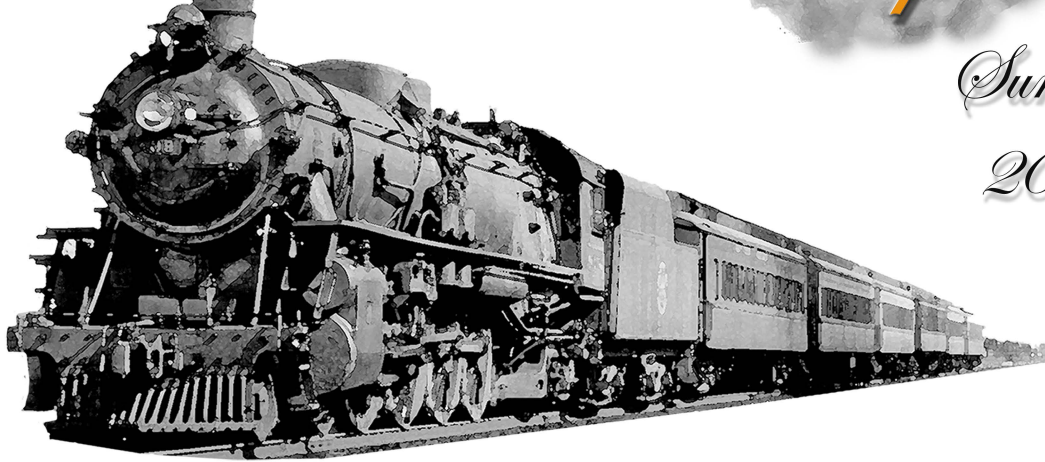


Official Newsletter Of The Ontario & Western Railway Historical Society, Inc.

The **NTARIO** *Express*



*Summer
2026*

President's Message

Greetings fellow O&W rail enthusiasts,

Wow, is it Summer break time already? It's amazing how fast the time goes by. Even during the summer the O&WRHS will be busy as we organize our Middletown Railroad Day 2026 that will be held on July 26th at the Middletown Senior Center. Should be a great show.

The 2026 Observer by Ken Hojnacki on Car 30 is in its final stages of reviewing and should be an excellent book. Car 30 was viewed during our driving tour on March 29th and is one of, if not, the most beautiful cars I personally have ever seen.

We have our Banquet/Convention coming up with some of the best raffle prizes we have ever offered. Registration and raffle forms plus full convention details are included within this Newsletter.

We are finalizing our excursion for the beginning of November behind the Baldwin 26 with Dan Myers' NYO&W steam whistle mounted on it.

We have a lot of great things to look forward to in the upcoming months; just because we are on Summer break doesn't mean the people behind the scenes are taking a break.

We are all working extra hard to ensure that the OWRHS continues to be a great and successful organization, which depends entirely on volunteer work and dedication. I personally want to thank everyone for doing a great job and taking the time to keep the organization operating on all cylinders. If anyone has any ideas on how to make things even more efficient or would like to volunteer, please reach out to us.

