

The Chesapeake Dispatcher



Semi-Annual Newsletter of the Friends of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum, Inc.
Museum Telephone (410) 257-3892

Vol. 21 Issue 1 Number 40

May 2002

Our 22nd Annual Antique Car Show Sunday, May 19, 2002

The "kick-off" date for the line up of classic cars at the Rod 'N Reel parking lot is fast approaching. The 22nd Annual Chesapeake Beach Antique Car Show is scheduled for May 19th from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Please plan to pay us a visit on Sunday, May 19th. Enjoy an afternoon by the bay reminiscing with the car owners. You will have a new appreciation for antique cars and their owners and perhaps you will get involved in a new hobby. See you there!



Jim Tolson's 1956 Mercury 4-Door Hardtop

Several car owners tell us this event marks the beginning of the summer season for them and also the first polishing and shining so you can admire these beautiful cars. Each year we enjoy listening to the car owners telling entertaining stories about how they became enthusiastic antique car hobbyists.

The main event is the assembly of the Model T Ford from the pile of Tin Lizzie parts near the entrance of the Rod 'N Reel Restaurant at 12:30 PM. The National Capitol Model T Ford Club always amazes us as they assemble a car from a pile of Ford parts. The team plunges in and 15 minutes later they have a running car built. They may have to crank it several times to get it started, then add a little water and top it off with gasoline. If all goes well, you can watch the car drive off.

Bring your camera to take pictures of your favorite automobile; maybe Bill Peugh's 1907 Orient or Jim Scheidel's Model A Ford. Or maybe it's a car you remember fondly from your own youth.

Car Show Events

10:00 AM - Antique Cars Start Arriving
12:30 - Assembly of the Model T Ford
1:00 - Model T Ford Started!

Bay Breeze Summer Concert Series

Pat Haynie, our Concert Chairwoman, has put together a wonderful group of performers for our Bay Breeze Summer Concerts for 2002. We hope to start the series with a military group providing some patriotic music on June 13. The next concert, scheduled for July 11, will be the Calvert Community Band. We missed this group last year because of rain at the Car Show. On August 8, the popular Dixie Ramblers, under the direction of Mike Phipps, will entertain us with their bluegrass tunes. To close the summer concert series we present the renown Annapolis Chorale. Please take note of the summer schedule below:

June 13 - A Military Group
July 11 - Calvert Community Band
August 8 - Dixie Ramblers Bluegrass
September 12 - The Annapolis Chorale

All concerts are outdoors at 7:30 PM on the second Thursday of the months June, July, August and September. Our concerts are all **free**, thanks to the Calvert County Cultural Arts Council and the Town of Chesapeake Beach. We are grateful to these sponsors for their support. Thanks also to the Rod 'N Reel Restaurant for providing us with the chairs for seating and for the cookie and lemonade refreshments.

Plan to bring your friends and spend a few pleasant summer evenings with us at the Bay Breeze Summer Concerts.

Recent Acquisitions

We have been able to add some interesting items to our collection during the past few months through purchases as well as gifts from friends. The curator would especially like to thank Vince Cipriani for keeping us informed of items that have appeared on the Ebay auctions that relate to our history. This has made it possible to make a number of valuable additions to our collections. A big **thank you** also to all the donors who have given items to our museum over the past few months.

Purchase - Video: "Men and Mail in Transit":
Story of the RPO.

Purchase - Black and White Postcard: "A Pretty
Place: Chesapeake Beach, MD."

Purchase - Chesapeake Beach Railway switch
key.

Purchase - Black and White Postcard: "Oyster and
Crab House, Chesapeake Beach, Md."

Purchase - Black and White Postcards: "A Bird's
Eye View of Chesapeake Beach, Md.;" and
"Just A Company" (Camping at Chesapeake
Beach. See reproduction of postcard on page
3 of this issue.)

James Tigner, Jr.-Digital copies of a number of
postcards.

Jim Gauntt/Railway Tie Association - Video: The
Legacy of the Wood Crosstie", and related
books.

