

PENNYRAIL

April 2007

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 4



Chapter Chatter

Next Meeting

Monday, April 23

7:00 pm

The Center (old L&N Depot)

Arch Street at the Railroad

Madisonville, KY

Following our regular business session, Ricky Bivins will present the classic video, *Last of the Giants*, which highlights UP's fading days of steam, with particular attention to the Big Boys. Ricky will also share his experiences in the Cheyenne area.

Bring something for Show and Tell and maybe even an item for the raffle. Please encourage one another to attend our monthly meetings, every "squealing flange" counts!

Up-coming Program Presenters

May 2007 - Wallace Henderson at Hopkinsville,

Refreshments by the Hopkinsville crew

June 2007 - Tim Moore,

Refreshments by Keith Kittinger

July 2007 - TBA,

Refreshments by Rick Bivins

August 2007 - Chuck Hinrichs,

Refreshments by Steve Miller

September 2007 - Bill Thomas,

Refreshments by Jim and Thomas Bryan

Western Kentucky
Chapter, NRHS, Inc.

111 Reed Place
Madisonville, KY 42431

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President
Rich Hane

Vice President
Rick Bivins

Sect. Treas.
Wally Watts

National Director
Wallace Henderson

Director
Tim Moore

"PENNYRAIL" is the official publication of the Western Kentucky Chapter, NRHS. Send news notes, historical notes and other rail information to:

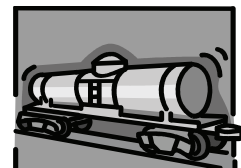
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March Program Follow-up

The video Jim Findley showed at the March meeting was taken by amateur videographers in 1987-88 on CSX between Evansville and Nashville and around Hopkins, Webster, Muhlenberg, and Christian Counties by trainmen who have mostly retired or passed away. Although the beginning was pretty hard to watch due to the conditions, video equipment, tape quality, etc. the remainder of the video was quite interesting with shots of many local scenes, coal mines, cities, coal actually being loaded into hoppers (viewed from inside the tipple), going across the Henderson bridge into and out of Indiana, interior cab shots, etc. An interesting program overall.

- Rich Hane



As rail fans don't forget to help

out and watch passing trains for problems. You will find RR emergency numbers on page 5.

NRHS News

**National Director's Report
Wallace Henderson**

(reprint from March newsletter)

Wallace reported the convention brochures will be mailed on the 22nd of April, 2007. He encouraged all to read the NRHS News Extra. More services will be done out-of-house by contractors, in hopes it will speed up procedures and hasten the completion of *The Bulletin*. This will probably result in a dues increase.

RailCamp Dates for 2007-At Steamtown, July 8-15; at Nevada Northern Railway, June 11-17

2008 National Convention Dates-June 16-24, 2008, hosted by the North Texas NRHS. Headquarters will be in Fort Worth (Tower 55!), Hilton Hotel.

National Office Address Change-Due to increased mail volume, National is receiving mail exclusively at the following street address: National Railway Historical Society, 100 North 17th Street, STE 1203, Philadelphia, PA 19103-2783.



Can you identify the man on the left in 1986? Let's have more of these!



From the President

By Rich Hane

Several of our long time members have recently been in the hospital. David Millen has gone through his operation successfully and the doctor is letting him use just his cane instead of the walker to get around. He cannot drive yet because of his right foot but he will join us for the May meeting in Hopkinsville he thinks. I wished him more good luck and a speedy recovery.

Dennis Carnal was in the hospital in Madisonville for 4 days earlier this month but he is home now and recovering nicely. He is a bit tired but he and his liver should do well if they follow the doctor's orders. I'm sure the Cardinals and his dog are happy to have him back home.

I hope to see a nice group for this Monday's meeting at the Center. Ricky Bivins will have the program and his programs have always proved to be informative in the past and have generated much discussion even when the slides are put in straight in the projector. See you Monday.....

Rich

Editor's Ash Pit by Bill Thomas

We all sensed the amazement recently as the French TGV took another leap ahead in passenger-rail transportation by setting the world speed record for a "conventional rail" train. It zipped through the French countryside at a blurring 357.2 miles per hour, approaching the cruising speed of some jet aircraft.



