

PENNYRAIL

MARCH , 1997

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 2

The official
publication of the
Western Kentucky

NRHS National News



Chapter News

MARCH MEETING BADGETT CENTER MONDAY MAR. 24 7:00PM

Ricky Bivins will present a combination program including slides, video and a surprise personal presentation. Refreshments will be provided by Harold Kniffen.

Twenty two members attended the February meeting. Following a short business meeting Wally Watts presented a video double feature. The show opened with a 1930's "Little Rascals" short that would give present day BNSF management instant cardiac arrest. The feature was an early 1980's program depicting an SP 4449 trip from Oregon to California. It is amazing to see how much improvement has been made in rail video since this tape was made. A CSX grain train snuck by us during the meeting but we caught R556 just as the meeting broke up.

Membership renewals are coming in, albeit slowly in a few cases. According to Wally and Dennis there are five members who have not yet renewed for 1997 - come on guys get your checks in the mail!! Our newsletter mailing list will be trimmed following this issue.

The transfer of Chapter membership and financial records to Wally Watts, our new treasurer, should be completed before our March meeting.

The Great American Train Show in Nashville, on February 22, drew a great showing from Chapter

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Western Kentucky
Chapter, NRHS

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Madisonville, KY 42431

* * * * *

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Vice President
Ricky Bivins

Sect. Treas.
Wally Watts

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"PENNYRAIL" is the
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SPRING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Spring BOD meet
ing will be held in
Portland, OR on
April, 4-6, 1997.

NRHS CONVENTION

The Salt Lake
Convention is
generating lots of
interest. If you are
planning to attend get
your registration in
the mail promptly.
The convention trips
are filling up quickly.
For a registration
packet you may call
8 0 1 - 3 5 5 - 5 8 7 1
between 9AM and



1PM, MST.

ACKERMAN OUT
NRHS Secretary,
David Ackerman has
resigned to devote
more time to Chapter
activities. Bruce
Hodges, NE Reg VP,
is the new Secretary.

Chapter News

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members. In attendance were: Keith Kittinger, Dennis Carnal, Rich Hane, Ron Stubblefield, Harold Kniffen, Greg Utley, Rex Easterly, Don Clayton, Wallace Henderson, Reid Adams, Joe Wirth, Bob McCracken, Chuck & Shirley Hinrichs, and Mr. & Mrs. Eddie James.

Don Clayton, Rich Hane, Wally Watts, Ricky Bivins and Chuck Hinrichs attended the Owensboro Chapter's annual swap meet. Chuck and Ricky brought stuff to sell and Chuck had a little more luck than Ricky. We finished off the evening with a visit to Joe Wirth's train room. All in all, a most enjoyable evening. Thanks Owensboro!!

Our Chapter President, Bob McCracken was featured in the March 2, 1997 issue of the Madisonville *Messenger*. The story, with several pictures, featured Bob's home workshop and his 1 1/2 inch to the foot PRR K4 Pacific live steamer.

Billy Byrd will be at the throttle of TVRM steam again this year. Billy has also supplied a full TVRM schedule for inclusion in this issue of "PENNYRAIL." Thanks Billy.

Make a note on your calendar. The May Chapter meeting will be in Hopkinsville on May 19 (a week early) at the L&N Depot.

**TRACKSIDE
WITH THE OLD
GOAT**

Greetings from The Old Goat....Hope everyone is still high and dry after the March 1st flooding rains in the area. Seems like almost everyone that has a basement was manning the pumps on Saturday. Let's hope for dry and clear weather for a few days, make that a few weeks, so everything can dry out. But, things are starting to look like spring. The trees are budding, the flowers are starting to grow and even the damn grass is starting to get greener everyday. I can't wait to start mowing grass!!

Well,so much for this, on to whatever I have to report this month.

REPORT ON THE NASHVILLE GREAT AMERICAN TRAIN SHOW.....On Saturday, February 22 a group from Madisonville were on the road at 8:00 AM for Nashville. With Keith Kittinger at the helm of the Enterprise and a crew comprised of The Old Goat, Rich Hane, Harold Kniffen, Bob McCracken and Ron (Typhoid Mary) Stubblefield. They planned to travel via Highway 41 toward Nashville to railfan CSX on the way to the show. The first train sighted was a southbound grain extra at Kelly. Power was two CSX C40-8Ws. The next action was at Guthrie. Four R. J. Corman Geeps were getting ready to head east for Russelville with a manifest train and the CSX local was working the Koppers tie plant. The next train was sighted at Cedar Hill. It was northbound

manifest train R596 with a pair of CSX C40-8Ws. After stopping for breakfast in Springfield, the troops sighted another northbound manifest parked in the siding at Courtland. Power on this train was two more CSX C40-8Ws. Then at Goodlettsville a northbound tote train (R122) passed them with two CSX C44-9Ws. Then on to the train show. The trip home was an I24 quickie as most everyone had plans for that night.

