



THE MAIL POUCH

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MEETING NOTICE

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13th, 2025. The meeting will begin promptly at 7:00pm and will be held at The Museum's Taylor Annex. For directions or additional information, please contact James Taylor at (540) 295-2974.

November Meeting Agenda

- Brief Update on recent progress at the Museum's cars and displays.*
- Discussion of future projects and needs.*
- Entertainment TBD.*

Cover: Southern Railway 722 with Savannah and Atlanta 750 double heading an excursion train through Montvale, Virginia in August 1971

A monthly publication of the Rappahannock Railroad Museum

Opinions expressed in *The Mail Pouch* are those of the editor and contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Rappahannock Railroad Museum, Inc.. Please send all correspondence to the following address:

Rappahannock Railroad Museum, Inc.
11700 Main St.
Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Museum Officers and Staff

President:	James F. Taylor	Chief Mech Engineer:	Donald Kirkpatrick
First Vice President:	Curtis Tammany	Museum Liaison:	Theodore Barker
Secretary:	Frank Schimmenti	Newsletter Editor:	James Keehner
Treasurer:	Virginia Smith	Registered Agent:	Mike Thomas
Museum Curator:	James F. Taylor	Chairman B.O.D.	Mike Thomas
Webmaster:	Dennis Overcash		

Web Site: www.RRMuseum.org

THE PRESIDENTS 1/2 PAGE

No message for this edition.

James (Jake) Taylor
President
Rappahannock Railroad Museum

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Museum and the Editor can use your help to fill the pages of the Mail Pouch. If you have a subject you would like to share, photos or just about any other information, please consider submitting it for publication in our Mailpouch. There are a lot of exciting things happening at the Museum, I would be glad to publish personal notes from those who are making the changes and updates at the museum. All submissions will be included in the Mail Pouch (unless restricted by copyright laws).

Thank you all for your support.

Jim Keehner
Editor
Rappahannock Railroad Museum



LYT stopped at contractors (sewer Line) derailer.

“Promoting Railway History and Preservation”

UPCOMING EVENTS

Rappahannock Railroad Museum EVERY SATURDAY MORNING TRAIN RIDE – EXCURSION. Ride the rails along Historic Deep Run Creek in Spotsylvania Co. on open rail maintenance cars and experience how the railroad workers of the mid 20th century rode to their worksites. Every Saturday 9AM to Noon – weather and conditions permitting. To ensure you get aboard the last train run, please be at the museum by 10:30AM. We attempt to board all parties on a first come basis but boarding is conducted on the platform by our station conductor and train crew so first come first aboard may not always occur. All children under 12 or those needing intensive supervision must be accompanied by a responsible adult. They must be seated together. Departing from the Rappahannock Railroad Museum, 11700 Main Street, Fredericksburg, Va. 22408. Donations accepted.

Monthly Meetings:

November 13, 2025

December 11, 2025 Scafa's Italian Restaurant, 10349 Courthouse Rd., Spotsylvania VA 22553, Meeting begins at 6:30PM. Please RSVP with Leo Z. if you plan to attend.

January 08, 2026

February 12, 2026

NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION

2026 NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION – CHATTANOOGA, TN JULY 27 TO AUGUST 2, 2026, <https://www.nmra2026.org>

NATIONAL NARROW GAUGE CONVENTION

Collinsville, IL / St Louis, MO • September 3 - 6, 2025, www.45thnngc.com

HARRISBURG NARROW O SUMMER MEET

Harrisburg, PA • June 12 - 13, 2026, More info to follow!

GREENBERG TRAIN SHOWS

Nov. 1-2 - Monroeville, PA

Nov. 22-23 - Wilmington, MA

Nov. 29-30 - Edison, NJ

Dec. 6-7 - Timonium, MD

Dec. 20-21 - Chantilly, VA

Jan. 3-4 - Monroeville, PA

Jan. 10-11 - Oaks, PA

Jan. 17-18 - Richmond, VA

Feb. 7-8 - Hampton, VA

Mar. 14-15 - Rochester, NY

Mar. 21-22 - Wilmington, MA

Mar. 28-29 - Edison, NJ

Prince William County Model Railroad Club Schedule - PWMRC.org

Great Scale Model Train and Railroad Collectors Show Oct 25-26, 2025

Richmond Science Museum, Nov 28-30, 2025

Prince William Library, Central Library, Dec 11-13, 2025

RAPPAHANNOCK MODEL RAILROADERS

November 8-9 - Spotsy Towne Centre Holiday Kickoff, O, N, Next to the Food Court

December 13-14 - Annual Train Show, All Gauges, Fraternal Order of Eagles Lodge, 21 Cool Springs Rd, Fredericksburg, VA

