

Membership Restructure

One of the problems that has plagued our organization for a number of years has been a lack of funds. A quick look at our membership types and fees provides one clue as to why. Back in April, when this first came up, we had 72 members including 43 Life members, 22 Individual members and 7 Family members. Individual members pay dues of \$20 per year and Family members pay \$30, but Life members pay no annual membership fee. The counts above provide only \$650 in membership income for the year. Our largest bill is insurance at \$1200 per year, so it is no wonder that we never have any money.

One thought was that some people who could afford to do so might pay more for membership if we asked them to. A proposal was brought forth, and approved by the board, to expand the categories of membership, as follows:

Brakeman, \$20 per year	Engineer, \$100 per year
Fireman, \$50 per year	Conductor, \$250 per year

Family memberships will be folded into the above structure, with an additional cost of \$5 per additional family member, per year. A family member is defined as someone living within the same household and does not receive separate mailings.

For Life members, the board agreed to continue existing life memberships at no required annual membership cost, but to not allow any new life memberships. In addition, Life members will now be encouraged to renew each year in one of the above categories.

Each year we will publish a list of names of all of members and the category of each. There will be an option of not being listed if you so choose. Beyond that, there are no other additional benefits to any membership category. It is simply a way for members who can afford to help us more than the minimum to do so and get a little recognition for that additional help.

Another change: for new members joining after July 1st, the membership dues will cover all of the following calendar year. This has often been the practice in the past, but now it is written down.

A letter will be going out in early January to everyone on the membership list asking you to renew your membership under one of the new categories. Thank you in advance for renewing your membership promptly.

Up and Down the Tracks

*** Thanks to Alan Fairbrother for hosting the annual UV Christmas Party on Saturday, December 16th at his home. A good time was had by all.

*** New donations have been received from Joe Hauck of Endicott NY (a neighbor of Tom DeForest): 4 reference books on trains and other forms of transportation, a number of glass insulators, and a box of model train cars which we can sell at future train shows. Thank you to Joe for donating all of this material.

*** The election of new officers did not take place at the December meeting as scheduled because the slate of nominees was not yet firm. Since we do not have regular meetings during January, February or March, a special meeting will be called when the slate of nominees is complete. This meeting will be posted on our web site at www.uvrs.org and local people will be contacted to attend. The results will be published in the next Pendragon.

*** If you're interested in building a model of the UV railroad, the article in Model Railroad Planning, 2015, might be of interest.

*** Members of our organization will find an end-of-year summary report included with this Pendragon summarizing the activities and finances of our organization for 2017.

*** Quick quiz: When was the Unadilla Valley Railway Society formed? Who was the driving force behind it? For extra credit, who were the other 4 original members?

*** Last month: Who was Dr. Lewis Rutherford Morris? Answer: He owned the UV Railroad from 1904 until he passed away in 1936. His estate sold the railroad to the H. E. Salzberg Company of NYC in 1938.

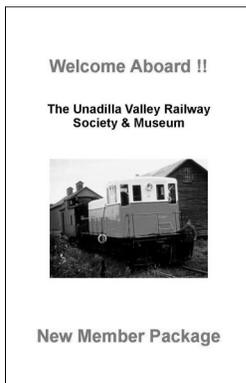
*** Be safe as you maneuver up and down the tracks this winter.

New Welcome Package Created for New Members

A package has been created to send to new members when they join our organization. It has been suggested that existing members would like to see some of the information, so pages 4-7 of this Pendragon contain pages from the new Welcome Package. Other sections not included here are a welcome letter, a page listing officers and contacts, a description of the UV Store, 4 pages of the by-laws, 3 pages of the constitution and a picture of the Historical Marker on Genesee Street. The pages here are in black & white; they are in color in the Welcome Package.

Now all we need are some new members — and you can help with that. If you know someone who is not a member, invite them to join us.

Page 2



Thank You for Recent Presentations

The Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum would like to thank the following people for preparing and presenting at recent meetings. We really appreciate the time and energy that you put into these presentations and we appreciate the knowledge that gets passed along to us.



Tom DeForest

Nov 18, Tom DeForest presented "Railroading in New Berlin, A Chronology" at the First United Methodist church.

