

# The Chesapeake Dispatcher



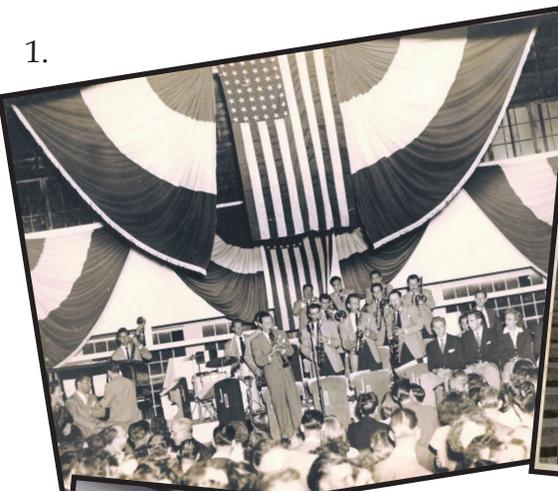
Bi-Annual Newsletter of the Friends of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum

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November 2020

*Remember when gathering together in groups was THE thing to do??*

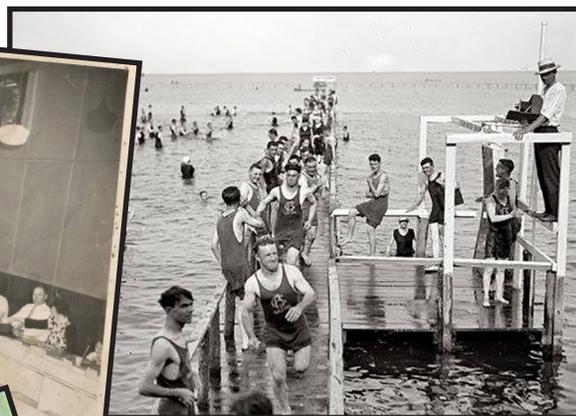
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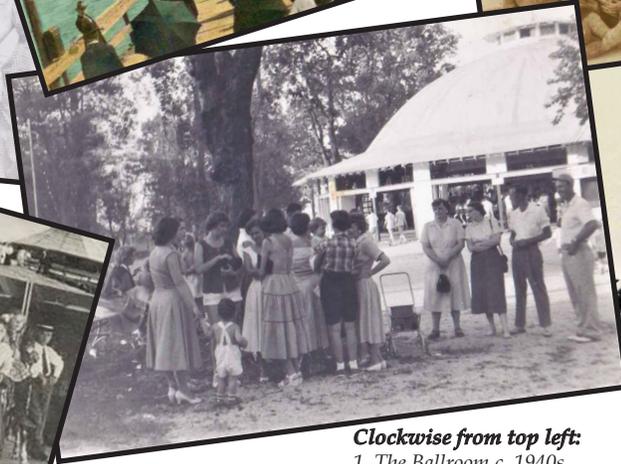
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**Clockwise from top left:**

1. The Ballroom c. 1940s
2. Bingo at the Beach c. 1940s
3. Swimming the Bay c. 1920s
4. Beach School c. 1920s
5. Fireman's Rally c. 1930s
6. Picnic at the Carousel c. 1910s
7. Posing on the Carousel c. 1910s
8. Picnic at the Beach c. 1940s
9. On the Boardwalk (color) c. 1910s

To see more photos  
"LIKE" Friends of the  
Chesapeake Beach Railway  
Museum on Facebook

## **Message from the Division Chief for Museums**

by Jeff Murray

Division Chief for Museums

There is a sense of anticipation building within our Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum community. With the help of many dedicated individuals, the museum now stands at the doorway of a new era. The Randle Cliff off-site storage and office building has been renovated and is in the process of accepting a variety of museum artifacts, office supplies and other items; existing exhibits inside the museum have been cleared out to make room for a dynamic new permanent exhibit; museum professionals are nearing the end of a process that will allow us to hire a fabrication and installation contractor to make and install the exhibit, and we are chugging right along.

If there is to be any sort of silver lining to be found within this awful pandemic, it's that the museum would've been forced to close for the 2020 warm weather season due to the virus. Therefore, the fact that we had already planned to close and renovate this year means that we are efficiently using this down time. To offer a rail metaphor, rather than sitting stagnant on a siding all year we instead are steaming full speed ahead with projects that will completely transform the museum.