Editor's Note: *If anyone has any other Organizational information that they would like to see in the "Upcoming Events", please forward that information to the Editor for inclusion. I try to get a spread of regional and National events, but I cannot research every organization that is out there, so if you belong to or are interested in something that is not included here, please send me the information.*

"Promoting Railway History and Preservation"

MONTHLY RECAP

09-06-2025 - GOOD START FOR SEPTEMBER! Yes, Sept, has arrived and we are having lots of visitors. This is really good as we are learning how to handle larger groups. Let's remember to talk up our fall leaf runs. Leaves are starting to turn some now. Saturday, we had a total est. of 113 people attending Museum. We did issue tickets to people who could not get on fully loaded train. That way there was no question on who loaded first on next run. This prevented problem we had last week, WE learn from experience. We did make our four trips to Main line with no problems. We had more members present and in North Annex that was a great improvement. The north annex is important as it entertains visitors while they wait for next train.

Several regular members will not be available next Saturday, please come early and help opening Museum and preparing train for 9:20 departing. Members are doing great helping in many departments of Museum as needed let's keep it up.

Department heads may need to schedule work secessions during off hours to make repairs and updates. We do not want to make known repairs while visitors are there waiting. We built a great Museum and visitors are coming. Now is not the time to slow up!

09-13-2025 - WOW, WHAT A DAY! Morning started with members being locked out of north annex, dead bolt was jammed. But we had a couple of good member "burglars" who manage to open door without much damage, then they repaired their work and all fine now. Thanks Guys.

While they were working on door there was an traffic accident next door. So we had all the red, blue and yellow flashing lights and traffic jam for a while. It did not involve any of us.

We had a LOT of regular members absent today but members present did a GREAT job of falling in place and operating all parts of Museum. Makes our future look good. We had a total est. of 77 attending today, some members were worn out at end of day with no breaks.

Also you will see yellow ribbon by box car, that is marking a danger zone as there is a nest of yellow jackets under tie plate. Hope someone will tear up their lease and evict them this week. Let me know if you plan to evict them. Be Careful!

One thing you never get bored at our Museum, all ways surprises. That's why we call it fun.

Next Saturday we may have a small group who will arrive at noon for ride and short tour. This is unusual but a planned visit, testing waters.

Recycle you engines: If you have good engines stored away in some dark corner that you will probably not ever use. Think about donating them to the Museum. Many of our motors have a lot of miles on them and needing repair. ANY gauge Z to G. We don't need any more basket cases. Thanks for keeping our display trains running. Meet with Chip, Jim or Phil. Enjoying displaying History to all.

09-20-2025 - ALWAYS SOME HICCUP TO DEAL WITH! Almost a normal day with good weather and good number of Visitors. Able to get a few things done while welcoming visitors. But that was the good part. We could only make excursions into back of park due to the crossing gates out of service. On Thursday the sewer contractor may have caused the gates to go down and stay down. What a mess the county posted a "Traffic Alert" for the area due to huge traffic backups. When we checked on problem we were told problem solved and traffic back to normal. They corrected problem by just turning gates off and did not make repairs. So we could not cross road Saturday. We have been trying to get answers but so far no repairs. Just in case not repaired by next Saturday we will be cutting weeds on track around back as a safe backup plan until gates repaired. Remember "SAFETY FIRST ALWAYS".

We have been providing a Museum to area for many years and have always worked with changes in a growing area and we will continue upgrading and adapting as needed. See you Saturday.

09-27-2025 - FIRST COVERED LYT AT MUSEUM! It seemed ready to rain any time when we open, so decision was made to try out covered passenger car that is on loan from ODC and we have done a LOT of updating to it. The 401 was sent out to bring it to station from the caboose track. After one last check out we loaded 20 visitors on car and left station. All went well, the car is heavy and with passengers on board 401 had small slippage problem on wet rails. We made two more trips with it and with dry rails handling was better. We did run rescue train as second section in case of any problem. Thanks Jimmy and David and others for all the work you did to make this possible.

