

# FLYING YANKEE ASSOCIATION

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[www.FlyingYankee.org](http://www.FlyingYankee.org)

## PRESS RELEASE

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### “Flying Yankee” Train Is Back On the Right Track

NASHUA, NH – Supporters of the original 1935 *Flying Yankee* streamlined train have announced the resurrection of the inactive Flying Yankee Restoration Group (FYRG), renamed as the Flying Yankee Association (FYA).

The *Flying Yankee* is a complete passenger train built in February of 1935 for the Boston & Maine Railroad. It was just the third streamliner train ever built in North America, using a carbody developed by the Budd Company of Philadelphia and diesel-electric propulsion from the Electro-Motive Corporation near Chicago. After entering service in April 1935, the *Flying Yankee* served for 22 years on various routes throughout Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Maine before its retirement on May 7, 1957. After 40 years of private ownership, the train was acquired by the State of New Hampshire in 1997, with ongoing fundraising and promotion being managed by the non-profit FYRG.

Starting in the spring of 2021, volunteers updated and filed all required state and federal documents to bring FYRG back into good standing and establish the new FYA name. Along with the new name came an all-new Board of Directors, including several members with significant business and management experience and a number that are active in preservation at other New England non-profits. The past sixteen months have been spent researching the restoration status of the *Flying Yankee* trainset and the history of the FYRG. Research shows that many of the initial decisions that guided the project created a financial barrier that could not be overcome. The original FYRG plan that relied solely upon the use of contractors (rather than a mix of contractors and volunteer labor) to restore the *Flying Yankee* required significant and continuous influx of capital that the organization was unable to raise.

The *Flying Yankee* is currently in a partially restored state and is still owned by the State of New Hampshire. FYA will not call-in pledges, sell memberships, or solicit other donations until an agreement for the train is in place with the State of New Hampshire. With the organization’s commitment of funds, FYA is pursuing a different business model from those that have been tried

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before by FYRG, and the group is working towards a transfer of the *Flying Yankee*'s ownership from the State to the organization. FYA's goal is to reunite the train and its components at a location within New Hampshire where both previous and future restoration work is protected. FYA has identified several state-owned properties within the Mt. Washington Valley that may be suitable as restoration sites, and the organization is currently seeking to utilize one of these properties. In addition to the \$19,000 on hand from the previous board's fundraising efforts, FYA has obtained substantial pledges of \$470,000 (with another \$265,000 available in matching funds) for the relocation of the trainset and the construction of a building to house the *Flying Yankee*. FYA hopes to break ground for the new building in 2023.

FYA has also been in discussion with the Conway Scenic Railroad of Conway, New Hampshire, whose partnership and expertise will be beneficial during the restoration of the *Flying Yankee*. Operation of the restored *Flying Yankee* at Conway Scenic has been discussed.

Updates will continue to be posted to FYA's website ([www.flyingyankee.org](http://www.flyingyankee.org)), Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages. While memberships are not yet available, interested parties are encouraged to visit the FYA website and join the email list to get updates directly to their inboxes.

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*The Flying Yankee Restoration Group d/b/a **Flying Yankee Association** is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization that is responsible for raising and managing funds related to the restoration of the famous Flying Yankee train, originally owned and operated by the Boston & Maine Railroad. For more information, please visit the FYA website at [www.flyingyankee.org](http://www.flyingyankee.org), or find the organization on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.*