



FRIDAY, AUGUST 11 through SUNDAY, AUGUST 13, 2017

Reading Railroad Heritage Museum

500 South Third St. Hamburg PA

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of Reading #5308 and #6300

the first locomotives to display the logo of the Reading Railroad's
innovative *Bee Line Service*.

See, hear, and photograph these giants of industry in the rail atmosphere of the Reading Railroad Heritage Museum! Take an excursion! Be immersed in history!

The festival begins on Friday, August 11, 2017 with a **rail excursion** on the Allentown & Auburn Railroad. The trip begins at the station in Kutztown PA at 7 PM and will travel through the scenic countryside to the shops of the A & A in Topton. Passengers may view the vintage rail equipment there. The return trip will reach Kutztown station about 9 PM.

Both Saturday and Sunday, these exciting activities at the Museum begin at 9 AM and continue until 5 PM.

In the rail yard, inspect and photograph the Museum's famous Reading Railroad locomotives, #6300, #5308, #5513, #621, #103, #900. Learn their significance to transportation. Hear the distinctive engine start-up of Alco #5308. Hear the sounds of a collection of diesel horns.

Tour Reading Railroad caboose #92832, the last caboose built in the Reading Railroad Shops. See the wood-sided caboose #92938, formerly the "lost child" caboose at HersheyPark, and all the rest of the Reading Railroad passenger and freight equipment collected by the RCT&HS.

In the LEMTU (Locomotive Engineer Mobile Training Unit), attend "air brake class" taught by a former Reading Railroad engineer. Can you pass the "test" and receive a "certificate"?

Inspect antique buses and learn about the Reading Railroad bus fleet.

In the Museum, visit the exhibit, “Making a Bee Line” to realize the breakthroughs in freight delivery service made by the Reading. Also, check out the wide selection of specially prepared anniversary items, books, railroad-themed gifts and clothing at the Museum Store.

The “bus barn”, you will enjoy scenes of the Reading on the RCT&HS’ impressive 112 ft. long modular HO gauge railroad. The advanced controls for the trains are fascinating. Maybe you can also run a train! Nearby, railroad artists and authors will greet you.

In the Museum’s new activity building, come and see the amazing photographs entered in the RAILFEST photo contest. If you are reading this before July 1, you may enter the contest for cash prizes.

No festival is complete without **great food!** Savor Hard-Wood Smoked Pulled Pork, Brisket, or Chicken, Baby Back Ribs, or local favorites such as Kielbasa, Brats, Pierogies, fresh Haluski, and refreshing beverages in the food tent.

Kids will enjoy a ride on the hand-pedalled “Munchkin Railway” and railroad crafts and games in the activities tent. Perhaps “Beatrice”, the Bee Line Bee, will stop by for a visit.

Relax and listen to great railroad music at the **Music Stage** at intervals throughout the day.

Browse the tables: vendors, festival tee-shirts, and used railroad bargain books; take home a souvenir! Visit the membership table and become a member for only \$20. Support our important efforts and enjoy the benefits of membership for the rest of 2017: a monthly newsletter, museum store discounts, and opportunities to volunteer.

SPECIAL EVENTS

SATURDAY

2 PM Former Reading Railroad employees will meet to exchange memories in the Museum’s theater room. Listen in as they reminisce and ask them questions.

6:00 PM DINNER and speaker, *Classic Trains* magazine editor, Robert McGonigal, will be a highlight of the festival. The dinner will be held at Hamburg High School. Tickets are available by advance reservation at Brown Paper Tickets.

9:00 PM Post-dinner **NIGHT PHOTO SESSION** in the Museum rail yard. Featured locomotives #6300 and #5308 will be illuminated for your photographs. Participants **MUST** have a tripod and a camera with open shutter capability. Limit 25 people. Tickets are available by advance reservation only at Brown Paper Tickets.