Lurking in the back of my mind is the ever-present question, "Why can't we (Americans) have such travel options? My family makes several round trips to Birmingham, AL, each year and it sure would be nice to hop on a train in Nashville (or even Madisonville), and be at the in-laws in a couple of hours rather than the normal six (6). Yes, I would be glad to give up my personal vehicle and leave it at home.

Well, we all know most of the answers to the question above. Most Americans are not willing to give up their personal vehicles for medium range trips. Many Americans can afford the fuel costs for such trips, not to mention the nice personal vehicle itself. The initial cost to either private investors, state and/or federal governments for such a rail link would be out of sight. I'm sure there are other reasons, but these seem to be some of the most obvious to this amateur transportation analyst. I guess gas is just not high enough yet. There's always hope!

Southern Illinois RR Museum to Host Photo Day

PENNYRAIL

**SEND YOUR
ARTICLES AND
PHOTOS TO:
BILL THOMAS
bill@fbcmadisonville.com**

The Monticello Railway Museum will have a Photo Train Day April 28 2007 starting at 8:00 AM. The event will start at the Nelson Crossing depot at the museum grounds. Two trains will operate during the day. The first will be a freight with Milw N 1647 facing north. Then a passenger train with Canadian National FPA4 #6789 leading a train of Illinois Central passenger cars. During the day Wabash F7 1189 will be used in the freight. The photo location will be along the museum's IC line. The day will end at about 5PM. There will be a night photo section starting about 9PM with Steve Barry of Railfan Magazine. On Sunday April 29 2007 there will be a day of Throttle Times where you get to operate a train over about 2 miles of the museum's track.

A reminder - **PENNYRAIL** has a Buy, Sell, Swap column for Chapter member use.

Tickets for the Photo Train on Saturday are \$40.00 per person. The Throttle Time tickets are \$100.00. For more information contact Arthur Purchase at urtx@route24.net

Let us remember Dave Millen and Dennis Carnal as they recover from hospital stays.

New Tourist Line in South Dakota

Deadwood, Black Hills & Western Railroad, Rapid City-Sturgis-Deadwood SD (approx 41 miles OW) starts operations this summer:

Rapid City to Sturgis: Sightseeing & Rally Express- This trip is the first passenger rail service Deadwood, Black Hills and Western Railroad will operate as a company. It will start approximately one month prior to the Sturgis Rally and will work up to 11 roundtrips between Rapid City and Sturgis (making a stop in Piedmont) during the 2007 Sturgis Rally. Upon completion of the rally, this trip will become our first phase of regular scheduled trains.

Sturgis to Deadwood:

Roundtrips to Deadwood will be operated up to 8 times per day during the height of the tourist season. The Deadwood run will take approximately 1 1/2 hours for the roundtrip and will be the perfect family oriented trip. This schedule will also be designed to handle workers from Sturgis to Deadwood and return. The number of trips will give employees flexibility in their travel schedules.

Note: They also have their sights set on additional rail service:

Phase I: Rapid City to Sturgis (2007)

Phase II: Rapid City to Deadwood (late 2007)

Phase III: Rapid City to Wall and the Badlands (2008)

Phase IV: Rapid City to Buffalo Gap and the Southern Black Hills (2009)

Phase V: Downtown Rapid City to Rapid City Regional Airport (2010)

from: <http://www.blackhillsrailway.com/>

(Submitted by Don Clayton)

“U.S. rail carload traffic dipped in March 2007 compared to a strong March 2006 because overall freight transportation demand is down a bit,” noted AAR Vice President Craig F. Rockey. “The low demand for building products (in part because of housing weakness), difficult times for the auto industry, and severe spring snows and flooding in the West which halted coal mining have left their mark on rail volumes. The increase in intermodal traffic in the first quarter marked the 20th straight quarterly increase for intermodal.”

