

PENNYRAIL

February 2011

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 2

Please send your digital photos and story material to bill@fbcmadisonville.com

or mail to
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First Baptist Church,
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Madisonville, KY
42431.



Chapter Chatter

Next Meeting Monday,
February 28, 2011
7:00 pm, L&N Depot
Madisonville, KY

Program by
Wallace Henderson
Refreshments by Bill Thomas

Western Kentucky
Chapter, NRHS, Inc.

111 Reed Place
Madisonville, KY 42431

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Ricky Bivins

Vice President
Steve Miller

Secretary Treasurer
Wally Watts

National Director
Wallace Henderson

Director at Large
Danny Koeber

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

Editor
Bill Thomas

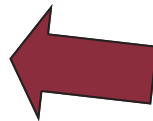
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Time to Renew!

Please send your dues renewal to
Wally Watts, Treasurer,
111 Reid Place, Madisonville, KY 42431.
Make checks payable to West KY NRHS

Keith Kittinger and grandson Trevor, enjoy a day out at the sHow Train Show in Bowling Green, KY, Saturday, February 19. Several other chapter members were spotted at the annual event held at the Historic Rail Park. This photo and



Ricky's Replies

President, Ricky Bivins

Hello Everyone.

I hope those in attendance of the January meeting found it to be enjoyable and informative. I apologize for my divided attention. Having an inexperienced man tending to the airport was playing heavily on my mind at the time. As it were, he handled the situation well and all was taken care of.

As a result of my inattentiveness, I allowed a motion to pass with out a vote. That being the dollar figure placed before the Chapter in regards to sending "our" rail camper to Scranton PA. I will bring this up as old business in February.

Two members have come to me, each with an idea, that I think will bring substance and growth to our Chapter. My response too both was to bring it up before the members and if need be, entertain a motion. Keep in mind; many ideas do not need a vote. For example, our Hopkinsville members host our meeting every year in May. This is almost taken for granted as we always "ask" them to confirm same. The same goes for the fall picnic in Crofton. If you have an idea for a function or event that does not require Chapter funds then take up the idea and sponsor same. If the Chapter chooses to embrace the idea, then we may need to

WKRW Officially Abandoned

In case the group is not aware, G&W applied with the STB last month to abandon all of the Western Kentucky Railway. Western Kentucky Railway, LLC ("Applicant" or "WKRL") is seeking an exemption to abandon all of its remaining lines of railroad (the "Subject Lines") which Applicant believes are as follows:

- Between MP 48.0 at Dekoven and MP 62.5 at Blackford;
- Between MP 0.0 at Blackford and MP 3.8 at Pyro Wye and between MP 3.8 and MP 8.5 at Clay;
- Between MP 0.0 at Costain Prep Plant and MP 9.5 at Providence
- Between MP 0.0. at Costain Prep Plant and MP 5.5 at Caney Creek; and
- Wheatcraft loop track

Submitted by Phil Randall

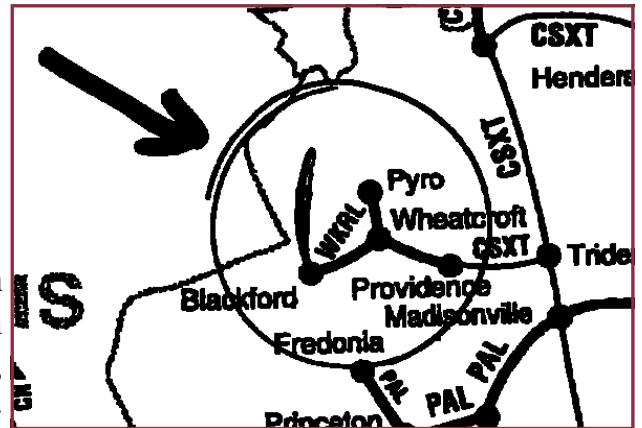
vote on the level of participation as a Chapter.

Two things I plan to bring before the Chapter in February are: The Chapter Archives and Chapter participation in The City of Madisonville's Friday Night Live events. These two items I feel are important to the Chapter as a whole. The archive needs our attention right away. The Friday Night Live events would be a way to get our name out there with out cost to the Chapter. It will however require participation from the membership. We will discuss both the Archive and Friday Night Live during the business meeting February 28th.

Wally will have the program and refreshment sign up sheet at the February meeting. If you are not on the list, please give thought to signing up for one or the other if not both. I can think of several regular members whom have not given a program in recent years. We need diversity and involvement from the membership. Please, step up and give support to our/YOUR Chapter.

So everyone try to make the meeting, join in the fun, bring a friend and we will promote our love of trains and everything railroading.