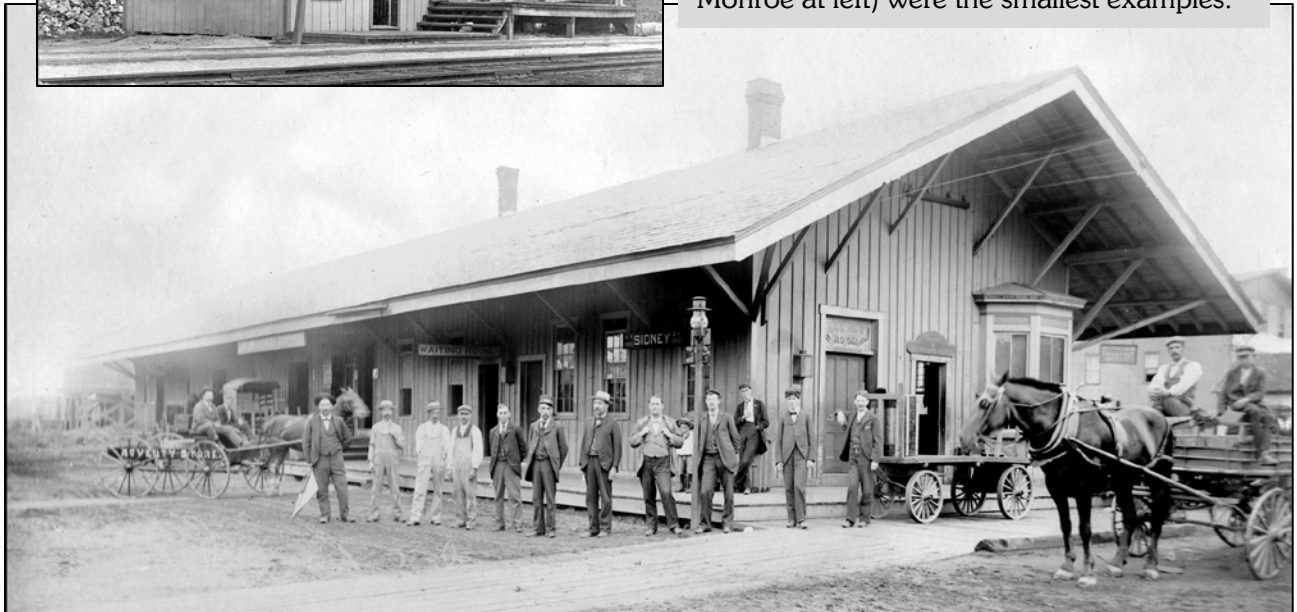
Joseph Senese

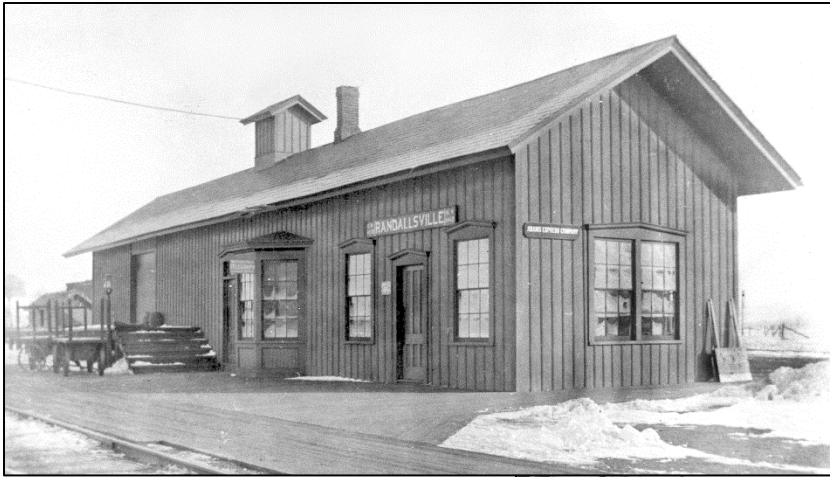
A Preview of John Taibi's Convention Program –

Boards and Battens, Bricks and Mortar



From Oswego in the north (above) to Sidney at its south (below), the O&W's Northern Division mainline possessed 37 locations where a station would be built. They came in many differing architectural styles, especially the brick stations at Oswego, Oneida, and Norwich, but the wood stations were all members of the same family. The 20X40 sized stations (West Monroe at left) were the smallest examples.

