

PENNYRAIL

March 2011

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 3



Chapter Chatter

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

Program by
Wally Watts
“Upper Mississippi
River Lines”

Refreshments by David Millen

Western Kentucky
Chapter, NRHS, Inc.

111 Reed Place
Madisonville, KY 42431

* * * * *

President
Ricky Bivins

Vice President
Steve Miller

Secretary Treasurer
Wally Watts

National Director
Wallace Henderson

Director at Large
Danny Koeber

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

or mail to
Bill Thomas,
First Baptist Church,
PO Box 607,
Madisonville, KY
42431.

“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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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
After March 31, you will no longer be able
to renew, but must re-join as a
new member.

West KY Rare Mileage Opp



Details on Page 3

Ricky's Replies

President, Ricky Bivins

Hello Western Kentucky Chapter members.

Well, it is time once again for our monthly Chapter meeting of the National Railway Historical Society. I was about to allow the meeting to "sneak up on me" when Chuck Hinrichs dropped me an email asking about the March program and refreshments so he could send the information to the Hopkinsville News Paper. Thank You Chuck for taking time to do so and for having the desire as well. I have contacted the Madisonville Messenger so as to post an announcement in the Town Crier section of our paper. These are free community services offered by these publications. If anyone else knows of such an opportunity to "spread the word" feel free to take up the effort and contact same.

I hope those present for the February meeting enjoyed them selves. I know I did. Of course I am just slightly biased toward anything New York Central. Not to mention just about any Herron Rail presentation. As an aside, sign up for a program and/or refreshment this month. These meetings are "for the chapter, by the chapter". Everyone has something to share. If not a program, bring a "show and tell" item instead. Get Involved.

It is funny odd how things come about sometimes. I have been "searching" for an employee to work opposite me at the airport since December of last year. Several have interviewed most of which I said "no" too. Then, Ted walks in. Retired Army, dressed for an interview as opposed to a rock concert as some of the others were. We stroll around the grounds of the Airport when he spots one of my Lionel Trains on a shelf. I comment about same and he says, "We are going to get along just fine". As it turns out, Ted has model trains, trains he bought in Germany while stationed there. LGB Trains that is. Not to mention a few Lionel's as well. The man served our Nation, seven tours in Iraq and Afghanistan and he likes Trains. God I love this Country.

As everyone is well aware, many people are hurting in Japan. Ted has a brother there; the Tsunami snatched his brother's five year old son right out of his hands. That is the last they saw of him. My point here, the events in Japan can be a lot closer to someone here than we might expect. Carry any conversation about the events there with respect. We just never know how "close" world events can be.

I hope to see "you" at the March meeting. We will gather in the former L&N RR Station on West Arch Street, right behind City Hall. Join in and bring a guest.

Rick Bivins



Amtrak is calling "all kids—young and old" to join the coast-to-coast celebration of train love. On Saturday, May 7th, hundreds of National Train Day festivities are taking place across the country including four major events in Washington, DC, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and Chicago. At each you can enjoy: Free live entertainment, Interactive and educational exhibits, Kids activities, Model train displays, Tours of Amtrak equipment, freight and commuter trains, and of notable private railroad cars, and much more. You can attend an event near you, host one of your own, or participate online. Start the celebration today at nationaltrainday.com.

Rare Mileage

Submitted by Don Clayton

RARE MILEAGE ADVENTURE: ST. LOUIS TO PADUCAH AND CHICAGO BY SPECIAL TRAIN

MAY 6-9.

Join us on a truly rare mileage adventure!

Schedule

Thursday, May 5. Passengers may board equipment at St. Louis station any time after 8PM.

Friday, May 6. We leave for Paducah on CN/IC via Du Quion and Akin/Rust Jct. From Akin Jct. We take the Edgewood cutoff to Metropolis, cross the Ohio River and enter Paducah on the Paducah & Illinois RR. This afternoon we take a tour of the former IC locomotive shops. (now VMV division of NRE). Lunch courtesy of NRE. Dinner on your own in Paducah.