Calvert County Library - Three books about
American railroad history.

Mary Krugg - Photographs of the Museum during
the summer of 2001.

Purchase - Black and White Postcard: "Looking
Toward the Bath Houses at Chesapeake
Beach, Md."

Purchase - Black and White Postcard: "Waiting
for the Local, Chesapeake Beach, Md."

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The Semi-Annual Newsletter of the Friends
of the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum

Contributors: Bernie Loveless, Harriet Stout,
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Mailing - Dorothy & Bernie Loveless, Janet Bates, Mildred Finlon,
and Betty & Chuck MacDonald

Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum
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Robert J. Reynolds - 1884 Prospectus for
Chesapeake Beach resort and Washington &
Chesapeake Railroad.

Bernard Loveless - Fragment of the wooden hull
of the schooner Levin J. Marvel, wrecked off
Holland Point in August 1955.

Purchase - Two bond certificates from the
Washington & Chesapeake Beach Railway
Company.

Purchase - Black and White Postcard: "Belvedere
Hotel, From the Boardwalk, Chesapeake
Beach, MD."

Purchase - Black and White Postcard: "The
Arrival of Visitors from Baltimore,
Chesapeake Beach, MD."

Fred Donovan Family - Brochure: Chesapeake
Beach Park, c. 1950's.

Family of Roland Morsell - History of Roland
Morsell (Oral History participant).

Purchase - Black and White Postcard: "Calvert
Hotel, North Chesapeake Beach, MD."

Vince Cipriani - Children's Book: "Taking the
Train", by Nancy Parent.

Purchase - Copy of 1881 Southern Maryland
Railroad Map.

Texas Tech University Press - Book: American
Railroads of the Nineteenth Century.

Phyllis Campbell - Three postcards: 1) Black and
White: "North Beach, MD", c. 1920's; 2)
Color: "The Fish Keep You Busy Here", c.
1930's; and 3) Black and White: "Moonlight
on Chesapeake Bay, Chesapeake Beach,
MD."

Purchase - Black and White Postcard: "North
Beach, MD.", c. 1920's

Purchase - Tinted Postcard: "Hydro on Sand,
North Beach, MD.", (Airplane at NB), c.
1920's; and Black and White Postcard: "Alta
Cottage, 3rd Street, North Beach, MD."

Stephen Patrick - Black and White Postcard:
"Grotto Day, Chesapeake Beach, July 20,
'15".

P. James Hahn - 1927 Chesapeake Beach Railway
Company Employee Timetable.

Larry Hampton - Black and White Photographs of
CBR Engines No. 6, No. 9, and No. 10.



With summer coming soon, you may be taking out the camping gear again. Here is a view of camping at Chesapeake Beach in the early days. From a purchased postcard recently added to the collection of the CBRM.

Volunteer Workshop

The Museum held our annual Volunteer Training Workshop in mid-March. Old and new volunteers gathered on March 16 to review our volunteer activities for the upcoming year. We had a good turnout of 17 people; two new recruits joined with a number of past volunteers for a good workshop. Our morning information session was followed by a nice working lunch at the Rod 'N Reel Restaurant. Our afternoon field trip was to the Surratt House in Clinton. All participants had a good time getting to know the other volunteers, and everyone is enthusiastic about the coming year.

If you were not able to join us at the Workshop, but are interested in volunteering, please contact Harriet Stout at the Museum (410-257-3892) or Betty Quigley, our volunteer coordinator, at 301-855-2768.

Looking for something fun and interesting to do?
 Be a Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum Stationmaster!
 For more information, please call
 Harriet at 410-257-3892 or Betty at 301-855-2768



In Memory Of Charles Bates

The Museum lost another of our long-time helpers and supporters in late February with the passing of Charles Bates. Known to most of us as Butch, he worked quietly behind the scenes in the very important capacity of Treasurer of the Friends of CBRM. He took on the hard job of keeping the financial records for the Museum after moving full-time to the Twin Beach area for retirement. We were happy to be able to put him back to work with a new job.

