

The Steamtown Timetable

2008 ICE HARVEST EXCURSION



This photo, from the 2005 Ice Harvest at Tobyhanna, illustrates how ice, cut into blocks on Mill Pond #1, was moved to storage at the ice house.

Steamtown National Historic Site's first excursion of the New Year, the Ice Harvest Train, departed Scranton on January 19, 2008 bound for the annual Tobyhanna Ice Harvest. The Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend train carried passengers from Scranton up onto the Pocono Plateau to the quaint village of Tobyhanna, Pennsylvania.

Late nineteenth and early twentieth century deforestation of the Pocono Mountains caused wide-spread erosion and loss of traditional lumber-related jobs. When enterprising individuals discovered that Tobyhanna's pond ice was thick enough to be used to preserve food and that it could be harvested, stored and transported to other regions, ice harvesting became a major industry employing Tobyhanna area residents. Ice was usually cut into 1'X 2' blocks and kept in "ice houses" insulated by sawdust until it was used or transported elsewhere.

The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, along the same route that the January 19 passengers traveled, made transportation of this commodity into the larger New York City metropolitan area possible. Passengers returning later this year on a Tobyhanna Excursion may be surprised to discover how well wood, sawdust and straw can preserve ice.

Canadian Pacific 2007 Holiday Train

Suzanne Rozdilski, Park Ranger

For the sixth consecutive year, the Canadian Pacific Holiday Train rolled into Steamtown National Historic Site on December 1, bedecked in a dazzling display of colored lights! Boxcar doors opened to reveal a stage full of free musical entertainment. Braving the frosty night with wind chills in the teens, approximately 2,200 attended the lively performance. Enjoying the sights and the sounds of the event means more than having a good time. It is also a reminder of the "good" in both Canada and the United States. It is making a connection with fellow North Americans. It is an opportunity to reach out to friends, in local communities along the train's route, by donating non-perishable food items and cash for the local food banks; the need is critical at this time of year. Meeting the CP Holiday Train at the Park was an opportunity to share and to celebrate the goodwill of the season. Canadian Pacific Railway and Steamtown National Historic Site have much in common – being attuned to social responsibility and working in partnership for the enhancement of the communities they serve.



United Neighborhoods Center representative Michael Hanley accepts an additional cash donation from the Canadian Pacific Railway.

Park News

2008 Excursions Announced!



The 2008 Rail Operations Season at Steamtown NHS begins on April 19 with the popular *Scranton Limited* short train rides Wednesdays – Sundays! This year, the *Scranton Limited* will also run daily during July and August (times vary).

We will partner with the Radisson at Lackawanna Station, which is celebrating its 100th anniversary during 2008, to once again offer a tour of the historic structure! These special tours will take place during the 10:30 a.m. “*Scranton Limited*” train rides on Saturdays and Sundays in May and September.

Our 2008 steam excursion season will begin on Saturday, June 28 at 9 a.m. with a special trip to the Delaware Water Gap’s “Founder’s Day” event! Additionally, seasonal excursions are planned as follows:

- ✚ *Moscow departures, all at 1 p.m.: July 5, 12 and 26, August 2, 16, 23 and 30, and October 5, 12, 18 and 26.*
- ✚ *Tobyhanna departures, all at 11 a.m.: June 29 (Station’s 100th Anniversary), July 6 and 19, August 9, and October 4, 11, 19 and 25. Additionally, the July 19 and October 19 trips will include a brief stop at the Gouldsboro Station).*

EMPLOYEE’S ASSOCIATION NEWS

The Steamtown Employee’s Association (SEA) was reactivated in October 2006, with a renewed effort to “foster employee morale and recognition” by, and for, all Steamtown NHS staff members.

The SEA hosted a “Chili Cook-off” at the MOW Lunch Room on January 30, along with a raffle. Kevin Bose won the “cook-off” along with a Steamtown NHS fleece pullover. Additionally, Mike Oprisko won the raffle for a \$25 Gift Certificate to Molly Brannigans! Upcoming events include:

- ❖ February 14 – Bake Sale, 9:30 a.m. at the OSB Conference Room
- ❖ February 27 – “Soup Day”, 11:30 a.m. at the Locomotive Shop Lunch Room
- ❖ March 20 – Spring Ethnic Potluck Dinner, 11:30 a.m., MOW Lunch Room AND an Ice Cream Social at the Locomotive Shop Lunch Room at 2:00 p.m.

Watch your area bulletin boards for up-to-date postings!