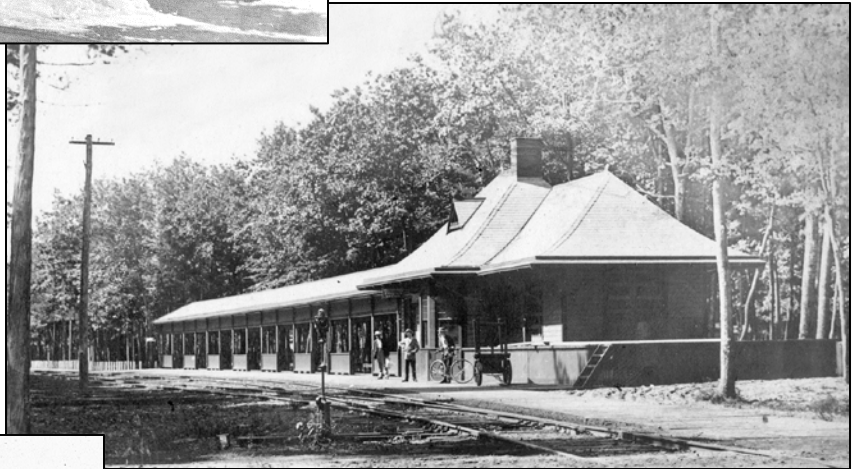




All of the original stations were built by the New York & Oswego Midland Railroad, but many were replaced by the O&W.

Randallsville (at left) was built by the O&W in 1883 and replaced an earlier Midland-built station, while Sylvan Beach (below) came along during the O&W era.

Some stations, such as Sylvan Jct. (below) were built by other railroads. Yet, they were still positioned along the O&W's mainline. Do you know who built this gable roofed, Plain Jane, station? And, do you know why it was built and what its purpose was?



There were several stations that were built with another railroad to serve as a Union Station. The marvelously attractive Oneida Castle station (below) was an example of this because it was built jointly by the O&W and New York, West Shore & Buffalo Railway. But, do you know how it became Stop 21 by an electrified 3rd rail interurban line?

All of these stations, at the 37 locations, combined to form a diverse collection of buildings that provided the Northern Division's mainline with a colorful, charming, and unique presence.

At the 2026 OWRHS Convention, John Taibi will be pleased to tell you all about why this was so.



ONTARIO & WESTERN RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.



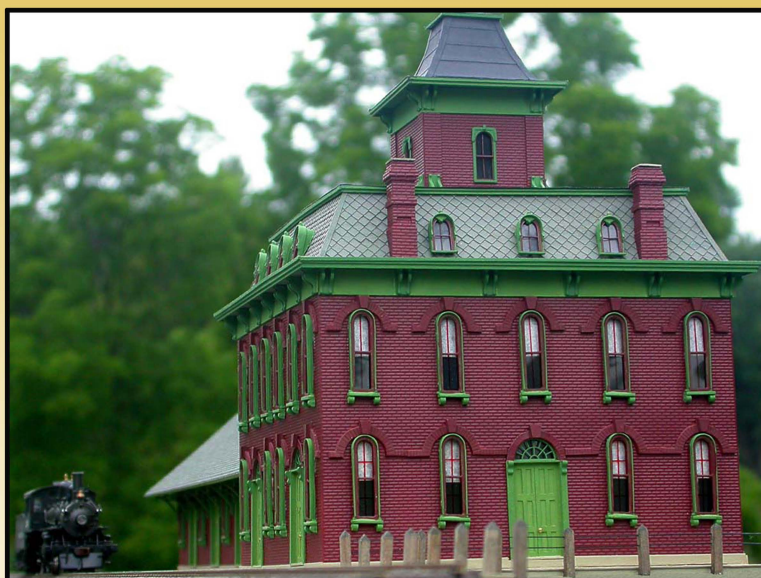
63RD ANNUAL CONVENTION & BANQUET

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4TH 2026

DOORS OPEN AT 10:30 AM

OTTERKILL COUNTRY CLUB

100 OTTER RD. CAMPBELL HALL, NY



Our 2026 Convention will once again be held at the Otterkill Country Club in Campbell Hall, NY.

The doors will open at 10:30 AM with our first program starting at 11:30 AM and dinner served at 5:30 pm.

Lunch will be available for purchase from the Otterkill Country Club.

