



FRIENDS OF THE RAILROAD MUSEUM

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A non-profit corporation of Pennsylvania

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PHOTOS ALSO AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.



RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES 2008 EVENTS

The awe-inspiring power of trains and the fascinating heritage of our nation's railroading will be on display for the entire family to experience during 2008 at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, located in Strasburg, Lancaster County, PA.

"We are known for family friendly and innovative educational, restoration, archival and interpretive programs," notes Museum director David W. Dunn, "as well as for our premier collection of 117 historic locomotives and vintage railroad cars, and a quarter of a million railroad-related artifacts."

"We have hosted over 3 million visitors from every state in the union and numerous countries overseas since the Railroad Museum opened to the public in 1975. We are the official railroad museum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and are counted among the top three railroad museums in the United States and among the top five in the world."

Events, exhibits and other activities currently slated for the Railroad Museum in 2008 are:

- **SPANNING CENTURIES: RAILROAD BRIDGES OF PENNSYLVANIA:** Wednesday, January 2, 2008 through Sunday, May 4, 2008. Regular Museum hours. For centuries, railroad bridges in the Commonwealth have provided vital links for passenger and freight trains to traverse.

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(2) RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES 2008 EVENTS

Fashioned of iron, steel, stone, wood and concrete, these spans have famous names like Tunkhannock, Starrucca, Rockville and Kinzua. Through historic photographs, blueprints, artifacts and video clips, this exhibit portrays the engineering marvels and forces of nature that defined and defied these famous, as well as the many lesser known, railroad bridges in Pennsylvania. Included in the regular Museum admission.

- **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY:** Monday, January 21, 2008 & **PRESIDENTS' DAY:** Monday, February 18, 2008. Regular Museum hours. School's out! Take advantage of these two days to honor our national leaders and to view our premier collection of trains, reflecting America's history, growth and development. Included in the regular Museum admission.

- **CHARTER DAY:** Sunday, March 9, 2008. Regular Museum hours. Observe the 327th birthday of the Commonwealth, amid Pennsylvania made and operated historic rolling stock, here at the Keystone State's official railroad museum. Open to the public free of charge.

- **THE RAILROAD ART OF TED ROSE: A RETROSPECTIVE:** Saturday, May 17 through Wednesday, December 31, 2008. Regular Museum hours. The beauty and nobility of railroads are vividly illustrated in this exhibit of the impressive watercolor paintings and remarkable photographs of the late artist Ted Rose. Railroads were a favorite subject for Rose and he depicted them, their people and varied settings through expressive colors and unique and compelling compositions. Ted Rose is probably best known on a national level for the five wonderful paintings he created in 1999 for the U. S. Postal Service's All Aboard stamp series. Included in the regular Museum admission.

- **WALT DISNEY'S BACKYARD RAILROAD:** Friday, May 23 through Sunday, May 25, 2008. Regular Museum hours. Walt Disney loved trains and he was one of America's greatest railroad fans, preserving real steam railroading at Disney theme parks throughout the world.

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(3) RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES 2008 EVENTS

Members of the Carolwood Pacific Historical Society, including nationally-recognized Disney authority Michael Broggie (son of Disney's first Imagineer Roger Broggie) will treat Museum visitors to a personal glimpse of this man who loved trains and the legends that surrounded him. Take a ride on a miniature train, delight in fun Disney film clips, photographs and memorabilia and take advantage of activities and surprises the entire family will enjoy. Included in the regular Museum admission.

- **PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD "PENNSY" DAYS:** Friday, May 30 through Sunday, June 1, 2008. Regular Museum hours. Discover the rich heritage of the famous Pennsylvania Railroad, the "Standard Railroad of the World." Noted railroad artists, photographers and authors display and sell their works. Special presentations, operating layouts, memorabilia and tours of "Pennsy" equipment are featured. Included in the regular Museum admission.

- **READING RAILROAD DAYS:** Wednesday, July 2 through Sunday, July 6, 2008. Regular Museum hours. Enjoy the remarkable Reading Railroad trains of eastern Pennsylvania history through tours of Reading Company equipment, a huge, operating model railroad and special presentations. Included in the regular Museum admission.