We did have good attendance today with total est. of 79 people stopping by, even New grandparents from California. We had cut weeds on back tracks so safe trips could be made there as the crossing gates are out of service. Contractor digging in area cut some elec. lines. Repairs scheduled to be made Oct. 6. Hoping to return to main line as fall leaves put on a great show from open cars. Predictions now call for peak maybe on Oct. 18, talk it up and lets be ready.

We were invited and accepted invitation to set up our Thomas layout at their Christmas show. Yes a little early but let's start checking layout out and not wait to last minute. As normal we will be operating our Museum that day also, mark you calendar and be ready to help. Thanks.

Yes, we continue to have growing pains, but thru the many talents and dedication of our members, we continue to improve our museum in ALL Departments. We may add one more layout a small Lego, why not we are a Museum for ALL train interest. Pulling together.

"Promoting Railway History and Preservation"

PHOTOS



Top Left: We still install our derailer as normal. Sewer Line contractor still doing lot of digging and building in the area. Normally they don't work on Saturday, but train crew need to be vigilant for any construction that may affect rails.



Top Right and Upper Center Left: Members Shelley and Dennis setting up spooky Halloween scene. They not finished yet, More BOO's to come.



Upper Center Right: MofW crews meet at crossing on March 2009.



Lower Center Left: Mike inspects diamond removal Sept. 20, 2025. Reason?

Lower Center Right: our new siding protection in place (locked).



Bottom Left: David answering questions while getting ready for another run, rescue train behind on standby. Note yellow flag displayed in station, train only has permission to operate in park, not crossing Rt.2.

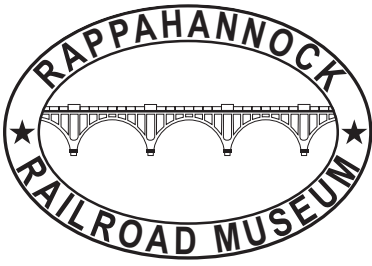


Bottom Right: different view of station area.



“Promoting Railway History and Preservation”

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



Membership Application/Renewal Form

Rappahannock Railroad Museum, Inc.
Please type or print legibly

New Renewal if renewal Updated information Y N

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Family Membership(S) if Joining: _____
Membership

Regular \$15.00 _____, can Vote, can hold office

Family \$1.00 each _____, cannot vote, cannot hold office.

Museum Donation _____

Total: _____

Please mail to the following address or hand in at meeting.

Rappahannock Railroad Museum, Inc.
11700 Main Street
Fredericksburg, VA. 22408

I agree to be a member in good standing and follow safety rules of
the Rappahannock Railroad Museum, Inc.
Membership dues for January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2025

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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OCTOBER MONTHLY MEETING AGENDA

- Saturday October 4th Meet at our Museum Site 9:00am to 12:00pm for tours and train rides, construction and upgrades(weather permitting). Members continue to improve displays and area.
- Thursday October 9th **MUSEUM MONTHLY MEETING IN THE TAYLOR ANNEX.** Monthly meeting starting promptly at 7:00pm. Important discussion on Museum future activities.
- Saturday October 11th Meet at our Museum Site 9:00am to 12:00pm for tours and train rides, construction and upgrades(weather permitting). Members continue to improve displays and area.
- Saturday October 18th Meet at our Museum Site 9:00am to 12:00pm for tours and train rides, construction and upgrades(weather permitting). Members continue to improve displays and area.
- Saturday October 25th Meet at our Museum Site 9:00am to 12:00pm for tours and train rides, construction and upgrades(weather permitting). Members continue to improve displays and area.

Additional work days may be scheduled on an as needed basis.

Leaves are falling and a chill in the air,
Makes returning to the mainline have a little flair;
Changes are occurring all over the Museum by a few,
Keeping visitors returning to see what is new.

“Promoting Railway History and Preservation”

SUBMISSIONS NOTE: Any items that you wish to have published in *The Mail Pouch* must be submitted as a complete package, articles must have all supporting images and diagrams at time of submission. Items to be published that are “borrowed from other publications” must have the proper credits noted to avoid copyright violations. Any items that you wish to have published in *The Mail Pouch* must be submitted to the Editor in electronic format (Text Files for articles and separate Digital Photos) prior to the **20th** of the proceeding month. Items not in an electronic format (items needing scans or typesetting) must be submitted prior to the **15th** of the proceeding month. Articles, Photos and other items may be submitted in person on Saturday mornings at the Museum, or electronically at jkeehner67@hotmail.com, **subject line EDITOR.** *All items submitted after the deadlines of the month will be held for publication in the following months Newsletter.*