Carpet Protectors

Carpet & Upholstery Cleaning for Commercial and Residential

Jim Parks

PO Box 52, New Berlin NY 13411

607-847-6942

Preservation Prevails Over Multi-Use Trail

The Adirondack Scenic Railroad got some good news at the end of September when a Supreme Court judge overturned the state's decision to tear up a 34-mile section of track between Lake Placid and Tupper Lake. The state wanted to turn it into a multi-use trail for recreational use including snowmobiling, hiking and biking.

The Adirondack Rail Preservation Society, which operates tourist trains under the Adirondack Scenic Railroad name, sued the state in April 2016. The lawsuit stemmed from a plan by the DEC and DOT, and approved by the APA, that would have removed 34 miles of train tracks between Lake Placid and Tupper Lake and replaced them with a multi-use trail.

Leaders & *Board Members

*President.....Glady Slentz
 *Vice President.....Sam Senn
 *Recording SecretaryBonnie Jean Bauer
 *Corresponding Secretary.....(open)
 *Treasurer.....(open)
 *At Large.....Sandy Kilmer
 *At Large.....Alan Fairbrother
 *At Large.....(open)
 Executive Director (open)
 Storekeeper & Advertising.....Sandy Kilmer
 Parade Director/Engineer..Alan Fairbrother
 Executive Advisor.....George Wolfangle
 Public Relations.....(open)
 Membership.....Tom DeForest
 Website & Publications.....Tom DeForest
 Website.....www.uvrs.org



A Brief History of the UV

The first organizational meeting of what became the UV Railroad was held on November 4, 1886, in West Edmeston, New York. After much organizing and fund-raising, construction began in May of 1889 to build a 20-mile long short-line railroad to connect the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western (DL&W) Railroad in Bridgewater to the New York, Ontario & Western (O&W) Railroad in New Berlin. The UV opened with a grand celebration in July of 1895 and immediately started hauling passengers and freight with a focus on agricultural raw materials and finished products.

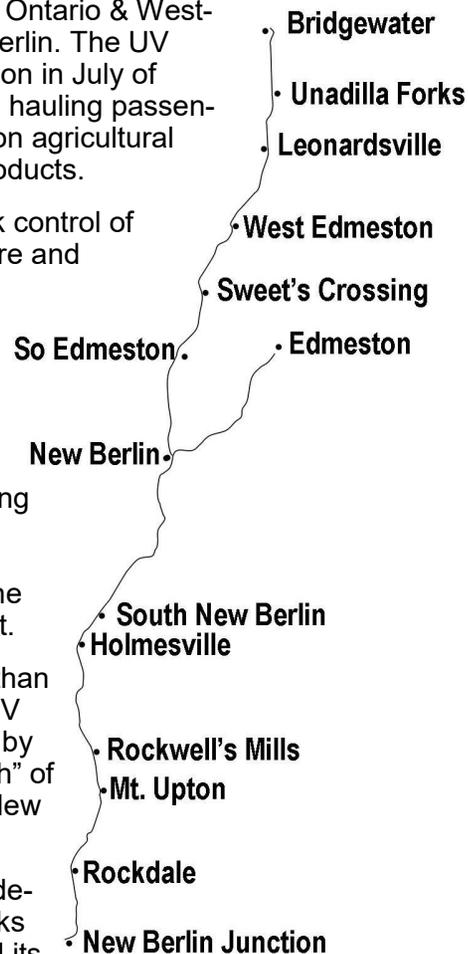
In 1904, Dr. Lewis Morris took control of the railroad through foreclosure and remained the owner until his death in 1936.

In 1938, the Morris estate sold the railroad to the H. E. Salzberg Company in New York City, a company best known for buying and scrapping small railroads. Everyone breathed a sigh of relief when they decided to actually run the railroad instead of scrapping it.

In 1941, the Salzbergs more than doubled the trackage of the UV overnight from 20 to 49 miles by buying the "New Berlin Branch" of the O&W from Edmeston to New Berlin to New Berlin Junction.

The UV then went on a slow decline as automobiles and trucks took to the road and impacted its passenger and milk hauling business so much that it could no longer survive.

In 1957, the last milk plant on the line closed. In 1960, the UV did also. The track was pulled up and the Unadilla Valley Railroad came to an end.



Volunteer Opportunities

Museum, Content — As an active museum, we always need help in cataloging, documenting, acknowledging new donations and the like.