Butch and his wife Janet, the Museum's membership chairman, shared many stories of their times at the Beach over the years. Their summer home in North Beach kept them coming back to the area. They had lots of stories of good family fun in the Beaches.

We all miss Butch very much. Not only did he keep the Museum books, but his particular sense of humor and his friendship kept us smiling.

Summer Programs For Children

The museum is planning another series of programs for children this summer. The popular programs The Good Old Days Today, Grandmother's Trunk, and What is a Museum? will be presented on Thursday mornings from 10:00 to 11:15. The programs start in June and run through early August. Call the museum for more details or pick up a schedule at the Museum or your local library. Plan to attend with your favorite young person.

Memories of the Seat Pleasant Trolley Line

By John Riedesel

I was reminded recently of my experiences with the DC trolley system as a young boy in the late Forties. By that time the CBRY had long since ceased operating and had been replaced by the much shorter freight-only line, the East Washington Railway. The Washington Railway & Electric had also been supplanted by Capital Transit (and later DC Transit).

But in 1948 the trolley still ran to Seat Pleasant. The terminal was a loop just inside the District at Dix Street, NE. When the family car was not available, we frequently walked the mile from home to the terminal, then rode the streetcar through Deanwood to the underpass that took the trolley under the tracks of both the B&O and the Pennsylvania railroads. The line ran parallel to Minnesota Avenue, then turned and came up between the dual lanes of Benning Road, much like the Metro Orange Line does today.

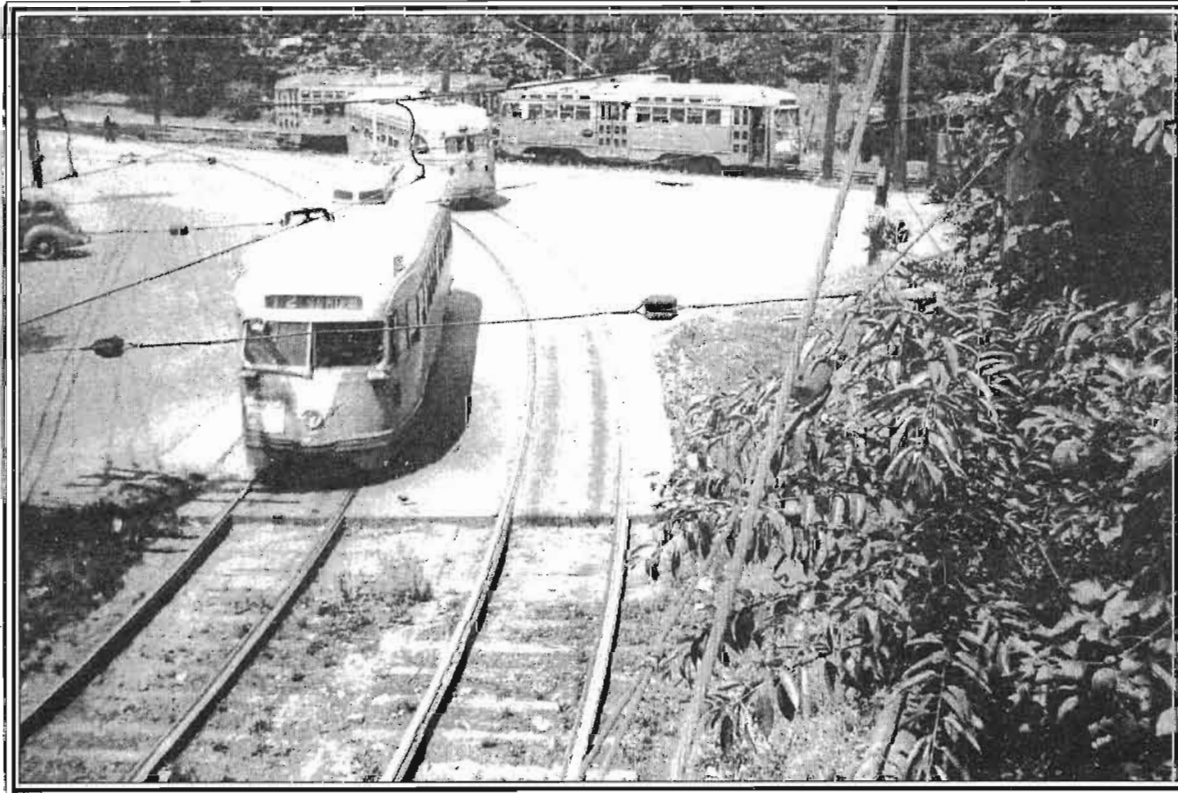
The trolley continued up Benning Road, past the carbarn to the big intersection known as "15th and H," where Benning Road, 15th Street, Bladensburg Road, Florida Avenue, and H Street all came together. Then it proceeded down H Street, NE,