I want to compliment and congratulate Railway Museum staff members Corrine Moore and Kris DeGrace for continuing to make Railway Museum programs and content accessible via virtual and online social media platforms. The rather abrupt change from in-person to virtual required a lot of creative and adaptive thinking on the fly, and has not always been an easy transition. However, this outreach remains an important part of what we do and continues to fulfill the museum's mission to provide educational services to our constituents and community - even though our doors are currently closed to the public.

By the time the spring edition of this newsletter comes out, I hope that everyone reading this will be able to join in person once again inside the museum in a completely different atmosphere. These remarkable improvements will allow us to more fully interpret the stories of Chesapeake Beach and its unique railway to visitors for many years to come.

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## **Message from the President**

by Mike Sweeney

President, Friends of CBRM

What a year 2020 has been, and it's not over yet!

I will not comment on the global events of this year, as we all have had enough of them, and there is not much we can do about it. So I have been concentrating my efforts on our future and the things that we can do rather than the things that we cannot.

The way to success in any endeavor is setting your sights on a goal, working toward accomplishing that goal, and completing it. Just like driving to the store, if there is a pothole in the street on your way to the store, you steer your car around it and continue on your way. The same is with the Friends.

We have had many things thrown at us while we were moving to accomplish the good things we do, but we have steered around them and continued on. The steering gear on our car is a combination of a clear vision of what we want to accomplish, a financially strong organization and most importantly, members like you that continue to be supportive, flexible, enthusiastic and tenacious.

We are coming out of the restrictive 2020 tunnel. The track ahead is clear. We have a lot of water and coal, a great head of steam and green signals ahead.

We're going to open the throttle wide and highball into 2021!

## Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum 2020. Key Word: Scramble.

by Corrine E. Moore

Museum Administrator, CBRM

The Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum (CBRM) is operating much like the rest of the world due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

While the museum was going to be closed due to renovations for the better part of 2020, the additional COVID-19 safety measures added another layer to the project. At the beginning of the year, the plan was to proceed with 2020 summer programming during museum renovations at our alternate event site, the Northeast Community Center. However, come March, all events were cancelled or transferred to a virtual platform due to the pandemic.

Our Annual Spring Family Fun Day and the summer children's programs were able to be transferred online and included a fun virtual show performed on "Zoom" by **Mr. Bond's Science Guys** for Spring Family Fun Day and prizes for the event were awarded via The Friends of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum Facebook account.

Book selections and crafts were posted on The Friends' Facebook page for each children's program and a goody bag was made available for those who were able to drive to the museum for curbside pickup as part of this season's final children's program.

Overall, the online pivot for the children's events worked well.



Mr. Bond's Science Guys Show

As far as the scheduled musicians for the 2020 Bay Breeze Concert Series, we considered going virtual, but concluded that it was better to wait until such time when we could offer safe, live performances in the future.

There is an enormous amount of planning that goes into these events and, conversely, just as much with canceling or reconfiguring. Because of that, we now have a greater appreciation for the word "scramble." We did find solace in the fact that many larger institutions were experiencing the same challenges however, and a heartfelt thanks goes out to all who were part of our "scramble."



The Randle Cliff School/off-site storage building

The grant awarded by the Maryland Historic Heritage Areas (MHAA) through the auspices of the Maryland Historical Trust (MHT) for renovating CBRM and the Randle Cliff School building, as an auxiliary site, continues to move forward. The first phase of the grant to renovate the Randle Cliff School building has been, for the most part, completed. Preparation to move into the building has been completed with a few more items still outstanding. One bathroom was demolished and made into a storage area while the other bathroom was renovated and updated. New carpeting and flooring are in place as well as freshly painted walls. Storage shelving and items are in place as well.