Museum, Tours — During the warm months we provide tours to visitors. This requires some training to learn about the museum, its contents, the railroad and the society. Sign up to be a tour guide.

Museum, Maintenance — From mowing the grass to fixing a leaky faucet to normal cleanup, paint up, fix up, our museum requires much of the same maintenance as a house. We could use your help.

Research, Publishing — If you like to look up things, there are lots of topics to research about the UV and related local or regional railroads. Your research can result in articles for our newsletter, pamphlets that we can sell or even a book.

Organizational — We're always looking for candidates for board positions, people to take on special tasks for the organization or to fill in for others at board meetings.

Public Relations — We need to develop a campaign to become better known in our community and region. You could help.

Membership — We're always looking for new members. We could use some help in defining and executing a program to increase our membership and to get current members more involved.

Fund Raising — If you have any experience or interest in fund-raising or grant writing, we have a place for you. Current income is mainly from membership dues and sales of material through the UV Store. We could benefit from a more organized program to raise funds in the future.

Newsletter — We're always looking for articles to publish in our quarterly newsletter. If you like to write about train-related topics, have been on a train ride or have done some railroad research, this could be your outlet. Be a writer.

Product Sales — Product sales are done at the museum itself when the museum is open, through the web site as well as traveling to regional toy and model train shows. The UV Storekeeper can always use help at the museum, and with transport, setting up, staffing, packing up and transport to/from a train show.

Social — We could use help with refreshments at meetings, with planning a few social activities or planning a special train ride somewhere. Be part of the fun.

We welcome you as a volunteer. What would you like to work on?

A Brief History of The Unadilla Valley Railway Society

While the decision to close the Unadilla Valley Railroad was a business decision by its owner, the H. E. Salzberg Company, and it took only a few weeks in 1960 to completely shut down the railroad, pull up the track and dispose of its rolling stock, buildings and right of way, the nostalgia for the railroad continues to this day.

What began as the dream of five local men, George Wolfangle, William Fliedner, Carl Carpenter, Michael Schowe and Jeff Utter, became a reality when the Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum was formed in 1995. Since that time the group has grown to over 70 members who work to preserve the heritage of the UV and other local railroads. Volunteers preserve, restore, research and interpret the collection for visitors.

The interests of the society include all aspects of the railroads that affected central New York's growth and development. The society and museum promotes research into the history of railroading and preserves many records of the Unadilla Valley Railroad history. The museum contains exhibits that provide visitors with a visual record of the evolution of railroad technology. These exhibits highlight the unique and distinctive features of our area's railroad history. The museum also interprets the economic and social impact of the railroads on the growth and evolution of this area in agriculture, industry and commerce.

Members are involved in fund-raising efforts through grant writing, the sale of books and pamphlets, clothing and railroad-related material. We also take the UV Store 'on the road' to local model train shows to raise funds and promote awareness of the UVRS&M.

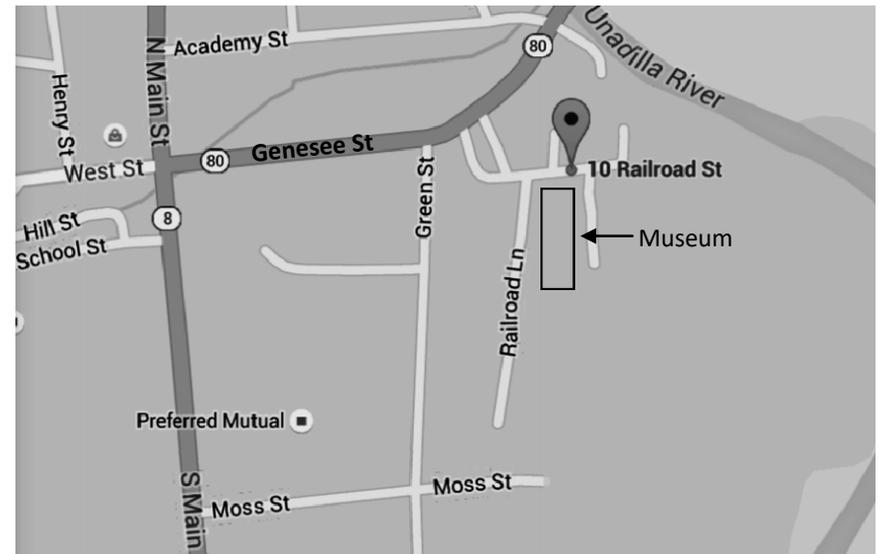
Over the years, the successes of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum have been achieved through the enthusiasm, commitment and support of its many members. Whether you are a railroad historian, current or former railroad employee or just interested in the romance of railroad history, the Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum can keep you in touch with the past glory of railroading. Modest membership fees entitle members to our quarterly newsletter, The Pendragon, to participate in monthly meetings, work on museum projects with others of a similar

