have pieces of mail go astray or get lost. It seems that the post office's new scanners that read the addresses aren't as good as they could be and misdirect letters so they take longer to get where they should have gone. If you don't get your SETOFF, give it time. But let us know and we will send one or replace a damaged issue. We are committed to finding the best way to send THE SETOFF.

A CORRECTION . . .

Ron Zammit of San Luis Obispo, California, writes to say that our photo of the steam inspection car shown on page 12 of the Spring issue was misidentified. He indicates that the picture appears in the book, "Logging the Redwoods" by Lynwood Carranco and John T. Labbe and is labeled, "Superintendent V. Zaruba, with his inspection car on the Arcata wharf, June 1, 1893." The wharf was used to load redwood lumber onto steamers in Humboldt Bay, south of Arcata, CA. The railroad is the Arcata & Mad River RR, the first common carrier in California. Some posts of the wharf are still in place, but the deck is long gone. This picture came to us from another source not in the book. Sorry for the goof and thanks for bringing it to our attention.

WANT ADS

(EDITOR'S NOTE: NARCOA is happy to receive and print ads of items needed/wanted, or for sale. Submit items to the editor. Ads are subject to abridgement in the interest of space.)

FOR SALE: Fairmont Railway Motors A3-D1 track car, serial #188560, built 5/48, former Pittsburgh and Lake Erie Railroad #2238. Waukesha model ICK gasoline engine (4cyl.), with P & LE shop-built cab. In good shape, but needs restoration. Over \$400.00 in new parts to go with car, including a new radiator. \$750.00 or best offer. Contact D. M. Williamson, (215) 296-5584 (H), (215) 459-2492 (W), or 333 Lancaster Ave., Apt. 204, Fraser, PA 19355.

WANTED: C8 carb for S2H Fairmont motorcar, as well as two complete sets of M19 or MT19 wheels, axles, and bearings. Contact Mike Billet, 46 Woodside Dr., York, PA 17402, or call (717) 741-4196 after 7 p.m.

FOR SALE: Fairmont MT19-A1 in very good running condition. Looks like Mike Haugh's car on p. 5 of the Spring 1991 *SETOFF*. Car is in original railroad livery (unrestored, not repainted). Asking \$1,500. Phone Mike Paul (WI) (414) 235-2607 from 5-10 p.m. weekdays, or 8 a.m.-10 p.m. weekends (Central Time).

WANTED: 51-inch wide roof for a Fairmont M19D. Fairmont M19D parts car (good roof and windshield). Contact Dirk Ras, 15 Clear Lake Manor Rd., North Branford, CT 06471, or call (203) 481-3601.

FOR SALE: Fairmont M19A, excellent condition,

ready to ride, with trailer. Many extras. Contact Joe Traphagen, 4975 Surrey La., Liverpool, NY 13088, or phone (315) 457-3019 (H), or (315) 472-6611 (W).

WANTED: Four-passenger motorcar. Must be usable. Ken MacDowell, 15828 West 130th St., Strongsville, OH 44136, or phone (216) 237-0885.

WANTED: For Fairmont M19, C5 carburetor, throttle lever #M16750, water hopper #A999A. Jerry Feicht, 809 Charles St., Trenton, OH 45067, phone (513) 988-0570.

FOR SALE: Fairmont M19F, complete ground-up restoration. Rebuilt engine, 12 volt electric, seats and curtains. \$2,800; with custom trailer, \$3,600 . . . 10-inch steel hand gongs, Fairmont #69696 reproductions, \$85.00 each . . . Fairbanks-Morse 40B valve springs, new, \$50.00 a set (4 pieces) . . . Friction wheels rebuilt for Fairbanks-Morse and Kalamazoo cars . . . I'm having brake shoes made for Fairbanks-Morse cars (#MR39626) and Kalamazoos (#23020). If you need a set, drop me a line. Contact Dave Rose, 202 Center St., Elmer, NJ 08318, or phone (609) 358-3409.

WANTED: Two Fairmont 14-inch torpedo proof wheels. Contact Dave Rose (see above).

FOR SALE: M19s, S2s, A3s, and A5s, trailer cars, track maintenance tools, welders, air compressors for sale. Buy and sell motorcars. Southeastern Rail Service, 510 Austin St., Norfolk, VA 23503, or phone (804) 588-6579. Send long SASE for current list.

NEWSLETTER: Midwest Motor Cars - MONTHLY newsletter for putt putt nutts and those who love them. \$8.00 per year. MIDWEST MOTOR CARS, 1146 W. 27th St., Independence, MO 64052.



MEET THIS MEMBER:

We'd like you to meet Doug Cummins from Independence, Missouri, shown in the accompanying photo about nine months after he obtained this ex-Union Pacific Fairmont M19-B1 built in 1986. He writes that he's been in the hobby only about a year and a half, but is having a ball. In addition to this car, he also owns a Fairmont MT19-A2-5, ex-Union Pacific, built in 1975.

HANDCAR MEET HELD ON THE VALLEY RAILROAD

By Gene Tucker

"Boy, I like that" exclaimed the tollbooth attendant on the Garden State Parkway in New Jersey, as my Nissan truck rolled to a stop, bearing its load of a four-wheeled pedal car. I said, "Well, if you like this one, take a good look at the one in the truck behind me", referring to my sister Deanna and her husband Ron's turn-of-the-century Buda #4 velocipede car, recently restored to its full glory. After a few more very quick pleasantries and telling her that we were on our way to the Valley Railroad in Essex, Connecticut, for a handcar meet, we deposited our tribute to the Governor and were on our way.

Once there, we found our way to the railroad (it was easy, we just listened to the steam whistle the railroad had installed), settled in for a night's rest, and hoped that the rain that had dogged us all the way up the road would cease by morning. But, never mind, we'd come to do some serious railriding, and no piddly little rain would deter us.

Come morning, we found that the weather was more and more promising, so we found out where the best place would be for a hearty breakfast, and then met up with Francis Saunders, our host for the event.

After the usual preliminaries, both machines were set on the rail in the yard at Essex, heading south. Our first stop, some two to three miles away, would be the large storage yard, where many treasures owned by the railroad reside. If only those machines could talk, they'd have some stories to tell, I'll bet.

Our trip took us 25 miles, from the very end of the Valley RR at its junction with Amtrak on the south, to rail's end in the north. Along the way, we followed the beautiful Connecticut River, saw the steamboat, whose

operations are coordinated with the Valley RR, and enjoyed the scenery of that early New England spring morning. We also aroused the interest of a local policeman, who'd seen Dea and Ron's velocipede, and stopped them to ask what they were doing. (A quick explanation, along with an offer to produce valid train orders, satisfied his curiosity, and we were off again.)

During a stopover in the enginehouse, we got an up close and personal look at the Valley RR's new Chinese-built 2-8-2 steam engine, and also got to talk with a member of the U.S. Army Reserve's Railroad unit, which is based in the area, and which conducts some training on the Valley RR's premises.

That evening, we decided to ride the sumptuous dinner train, and dined on prime rib in our railroad work clothes, ignoring the other patrons who decided that a dinner train was the place to wear dinner gowns and tuxedos.

Our thanks to Francis Saunders (and his son, who provided excellent fireman's duty on my railbike), as well as the Valley RR, for coordinating and hosting this event. We hope you'll consider doing it again sometime soon!



Ronnie Baird on the Baird's velocipede at the Valley RR in Essex, CT.

THE SETOFF

Box 82, Greendell, NJ 07839



DICK RAY



*

POSTMASTER: IF UNDELIVERABLE, PLEASE RETURN TO SENDER.