The second phase of the grant, to upgrade the exhibits at CBRM, is underway. This phase includes cosmetic interior improvements and an entirely new exhibit through-

(Continued on page 5)

# Donations/Purchases

*Enjoy a Thrilling Cruise*  
ON THE  
**CHESAPEAKE BAY**  
FROM  
**Baltimore to Seaside Park**



Streamlined "DIXIE"—All-Steel



SEVEN-HOUR CRUISE  
100 MILE BOAT RIDE  
ON CHESAPEAKE BAY  
THREE AND ONE-HALF  
HOURS AT  
SEASIDE PARK

It's a new thrill every time you go! The delightful cruise down the Bay on the all-steel, streamlined "DIXIE"—the hours of fun at Seaside, improved with the new and only boardwalk on the whole Chesapeake. A mile of boardwalk and pier, swimming, bathing, amusements, midway, picnicking! It's good fun and good health for you and the entire family.

L.V. BALTIMORE 9 A. M.  
LEAVE SEASIDE 4 P. M.

**SATURDAYS, JULY 30, AUGUST 13 and 27**

B. & O. Train Service to Baltimore

Going Train No. 24-14		Returning Round-Trip Train No. Coach Fare 717-23 to Baltimore	
Saturday		Monday	
7:17 P. M. Lv.	PARKERSBURG, W. VA.	Ar. 10:00 A. M.	\$5.00
8:23 P. M. Lv.	PENNSBORO, W. VA.	Ar. 8:25 A. M.	4.00
9:33 P. M. Lv.	WEST UNION, W. VA.	Ar. 8:03 A. M.	4.75
1:23 P. M. Lv.	SALEM, W. VA.	Ar. 7:40 A. M.	4.75
7:59 P. M. Lv.	CLARKSBURG, W. VA.	Ar. 7:17 A. M.	4.50
Saturday		Monday	
Train No. 44		Train No. 43	
Saturday		Monday	
5:25 P. M. Lv.	MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA.	Ar. 9:41 A. M.	3.00
5:58 P. M. Lv.	CAMBRIN, W. VA.	Ar. 9:09 A. M.	4.75
6:28 P. M. Lv.	LITTLETON, W. VA.	Ar. 8:37 A. M.	4.75
6:57 P. M. Lv.	HUNDRING, W. VA.	Ar. 8:27 A. M.	4.75
7:06 P. M. Lv.	MANNINGTON, W. VA.	Ar. 8:00 A. M.	4.50
7:19 P. M. Lv.	FARMINGTON, W. VA.	Ar. 7:46 A. M.	4.50
7:59 P. M. Lv.	FAIRMONT, W. VA.	Ar. 7:13 A. M.	4.50
8:31 P. M. Ar.	GRAFTON, W. VA.	Lv. 6:30 A. M.	
Saturday		Monday	
Train No. 24-14		Train No. 717-23	
Saturday		Monday	
9:37 P. M. Lv.	GRAFTON, W. VA.	Ar. 8:10 A. M.	4.00
9:17 P. M. Lv.	NEWBURG, W. VA.	Ar. 8:46 A. M.	4.00
10:20 P. M. Lv.	TERRA ALTA, W. VA.	Ar. 4:30 A. M.	2.50
10:36 P. M. Lv.	OAKLAND, MD.	Ar. 4:30 A. M.	2.50
11:27 P. M. Lv.	PIEDMONT, W. VA.	Ar. 2:23 A. M.	2.50
11:27 P. M. Lv.	KEYSER, W. VA. (Monday)	Ar. 2:58 A. M.	3.00
7:22 A. M. Ar.	BALTIMORE, MD. (Camden Station)	Lv. 8:30 P. M.	
Sunday		Sunday	

Wilson Line boat tickets to Seaside Park will be sold at Camden Station upon arrival of train. Steamer "DIXIE" leaves Pier 8, Light Street four blocks east of Camden Station.

