



The Steamtown Timetable

Railfest 2011

Teacher-Ranger-Teacher Program at the Park

by Suzanne Rozdilski, Park Ranger

This summer, 221 teachers worked in 149 national park sites as Teacher-Rangers. Twenty-nine teachers worked in 25 sites in the Northeast Region, including Steamtown NHS.

Teacher-Ranger Judy Yazinski taught special ed and 6th grade classes at West Scranton Intermediate School for 34 years. During her time as a Ranger this summer, Judy assisted visitors, added an interactive children's element in the visitor center, dispensed National Park surveys, planned



a traveling trunk for use at Upper Delaware Scenic and Recreational River, researched appropriate railroad-themed books for a new NPS children's literature project, and participated in a partnership meeting with Northeast Intermediate Unit 19 plans for a "virtual bus tour" for school students unable to visit area historic sites.

During National Park Week 2012 Judy, in her NP uniform, will speak to Scranton Intermediate School students about our National Parks. She is considering exhibiting student projects at Steamtown and bringing the students for a visit.



ABOVE: Participants during the Lackawanna Historical Society's annual "Alan Sweeney Memorial Award" presentation include (l to r) Kathy Keating, Dom Keating (2009 recipient), Norm Barrett (2010 recipient), Judy Sweeney, Michael Gilmartin, LHS President, Joe Cimini, Mary Ann Savakinas and 2011 award recipient, S. Robert Powell.

BELOW: Superintendent Kip Hagen opens Railfest 2011 with special event Grand Marshal Joseph McHugh, Amtrak Vice President of Government Affairs and Corporate Communications.

Railfest 2011 took place on Saturday and Sunday, September 3 and 4 as the park partnered to commemorate three milestone anniversaries with visiting equipment displays, special shop demonstrations and, of course, train rides on both days of the event: 25 Years: Steamtown NHS (October 30, 1986); 40 Years: Amtrak (May 1, 1971) and 125 Years: Scranton's Electric Trolley System (November 30, 1886).

Amtrak presented its 40th Anniversary Train and special video, "Amtrak: The First 40 Years," to the public on both days. This special exhibit train featured displays of photos, uniforms, china, and memorabilia from Amtrak while offering a glimpse into the future. Special programs included behind-the-scenes tours of the restored Mattes Street Tower and the cavernous Office Storage Complex, Big Band railroad music, caboose rides, shop machinery demonstrations, iron pour demonstrations, "Big Boy" locomotive cab tours and model

LEGO train displays. The American Red Cross held a special blood drive during the event, and visitors were also able to take free Trolley Bus rides to-and-from La Festa Italiana on Lackawanna County's Courthouse Square. Chalk up another great event to create special memories!



Seasonal Images!



Community Outreach Programs

by Suzanne Rozdilski, Park Ranger

I don't consider myself a "superstitious" person, but being married to a baseball coach and being the mother of a baseball player, I am conscious of "superstition" in baseball culture. *Maybe* I have become a little superstitious. So I say *quietly* that this summer *I had a lot of fun at work*. On three occasions I was fortunate to represent Steamtown NHS at community events. The first event was the Festival of Unity held at Nay Aug Park on Saturday, July 9th. People of many faiths and cultural backgrounds celebrated coming together and sharing their contributions

of music, art, food and spirit to the community. The second experience was on Saturday, August 13th at the Latin Pride Weekend Festival on Lackawanna County Courthouse Square. The event featured food, entertainment and activities for people of all ages. Event coordinator, Pedro Gonzales, said that previous festivals seemed to draw only those from the Latin community. Moving the festival to Courthouse Square made it accessible to a more diverse audience. The third event was

also attended by Teacher Ranger Judy Yazinski at the new Commonwealth Medical College. On Thursday, September 1st, approximately 150 medical students and medical practitioners became aware of Scranton's attractions and restaurants during their lunch break. At each of these events I had the chance to speak with frequent visitors to Steamtown NHS and, hopefully, to future visitors.

MOVIN' ON!



Marietta Grady, Secretary, Locomotive Shops, Maintenance Division, retired with nearly 24 years of federal service on May 31.

Douglas Calder, Custodial Worker, Facilities Operations, Maintenance Division retired with 23 years of federal service on June 30.



Paul "Pete" Stiner, Maintenance Mechanic, Maintenance Division retired with 18 years of federal service on September 23.

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
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www.nps.gov/stea



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Rail Operations

VIP Dick Roden

All crews completed their annual classes for the 2012 season. This year all of our engineers had to recertify for their new 3-year licenses which now has their photograph on them.