Saturday, May 7. Optional trip on the Paducah & Louisville RR (ex-IC) to Princeton, KY and return. Dinner on your own in Paducah.

Sunday, May 8. Paducah to Galesburg on the BNSF via Centralia and Beardstown. Overnight in Galesburg.

Monday, May 9. Galesburg to Chicago on BNSF via Denrock and Savanna.

Equipment will include ex-Santa Fe "Big Dome," Cimarron River, Caritas and Swift Stream (6 dbr. Lounge; ex NYC).

Fares: St. Louis-Paducah to Chicago: \$2995; roomette supplement: \$200. Paducah and Louisville trip on Saturday, May 7: \$250.

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Thoughts and Prayers

For Chapter Members experiencing health challenges

I spoke with Jim Finley and his wife this week. Jim is very weak and is suffering through the return of cancer. He sends his best to friends in the chapter and thanked me for checking on him. Dennis Carnal let me know Jim was not doing well which prompted me to make the call.

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

YouTube Pick

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WADnriWzJes&feature=fvsr>

Tornado derails a train and a cab video camera catches it all.

PHOTO SECTION

Right and Below:
Geeps at Guthrie, KY,
March 7, 2011.
Photographs by Bill Heaton



Second Photo Section



Left: A north bound CSX unit grain train zips through Madisonville, KY, Tuesday, March 22, 2011. Amazingly, the 90-car train of empties was powered by this lone unit.

Photo by Bill Thomas, i-Phone camera

Below: What do farmers and railroaders have in common? It's obvious by the photo below taken at Atkinson Yard, Madisonville, KY, in late February. What's the difference in farmers and railroaders? Farmers are on tracks of land; Railroaders are in land of tracks.

Photo (and caption) by Bill Thomas



There's an App for That!

While in a meeting with some friends this week at a local dive, we got into a discussion of comparing apps (application software) for smart phones such as the i-Phone, Blackberry, Droid, etc. I was introduced to 5-O Radio. It's a web-based scanner app that pulls audio feed from scanners directed to internet sites. Although it does not allow you to simply input scanner frequencies, the \$1.99 version (Pro) does allow you to do a search for particular sources. I came across several railroad subdivisions, but only one CSX sub - in Michigan. But, I can now listen in to local police, fire, EMS, and public safety calls on my i-Phone. If you have an



Support Area
Railway Museums

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



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

App suggestion, drop me a line via phone, or email, bill@fbcmadisonville.com. My mailing address is Bill Thomas, 1025 Lakewood Drive, Madisonville, KY 42431. I look forward to hearing from you.

Pickin' the Points Editorial Comments by Anyone Interested

I had the great opportunity to attend a Rotary Club President-Elect Training Seminar (PETS) in Nashville, TN, last weekend. Rotary, like many other service/civic and non-profit special interest groups are designed to tap into local individuals through a club or chapter while all the while supporting a more broad-thinking and influential national or international body of work. In the case of Rotary, our world-wide humanitarian goal is the eradication of polio from the planet. You might be interested to know we are almost there. There are only a few hundred cases of Polio known to exist at this time. We press on.

At PETS I was astonished to find a discussion group titled "My Club Doesn't Care About Rotary International (RI)". What?!!! Unbelievable! But then I began to recall comments, rolling of eyes, etc. when RI was mentioned on the local level. "They just want money! What have they done for us?" You know the drill.



I want to encourage you to make yourself aware of the goals and work of the NRHS and its ability to do things that individual chapters like ours cannot possibly accomplish. As one of my seminar leaders put so well, "Like a tree, grow your roots locally, but branch out and think globally."

One way to stay connected to our national work is to read *The Bulletin*, published four or five times a year by our National Office. I hope you have taken time to read through the last couple of issues. I especially would point you in the direction of the Fall 2010 issue with a great article "Temples to a Forgotten Religion: The American Railway Depot" By Alexander B. Craghead. It is deep reading, but excellent in its ability to draw the big picture in regard to the birth, life, and near death of the subject and the depot's relationship to our society and culture. Read on and know what's up!