BOAT FARE, ADULT 50c - - - - CHILDREN 30c

**HUNDREDS OF INTERESTING SIGHTS**

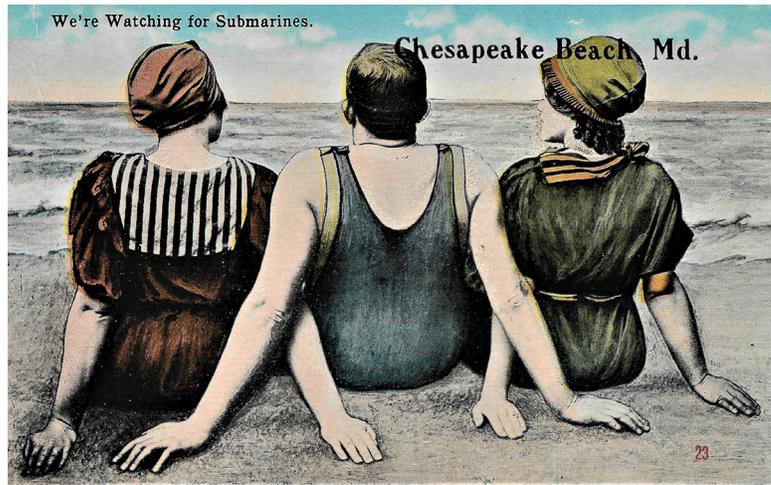
For Tickets and Full Information, call on Ticket Agents or write  
E. A. HOFFMANN, Division Passenger Agent, Wheeling, W. Va.  
H. A. TENNEY, Traveling Passenger Agent, Parkersburg, W. Va.  
M. W. GROVE, Traveling Passenger Agent, Cumberland, Md.

Telephone: Wheeling 2128, Parkersburg 2176, Cumberland 2000

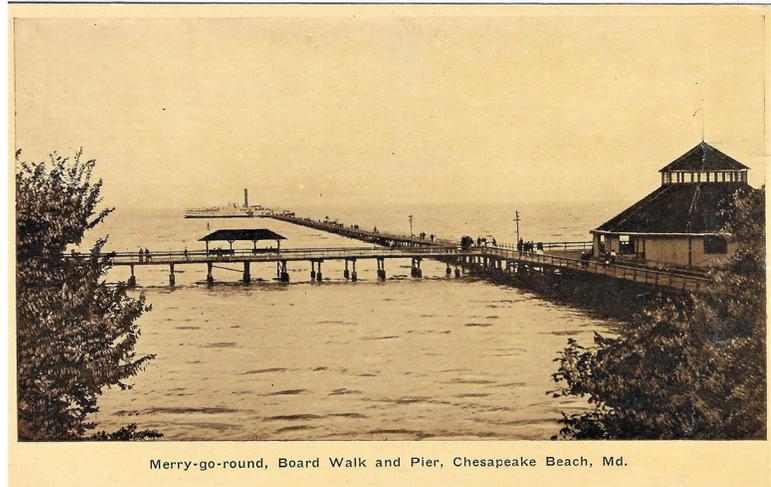
SUBJECT TO CHANGE—CONFIRM THROUGH TICKET AGENT

**BALTIMORE & OHIO R. R.**  
7-18-20—Dm. (10mg. 10 to pack.) **CBP**

Recent Purchase: Flyer Sheet/Ad of 1938 Steamer excursion from Baltimore to Chesapeake Beach



Recent Purchase: Color Postcard, Looking for Submarines, postmarked 6/18/1917



Merry-go-round, Board Walk and Pier, Chesapeake Beach, Md.

Recent Purchase: Postcard, view of merry-go-round and long pier, c.1910



Recent Donation: Souvenir Cup, 'Chesapeake Beach, MD' c.1930s

## Purchases:

- Postcards of early Twin Beaches (23)
- Flyer Sheet/Ad: Cruise from Baltimore to Seaside Park 1938 Parasol c.1920s
- Token from local business
- Vanity Case & contents c.1920s/1930s
- Book: "What's the Odds?" by Joe Ullman
- Book: "Reports of the State Roads Commission 1927-1930"

## Donations:

- Book: "The Official Railway Equipment Register" 1931
- Postcard (1)
- Souvenir Cup & Saucer: "Chesapeake Beach, Maryland"
- Digital Born Photographs (4)

## Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum 2020. Key Word: Scramble.

by Corrine E. Moore

Museum Administrator (continued from page 3)

out the museum highlighting theme-based areas. The selection process of designing and implementing the new exhibits from the planned ideas is taking shape. The museum staff will continue to stay focused on the project so that when our doors open again, a new look will be waiting with the same continued commitment to present a treasured history to all who enter our museum.



Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum awaiting new exhibits

The Friends of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum Newsletter is going virtual!

We will NOT be mailing out hard copies of this publication in the near future.

