



Moving Forward

2019

Message from James Bonner



News for Customers, Employees & Friends of the New York & Atlantic Railway



Summer is on the horizon with all its promise, both personally and for our railroad. We anticipate another busy season, and another great year for NYA, our employees, and the community we serve.

We are proud of the active role our employees play in helping others outside of work, and we have been well represented during the past year at a number of worthy causes including Island Harvest Food Bank, Nassau Suffolk Services for Autism, Breaking Ground, and the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

By far the most inspiring moment in NYA's year was when three of our train crew members saved a life. Proud doesn't begin to describe our feelings about their actions.

It's our customers who make everything we do possible, of course. This issue spotlights D&M Lumber, which has used our rail services to grow their business. Our good relationship with customers is the result of hard work and trust on all sides.

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Rail Spurs D&M's Innovation



Photo by Gregory Grice

Rising truck costs make rail more competitive for lumber shippers.

"Rail is very important to us," says Steve Packin, president of Brooklyn-based D&M Lumber. It wasn't always that way. For much of its 66 years in business, D&M relied primarily on trucks to deliver hardboard, plywood, particle board, MDF, corrugated plastic, acrylic panels, lumber, and other building materials to its distribution facilities—then on to its customers.

When NYA President James Bonner started his career with this railroad in sales and marketing, he contacted Packin to introduce the idea that rail could be a growing part of D&M's reliable and efficient supply chain.

"At our main Brooklyn facility on Stewart Avenue, we had been offloading materials from rail cars on neighboring business property," Packin says. "As trucking became more expensive, NYA enabled us to build a boxcar loading dock on our property."

D&M's many business contacts in the area started to ask if they could also receive lumber products at the rail dock, but it lacked the capability for handling the centerbeam cars that carry this traffic.

"James offered us the opportunity to open a separate five-acre transload facility in Maspeth, near the railroad's main yard," Packin says. "He really made an effort to go after new business when he came in. He's very approachable and easy to work with."

The available property at Maspeth had been unused for years. "It looked like a war zone, with mountains of millings and other debris," Packin remembers. NYA cleared it out and put the track in serviceable condition.

Business grew steadily since the facility opened five years ago. Last year, D&M handled 300-plus cars at the facility

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Message from James Bonner

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Keeping a railroad running properly requires continuous investment. This year we have planned a \$1.9 million capital expenditure program, and we will continue employee training that goes above and beyond regulatory requirements. By this summer, all our tenured track employees will have completed 213 Track Safety Standards training, and everyone on the railroad has completed a rules refresher program.

Safety is always our first priority, which resulted in a 50 percent reduction in personal injuries and reportable train accidents in 2018, and a streak of 300+ injury-free days.

I've touched on just a few of the great things happening at NYA. Please read on.

With gratitude,

James Bonner
President
New York & Atlantic Railway

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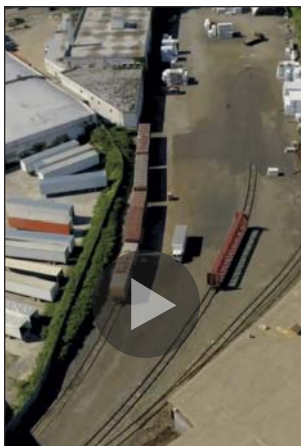
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Three New Videos Tell the Story of NYA



NYA debuted three videos in 2018 with an insider's view to railroad operations, service to the community, supporting the economy, and benefiting the environment. The videos dispel misconceptions about freight rail and offer insights about safety and envi-

ronmental issues. The drone footage segments offer a virtual tour of the many distribution and transportation options offered by NYA. This supports our sales and marketing staff with a great visual resource. To see the videos, visit: www.bit.ly/NYA-videos

New York Times Profiles NYA and Benefits of Urban Freight Rail

The New York & Atlantic Railway was spotlighted in a recent New York Times article about efforts to reduce gridlock and pollution caused by truck traffic in the metropolitan area.

Reporter Corey Kilgannon wrote:

"Most New Yorkers have not heard of the New York & Atlantic Railway, a freight line in the middle of New York City. But the line is growing, as rail freight emerges as a viable option."

Kilgannon reported that New York City is investing tens of millions of dollars to upgrade the freight train's corridors. It is anticipated that NYA will soon be handling more freight as the region expands the service that floats rail cars from New Jersey across New York Harbor by barge to

Brooklyn, where they connect with the railway.