This year we have 8 new volunteers joining Train and Engine Service. We welcome: Dennis Livesey, New York City; from New Jersey, Jerry Dzedzic, Asbury, and Dave Lindstrom, Ramsey, and from Pennsylvania, Chris Ahrens, Honesdale, Jim Collins, Scranton, Craig Easley, Pen Argyl, Ed Jakubos, Factoryville, and John Tomasatis, Jessup.

The following were promoted to Yard Conductor: Jeffrey Knoop, Desiree Ranella; Tom Wyatt; Tom Shore, Paul Ratcliffe, and Dick Roden. Dominick Tardogno has been promoted to Yard Fireman and Steam Mechanic, and Mike Theriault has been promoted to Yard Engineer, qualified on steam and diesel.

For those who might like to join Train and Engine Service in Railroad Operations during the 2012 season, contact Willard Sturdevant, Rail Operations supervisor, at (570) 340-5185. If you know someone who would like to join, applications are available at the park's Visitor Center or simply apply online at the park's website.



Steamtown National Historic Site was established October 30th, 1986 to further public understanding and appreciation of the role steam railroading played in the development of the United States. It is the only place in the National Park System where the story of Steam Railroading, and the people who made it possible, is told. Here, locomotives and other rolling stock, artifacts, and historic buildings and structures, as well as the skills of that era, are all preserved and protected for the enjoyment and education of our visitors.

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

"First Aid on the Railroads"

Changing Exhibits Gallery

A new exhibit, "First Aid on the Railroads," opened to the public at the park's Changing Exhibits Gallery during the Memorial Day tribute weekend.



Children's worktable at "First Aid on the Railroads" exhibit.

of first aid" in the United States, was hired to assist. The courses were based on Dr. Shields' work with coal miners in Jermyn, Pennsylvania, a small community 16 miles northeast of Steamtown NHS that is known as the "Birthplace of First Aid Instruction for the American Public." The department received a donation of railroad cars from the Pullman Company, and a traveling program was established for railroad employees. First aid is an important, but often overlooked, aspect of railroading history. Using original documents, artifacts and photographs from Steamtown's museum collection, Park Rangers Bill Clark and Suzanne Rozdilski, and Museum Curator (SCEP) Sarah Smith collaborated to present this exhibit, which highlights first aid on the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western and Lehigh Valley railroads. The exhibit will be on display during regular Park hours through October 31.

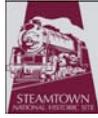
The American Red Cross notes that Red Cross president Clara Barton, honored at Clara Barton National Historic Site (www.nps.gov/clba), her homestead in Glen Echo, Maryland, formed a committee to establish first aid instruction among the nation's industrial workers in August 1903. However, when Miss Barton resigned from the American Red Cross in 1904, the fledgling first aid program was disbanded. Under the supervision of Major Charles Lynch, the American Red Cross reestablished its First Aid Department and co-sponsored classes focusing on industrial safety. Dr. Matthew J. Shields, "the father





National Park Service
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EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICA™

Railcamp 2011

by Bill Clark, Park Ranger



Rail Operations supervisor Willard Sturdevant explains locomotive preservation basics to a Railcamp group.

In July, Steamtown National Historic Site hosted Railcamp 2011. Two dozen young men and women spent a week at the park learning about railroad safety, repair, safety, dispatching, safety, restoration, safety, interpretation, and, surprisingly, railroad safety. While Steamtown staff handled much of the program, the students did get offsite - all the way to Delaware for a tour of

the Amtrak repair facilities, and an Operation Lifesaver presentation by Canadian Pacific Railway Special Agent Thomas Walsh.

One of the programs at the park introduced the art of interpretation. The Railcampers were divided into five groups, and each group prepared and presented an interpretive talk about a different display piece: the L&N Railway Post Office Car, the Erie #3 Business Car, the Spang, Chalfont & Company #8, the Rutland Caboose, and the DL&W “Phoebe Snow” Boxcar. The programs were very well done. They talked about the car or locomotive, the railroad for which it operated, how it was used, what it was like to work on or with the piece, and the importance of preservation.

Previous railcampers have returned to Steamtown as volunteers, as volunteers for other museums and rail preservation groups, and as railroad employees. Though not all will take that next step, exposing high school-age enthusiasts to the reality of railroad preservation, operation, interpretation and safety helps to ensure new blood in an old vocation.

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

Comments? Write to:
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