**Plan now!**

We are working towards a completely online newsletter so please send your email address to:

***CBRailway@calvertcountymd.gov***  
to continue to receive this newsletter via your email inbox.

**Thank you!**

## Update on the New Permanent Exhibit

by Sherrod Sturrock,

Board Member, Friends of CBRM

In October, the selection committee conducted a second round of interviews with the two firms that are being considered for the design and fabrication of the new exhibit at the Railway Museum.

As soon as the decision percolates its way through the county procurement system and a contract can be awarded, work will begin. In the meantime, everything that could be moved has been relocated to the newly renovated space at Randle Cliff and Corrine Moore is scheduling repairs and basic cleaning and painting of the museum through the county General Services Department.

The exhibit concept design was created by Mark Wilkins, Curator of Maritime History at the Calvert Marine Museum, and approved by a committee made up of staff and board members. The firm that is chosen will finalize the graphic design – the overall “look” of the exhibit – create all the text panels, build the vitrines, and install the completed exhibit. All going well, the new exhibit will be complete at the end of the year and the museum will reopen in the spring of 2021.



The Station. Then (1916) and Now.

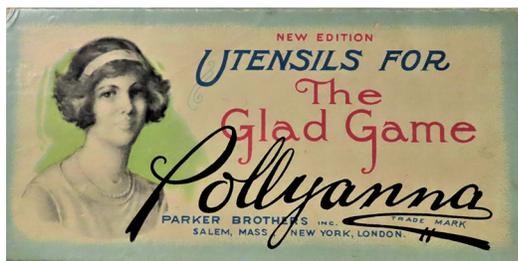
## Making Lemonade out of Lemons

by Kris DeGrace

Collections Manager, CBRM

We could all use some positive news about now, although in the midst of a pandemic, you might accuse me of being too “Pollyanna.” However, if you did that, I would argue you are missing who (& what) Pollyanna really is.

A few years ago, I was in the market for an activity a child might have enjoyed in the early 1900s. I came across “Pollyanna, Utensils for the Glad Game.” created by Parker Brothers in 1915. I had not heard of it before, but it fit what I was looking for, mission accomplished.



*Utensils for The Glad Game. Pollyanna*

As with all the museum’s new accessions, I researched to find more information to fill the object’s story. I was simply looking for the year the game was created, and some tidbits about the game. I was familiar with the use of the term Pollyanna in casual conversation, such as “Oh Sally, stop being so Pollyanna!” But that was as far as my understanding went, I thought it was an overly rosy outlook of the world. I certainly did not know the full story of Pollyanna until the Glad Game found its way to me.

While many might know that Pollyanna was a book by Eleanor H. Porter, first published in 1913, I wonder if they know the impact it had on the country. For those not familiar with the story, Pollyanna was a young girl whose parents died, and she was sent to live with her wealthy but distant aunt. As a little girl, Pollyanna was taught by her father to play the “Glad Game” which was to always look for the good in every situation.

Pollyanna entered her new situation with this much needed game in place, which she spread throughout the town. When she suffered a tragic personal loss and could not see the positive, the town rallied around her to lift her spirits.

Yes, this was a feel good, sweet book, but the fascinating part was that it took on a life of its own. It fast became a movement across the country. Articles were written about, not the book necessarily, but about Pollyanna’s kindness, looking for the good, and sharing the good. There were articles about people readily helping others, and those in need were able to lean into the kindness of strangers & community. Ministers preached about its virtues, weather men wrote about taking the Pollyanna view on the humidity that summer was bound to bring, Pollyanna clubs were created to help the sick and poor... it was used in so many ways by so many people. The movement lasted for years, as did the popularity of the book sequels & movies. While being kind and grateful were nothing new, Pollyanna was something more. It was a life skill. Especially in difficult times, look for the good, the silver lining and the whole country was game, so to speak.

### **Pollyanna’s Glad Game Reaches Far.**

SUSSEX, N. B., May 13.

To the Editor of *The Sun*:

Sir—I wish to say we are all enjoying Pollyanna up here in the North. We look forward to each day’s installment with pleasure. In fact, we look for all the Baltimore news in THE SUN. Yours sincerely,

J. A. BOUGHAN.

*Letter to the editor of the Baltimore Sun 5/16/1914*

So, if you will excuse me, I must go practice my glad game. And for the moment, the Pollyanna in me will simply love the thought of a family visiting the beach, sitting on their cottage porch with neighbors, sharing a pitcher of cold lemonade and playing the boardgame... only after of course reading the book on the train ride here.