RAILROADS UNDER WATER....The Madisonville area received between eight and twelve inches of rain on Friday, February 28th and Saturday, March 1st. Rainfall caused flooding to area business and homes. Unlike the flooding on the Green and Ohio Rivers, the waters around Madisonville had drained away by late Monday.

Both CSX and P & L railroads had problems with flooded tracks. Most of the damage was water washing away the ballast and undermining the roadbed. The ties and rails remained in place. CSX had washouts on the Henderson Sub between Evansville and Nashville. Washouts were in the Slaughters area, the Earlington mainline between Earlington and Madisonville,

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Trackside with the Old Goat

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the cuts north of Crofton, in the Casky area and at the north end of Baker Tunnel in Ridge Top. The line was closed Saturday afternoon and reopened early Sunday night. The dispatchers were busy finding places to park trains, getting crews picked up and expediting ballast trains to the washouts. A check of the train lineup late Sunday afternoon, showed twenty-three trains were to operate between Nashville and Evansville from around 5:00pm until mid-night.

CSX is having flooding problems along their Mainline Subdivision between Louisville and Nashville from several rivers in that area. The Texas Sub from Henderson to Louisville is also having major flooding problems. The Paducah & Louisville Railroad had some minor flooding problems in the Madisonville area during the downpour, but the major problems for the P&L are in the Fort Knox to Louisville area. Much of the track in these areas is covered with water.

The Henderson Sub is getting several detour trains both north and south avoiding the high water in the Louisville area. The P&L is routing it's LG&E coal trains via CSX (Madisonville to Princeton, IN) and NS (Princeton to Louisville). It is reported that this P&L detour move is being made with P&L power. High water in the Metropolis area has disrupted both BNSF and IC movements. Chuck has seen several blocks of IC grain hoppers moving north

on CSX trains. More details next month.

A flurry of military movements has spiced up the already busy CSX activity on the Henderson Sub. Under the auspices of the Joint Readiness Training Command - JRTC - units of the 101st Air Mobile have deployed from Ft. Campbell, Kentucky to Fort Polk, Louisiana. Unit equipment is loaded on flat cars and auto racks at Ft. Campbell and transported to a CSX connection at Hopkinsville, KY by Fort Campbell Rail. The track from Ft. Campbell to Hopkinsville is ex ICG and originally Tennessee Central. The interchange takes place at 18th Street in Hopkinsville and the CSX can pull only six cars at a time from the interchange track. The movement blocks two main streets in Hopkinsville and also plugs the CSX main. The interchanges started in mid-December of 1996 and are occurring on almost a weekly basis and will continue through mid-March 1997. Ft. Campbell Rail uses a pair of ex ICG GP10s, 4603 and 4617, to move the loads. CSX has used a variety of available power for the moves. Seen over the past several weeks were UP, SP and CSX (in pre-CSX paint schemes) units on the military trains. That's all for this edition of "Sightings."

Remember to send in information to myself or Chuck for use in future newsletters. I hope to see you trackside in the coming weeks. Keep in touch.

Later, Dudes!

Dennis J. Carnal
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PENNYRAIL

Information Requests

"JIM CROW" PHOTOS NEEDED

NRHS Bulletin Editor Frank Tatnall is requesting photos for use in an article regarding segregation. He is in need of photographs showing the inside of stations which had "colored" and "white" waiting rooms, restrooms, drinking fountains, etc. He is also looking for photos which show similar configurations in railroad cars. If you have such photographs to lend to the Bulletin, please send them to Frank at National Headquarters.

CHICAGO DEPOTS, HOTELS

Robert Parmelee, author of the article on "Parmelee Transfer Services" in the current issue of the NRHS Bulletin, is looking for additional information and photos of Chicago depots and hotels. If you have photos please let your editor know. Robert will be in Kentucky with his wife for the Quilt Show in Paducah in late April and he can bring his

NEXT MONTH

- Details of Wallace Henderson's trip to Railfan Days at the Texas Railroad Museum, Palestine, Texas.
- Highlights from the **NRHS** Spring Board Meeting in Portland, Oregon
- Additional information on the flooding in the area and it's impact on railroad operations.
- The "Old Goat's" sightings column. Spring weather should get lots of folks out and around.
- More pictures and graphics of area rail subjects.

February Minutes

Western Kentucky Chapter
February 24, 1997

President McCracken called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Minutes of the January meeting were approved.

Treasurers Report: No detailed report was given. Closing balance is \$778.34. Records have not yet been transferred to Wally Watts. The raffle brought in \$18.

