

January 2016 NEWSLETTER

February Meeting - 6:45 PM - Tuesday, February 2, 2015

Chippewa Valley Museum
Carson Park, Eau Claire, WI

Annual Get - Together

January 16, 2016, Get - Together was a great success. We met at the Galloway Grille for breakfast. Food was fine. We filled the meeting room and all had a good time on a cold day. We will probably do

Proposed Track Relocation, Carson Park, Eau Claire, WI

Part of our Long Range Plan includes the alteration of our track layout. The goal, as put forth by Dan Perkins, is running a portion of our track so trains can be seen from our parking access road. To accomplish this, the track departing the depot platform to the west will be relocated towards that road and later rejoin the mainline south of the whistle sign in the woods. The trains running the opposite direction will return in the current route. The west switch will be relocated where the tracks meet in the woods. We have the rail in stock to complete this relocation.

The City Parks Department has removed the trees for the new track right of way. The picture below shows the beginning of the work a week ago.

Over the next few months the right of way will be graded for track laying. We will build a new switch that will be installed for the laying of track so the current operation will not be interrupted.

The last major track project was in the 1980's when the 1/2 mile loop was completed. Folks like Mike Kuhn and Rob Brazeau were in Junior High! So get your Gandy Dancer clothes.





Brushing Equipment. The City sent in the big stuff to clean up the new right of way. Most of the brush removed was scrub and invasive species like buck thorn and one cork tree. All the white pines were not touched. The crew worked quickly and were very interested in the proposed track work.

Winter Inspection. Why do we do this? This summer our crew took one of our coaches out of service because of an unusual wheel noise. During our January work sessions we brought the car in for inspection. Upon inspection, a failed wheel was discovered. It was loose on the axle and was wearing badly. Since our crews are alert, the car was set aside for later inspection. This coach has now received a complete inspection and correct profiled wheels have been installed on both trucks.



Sandley Coaches. Both Sandley coaches have been in the shop this winter. Each have received door work. Each has had their trucks and wheels inspected and reproofed. The failed wheel seen above has been replaced.

The caboose is now in for inspection and roof repair.

No. 19. Work on the 3rd driver is progressing as well as some steam piping replacement. All interesting work.