African American History Month



February is African American History Month and the Park is celebrating with a special exhibit and two very special presentations. On February 2 at 11:00 a.m., the National Park Service’s National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Program presented “Escapes by Train on the Underground Railroad”. Presenters Sheri Jackson, program manager for NERO’s URNFP, and Curtis Smith, a Student Conservation Association intern, discussed Frederick Douglass, William & Ellen Craft, Henry “Box” Brown, and others.

At 1:00 p.m., Denise Valentine presented “From Richard Allen to Cecil B. Moore: Stories of Freedom and Hope.” Ms. Valentine is a professional storyteller with Roots & Wings, Philadelphia, who related stories and sang about some African Americans of 17th – 20th century Philadelphia. This interactive storytelling performance was presented in partnership with the Pennsylvania Humanities Council.

Additionally, a special Traveling Trunks Exhibit will be on display February 17 – March 1, courtesy of Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Site, Atlanta, GA. The exhibit features hands-on information about the life of Dr. King and the “Sweet Auburn” Community. The exhibit contains reading materials, photos with captions of historic buildings, background information on the area, and videos and speeches made by Dr. King.

Steamtown National Historic Site was established in 1986 to interpret the role that steam railroading played in the development of the United States.

Steamtown National Historic Site

150 South Washington Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503-2018
www.nps.gov/stea



Open Daily 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Regular Park hours, 9:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. resume March 30, 2008

Phone

570.340.5200
888.693.9391

Group/School Reservations

570.340.5339

Excursion Reservations

570.340.5204

Editor

Bill Nalevanko

Staff Reports

Mark Birtel, Suzanne Rozdilski, Glenn Smith

Contributing Photographer

Ken Ganz



VIP Banquet

On Sunday, November 11, approximately 50 staff and volunteers gathered at Runco's Catering Hall, Throop, to celebrate another outstanding year of volunteer service to the Park. Dinner was followed by an update of the Park's yearly accomplishments by Superintendent Kip Hagen.

During fiscal year 2007, eighty-six volunteers contributed 18,858 service hours, a 26% increase from 2006.

Each volunteer who contributed 40 or more service hours received a golf shirt with an embroidered Steamtown logo; volunteers contributing 100 or more service hours also received an "hours bar" so visitors can recognize their contribution. Many of our volunteers contribute much more than the required 40 hours for the year, and volunteers Charles Liberto, Bernie O'Brien, Dick Roden and Thomas Walenta received a National Parks Pass for contributing more than 500 hours each during the past year. This is a new national



program to recognize outstanding volunteer service.

VIP Coordinator Glenn Smith notes that volunteers have donated more than 284,350 service hours since Park operations began in 1988.

VIP Promotions

- ✚ Jan MacDonald to Yard Engineer
- ✚ Dominick Tardogno to Yard Conductor
- ✚ Bob Tomaine to Yard Engineer

Also, welcome to our newest VIPs, Joshua and Patrick Kennedy.

Locomotive Shops

George Canavan

With our 2007 season behind us and the 2008 season shaping up, the shops are quite busy as we work to bring equipment up to proper operational status.

- Canadian Pacific #2317 is undergoing its 5-year inspection which involves examining flexible stay bolts, caps, and sleeves. We anticipate this locomotive will operate with the *Scranton Limited* shuttles beginning in April.
- Canadian National #3254 will be shopped for an annual inspection. This locomotive requires stoker repairs and trailing-truck tires re-profiled.
- Nickel Plate Road #514 will also be shopped for its annual inspection, and we will be changing the final two wheelsets. We will be contracting some

maintenance and repair work to include servicing the fuel pump, governor, air compressor, cab heaters, and restroom.

- Baldwin Locomotive Works #26 is moving along. We will begin riveting the mud ring, continue installing radial stay bolts and hope to have the running gear work, including journal box work, tramming, shoes and wedges, spring rigging, and binders complete by the summer. The pistons, cylinders, and cross head guide work is near completion.

Finally, congratulations to Roger Samuels on his recent assignment to Trainmaster, and to Preservation Specialist Rob Staely, who recently qualified as an Excursion Engineer.

"TWILIGHT AT THE TOWER" and "TRAINS AND TROLLEYS" EXHIBITS



"Twilight at the Tower: The Last Years of Tower Operation on the Illinois Central Railroad; 1986-1993", a black-and-white photographic exhibit, was displayed at the Park's Changing Exhibits Gallery from October through November 17, 2007.

Freelance photographer Ben Halpern shot photo documentation of the last operational years of the interlocking towers, the yard and the offices of the former Illinois Central Railroad in Champaign, Illinois. Mr. Halpern notes, "The photographs [displayed] are a concise but dramatic representation of the towers as an integral part of railroad landscape."