The theme of this year's convention is "NY&OM and NYO&W Depots" and there will be a number of programs by various presenters. Visit our website at OntarioExpress.org which will be updated as more details regarding the convention become available.

The Programs Are As Follows:

- **Boards and Battens, Bricks and Mortar - Northern Division - Mainline - by John Taibi**
- **NYO&W Ry Stations & Depots along the Middletown Branch by Ray Kelly**
- **Middletown and to the North by Malcolm H. Houck**

Photo: Oneida Station Model By Rich Cobb

Registration Form

Name _____ Address _____
City _____ State _____ Phone _____
E-mail _____ Is this your 1st Convention _____
() Dinner @\$72 _____ Programs Only No Dinner @\$20.00 _____
() Raffle Tickets _____ Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to Ontario & Western Railway Historical Society, Inc. (OWRHS, Inc.)

& mail to: 318 Oxford Place, Macungie, PA. 18062

You will not receive a snail mail confirmation.

Names of Guests: _____

We must provide Otterkill with the number of dinner reservations on Thursday, September 24th. Therefore, please mail your reservation no later than Friday Friday Septemebr 18th.

If you mail your reservation later than this date but still want to attend the dinner, e-mail Mark Kennaugh at MarkKennaugh@OntarioExpress.org by Tuesday, September 22nd with the number of people attending.

Directions to Otterkill Country Club

From Route 84 eastbound at Middletown,

exit 28 to Route 208, turn left, stay onto Route 208 through Maybrook, 2.9 miles make a right onto Otter Rd., about 1 mile more to Otterkill Country Club

From Route 84 westbound at NYS Thruway

exit 32 to Route 747, turn left, stay in right lane, 747 ends at Route 207, Turn right onto Route 207, 5.8 miles right onto Otter Rd, about a third mile more to Otterkill Country Club.

From Route 17 westbound at NYS Thruway

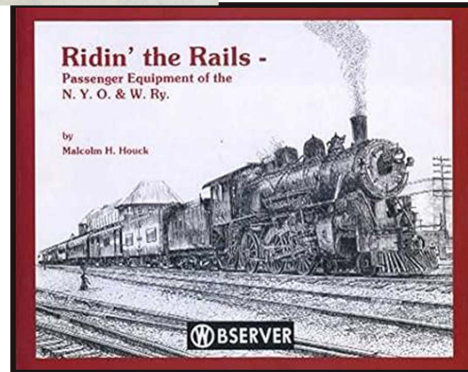
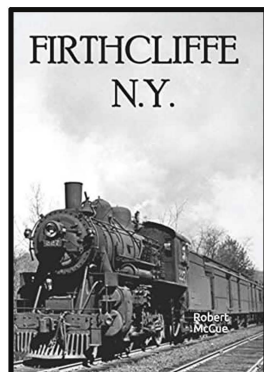
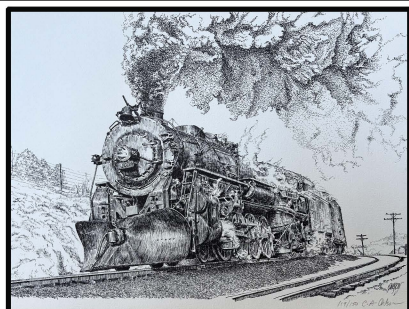
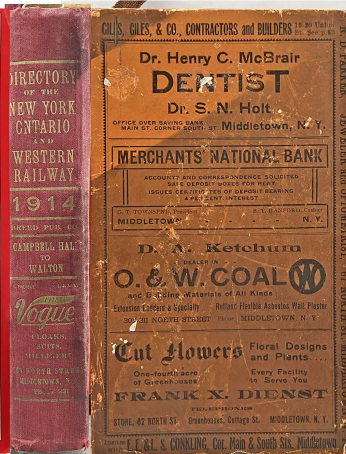
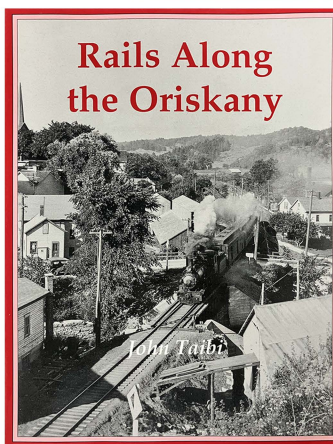
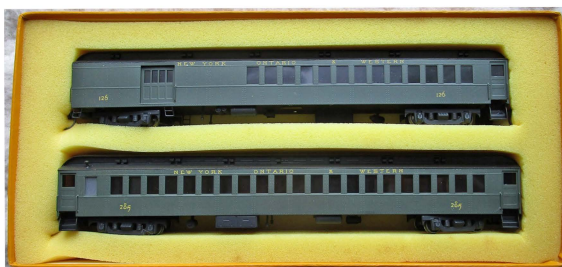
exit 130 to Route 208 through Washingtonville, 10 miles to left onto Route 207, 1.1 miles to right onto Otter Rd. about a third mile more to Otterkill Country Club.