an area containing several blocks of small businesses, including dime stores and discount places that my mother loved to frequent. Finally, between 2nd and 1st streets, NE, the line passed under the tracks of Union Station, sharing the long, dark underpass with the lanes of H Street to North Capitol Street and downtown Washington.

I remember only PCC-style streetcars on the Seat Pleasant line, but as an even younger lad living in Hyattsville and visiting my grandmother in Anacostia, I recall riding with my family on the old double-ended cars along Rhode Island Avenue into town, and then out Pennsylvania Avenue, SE, to Barney Circle. Other trolley memories I have include going to Griffith Stadium with my older brother to see the Washington Senators. We took the Seat Pleasant line to 8th and H, NE, where we transferred to a streetcar going up Florida to Georgia Avenue and the ball park. As a nine- or ten-year-old, I found it hard to sit through a double-header, but I sure loved those Briggs hot dogs!

The one other trolley experience that evokes wonderful memories by many people is the ride out to Glen Echo. That line

started at Columbus Circle in front of Union Station, rode across downtown Washington and Georgetown, and eventually through the beautiful countryside along the Potomac to the amusement park at Glen Echo. I recall on one occasion my church having its annual picnic there. I'm sure lots of readers have trolley memories similar to mine and feel as I do, that it was a sad day when the great old trolleys of Washington were replaced by buses.



*Capital Transit Co. - Kenilworth Junction looking west at intersection of Kenilworth & Deane Aves. C. 1946. Cars in background on Kenilworth Ave. Car in foreground on Deane bound for Seat Pleasant. Both photos show type of streetcar known as P.C.C. (President's Conference Committee)
Photo courtesy C. Richard Kotulak Collection.*



April 2002 Hikers gather by the museum before the hike.

Right Of Way Hike – Spring 2002

Once again the Museum sponsored a hike along the old CBR Right of Way this spring. This year the hike was held on April 6, and we had wonderful sunny weather for the day.

We gathered at the Museum and then drove out to the junction of Route 260 and Route 4 to start the hike. There we examined the 1930 concrete abutments from the Lyons Creek bridge. These historic remnants of the old Chesapeake Beach Railway have been preserved just beside the new interchange for the Route 260 exit/crossover for Route 4 currently under construction. From that point we began to hike across country along the route of the CBR.

We hiked through wooded country along the right of way until we crossed Lower Pindell Road. There a drive into a private farm followed the Right of Way. At the farm we were greeted by several friendly dogs and horses, as well as the property owner. We then proceeded on through the field that bordered the Railway cut and on to Upper Pindell Road. There we had to climb up the embankment of the modern road before proceeding on to the southern trail entrance to the Jug Bay Wetlands Sanctuary. We examined the ruins of the CBR warehouse and the remains of Pindell Station at this location. Only a pile of wooden siding and framing is left of the warehouse. The site of the station is marked only by a fallen chimney.

We had a pleasant hike through the Sanctuary to the Visitors Center. There we met up with our transportation back to our beginning point. Three hardy hikers went on out to the Patuxent River to see the point where the CBR crossed into Prince George's County.

Join us next year if you were not able to make the trip this time. We will be continuing on our way up the line to Upper Marlboro with a short stop to look at the crossing point at Jug Bay. Mark the first Saturday of April next year.