- **BARONS & BUILDERS DAY CAMPS:** Monday, July 14 through Friday, July 18, 2008, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily—for ages 9 & 10—and Monday, July 28 through Friday, August 1, 2008, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. daily—for ages 11 & 12. Kids build, create, learn and play as they explore railroads and railroad history through a program of unique tours, innovative hands-on projects, field trips and special demonstrations. Each camp has a limited number of openings on a first come basis. Museum members: \$100 per camper. Non-members: \$150 per camper. Registration begins March 17, 2008. Please call after the June 2 deadline to see if spaces are still available.

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(4) RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES 2008 EVENTS

- **RAILROAD FAMILY DAYS:** Wednesday, August 13 through Saturday, August 16, 2008.

Regular Museum hours. Sing along with popular railroad songs, enjoy legendary railroad stories, view operating model railroad layouts and displays, make take-home crafts and learn important railroad safety messages, along with a variety of other activities designed especially for families. Included in the regular Museum admission.

- **HOGWARTS EXPRESS PARTIES:** Friday, August 15 & Saturday, August 16, 2008. Kids can dress like their favorite Harry Potter character for a reading from one of the J. K. Rowling novels in the Museum's historic P70 coach. They also will sample an especially horrible snack and fashion a take-home craft following the reading. Advance registration, with a \$5 per child fee, is required. Hogwarts Express Parties, including the Members Only Parties (no registration fee), are offered on a first come basis. Recommended for children ages 8 to 13. Registration begins June 2, 2008. Regular Museum admission rates also apply.

- **MEMBERS DAY:** Saturday, September 27, 2008. Regular Museum hours and evening banquet. Museum members enjoy special members-only presentations, dedications of restored equipment and other great railroad and Museum-related activities. Also held during the day is the annual business meeting of the membership. A not-to-be-missed banquet, celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Friends of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, caps off a full day. Advance registration is required.

- **MODEL RAILROADING DAYS:** Friday, October 10 through Sunday, October 12, 2008. Regular Museum hours. It's not just a hobby, it's an adventure. The young and young at heart, the novice and the veteran railroader together will enjoy railroad model building workshops and activities (easy to advanced), numerous unique operating layouts and demonstrations, both here at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania and at the neighboring National Toy Train Museum. Included in the regular Museum admission.

(5) RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES 2008 EVENTS

Super value combination tickets, for admission to both museums, go on sale beginning July 1, 2008. Tickets are \$10 for ages 17 and over and \$6 for ages 6 to 16, per person, per day.

- **GARDEN RAILWAYS TOUR:** Sunday, October 12, 2008, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Enjoy a self-guided tour of several private homes which feature beautiful garden railways, operating layouts and special model train collections. Garden Railways tour tickets are \$6 per person for ages 6 and over and go on sale beginning July 1, 2008.

- **TRAINS & TROOPS:** Saturday, November 8 & Sunday, November 9, 2008. Regular Museum hours. Greet our guys and gals in uniform, experience many splendid railroad and military archival displays, enjoy patriotic music and learn the significant role railroads played time and again in the defense of our nation. U. S. military veterans and active duty service personnel receive discount admission of \$5 per person per day. Included in the regular Museum admission.

Ride the troop trains on the Strasburg Rail Road with living history reenactors on both days of the Railroad Museum's Trains & Troops program. Troop train tickets are sold separately by the Strasburg Rail Road on line at www.strasburgrailroad.com.

- **TAKING THE SWING TRAIN 1940S DANCE:** Saturday, November 8, 2008, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Jump, jive and swing to the popular Sound of Roses live band among the trains in the Railroad Museum's huge Rolling Stock Hall. Come dressed in military uniform or 1940s clothing, if you like, to revive the past! Special savings combination ticket, per person, for the dance and both days of Trains & Troops: \$30. Dance ticket only, per person: \$20. Veterans and active duty service personnel, and Museum Members, per person: \$15. Advance tickets are highly recommended. Call, stop by the Whistle Stop Shop museum store or visit the Museum's web site. Dance tickets go on sale beginning February 14, 2008.

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(6) RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES 2008 EVENTS

- **HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS:** Saturday, December 6 & Saturday, December 13, 2008.

Regular Museum hours. Take a nostalgic glimpse at holiday rail travel. Meet costumed engineers, conductors, ticket agents and passengers representing the past century and enjoy seasonal music and festive decorations among our world-class collection of trains. Who knows? Santa may come to town! Included in the regular Museum admission.