Note: From Palisades Parkway north and south

go to the traffic circle (exit 18) take Route 6 W for six miles, merge onto Route 17 westbound and follow the above directions once on Route 17



Raffle Prizes



Grand Prize: (Winner Must Be Present)

HO Scale Middletown Frieght House Built and Donated By John Forni

2nd Prize: NPP Wood Combine & Coach Donated By Bob Earle

3rd Prize: Brass NYO&W Luggage Tag Donated By Carl Ohlson

4th Prize: 1914 Directory of NYO&W Campbell Hall to Walton - Donated By Carl Ohlson

5th Prize: 1884 Niagara Falls Broadside Advertisement Donated By George Shammas

6th Prize: Rails Along The Oriskany by John Taibi - Donated by O&WRHS

7th Prize: Ridin' The Rails Hardcover - Donated By O&WRHS

8th Prize: Pen And Ink Drawing Of A Y-2 Drawn & Donated By Carl Ohlson

9th Prize: Firthcliffe, NY by Bob McCue - Donated By Bob McCue

10th Prize: Locomotive Quarterly - Summer 2006 - Donated By O&WRHS

Door Prize NYO&W "On Film" DVD

Please mail by 9/28 to OWRHS c/o Mark Kennaugh, 318 Oxford Place, Macungie, PA 18062

RAFFLE TICKETS 1 for \$3, 2 for \$5, 5 for \$10, 10 for \$18, all 24 on page for \$30

Please cut tickets along lines. Print clearly or use return name and address labels on tickets for convenience.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Telephone _____



PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TOMS RIVER, NJ
PERMIT NO. 53

**O&WRHS, Inc.
P.O. Box 713
Middletown, NY 10940-0713**

The Ontario Express Editors are Ronald J. Vassallo & Malcolm H. Houck.

www.OntarioExpress.org - Editors@OntarioExpress.org

O&WRHS, Inc., P.O. Box 713, Middletown, NY 10940-0713

**The O&WRHS is a 501(c)(3) Non - Profit Historical Group, Chartered on July 28, 1978
by the Board of Regents, State of New York, on behalf of the State Education Department.**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Middletown Railroad Day - Sunday, July 26th - 10am to 3PM. For additional information contact Henry Kramer at HenryKramer@Ontarioexpress.org or 973-600-0269.

Delhi Historical Society Presents "Delhi On The O&W" By Mark Kennaugh. Tuesday, September 8th - 6PM - 7PM. Canon Free Library. 40 Elm Street, Delhi, NY 13753.

Membership Meeting - Friday September 11th - "Operate The Whole O&W - On Your Home Computer", By Jeff Gabriel.

Sunday, October 4th - O&WRHS Annual Banquet/Convention. Otterkill Country Club, Campbell Hall NY.

Membership Meeting - Friday, November 6th - Program TBA

Membership Meeting - Friday, December 4th - Program TBA