**For more go to
www.aar.org**

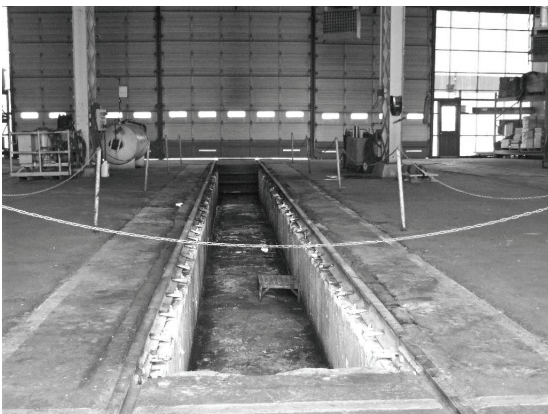
PHOTO SECTION



The first regular freight makes its way through the north side of the new Romney siding on April 9, 2007, soon after CSX MOW crews tied the North and South switches into the new siding .
(Jim Pearson)



Three UP Genset-3s await their crew in a northbound consist at Fulton Yard. (Jim Futrell)



Damaged bridge pier on RJ Corman's Memphis Line at Clarksville, TN. Repairs are underway.
(Submitted by Chris Dees, photographer unknown)



Some of our chapter members got a tour of Howel Yard and facilities last month. (above, below left, and below right)
(Ron Stubblefield)



Photo Section Continued



New power at the TVA plant in Drakesboro, KY. There are three GP50s on the property, leased from NREX. The units are ex FURX, exx UP, nee C&NW. 2906 and 2940 were photographed. The third unit was inside the plant fence.

(Chuck Hinrichs)

For more railroad photographs check out the Photo Gallery on the Chapter's web site

<http://www.westkentuckynrhs.org>

Interesting Dates in West Kentucky Rail History

April 27, 1947 - IC's streamlined City of New Orleans enters service between Chicago and New Orleans. Trains 101-102 between Louisville and Fulton serve as a connecting train.

April 22, 1964 - IC 2-8-2 1518 is pulled from Paducah roundhouse and moved across town to display site in Barkley Park along Ohio River

April 22, 1901 - Groundbreaking for Cadiz RR

Links of Interest

Railway Preservation News

www.rypn.org/

Kentucky Railway Museum

www.kyrail.org/

Indiana Railway Museum and French Lick Scenic Railway

www.indianarailwaymuseum.org/

Indiana Transportation Museum

www.itm.org/

Illinois Railway Museum

www.irm.org/

Tennessee Central

Railway Museum

www.tcry.org/

“PENNYRAIL” is your publication. If you have photographs or other material of current or historical interest that you would like to share with Chapter members, your editor would appreciate hearing from you. Your material will receive the best of care while being readied for publication. Your help is appreciated.

Bill Thomas, editor

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

PENNYRAIL

11 issues

\$12 PER YEAR

AS RAILFANS WE ARE OFTEN AT TRACKSIDE AND IN POSITION TO OBSERVE EMERGENCY CONDITIONS THAT COULD AFFECT RAILROAD SAFETY OR SECURITY. KEEP THESE NUMBERS HANDY TO REPORT INCIDENTS.

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CN/IC	800-465-9239
CSX	800-232-0144
NS	800-453-2530
UP	888-877-7267
Amtrak	800-331-0008

March Minutes Summary

Western Kentucky Chapter, NRHS

The Center, Madisonville, KY
Monday, March 26, 2007, 7:00 pm

President Hane called the meeting to order and the minutes of the February meeting were approved. The current treasurer's report was also approved..

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Beginning Balance	\$2,454.07
Income	
Nat. Dues	\$70.00
Ch. Dues	\$39.00
Donations	\$00.00
Raffle	\$13.00
Video	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$122.00
Adjusted Balance	\$2,576.07
Expenses	
Nat. Dues	\$44.00
Postage	\$31.20
Printing	\$57.88
Video	\$0.00
Supplies	\$0.00
Other	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$133.08
Ending Balance	\$2,442.99

MEMBERSHIP:	Full	55
	Chapter Only	19
	Total	74

DIRECTORS REPORT: Wallace reported advance registration for the 2007 convention open until April 15. Brochures will be mailed the 22nd. He (Wallace) suggested mailing early. Convention looks good. David Hayes, one of our chapter-only members, is on the brochure committee.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ACTIVITIES: Ricky Bivins plans a locomotive run this Saturday, March 31. Suggestions were put forth of driving to Nashville and riding the *Nashville Star* commuter train between Nashville and Lebanon, TN. A suggested time would be leave Lebanon at 3:20 PM and arrive at Nashville at 4:10 PM. Cost is \$5 each direction. We could combine that with a tour of the Museum and Union Station. October was mentioned as a good time for this. Also the picnic/train watching at Crofton in October. This summer or fall, Ricky suggested a bike/walking tour of the old IC main line between White Plains and Nortonville. He states this could also be done in late April. Wally suggested we might do this Saturday the 28th of April, from 10 AM to 2 PM. A caboose is located there

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Jim Finley reports KRM will start its runs in early April. Steam locomotive 152 is scheduled to start running in April also.