Shot in black and white, he captured the shadows, sharp lines and geometric shapes evocative of the strength and utilitarian nature of the railroad. At the same time, an emotional connection is made as one realizes that the operating scenes which he presented were ceasing forever as Mr. Halpern was taking his shots.

In December, regional artist and photographer, Diane Grant Czajkowski displayed her "Trains and Trolleys" exhibit. Referring to her photographic work, Diane said, "These photographs are to express the wonder and majesty of their subjects." This expression is evident in her pen-and-ink drawings, watercolors and oil paintings of Steamtown National Historic Site scenes and those at the Electric City Trolley Station and Museum.



2007 Festival of Trees

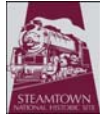
Holiday trees were decorated by area businesses and institutions for Scranton's annual "Festival of Trees" hosted by Lackawanna County's Electric City Trolley Station and Museum.

The Park's entry, "Christmas in the City", displayed well known city street signs, snow flakes and photos of historic Scranton sites. Beneath the tree, cut-out photographs appeared to be 3-dimensional. Crowning the tree was an interpretation of the historic "Scranton, the Electric City" sign fabricated by Steamtown machinist, Mike Oprisko. Electrician Nick Lorenzetti built a special spotlight to illuminate the Plexiglas sign. Ranger Bill Clark produced the graphics. Rangers Tim O'Malley, Sue Rozdilski and Ken Ganz also contributed to the project.



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Steamtown National Historic Site
150 South Washington Avenue
Scranton, PA 18503-2018



EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

LACKAWANNA RAILFEST 2007



Erie E8 #833 and Pennsylvania Railroad E8 #8509 pose for the Night Photo event at Lackawanna Railfest 2007

Lackawanna Railfest 2007 transformed a normally quiet November weekend at the Park into a railfan's dream. Railfans from as far away as California made the pilgrimage to experience live steam operations on November 2-4, 2007. Organizers, including VIPs Jim Fransen, Charles Liberto and Dick Roden, planned the event in cooperation with Superintendent Kip Hagen and Interpretation/Public Relations Supervisor Mark Brennan.

Kicking off the event with a Friday night banquet at the Radisson Lackawanna Station Hotel, weekend activities continued the next day at the Site.

Throughout the Park, visiting equipment displayed included an Amtrak passenger consist, Bennett Levin's beautifully restored E8 Pennsylvania Railroad locomotives, NY & Greenwood Lake's E8 #833 locomotive, diner "Chestnut Hill" and business car, "Pride of the Delaware", the partially-restored Erie Lackawanna Dining Car Society's Nickel Plate "City of Lima" Pullman sleeper, DL&W Corporation's Lehigh Valley business car "Black Diamond" and Delaware & Hudson GP38-2 #7312, courtesy of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

On-site presentations included a photo essay, "Twilight at the Tower" by railfan photographer Ben Halpern, as well as PowerPoint and slideshow presentations by guest speakers that included authors Alan Sweeney, Dale Woodland, Jim Boyd, Jim Guthrie and Tim Stuy. Tours of the railroad yard and the newly-rehabilitated Sand Storage Tower were led, respectively, by Park Ranger Tim O'Malley and Park Historian Pat McKnight. Park Ranger Ken Ganz organized a "Night Photo" session.

To complete the event, a steam-powered excursion, led by Canadian National #3254, ran Saturday to the Delaware Water Gap. Passengers bound for the Water Gap aboard this trip had the choice of boarding in Scranton or in Cresco and, to add to the festivities, a photo run-by was staged on the return trip to Scranton. Both trips afforded Railfest attendees a rare glimpse of the former Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Pocono Main line in late fall.

CAST MEMBERS OF "THE OFFICE" VISIT STEAMTOWN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

NBC's hit comedy, "The Office", held its first convention in Scranton October 26-28, 2007. Fans poured into the city to see costumes, to visit city sites mentioned in the show and to view favorite episodes on the big screens of area movie houses.

Arriving at the Park by limousine, "The Office" cast members, Phyllis Lapin (Actress Phyllis Smith) and Stanley Hudson (Actor Leslie David Baker) took time out from their busy schedules to visit the Site. Following a "Scranton Limited" train ride, Phyllis remarked "You could spend a whole day *here!*"

The Steamtown Timetable is a semi-annual publication of Steamtown National Historic Site.

Comments? Write to:
Superintendent
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www.nps.gov/stea