Directors Report: Chuck reports that convention schedules are firm. Passed on information requests from Parmalee and Tatnall. Chuck will attend Board Meeting in Portland. The annual report and chapter information sheet has been sent of the NRHS office.

Old Business: none

New Business: Wallace Henderson gave info on the 4449 trip over Stampede Pass. Joe Wirth gave information on the up-coming 70th anniversary of NYC Hudson, 5200. 245 of the familiar Hudson followed 5200.

Meeting: Ricky Bivins has the March program and Jim Pearson will have the April program. Harold Kniffen will provide March refreshments.

Guests: None

Members Present: Jacob Jachna, Don Gregory, Chuck Hinrichs, Billy Byrd, Eddie James, D. A. Fraser, Joe Wirth, Chris Dees, Wallace Henderson, Dennis Carnal, Bob Moffet, Harold Kniffen, Rich Hane, Tom Wortham, Jim Pearson, Don Clayton, Greg Utley, Ricky Bivins, Keith Kittenger, Bob McCracken and Wally Watts.

There are 5 members who have not renewed for 1997.

NEW PENNYRILE POWER



Hopkinsville Elevator Company has acquired an exCSX GP16 (1817) to work it's new grain elevator at the old quarry site near Casky. The unit is painted silver and blue. Originally an SAL

Scanner Now On Line

Your editor has acquired a scanner for his computer. As the photo of HEC 1817 indicates, this will allow inclusion of black and white photos and other line art, sketches and maps in "PENNYRAIL". If you have photos of old depots, line-side structures or trains we will be happy to include them along with our usual written materials.

History Information Needed.

Your editor is looking for information on L&N predecessor railroads in the Western Kentucky area.

I provided Steve Neff a bit of pre-CSX history as background for his CSX Henderson Sub video. Using Kline's, Herr's, Prince's and Castner's books I was able to track back through the L&N to the St. Louis & Southeastern. The St. Louis & Southeastern

(Kentucky and Tennessee Divisions) ran from Henderson to Nashville and was acquired by L&N in 1879. Predecessor roads were Henderson & Nashville which was chartered in 1837 and was later the Evansville, Henderson & Nashville. The EH&N was completed in 1871 and was sold in 1872 to the St. Louis & Southeastern. The trackage between Guthrie and Nashville was originally the Edgefield & Kentucky. This trackage was operated briefly in 1872 as the Nashville, Chicago & St. Louis before becoming the Tennessee Division of the St. Louis & Southeastern. The references cited provide little detail on the St. Louis & Southeastern and it's predecessors. I have prowled the Internet and the local library without success. If anyone knows of any source of information on these pre-L&N roads please let me know.

One Man's Opinion

Dennis Carnal

SOME THINGS TO THINK ABOUT IN 1997.....The following is a list of items I feel will help the Western Kentucky Chapter grow in membership and to better serve the current members.

The chapter needs more input from the chapter officers in this newsletter. The officers should supply a short report or statement, from time to time, on their outlook and plans for the chapter.

We need a new chapter PR person to contact local news sources for more exposure for the chapter. Chuck Hinrichs wants to turn this position over to someone else, since he is now the editor for this newsletter. In the past eleven years, since this chapter was formed, not one story has ever been published in the local newspapers covering the chapter. The chapter needs coverage in the *Messenger*, *Hopkins County Magazine* and even the radio stations. The chapter has a member who works for the *Messenger* and Billy Byrd is a good friend of the editor of the *Messenger*. The March 2, 1997 issue of the *Messenger* carried a full page story on President, Bob McCracken and his 1 1/2 inch to the foot steamer indicating a continuing interest in railroad stories. The *Messenger* goes to homes in three or four counties in the area. The *Hopkins County Magazine* is published once a month and is mailed to every mailing address in Hopkins County, that's

around 23,000 homes. Bob McCracken has been featured in this publication. This was a story about building his live steam locomotive. Both of these stories were great stories and showed Bob's talent for building an item, that is both complex and time consuming. Radio station WFMW has a Monday morning talk show with guests ranging from the Madisonville mayor to local basketball coaches, plus just about everyone in between. One of the show's co-hosts, Danny Koeber, has stated on the air that he likes to play train songs from time to time, because he likes them and he likes trains in general. Sounds like a possible railfan to me. Other area news sources could be contacted outside of Hopkins County.

The chapter needs an information sheet to handout to possible new members. This information sheet should have a brief national and local chapter background. This information should cover starting dates and history for national and local chapters, dues, meeting dates and times, plus a rundown of local member's interests in the areas of modeling, photography, railfanning, collecting rare mileage on trains, plus other areas of interest among our members. The chapter needs a new updated membership roster, showing phone numbers. This roster would be a great help to the membership.