Your editor, Bill Thomas

(Your short articles are needed. Email them to me 2 weeks before each monthly meeting.)

Minutes Summary and Financial Report

February 2011 minutes and treasurer's report approved.

Directors Report: Wallace had no report this month. He will be attending the spring board meeting in Urbana, IL, in April.

Old Business: (President) Ricky Bivins reports he stands corrected on the matter of the chapter voting to help fund Thomas Bryan's trip to Railcamp in July. The chapter voted to help with the funding in the January meeting. As to our display at the Nortonville Museum, Ricky reports the museum is in sound condition, having good visitation and our display there is secure. Thomas (Bryan) expressed a desire to visit there when he is down some Saturday.

New Business: Ricky indicated his desire for the chapter to participate in the City of Madisonville's Friday Night Live this summer. Discussion concerning various displays followed. Wally Watts volunteered his time by displaying his operating steam engines. Wally also volunteered to check with Sprint Print and other local printers to see about cost of printing some chapter brochures like those we have had in the past. Chuck (Hinrichs) will check with printers in Hopkinsville.

Announcements: Chuck reports the Hopkinsville newspaper has been running good announcements about our meetings, as well as our local Messenger paper. We're getting the word out! Ricky was on West Kentucky Live (morning talk show on WFMW, Madisonville) this morning (28 February), hosted by chapter member Danny Koeber. Discussion was about the chapter, its activities and purpose.

Members Present: Ricky Bivins, Wally Watts, Jim Bryan, Thomas Bryan, Keith Kittinger, Chuck Hinrichs, Steve Miller, Bill Corum, Rich Hane, Fred Ripley, Wallace Henderson, Tim Moore, Dennis Carnal, Danny Koeber, Bob Moffet, David Millen.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 28, 2011, with program by Wally Watts: BNSF Video on Upper Midwest Lines. Refreshments by David Millen.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Report Date: February 2011 by Wally Watts.

Beginning Balance 2099.09

Income:

National Dues Received	48.00
Chapter Dues Received	7.00
Donations	10.00
Other (Raffle)	10.00

Total: **75.00**

Adjusted Balance 2174.09

Expenditures:

National Dues Paid.	1162.00
Supplies	0.00
Printing	0.00
Other (Ballard Catering for Xmas)	0.00

Total: 1162.00

Ending Balance: 1012.09

Membership Statistics

Beginning Membership	51
National Members Added	0
National Members Dropped	0
Chapter Members Added	0
Chapter Members Dropped	0
Ending Membership	51

Regional Rail News

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY (WAVE) - Paducah and Louisville Railway announced Feb. 21 that it will undertake a \$9 million effort to replace a bridge built in the 1880's that uses its tracks.

Next to Fort Knox, one of the two Muldraugh railroad bridges known as "Bridges to the Past," will be replaced by a bridge 83 feet tall, spanning 570 feet. The railway says it will ensure freight service on the bridge is safe and reliable.

"This bridge provides an important link from western Kentucky, the Hardin County - Meade County area, Fort Knox and Louisville," said Paducah and Louisville Railway representative Tom Garrett.

The bridge construction will support about 290 jobs in Hardin County.

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Submitted by Bill Grady

Modelers Corner



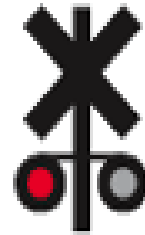
A pair of SBD SDs are framed by a steel bridge on Chapter member Keith Kittinger's new model railroad he is developing in his garage/building.



TIMETABLE #110

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- **West Kentucky NRHS Chapter Meeting** - March 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>



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**As Rail Fans, please be careful
around railroad property as
you do those roll-by
inspections.**

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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National Railway Historical Society

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/

VISIT THE CHAPTER WEB SITE: <http://www.westkentuckynrhs.org>

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