Archivist Returns

Phyllis Campbell returned this winter for two months to work on indexing our archival collections. This winter she spent most of her time cataloging papers in the Small Collections. Her work makes the archival collection more accessible for research and study. Many thanks to Mrs. Campbell for her years of hard work indexing the historic records of the railway and the resort. She has also done most of the work of rehousing the collection in acid free storage for their long-term survival.



Education Program Development

The museum will be starting to expand and improve our educational programs in the next six months with the help of Mary Ellen Curran. Ms. Curran will join the Curator in assisting with the ongoing school and summer programs. With this extra help we now hope to be able to reach more schools with these programs. We are also planning to add a special day of activities for children and families in the autumn and again in the spring.

Look for an upcoming and exciting program of new activities!

Seat Pleasant And The East Washington Railway

After the Chesapeake Beach Railway closed down operations in 1935, the East Washington Railway Company came into existence. It ran over the three miles of track between the old CBR maintenance yard in Seat Pleasant to Chesapeake Junction inside the District of Columbia. There it connected with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. It carried small loads of freight to businesses along the right of way. One of the primary customers of the EWR was the Potomac Electric Power Company on Benning Road.

The East Washington went out of business in 1976 shortly after the Power Company stopped using coal to fire the power plant. Here is a 1973 Timetable for the East Washington Railway complete with a map of the route. Copy has been reduced to fit.

--THE--

EAST WASHINGTON RAILWAY COMPANY

--TIME TABLE--

For information and guidance of employees

H.W. WILLIAMS
Genl. Manager

N. R. YOUNG
Engr. & Supervisor

EFFECTIVE February 1, 1973

Cover

--Special Rules--

1. The general rules and regulations of the operating department are published in book form. Employees whose duties are affected thereby will provide themselves with a copy.
2. Trains will operate between Seat Pleasant and Chesapeake Junction without train orders.
3. Yard limits extend from Roundhouse end of track to George Palmer Highway (Md), and from 46th Street to B&O switch in D.C.
4. All trains will not exceed ten (10) miles per hour between Seat Pleasant and Chesapeake Junction, and will reduce speed approaching all crossings between these points with bell ringing at all times and if necessary sound horn.
5. Loaded trains of Chesapeake Junction to Pepco Spur after receiving proper hand signal from Trainman, Engineer will acknowledge, and immediately after proceeding, Engineer will sound crossing signal for Minn. Ave. and underpass.
6. A Trainman will ride head end of cut of cars for Pepco thru underpass with Backup Hose attached.
7. Trainmen are under immediate supervision of the Engineer.
8. Box Car doors and Hopper Car pockets will be closed before cars are moved.
9. Hand brake will be applied on Locomotive when left unattended, either on line of road or in Shop.

Inside Page 1

--MAIN LINE--

Milepost	Sidings	Stations
3	Yard	Roundhouse, end of track
2	10 cars	Seat Pleasant (Md)
1	5 cars	Olympia Bakery (D.C.)
0	Yard	Chesapeake Junction (D.C.)