mindset, and to enjoy social activities and a model train environment like the real thing of years gone by.

The UVRS&M is located in the former O&W depot on Railroad Street in the village of New Berlin, NY. The Museum is open Saturday afternoons between Memorial Day and Labor Day or by appointment. Our mailing address is PO Box 751, New Berlin NY 13411.

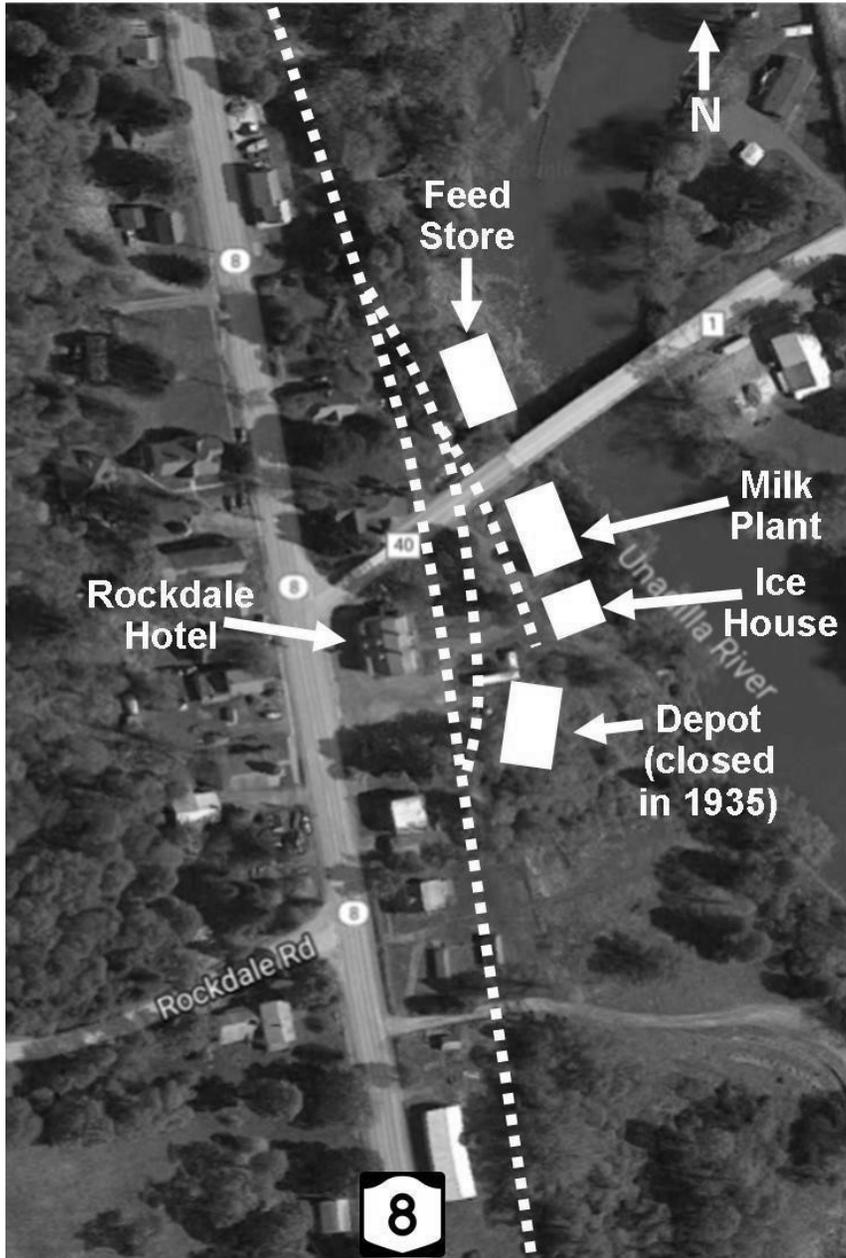


The Unadilla Valley Railway Society Museum



The location of our museum in New Berlin NY
Page 7

The Unadilla Valley Railroad in Rockdale



Imagery © 2017 Google, Map data © 2017 Google, Annotations © 2017 Tom DeForest. The first 2 pictures on the facing page are from the Mt. Upton web site. The third picture was taken by Tom DeForest.