Rick Bivins



Shots from the Bowling Green sHOW

At the Historic Rail Park - February 19, 2011

Photos by Chuck Hinrichs



Chuck Hinrich's grandson in front of E8 796



Joe and Bill Thomas try to shed some wares.



Chuck caught RJ Corman at South Union on his way to the sHOW.

Thoughts and Prayers

For Chapter Members experiencing health challenges

If you know of members who are or have been recently hospitalized, please forward the information to me, bill@fbcmadisonville.com

YouTube Pick

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bnrHMCyRUQY>

"Daddy, What's a Train?" - some vintage 8mm footage of various passenger equipment and motive power.

PHOTO SECTION

Right: The “Old Goat” (Dennis Carnal) walks along the CSX Morganfield Branch, just west of Manitou, KY, where a loaded Dotiki unit coal train derailed in December, 2010, grounding seven aluminum 100-ton hoppers. More pictures below.
Photographs by Bill Thomas



Second Photo Section



Left: UP 3985 is headed back Northbound to St. Louis with an employee special that ran from St. Louis to Gorham, IL and return. It is crossing the Kaskaskia River Bridge at Gage Jct, IL(m.p. 52.1) on October 7, 2010.

Photo by Bill Grady

Below: UP 3985 Southbound is just minutes from Gorham, IL seen here passing Raddle Jct.(m.p. 76.3) doing every bit of 60 mph.

Photo by Bill Grady

These photographs are from a day trip we (Bill Grady and friends) took over to Southern Illinois to see UP 3985 back on October 7th 2010.



Left: UP ethanol MTY train with CP power is Northbound at Gorham, IL in the evening light. The train is about to turn onto the UP's Chicago Subdivision on October 7th, 2010.

Photo by Bill Grady



Radio Changes... Progress For CSX, Railfans To Be Shutout???

Those of you who know a little about using scanners to listen in on radio communications while railfanning know that the industry is changing with CSX is poised to lead the way.

However, this may come at a hefty price to railfans - the adoption of FCC emission designator 4K00F1E, otherwise known as NXDN digital format - something that is not available in any current scanners (not even the high end digital ones).

The NXDN realization hit home early in 2011 here in Lafayette as callsign KEX475, otherwise known as CSX's license for Shops Yard, was

modified to include the new NXDN digital format. This same format is utilized by Christian County for all of its public safety communications, and will soon be utilized by Hopkins County public safety. The format is proving very prevalent as a cost alternative to the more universal APCO-25 (like that used by Kentucky State Police and numerous other states).

So is this the end of railroad scanning? No, not yet. The switch is still a ways out, but there's more than one way



Support Area Railway Museums

<http://www.kyrail.org/>



<http://www.indianarailwaymuseum.org/>

to skin the proverbial cat... There is a software application that allows listeners to decode the NXDN format - a similar type setup like myself and Steve Miller utilize to decode the ATCS signals used on CSX's CTC system.

With Best Regards,
Chris Dees

Pickin' the Points

The Frankfort, Kentucky "State Journal" has a front page story today (1-13-2011) about a group proposing to put in 70 MPH passenger train service between Winchester, Kentucky and Louisville, Kentucky (105 miles) using R J Corman and CSX track by 2012 for a cost of \$75 million. Cost is given as \$35 million for two diesel trains and \$40 million for track improvement. Cost of ticket would be \$8 between Lexington and Frankfort (25 miles). \$40 million to upgrade 105 miles of 35 MPH track to 70 MPH?? All this done by October 2012?? === I would guess you would have to spend at least \$70 million just to up grade on grade crossings with flashing lights and gates to run trains at 70 MPH, not to say any thing about



track and signal upgrades, or building the proposed eleven stations with parking lots (Winchester, Lexington, Midway, Frankfort, Bagdad, Shelbyville, Simpsonville, Anchorage and elsewhere), plus constructing a new track connection to Union Station in Louisville. Wait a minute I forgot the EPA study that would have to be done before any work could be undertaken. This alone will cost \$10 million and take ten years. Any way I would not plan on being trackside any time soon to photograph passenger train service between Winchester and Louisville. -- Forgot to add they see no objections from people living along the track concerning this proposal.

Chuck Hinrichs

Minutes Summary and Financial Report

January 2011 minutes and treasurer's report approved.

Directors Report: Wallace had no report as such. Reports he doesn't plan to attend next board meeting.

Old Business: Ricky reports no action on the case we have at the Nortonville Museum-Library. This will be tabled until next month.