Ride the Santa trains on the Strasburg Rail Road on both days of the Railroad Museum's Home for the Holidays program. Santa train tickets are sold separately by the Strasburg Rail Road on line at www.strasburgrailroad.com.

- **POLAR EXPRESS PARTIES:** Saturday, December 6 & Saturday, December 13, 2008. Kids are greeted by a costumed conductor and enjoy a reading of Chris Van Allsburg's new classic holiday story in an authentic 1907 passenger coach. Kids also make and take home a seasonal craft and receive a small bag of goodies. Advance registration, with a \$5 per child fee, is required. Polar Express Parties, including the Members Only Parties (no registration fee), are offered on a first come basis. Recommended for children ages 3 and over. Registration begins September 8, 2008. Regular Museum admission rates also apply.

• **RAILROAD MUSEUM RAMBLES.** The Friends of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania annually sponsors trips to great destinations of railroading, historical, scenic and general travel interest. Don't wait. Register soon! Planned for this year are the:

- **Jim Thorpe Ramble:** Saturday, June 14, 2008.
- **Hershey Ramble:** Saturday, August 9, 2008.
- **Switzerland Ramble:** Friday, August 15 through Saturday, August 23, 2008.
- **West Virginia Ramble:** Thursday, October 16 through Monday, October 20, 2008.

Call for Ramble brochures—also available on the Museum's web site—and join us for one or more of these memorable excursions to take in the sights and sounds of railroading!

(7) RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES 2008 EVENTS

The 117 historic locomotives and vintage railroad cars in the collection of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania chronicle the heritage of a society on the move. From classic woodburners and mammoth steam locomotives to sleek, electric-powered and diesel engines, visitors discover the colorful and dynamic history and technology of the industry that built our nation.

You can take the throttle on a simulated run in a real freight locomotive cab, sit in an engineer's seat, climb aboard a caboose, explore an early 20th century replica passenger station, inspect a 62-ton locomotive from underneath, view restoration activities in real time via closed circuit TV, enjoy interactive, educational exhibits and programs and browse the **Whistle Stop Shop museum store**. A number of historic engines and railroad cars are open for inspection.

Regular **admission prices** for the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania are: Adults 18 to 59, \$8.00; adults (seniors) 60 and over, \$7.00; youth 6 to 17, \$6.00; and children under 6, free of charge. Most special events and exhibits are free of charge to members of the Friends of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania. Proceeds from events benefit the Friends of the Railroad Museum's important restoration, education and archival and interpretive programs.

Information on Museum reserved group tours—including special Restoration Shop tours—facility rentals, education programs, school groups, scout merit badges, outreach programs, membership, volunteering, business partnerships and charitable giving is available on the web site or by calling the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania. Hours, admissions, programs and activities scheduled may be subject to change without notice and additional events may be slated throughout the year. Please call ahead or visit the Railroad Museum's web site for information and confirmation.

(8) RAILROAD MUSEUM OF PENNSYLVANIA ANNOUNCES 2008 EVENTS

Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania scheduled hours of operation for the year 2008 are:

- November through March: Tuesday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- April through October: Monday through Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The Railroad Museum will be **open** to visitors on Martin Luther King Jr Day, Presidents' Day, Mother's Day, Memorial Day, Father's Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day and the day after Thanksgiving Day in 2008. The Railroad Museum will be **closed** New Year's Day, Easter, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day in 2008.

The Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania is located on PA Route 741, Strasburg, ten miles east of historic downtown Lancaster in the heart of the beautiful, Pennsylvania Dutch Country of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. For information on area lodging, dining, shopping, entertainment, historic sites and other attractions, call 866/STRSBRG, 800/PADUTCH or 800/VISITPA or go on line at www.strasburgpa.com, www.padutchcountry.com or www.visitpa.com.

Additional train-related attractions, all within a mile of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, include the legendary Strasburg Rail Road—just across the road from the Railroad Museum—the captivating National Toy Train Museum and the engaging ChooChoo Barn. The official railroad museum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania is administered by the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission, with the active support of the non profit Friends of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, which is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2008.

For more information on Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania programs, collections or operations, call **717/687-8628** or visit the Museum's web site at **www.rrmuseumpa.org**.