

**Mount Beacon Incline Railway  
Restoration Society**  
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**MOUNT BEACON**  
**INCLINE RAILWAY**  
SINCE 1902

## 2009 President's Letter

Dear Friends,

A colleague recently asked me, "What's going on with the Incline Society? Something seems to have changed." "It has," I replied. "We've found ourselves."

Of course, we were never actually lost. I simply meant that with the recent completion of a strategic plan, our vision has come into sharper focus than ever before. We know exactly where we're headed and we'd love for you to join us on the journey.

How do we see the future? First, **we believe that the Mount Beacon Incline Railway can be returned to operation by 2013**, the centennial of the City of Beacon, New York. On opening day, we envision a railway that:

- Is Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant
- Integrates sustainable design and historic preservation
- Operates in complete harmony with its natural setting

Second, we believe that restoring the railway allows us to achieve other ends, as embodied by our core values of ***Education, Community Service, Philanthropy, Historic Preservation, and Environmental Protection***. With those values to guide us, **here's how we imagine the Society in 2013 and beyond:**

***Education:*** The Society is registered with the New York State Education Department and holds a full charter issued by its Board of Regents. It operates a vibrant interpretive center on Main Street in the City of Beacon, New York, with the nearby Incline Railway as its centerpiece asset. It is a member of the *American Association of Museums (AAM)*, the *Museum Association of New York (MANY)*, and the *Association of Railway Museums (ARM)*. It has a multi-disciplinary focus on **Education, Historic Preservation, and Environmental Protection**. The Society partners with institutions of higher education in all of its disciplines and is recognized as a leader in its field.

***Community Service:*** We are partnered with organizations sharing our core values to improve the quality of life for our friends and neighbors in the Hudson Valley and

beyond. Our associates devote their time, energy and talents to selflessly serving others. As others volunteer to help us, so too must we volunteer to help others.

***Philanthropy:*** The Mount Beacon Incline Railway and Museum gives via direct contributions and partnered fundraising efforts, focusing its philanthropy upon educational and children's programs.

***Historic Preservation:*** The Society is a member of the *National Trust for Historic Preservation*. We are partners with *The Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area Program*, *Bannerman Island Trust*, the *Beacon*, *Fishkill* and *Newburgh Historical Societies*, and many others. We are working to raise awareness of our region's past and to inspire the active preservation, listing, and long-term protection of our national heritage.

***Environmental Protection:*** We are members of the *U.S Green Building Council*. Our facilities set the standard for green building practices and are LEED-certified (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). We are partners with organizations sharing our environmental concerns, such as *Scenic Hudson*, *Hudson River Valley Greenway*, *the Beacon Institute*, *Clearwater*, *the Environmental Consortium of Hudson River Colleges and Universities*, and many others.

Realizing this vision will require the support of our partners, members and friends, but it's become increasingly clear that the support is there. With your continued help, we'll get the job done. So climb aboard, and we'll see you at the top!

Anne Lynch  
President and CEO