Rockdale is a hamlet on NY-8 about 2½ miles north of the blinker in East Guilford. Rockdale was the first stop on the New Berlin branch north from the junction with the O&W in East Guilford (aka New Berlin Junction).

It appears that Rockdale never was very big. But it was big enough to have a church, a hotel, a one-room school (at least until central schools came along), a creamery and a store. When the New York & Oswego Midland Railroad built the New Berlin Branch in 1869, the decision was made to make Rockdale a stop on the railroad line. It didn't generate much business for the railroad so the station was closed in 1935. I have not been able to determine if the depot was still there when the UV bought the branch from the O&W in 1941. It's gone now.

There was precious little space between the Rockdale Hotel and the Unadilla River, but that is where the mainline, a couple of sidings and the depot were built. Presumably the feed store and milk plant were already there and the railroad was built around them.

The center picture is the Rockdale Hotel in 2013 in better times when it was open.

Nothing remains of the railroad, feed store, milk plant, ice house or depot. The area behind the Rockdale Hotel is now overgrown with brush. The Hotel itself has been closed for a number of years. (Submitted by Tom DeForest).



The Rockdale Depot



The Rockdale Hotel in 2013



The view behind the Rockdale Hotel today.

R.P.I. Appraisal

New York State Certified General Appraiser
email: RPIAppraisal@gmail.com

R.P.I. Real Estate

Residential ♦ Vacant Land ♦ Farm ♦ Commercial
email: RPISold@gmail.com

Suzanne Nogaret

607-847-8288 (Office)
4280 State Highway 8 / PO Box 458
New Berlin NY 13411

— *Now Open* —

Anything Collectibles

6321 State Hwy 23
South New Berlin NY 13843

607-548-7007

Hours: Thu, Fri, Sat, 11-5
(Other hours by Appt.)

Toys — Games — Puzzles
Bells — M&M Toys — T-Shirts & Hats
Model Train Parts — Railroadiana



Norwich Dodge Chrysler Jeep

158 County Rd 32A
Norwich NY 13815
607-336-2277 (local)
877-860-8280 (toll free)

New & Used Cars & Trucks
Parts ♦ Service ♦ Body Shop

Visit us also at Oneonta Ford
Rt 23 Southside , Oneonta NY 13820
607-432-7300 or 888-842-0808



Home, Auto, Life
& Just About Everything Else

9 Genesee St New Berlin NY 607-847-6501
www.gatescole.com

Stewart's Shops



*Let us make
your life easier!*

stewartsshops.com   



**Working hand
in hand for a
better future.**

At NBT Bank, strong communities count. And we know that building them takes everyone working together. That's why we support organizations that are dedicated to creating successful communities and a brighter future for us all.

To learn more visit nbtbank.com today.

**NBT
BANK**
for everything that counts®
800.NBT.BANK nbtbank.com

Member FDIC

The UV Store

The Life and Times of a Small Railroad, by William S. Young, 2009, 120 pages. A definitive account of the UV Railway. Get yours now. \$30.

Days Along the Buckwheat & Dandelion The Unadilla Valley Railway, by Fred Pugh, 3rd printing (1997), 142 pages plus 44-page addendum. Includes a number of color pictures, now \$35.

The Story of the Unadilla Valley Railroad as Told in Newspaper Articles, by Tom DeForest, 2016. 330 articles from over 50 newspapers. 105 pages, includes a 9-page index. Now \$25.

Topographic Maps of the UV, 29 pages of maps of the whole UV system in full color with a binder, \$20. (Shipping for this item is \$14).