"That rail line has an important but unsung job of diverting truck traffic, and it is key to the future of freight transport for New York City," said Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) in the article.

According to Kilgannon, trucks currently carry about 90 percent of the city's freight, more than most major American cities, contributing to the city's worsening gridlock and pouring greenhouse gases into the air. By contrast, the city's rail lines transport just two percent of New York's cargo. ♦

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—Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)

The complete article can be viewed at: <http://bit.ly/NYA-article>



NYA Heroes Honored by Railroad and Union

While switching a train on the night of September 5, 2018 at the Bay Ridge Interchange Yard in Brooklyn, three NYA employees took quick action that saved the life of an elderly woman.

Conductor Rommel Primus and Brakeman Connor Ray were riding on the rear car as it backed under a building complex near 4th Avenue. In the darkness, the crew suddenly spotted an 80-year-old woman lying on the track and not moving.

Primus called out to Engineer William Bagley to stop the train. Ray, who was riding on the same side of the car as the woman, jumped to the ground and ran to pull her out of the way. However, the train severely injured her right foot.

Primus, a U.S. Army veteran with medical training, used a tourniquet to stop the woman's bleeding while Ray ran to summon aid at the nearby New York Police Department station. The woman, who had wandered off from a nursing home, was taken to the hospital.

"We're very proud of our crew and the courageous way they saved this woman's

life," says Marlon Taylor, NYA vice president. "Their actions are symbolic of the way our railway works to promote a safe culture for employees and the public."

Bagley has been a NYA employee since 2004. Primus and Ray have both been with the railroad since 2016.

NYA honored the heroes by donating \$2,000 in each man's name to a nonprofit



Photo: L to R, Engineer William Bagley, Brakeman Connor Ray, and Conductor Rommel Primus

of their choice. They chose the Alzheimer's Association, Veterans of Foreign War, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

The trio was also recognized by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen (BLET) Division 269 in November. ♦



Photo by Gregory Grice

2019 CapEx Program Keeps NYA Strong

Railroads are unique among transportation companies because we make long-term investments that pay off over years, or decades. These investments are necessary for safety, efficiency and reliability. Every year NYA sets a capital expenditures (CapEx) budget for this purpose.

During 2019 we plan to spend \$1.9 million, focused on safety, security, resilience, and site improvements. Specific items include:

- complete installation of Wi-Tronix; real-time monitoring on all locomotives, even those being leased;
- one rebuilt locomotive truck to be available when needed;
- security cameras; and
- paving and lighting at terminal locations in Queens. ♦



Operation Lifesaver

NYA fully supports Operation Lifesaver, Inc. (OLI), a non-profit public safety education and awareness organization dedicated to reducing collisions, fatalities, and injuries at highway-rail crossings, and trespassing on or near railroad tracks.

Several of our employees, who are trained as Operation Lifesaver Authorized Volunteer (OLAV) speakers, participate in free rail-safety education programs. Their presentations are focused on school

groups, driver education programs, community audiences, professional drivers, law enforcement agencies, and emergency responders.

OLI programs are co-sponsored by federal, state and local government agencies, highway safety organizations, and America's railroads. NYA promotes OLI's three Es—Education, Enforcement and Engineering—to keep people safe around the tracks and railway crossings within our communities.

In 2018, led by Manager of Operations Support James Nunes, NYA presented the OLI safety message of "See Tracks, Think

Train" to almost 230 students and faculty at a local school, plus at a community youth fundraising event. NYA's OLAV personnel shared the message of crossing awareness and railroad safety to more than 400 adults and drivers in several events throughout the NYA service area.

We will continue our outreach efforts with local schools, community councils, and business networking organizations during 2019, with a goal towards expanding our educational outreach to those businesses operating along or near NYA's freight premises in Queens and Northern Brooklyn. ♦



Safety: First Responder Training

Our people protect the safety of fellow employees and the communities we serve in a variety of ways—including hands-on training with regional and local first responders.

"Moving material over the rails is an extremely safe method of transportation," says NYA President James Bonner. "The safety training sessions we conduct help ensure first responders are properly prepared in the very unlikely event of a breach or other problem."

In 2018, NYA and Anacostia Rail Holdings hosted tank car safety training for FDNY line companies in our response area. In addition, in-depth technical training was provided for FDNY's Hazardous Materials Battalion. Approximately 250 firefighters received basic tank safety training and an additional 100 technicians practiced field skills supported by experts from CSX, HEPACO, Paraco Gas, and the Short Line Safety Institute.