## The Case of Janet & the Missing Necklace

by "Conductor" John Riedesel  
Board Member, Friends of CBRM

Janet was excited! She was going to the beach on the Chesapeake Beach Railway. She wore her favorite summer outfit—a loose-fitting yellow top that doesn't tuck in, her colorful shorts with the big pockets, and pink flip-flops. She also wore her favorite necklace, a gift from Grandma. Hanging from the chain was a large, real shark's tooth. That necklace meant everything to Janet.

Janet loved riding the train with her family. During the trip, she went to the snack car for root beer and a big pretzel. When they arrived at Chesapeake Beach station, Janet started down the train steps, showed her necklace to Conductor John, then dropped it back inside her shirt. She jumped hard to the ground and ran down the path to the bathhouse. Janet did not want to wear her necklace while swimming, but when she reached to remove it, she discovered it was not around her neck! She carefully checked the bag containing her swimsuit and towel. The necklace was not there.

Janet was broken-hearted. She walked back up the path to the station searching carefully for her necklace, but could not find it. Sadly, Janet changed into her swimsuit and went out onto the beach. She waded in the water for awhile, but could not enjoy herself. Janet went back to the bathhouse with tears in her eyes. Officer Dan saw Janet crying and asked what was wrong. She told him she had lost her necklace.

"Let's be logical about this, Janet," replied Officer Dan. "Let's make a list of all the places you could have lost your necklace. Then you look at each thing in the list and decide if that could be where your necklace is. Mark out with an X the ones that are wrong."

Just as Officer Dan was finishing his list,

the steam whistle sounded, and Janet had to board the train for the trip home. All the way home, Janet studied Officer Dan's list, marking off the statements that could not be true. When Janet got home, she declared happily that she had found her necklace!

Here is Officer Dan's list. Can you mark out the ones that are wrong, and figure out where Janet found her necklace? Re-read the story real carefully.

### Places Where Janet Could Have Lost Her Necklace:

- 1) Janet's necklace fell off on her way from home to the train station.
- 2) Janet's necklace fell down inside her swimsuit after she put it on.
- 3) Janet's necklace fell onto the floor near her seat during her train ride to Chesapeake Beach.
- 4) Janet's necklace came off in the water while she was swimming.
- 5) Janet's necklace is inside her shirt.
- 6) Janet's necklace came off in the snack car on the way to the beach and fell on the floor.
- 7) Janet's necklace is in the pocket of her shorts.
- 8) Janet dropped her necklace on the ground in going from the train to the bathhouse.
- 9) Janet's necklace had fallen down inside her shoe.
- 10) Janet's necklace had fallen into the bag containing her swimsuit and towel.



### Did you figure out what happened to Janet's necklace?

Draw a circle around the statement you think is right.

Why are all the other statements wrong?

Contact Conductor John at  
[CBRRailway@calvertcountymd.gov](mailto:CBRRailway@calvertcountymd.gov)  
to check your answer!

Friends of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum  
PO Box 1227  
Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732



A committee made up of staff members Kris DeGrace and Correine Moore, board members Sherrod Sturrock and Brenda Proctor, and graphic designer Mel Gallipeau (on loan from the Calvert Marine Museum) has been hard at work developing a new website for the Railway Museum that will roll out prior to the museum reopening. Ms. Gallipeau has crafted a clean, new look that incorporates the museum's themes and colors while updating the style. Anticipating a surge in interest once the museum reopens, the website provides not only the typical who/what/when/where you would expect to see, but a great deal of information that cannot be included in our limited exhibit space.

CBRM's collection is a treasure trove of wonderful historic photographs, postcards, documents, and personal memorabilia that helps tell the story of the Chesapeake Beach Railway and resort. The new website offers background information on the people who founded the railway, the history of the railway and resort, information about what is in the collection, and the exhibits. This will be a useful enhancement for our visitors, and anyone who wants to learn more about this fascinating story.



<https://chesapeakebeachrailwaymuseum.com>

## Fall 2020 Newsletter

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