ATTENDANCE: 19: Wally Watts, D.A. Fraser, Rich Hane, Rick Bivins, Phil Randall, Tom Steiner, Dennis Carnal, Jim Bryan, Thomas Bryan, Bill Heaton, Steve Miller, John McGee, Donny Knight, Jim Finley, Chuck Hinrichs, Wallace Henderson, Bill Thomas, Tim Moore, William Corum, Greg Utley, Harry Dolph. One guest, Judy Tooley.

Another Rebuild Plant in the Works!

New Locomotive Rebuild Plant Slated for Western Kentucky

Excerpts from: The Paducah Sun - April 4, 2007, Article by Joe Walker, Sun Business Editor. www.paducahsun.com.

Mayfield, Kentucky - Caterpillar subsidiary Progress Rail Services Corp. headquartered in Albertville, Alabama is seeking to open a 100 employee Locomotive Rebuild Facility that will occupy the former Ingersoll-Rand factory on U. S. 45. Presently they are advertising for positions from plant manager through all positions. Progress Corporate Communications Manager Susie Hilsman stated that the company expected to finalize a purchase agreement for the property within two weeks. The Progress Rail Service is a major supplier of products and service to the rail industry in North America. It operates plants in 10 states, Canada and Mexico. Work would involve dismantling and rebuilding locomotives, similar to VMV shops in Paducah.

-submitted by Ron Stubblefield

I've Been Workin' on the Railroad...

Some of the West Kentucky Chapter members enjoyed a day out with Sammy the St. Charles Switcher last month. Photos by Ron Stubblefield.



Ricky Bivins checks out new air horns! What a blast!



Bill Thomas' guest, Bill Shoemaker of Howardstown, KY, makes his first-ever run.



Bill Thomas pushes dead sister loco railroad north toward old IC line.



Odds and Ends

Paducah & Louisville connections in Louisville - PAL interchanges with CSX via a track that runs east from the south end of the yard over to the CSX main south of Oak Street not too far from 7th and Mag. The track is less than a mile long. This PAL train will run all the way out to Osborn Yard and usually drop off and pick up cars from the L-Yard at Osborn. I know they run a transfer job any day that there's a train in from Paducah. It has a Z symbol but I can't remember what it is right now. I believe they run in the morning sometime after they get the inbound PL train cut apart and sorted.

The LIRC leaves cars for the PAL on the CSX main, usually #1 Main just north of Oak Street. They started doing it this way when the L&I started having so much traffic on the CSX main.

I have also seen the L&I come straight down 15th Street to Oak Street but I have not seen them do that in a while. I don't know how they decide which way to do it. Track conditions could be a factor. The whole north end of the PAL yard needs a lot of work. The Kentucky Street crossing needs to be completely rebuilt.

Interchange with NS and therefore the INRD is via the floodwall yard just east of Clagg Tower.. Someone on here knows the proper name of that yard. The L&I runs a job a day over there at least depending on the traffic NS has for them. I don't know for a fact that INRD cars end up there but it would make sense and would be simple to accomplish. *Internet Mike Harpe Sellersburg, IN*

Mayfield Rumor - There has been internet speculation on the possibility of a locomotive rebuild facility in Mayfield, KY. Caterpillar subsidiary Progress Rail Services Corp. is the rumored re-builder with several empty buildings in Mayfield as possible sites. *Internet*

R J Corman Bridge Damaged - CLARKSVILLE, TN The barge suspected of damaging a railroad bridge across the Cumberland River last week was identified by the U.S. Coast Guard, while repairs began Thursday. A barge being pushed by the tug "Samuel J." operated by Louisville, Ky.-based Florida Marine Transporters Inc. struck the pylon March 29, The Leaf-Chronicle reported.

A crewman on the vessel first noticed the damage and the pilot was routinely tested for drugs and alcohol, Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Tom Kaminski said in a news release. It was not yet known if the pilot or company would face any penalties. The accident shut down river traffic for a day, and only one side has reopened. Rail traffic is still being kept from crossing the bridge owned by R.J. Corman Railroad Co.