Following the publicity and success of those events, the FDNY Special Operations

Command (SOC)—which includes the HazMat Battalion—reached out to NYA for another training exercise. In December, we used the East New York Tunnel to simulate a structure collapse to provide members of the Tunnel Rescue Task Force with a realistic exercise that could not be provided at the fire academy.

The day-long tunnel event was attended by 36 firefighters, along with 15 instructors and support personnel. They used tools and equipment geared specifically for subterranean rescue operations, including Kutta Radios, Drager rebreathers, and electric-powered Nolan rail carts.

Building on the success of the realistic training, the SOC and NYA are developing an ongoing five-year program to provide field training to an even larger group of line and specialist companies. The training plan will utilize the unique features of the East



Photo by James Nunes

New York Tunnel as part of the FDNY's continuous training cycle.

Our railroad continues to deepen its engagement and collaboration with the first responders of the NYC Fire Department, including, but not limited to:

- co-hosting similar tank car familiarity training events for line companies around NYNJ rail's 65th Street float bridge operation;
- extending tank car familiarity training events for line companies covering the LIC Rail Terminal; and
- coordinating with the Firefighters Education and Training Foundation to allow the SOC to include passenger car rescues in their training cycle. ♦

D&M Innovation, *Continued from page 1*

and rail traffic continues to grow. When service was inaugurated, D&M could handle just one car at a time. Soon, a spur was put into service where four centerbeam cars can be positioned for transloading to trucks. There is also a dock location for one boxcar, creating the capability to handle five cars simultaneously.

"This year we see the potential for unloading up to 700 cars," Packin says.

The Maspeth facility really represents the start of a new business for D&M because 90 percent of the loads handled there are for other customers. Most of D&M's products are imported and arrive in containers on trucks from nearby ports.

Packin credits the success of this operation to the good working relationship he has with NYA. The railroad switches cars at the location six days a week.

He says that over-the-road carriers are

losing some of their advantage due to rising trucking costs following the Hours of Service rules implemented last year, as well as the nationwide driver shortage. In addition, area highways are becoming increasingly congested.

"As a result of these changing conditions," Packin says, "our main goal is to help reduce the amount of trucks on the roads to alleviate traffic and to get products to our transload facility on a reliable basis."

In February, a local gypsum board manufacturer had a production delay and couldn't fulfill orders in the NY-NJ region. D&M was able to offload more than 40 cars of board from Kentucky at Maspeth, helping prevent a market shortage.

A fresh approach to long-standing logistics operations made D&M's operations more efficient and opened an entirely new business for the company. Bonner also gives credit to NYA's Sales



Photo by Amy Louk

and Marketing staff for keeping the momentum rolling at the facility.

"Manager of Marketing Support Amy Louk and Director of Sales and Marketing Chuck Samul have worked regularly with D&M to develop new lines of business and origins. Asphalt roofing materials and fire-proof lumber—two lines of business new to both D&M and NYA—were added most recently," said Bonner.

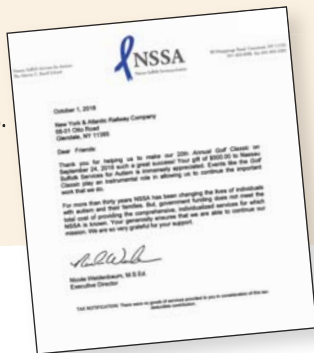
Packin is very happy with NYA's assistance and innovation.

"I'm the third generation running this company, and I know we have to keep growing to be viable," says Packin. "NYA is helping us do that." ♦

NYA In the Community

Nassau Suffolk Services for Autism

We donated \$500 to Nassau Suffolk Services for Autism (NSSA) in 2018 to help with the organization's annual fundraiser to support individualized services for those with autism and their families.



The communities we serve in Long Island, Queens, and Brooklyn are filled with caring people and agencies who work tirelessly to improve the lives of residents. NYA is proud to be a part of these efforts through our volunteer and charity activities.



Island Harvest Food Bank

NYA has committed \$15,000 to the food bank and pledged NYA staff as volunteers to pack and distribute canned food.



NYA Manager-Marketing Support Amy Louk (left) and Administrative Assistant Courtney Edwards (right) present the donation to Lisa Risi, COO of the Breast Cancer Research Foundation.