Leatherstocking Rails (not pictured), a History of Railing along the Upper Susquehanna, by Jim Loudon, 1st Edition (2005), 258 pages. A detailed book about every railroad and trolley line that was ever built -- or planned -- in Otsego County NY. Only a few left, \$39.95.

Cat's Meow figure of the UV #200 locomotive. Wood, 7" wide, 3.5" high, brand new, \$20. (NOTE: this is not related to the Cat's Meow store in Sherburne NY).

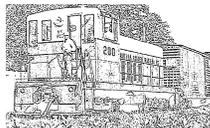
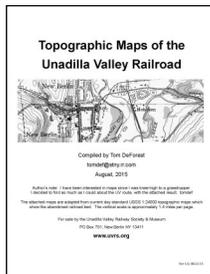
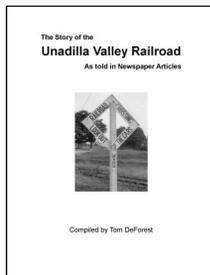
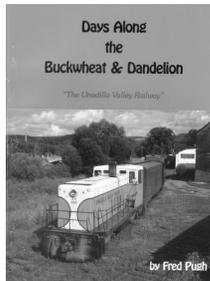
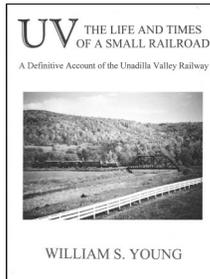
Note Cards of UV Rolling Stock and buildings. \$5 for set of 5 different images. 4 different sets available (20 different images total).

Orange **UV Hat with logo**, one size fits all, \$12.

(\$4 shipping additional for most items, see web site for details).

We have a number of articles and reprints for sale. Most are \$3 each. Check our web site: www.uvrs.org.

All of these items are available at any meeting of the UVR Society, contact any officer, or call Sandy Kilmer, UV Storekeeper, at 607-548-7007.



Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum Membership Form

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone () _____

e-mail address _____

Membership Categories:

- Conductor, \$250 / year Fireman, \$50 / year
 Engineer, \$100 / year Brakeman, \$20 / year
 ___ Add'l family members at same address, \$5 each / yr
 Donation \$ _____ **Total enclosed:** \$ _____

A list of member names and categories will be published annually. If you would prefer **not** to be included, please check here:

Dues for new members who join by July 1st cover all of the following calendar year.

Dues are payable on January 1st of each year. Keep your membership up to date to receive copies of our Pendragon newsletter and invitations to all of our meetings and special events.

Make payable to UVRS&M, PO Box 751, New Berlin NY 13411

Copyright 2018 by The Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum

The Pendragon is the official publication of the Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum. This newsletter is published quarterly by and for the membership. Correspondence on regional railroad history is welcomed. Articles will be considered for future publication in these pages. If you have received this newsletter as a courtesy, please consider joining. Inquiries should be sent to the UVRS&M, PO Box 751, New Berlin NY 13411 or by e-mail to UVRS@stny.rr.com.

The Unadilla Valley Railway Society & Museum was founded in 1995 with headquarters in New Berlin, New York. Since 1995 the organization has held a provisional charter under the New York State Education Department. The Society is a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code. Contributions of funds and items, as well as volunteer mileage, may be deductible on your income tax depending on your tax situation.

The Unadilla Valley Railway Society and Museum depends on your support as members, contributors and helpers in other ways. We very much appreciate all of your contributions.

From:
Unadilla Valley Railway
Society & Museum
PO Box 751
New Berlin NY 13411



To:

Three vertical lines, likely representing a placeholder for a recipient name or address.

Timetable — Schedule of upcoming events

Tue	Jan 9	1:00	Board Meeting	FUMC
Sat	Jan 20		Meeting Canceled due to Unpredictable Weather	
Tue	Feb 6	1:00	Board Meeting	FUMC
Sat	Feb 17		Meeting Canceled due to Unpredictable Weather	
Tue	Mar 6	1:00	Board Meeting	FUMC
Sat	Mar 17	1:00	Meeting Canceled due to Unpredictable Weather	

Notes:

FUMC: First United Methodist Church, 51 So Main, New Berlin NY 13411
(the FUMC is handicapped accessible)

UVRS&M: UVRS&M Museum, 10 Railroad St, New Berlin NY 13411

TBA: to be announced

(Check our web site at www.uvrs.org for meeting details and late changes).