Engineers with the company began repairing the gouged stone pylon on Thursday. They plan to inject gunite concrete into the pylon to temporarily make it stable enough for slow rail traffic. Permanent repairs to the historic stone pylons will begin later. The bridge, along with other parts of Clarksville's old industrial district, was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1976. *internet*

New Romney Siding Now in Service - The new CSX siding south of Nortonville was placed in service the week of April 9th. The siding is actually the old main track and the newly laid track to the west is now the main. Crews are still working in the area and trains are subject to slow orders on both the main and the siding. *Steve Miller and Chuck Hinrichs*

Fans of the Illinois Central Railroad may want to consider joining the Illinois Central Railroad Heritage Association (ICRHA). This newly formed group plans on publishing a quarterly magazine covering all phases of IC history.

The magazine will not be restricted to any particular time period. Thus, the magazine will not only publish articles about the "old" Illinois Central (and Illinois Central Gulf), but also operations on the IC since Canadian National took over in 1999. The magazine will also cover spin off roads such as Paducah & Louisville, Chicago Central & Pacific, Indiana Railroad.

The first magazine, due out later this spring, is scheduled to have an article about the Paducah & Illinois Railroad.

Layout and publication of the magazine is being handled by White River Productions, the same company that recently took over production of the L&N Historical Society's magazine. White River Production has a reputation for high quality magazines and they will undoubtedly do a fine job with the magazine.

Dues for the ICRHA are \$34 (regular) or \$65 (contributing member, which receives a free calendar). Membership fees and inquiries can be sent to Illinois Central Railroad Heritage Association, Membership Services, P.O. Box 47, Bucklin, MO 64631.

It should be noted that the ICHRA is not affiliated with the Illinois Central Railroad Historical Society (ICHHS), and the ICHHS is still very much alive and kicking. - Cliff Downey



BUY - SELL - SWAP

For Sale *L&N* and *Family Lines* employee magazines, \$2 each plus postage. Call or send for list.

Dennis Carnal
704 Choctaw Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431
270-825-0693

Sell or Swap 63 issues of *DIESEL ERA* (1994 to 2003), a very well edited and illustrated locomotive magazine. The multiple views and varying paint schemes of locomotives can be most helpful to modelers. \$1 an issue or \$50 for the lot.

Chuck Hinrichs 270-886-2849
e-mail chuckrail@bellsouth.net

Sell or Swap **Extra 2200 South** (issues 15 through 124). The definitive source of locomotive information. Make an offer or would trade for an IC, or GM&O lantern.

Chuck Hinrichs 270-886-2849
e-mail chuckrail@bellsouth.net

Sell or Swap **The Shortline** an authoritative source of information on shortline railroads. These issues are from the Glen McDonald era and are much better than the more recent issues. Would trade for an IC or GM&O lantern or make an offer.

Chuck Hinrichs 270-886-2849
e-mail chuckrail@bellsouth.net

Sell or Swap **HO Illinois Central Locomotives.** Proto 2000 SW7 and GP7. Units have been assembled but have never been run. \$50 ea. or swap for Illinois Central or GM&O lantern.

Chuck Hinrichs 270-886-2849
e-mail chuckrail@bellsouth.net

TIMETABLE #110

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

Homewood IL Railroad Days May 19-20 2007. Homewood, IL. Homewood is located in the south suburbs of Chicago and is easily accessible off of Interstate 80, Interstate 57, the Illinois Tollway (I-294), or via METRA's Electric Line service from downtown Chicago.

June 2-3 2007, Milwaukee Road Steam locomotive #261 will pull an overnight round trip excursion from Minneapolis to Duluth, MN. The trips are sponsored by Friends of the 261, with the cooperation of Amtrak, BNSF Railway, and the Lake Superior Railroad Museum. The train will include air conditioned coaches, first class and premium service in ex-Milwaukee

August 21- 25, 2007 The National Railway Historical Society Convention. Chattanooga, TN For up-to-date convention information and program details check the Chattanooga 2007 web site: <http://www.chattrails.com>

L&N Historical Society Convention - October 4, 5, and 6, 2007, Bowling Green, KY.

VISIT THE CHAPTER WEB SITE

<http://www.westkentuckynrhs.org>

PENNYRAIL

% Bill Thomas, Editor
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