New Business: Wallace made a motion we support Thomas Bryan in his attending Rail Camp this July, by paying half of the cost and expenses. Seconded by Wally, motion passed. The treasurer will be advised as to when to cut a check. Chuck reports we will not be getting further chapter activity reports from National (due to increased cost). Mike Franklin, City of Madisonville Administrator, gave a report on The Center (former L&N Depot), and stated we are welcome to remain here, and in fact, encouraged us to be more active (in the facility). Some discussion held on summer activities. Ricky suggested the chapter do some minor maintenance as needed to show our appreciation to the city, which pays utilities, insurance, etc. There was no further business, and a raffle followed which netted \$10. Wally brought a RR watch for show and tell. Ricky provided a very interesting video on the Pittsburg and Lake Erie Railroad, as well as refreshments. During the meeting, Mr. William Ferrell an his grandson Blair Terry joined the chapter. Welcome guys!

Announcements: none

Members Present: Ricky Bivins, Wally Watts, Thomas Bryan, Keith Kittinger, Chuck Hinrichs, Bill Thomas, Liam Thomas, Steve Miller, Harry Dolph, Rich Hane, Fred Ripley, Wallace Henderson, Tim Moore, Dennis Carnal, Danny Koeber. Guests: Mike Franklin, William Ferrell, Blair Terry.

Next Meeting: Monday, February 28, 2011, with program by Wallace Henderson and refreshments by Bill Thomas.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Report Date: January 2011 by Wally Watts.

Beginning Balance	1617.86
Income:	
National Dues Received	488.00
Chapter Dues Received	35.00
Donations	00.00
Other (Christmas Dinner)	151.00
Total:	674.00
Adjusted Balance	2291.86
Expenditures:	
National Dues Paid.	00.00
Supplies	5.50
Printing	46.89
Other (Ballard Catering for Xmas)	185.74
Total:	238.13
Ending Balance:	2053.73
Membership Statistics	
Beginning Membership	51
National Members Added	0
National Members Dropped	0
Chapter Members Added	0
Chapter Members Dropped	0
Ending Membership	51

Submitted by Wally Watts, Treasurer

Regional Rail News

2011 is shaping up to be a busy year for the Paducah & Louisville RR thanks to Cane Run Coal facility in Louisville and a new NS train. Cane Run is up to three loaded trains a week. The empties return to Armstrong Coal, at McHenry, KY, Ohio County, for reloading.



The NS unit coal train (70J and 71J) loads at Alliance Coal at Princeton, Indiana, proceeds east across the NS (former Southern Ry) to Louisville, and interchanges with P&L in Louisville. Then it travels P&L to Jessup, KY (Kentucky Lake) to be unloaded. This sequence runs about two times a week and has NS power. The Mill Creek trains are still a daily operation.



The freight business is steadily rebounding and management wants to start running LP3 (Louisville-Paducah, southbound) and PL4 (Paducah-Louisville, northbound) six nights a week - the way we used to do it. It's my understanding the only thing stopping that right now is a crew and power shortage.

The cement plant at Kosmosdale and the daytime local that serves it should be in full swing sometime in March or April. - Submitted by Bill Grady, Louisville, KY

Modelers Corner

With an early April snowfall as backdrop, we see this 1961 scene just west of Orrville, OH, on the PRR's Pittsburg-Chicago main line. Three E-units head an all-stock consist, NF-6. The letter designation stands for "Non-Feed", which means not more than 36 hours can elapse from the time of loading in Chicago to unloading in northern New Jersey. Stock traffic picked up in the 1950's, and the PRR has invested in several hundred new stock cars, rebuilt from former automobile boxcars.

Photograph and layout by Dr. Fred Ripley



TIMETABLE #110

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- **West Kentucky NRHS Chapter Meeting** - February 28, Madisonville, L&N Depot, 7pm.
- 401 (Southern) In Steam, April 16, 17, Monticello (IL) Railway Museum
- Nickel Plate 765 Excursions, several dates this summer, <http://www.hoosiervalley.org/visit/schedules/steam-excursions/>
- Rock Island IL Train Festival, July 21-24, 2011, <http://www.trainfestival2011.com>



Every now and then I grab a lunch to go, and head over to the Fitness Formula parking lot overlooking Atkinson Yard, Madisonville. Tuesday, Feb 22, I was greeted by P&L's U of L jeep with a green sister. The units were shoving a cut of interchange traffic into one of the yard tracks. Bill Thomas

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

bill@fbcmadisonville.com

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www.nrhs.com

Railway Preservation News

www.rypn.org/

Kentucky Railway Museum

www.kyrail.org/

Indiana Railway Museum and French

Lick Scenic Railway

www.indianarailwaymuseum.org

Illinois RR Historical Society

<http://icrrhistorical.org/>

Illinois Railway Museum

www.irm.org/

Tennessee Central

Railway Museum

www.tcry.org/

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% Bill Thomas, Editor

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