--PEPCO SPUR--

0	Yard	Chesapeake Junction
1A	Yard	Potomac Electric Power Plant

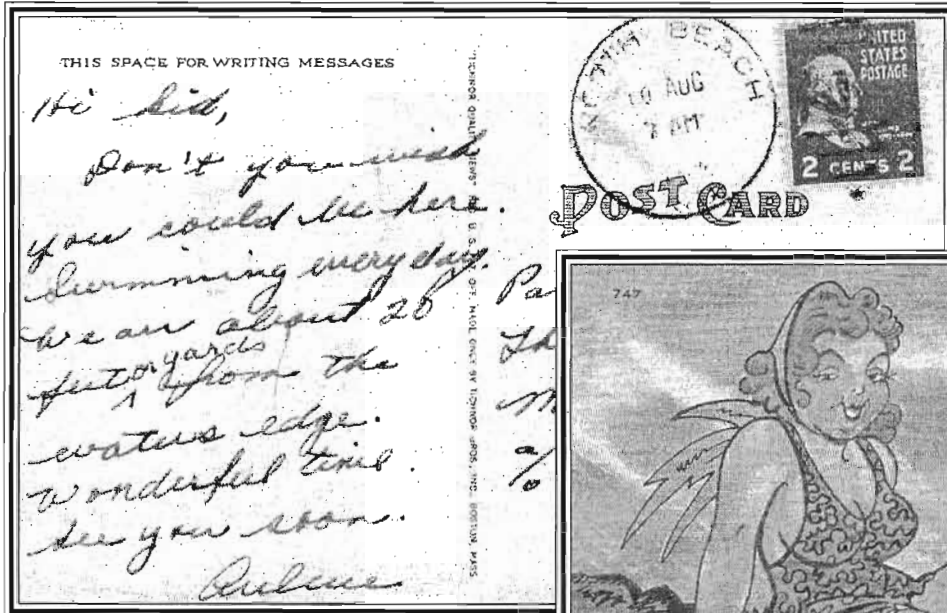
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Map of
EAST WASHINGTON
RAILWAY

Back



East Washington Freight Station and General Offices, Seat Pleasant, March 1941. Formerly the District Line Station of the CBR. Recent acquisition from David Burnette. Photograph by Leonard W. Rice. See also Ames Williams' book, page 208.

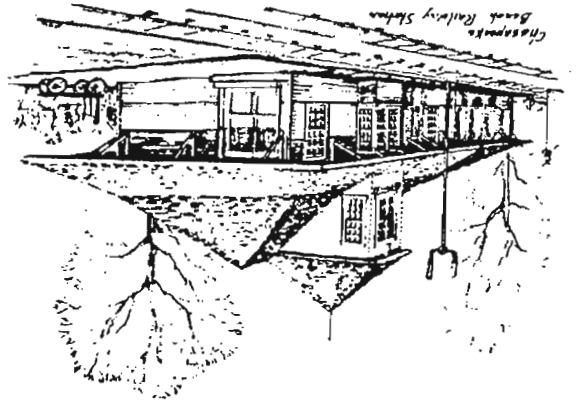


1950's Bathing Beauty

Get out your bathing suit and get ready for another summer swimming in the Bay. Here's a nice girl from the Beach just waiting to see you here.



A copy of a color postcard given to the Museum by James Tigner, Jr.



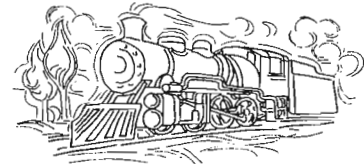
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P.O. Box 1227
Chesapeake Beach, Maryland 20732

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Permit No. 1227

Don't Miss These Coming Events

- May 19 - Antique Car Show from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
- Mid-June thru Mid-August - Childrens' Programs
Thursday mornings - 10:00-11:15 AM
- June 13 - Bay Breeze Summer Concert - A
Military Group plays patriotic tunes - 7:30 PM
- July 11 - Bay Breeze Summer Concert - Calvert
Community Band - 7:30 PM
- August 8 - Bay Breeze Summer Concert - Dixie
Ramblers Bluegrass Band - 7:30 PM
- September 12 - Bay Breeze Summer Concert -
The Annapolis Chorale - 7:30 PM

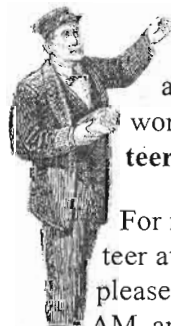
*For more information please call the
Museum at 410-257-3892*



ALL ABOARD FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BEACH RAILWAY MUSEUM

The Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum is seeking volunteers to help with the on-going activities of the Museum.

Volunteers have the opportunity to make new friends and to meet people from all over the world, share their community history with others, and help with the important and interesting work of the Museum in many ways. **New volunteers are always welcome!**



For more information about becoming a volunteer at the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum, please call 410-257-3892 weekdays between 9:00 AM. and 4:30 PM. Join us now!!! We need you!!!