Breast Cancer Research Foundation

In 2018, NYA donated \$1,500 to the Breast Cancer Research Foundation. Representatives from the foundation visited our headquarters for a tour and received our donation check.



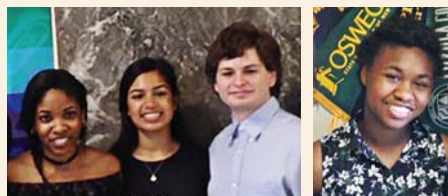
NYA President James Bonner (center) was congratulated by the co-chairs of the UJA-Federation New York's Building Materials Division Andrew C. Goodman, Sherwood Lumber (left) and Steven A. Packin, D & M Lumber (right).

UJA Federation

NYA President James Bonner was recently honored by UJA-Federation of New York's Building Materials Division. According to UJA officials, Bonner and NYA have been very supportive of UJA and the Building Materials Division Reception for many years. At the March 19 reception, Bonner was recognized for his philanthropic efforts both at UJA and throughout the greater New York community. The UJA distributes funds to hundreds of nonprofits in New York, in Israel, and around the world.

College Scholarships

NYA contributed four \$500 scholarships to high school seniors who plan to study transportation, engineering, sustainability, or a related technical trade, in service to the railroad industry.



The 2018 scholarship recipients are (L-to-R) Kayla Donald, Alyssa Alameda, and Justin Avila from Farmingdale High School; and Andrea Jones from Brentwood High School.

Local Business Associations

NYA belongs to Vision Long Island, the Evergreen North Brooklyn Business Exchange, and Maspeth Industrial Business Association. These associations promote business development in Long Island, Brooklyn, and Queens, and advocate on behalf of industrial companies and their customers and suppliers. As a member, we connect with other businesses to promote economic growth and sustainable operations in our local communities.



Play Ball!

NYA is proud to sponsor a local team from the Ridgewood Glendale Middle Village Maspeth Little League.



NYA's Courtney Edwards, right, delivered the donation to Eliza Jarvinen, director of Institutional and Major Gifts at Breaking Ground.

Breaking Ground

We donated \$1,000 to Breaking Ground to support programs, which include street outreach and transitional housing that facilitate transition from homelessness to housed.



Milestones

NYA employees celebrated the following milestones by May 2019.

We thank you for your service.

Anniversaries

15 years

Blendi Agolli ♦ William Bagley ♦ James Nunes

10 years

Robert Wullschleger ♦ Gene Beaubien
Raul Sanchez

1 year

Courtney Edwards

Promotions

Passed LIRR AC Exam, Assistant Conductor

Tyler Brown ♦ Jerich Gabriel ♦ Ryan Madaia

Yard Qualified Conductor

Nicholas Bridgemohan ♦ Anthony Minieri
Jorge Nunez ♦ Kelvin Nyamadi

Passed LIRR PC Exam, Qualified Conductor

Thomas Capobianco ♦ Andrew Hamrlicek
Karim Mostafa ♦ Rommel Primus
Connor Ray

Yard Qualified Engineer

Alan Acevedo

Fully Qualified Engineer

Matthew Sharkey

Director of Sales and Marketing

Charles (Chuck) Samul

Yardmaster

Raul Sanchez

Senior Track Inspector

Israel Linares

Welcome

MOE Technician

Lyeovyen (Leo) Ward

MOW Laborer

Michael Gonzalez ♦ Anthony Velez

NYA Kicks Off Employee Recognition Program in 2019



Israel Linares
January



Amaury Gonzalez
February



James Arkin
March

In January 2019, NYA began an employee recognition program that honors dedication and commitment in the workplace.

The "Employee of the Month" program is based on three criteria: no last-minute absences, no testing failures, and no discipline issues.

"We wanted to recognize employees with a strong work ethic who prioritize safety and teamwork to keep our railroad operations running," said Vice President Marlon Taylor. "Our Employee of the Month honorees are great role models for our entire workforce." ♦

Employees Drive NYA's Successes

Since our employees are the cornerstone of NYA's success, we like to celebrate their accomplishments.

We had several safety milestones in 2018 and made it to 300-plus injury-free days by the fall. As of April 18, 2019, we are in the middle of another safety streak and are at 250 days. We have celebrated with several safety lunches and treats.

"We are proud of how our employees kept up their good work to make safety a priority," said NYA Vice President Marlon Taylor.

Other celebrations in 2018 included an Employee Appreciation Day at Dave & Buster's in October and our annual holiday party in December. ♦