I would like for the Madisonville chapter to host a "Depot Day" for the members of the Madisonville, Owensboro and Paducah chapters. The members could bring along their family and/or friends. This meeting would not be open to the

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VIDEO REVIEWS

Chuck Hinrichs

TOUR OF THE M-10000

Pentrex, in cooperation with the Union Pacific Historical Society, has issued a 75 minute video covering the 1934 national tour of UP's revolutionary new passenger train. The video is in black and white with narration added. Photography is excellent. It is amazing the interest that this train generated during the tour. For those interested in the dawn of streamlined, non-steam, passenger trains this video is a must!

SOUTHERN PACIFIC/DRG's TENNESSEE PASS

Neff Video Productions shot this video in May of 1994. SP is very evident but still lots of Rio Grande power too. The excellent camera work captures the grandeur of the Rockies as well as the awesome task of lifting heavy trains over the +10,000 foot Tennessee Pass summit. The video is in color and sound without narration. A map and shot location list is included. For those going on the UP trip to Salt Lake this is an excellent introduction to the endangered Tennessee Pass line.

HENDERSON SUB

We saw Steve Neff at the GATS in Nashville. Computer editing priorities have slowed production of the Henderson Sub video but the tape should be available by mid-year. The clip we saw looked great and I can't wait to see the finished product.

One Man's Opinion

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general public. This way maybe the chapter would not have a problem with insurance coverage at the Badgett Center. The "Depot Day" would be in the early summer on a Saturday from 12:00 noon until 5:00 PM. This would allow anyone to attend the meeting, but could arrive home before dark. We could have an open slide/video show, story time of days past from members, or just bring lawn chairs and watch the trains roll through town. Eats could be provided and whatever else the membership could think of.

The above items should help the chapter grow. New members bring to the chapter more ideas, more interest and more overall input. The chapter should not sit on it's hands and wait for new members. The chapter should make an effort, on its own, to attract as many new members as possible. Remember the more the merrier. Take a few minutes to think about these items before the meeting Monday and lets talk about them. The chapter needs everyone's help in making this chapter better in the future.

**CLARKSVILLE GETS
DISPLAY LOCOMOTIVE**

The recently restored L&N Depot in Clarksville, TN now has a display locomotive. R. J. Corman 3501, an exSR hi-nose GP35, has been moved from Guthrie to the depot site. The locomotive is not operational but does sport a fresh coat of Corman maroon and white paint. Wallace Henderson sends in this report.

TIMETABLE

TVRM, Chattanooga will operate a full schedule of excursions in 1997 using steam (4501 & 610), diesels (Farmalls ??) and RDCs. A complete schedule is attached.

Tennessee Central Railway Museum, Nashville
See February 1997 "Pennyrail" for details.

NRHS Convention, Salt Lake City
Pre-Convention:

UP Trip Denver-Salt Lake is sold out!

Convention:

- Tue. June 24 Heber Valley Railroad - Steam in the Wasatch
- Wed. June 25 Nevada Northern - Steam
- UP, Salt Lake to Lyndall and return on the Provo Sub with E9s
- Thu. June 26 Golden Spike Monument and Ogden Union Station Museum
- Fri. June 27 Salt Lake, Garfield & Western Ry Meetings, Seminars, Annual Banquet
- Sat. June 28 UP 844, to Cache Jct. and return

Milwaukee 261

May 17/18 Minneapolis-Willmar,MN with side trip to Benson,MN For info: Friends of 261, 4322 Lakepoint Circle, Shoreville, MN 55126

Summerail

August 9 at Cincinnati Union Terminal - details later.

EMD Open House

September 20-21 LaGrange, IL - more later.

Cass Scenic Railway - Railfan Weekend

May 16-18 Tripleheader Shays and more. For info. Railfan Weekend, Box 107, Cass, WV 24927 of call 1-800-225-5982

Illinois Central Historical Society - Kentucky Division

April 19. Spring meeting - Princeton, KY. Meet at 11:00 AM at Bertie's South Yard Restaurant (west of town on US 62) for lunch and then a tour of the Railroad Museum.

Oroville Rail Historical Society

Oroville, OH to Pittsburgh, PA and return. Wheeling & Lake Erie RR and Columbus & Ohio River RR. For brochure send SASE to: ORHS, PO Box 11, Oroville, OH 44667

Galesburg, IL

June 28-29 Annual Galesburg Railroad Days. BN/Amtrak Station 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Info: Galesburg Area CVP, PO Box 749, Dept. MC, Galesburg, IL 61402-0749 or call 1-309-343-1194.

There is a probability that C&O 2716 will run in this area in cooperation with KRM. Watch "Timetable" for confirmation. 2716 will likely repeat last years trips out of Logansport, IN.