

# PENNYRAIL

April 2011

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 4



## Chapter Chatter

**Next Meeting Monday,  
April 25, 2011  
7:00 pm, L&N Depot  
Madisonville, KY**

### Program by Fred Ripley

Picking up where we left off last year, my program on April 26 will follow the PRR's Pittsburgh-Chicago main line from the PA-OH state line (approximately 48 miles west of Pittsburgh) to the important junction of Alliance, OH (MP 77).

Don't miss the great main line action on this scenic stretch of historic railroad, illustrating Conrail and Norfolk Southern over 23 years (1988-2011), and which today is busier than ever.

Refreshments by Steve Miller



**Pictures from March Meeting**



**Please send your digital photos and story material to [bill@fbcmadisonville.com](mailto:bill@fbcmadisonville.com)**

**or mail to  
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\* \* \* \* \*

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Steve Miller

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## Ricky's Replies

President, Ricky Bivins

Hello once again railfans. I hope everyone enjoyed the March meeting and found it informative. Wally picked a good video with the Upper Mississippi Railroads. That area looks to be a Railfans Mecca. Did you know the "term" railfan was coined by the late David P. Morgan, long time editor of Trains Magazine? I have been giving some thought to "Railfanning" lately and remembering many outings taken by local members of our chapter. Some of these events I was surprised to recall were more that 20 years ago. High speed runs in a van with the side door open while photographing one of Southern Railways many steam powered fan trips. And many jaunts up to Southern Indiana to catch a glimpse of the former Yankeetown Dock Corporation's EMD SD-38's hauling coal and of course their little Fairbanks Morris opposed piston switchers chugging around. Not to mention the ALCO Alligators!

Several of our members past and present and a few that have passed on made many MANY trips to Southern Illinois to see the MoPac, BN (Frisco) and of course UPRR around Chaffee, Scott City and Gorham. And of course local trips that never took us out of Hopkins County. And how about

Central City KY...back when the Illinois Central and later ICG railroad ruled the roost?

So what is the point, (You knew I had a point to make didn't You)? How many of us have photo's, video, audio or slides of those many trips? Where are they? Would you want to share them? I would like to take up the cause as mentioned before of growing and managing the archive of Western Kentucky rail scenes we have managed to preserve. Steve Miller has agreed to take on the task of managing the archive in Jim Pearson's place. I will have to leave it up to them as I am not at all versed on photo management via computer. But I know it will be in capable hands.

So, If one has something of interests in the way of photo's, maps, history, audio, video, slides or "GASP" FILM make it known and make it available. Who knows, some day our very own archive could benefit the next group of "Railfans" as to "how it was back then"!

## Thoughts and Prayers

For Chapter Members experiencing health challenges

Continue to remember Jim Finley and family as he battles cancer.

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



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](http://nationaltrainday.com).

# Rare Mileage

Submitted by Don Clayton

## RARE MILEAGE ADVENTURE: ST. LOUIS TO PADUCAH AND CHICAGO BY SPECIAL TRAIN - MAY 6-9.

### 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.

HIGH IRON TRAVEL CORP., P.O. BOX 337, Waunakee, WI 53597, 608-467-7835, [www.highirontravel.com](http://www.highirontravel.com)

## St. Charles Switchers Get the Torch

Those of us fortunate enough to wander down to St. Charles, KY, on the old IC main between Dawson Springs and Nortonville, in the last few years got a treat of which many railfans only dream. We were granted permission to operate an EMD SW9 on the Charolais Coal Prep Plant yard tracks which paralleled the aforementioned IC line. Owner Don Bowles allowed us access as long as we took care of the property. But time, land-locked trackage, and high scrap prices have won

the battle and sent the three units into our memories. Doyle Massey and Keith Kittinger (pictured) got some night shots of these beasts of burden as scrappers removed usable engine parts before being cut up.

I personally thank Don, Keith, Ricky, and others who made it possible for us to "play" with the real thing for a while. I have photos of my son Liam and friends operating the machines on a mile of real track. It was fun while it lasted! Bill Thomas, editor



RailPictures.Net - Image Copyright © Doyle Massey





# PHOTO SECTION



**Above:** Two Indiana Railroad SD90s head north in a CSX consist April 13, 2011. The same pair was seen as recently as April 18, on a south bound freight. Thanks to Fred Ripley and Terry Howerton for the advance warning of the coming train.

Photo by Bill Thomas

**Right:** East Tennessee & Western North Carolina (Tweetsie) RR 10-Wheeler No. 12 makes its way through the new spring growth with the mixed train to Fern Gap. The crew did the 5 passengers a favor by putting the stock car behind the combine. Creeping Phlox, Vinca Minor (Periwinkle), Monkey Grass, Stone Crop, Day Lilies, and pesky onions make track maintenance an every-day chore on Bill Thomas's Hook Line & Singer Railway.

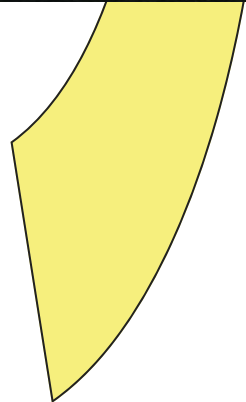
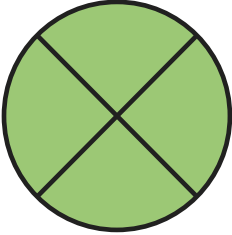
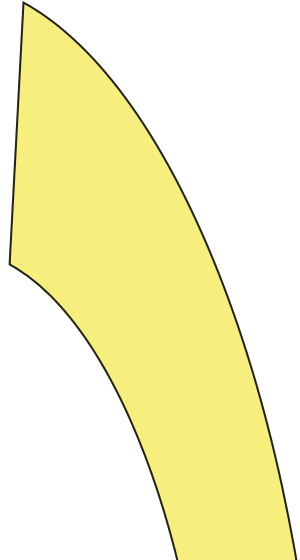
Photograph and track work by Bill Thomas





# Morton's Gap Vignette

Ricky Bivins





## SUMMERAIL AT C.U.T.

Saturday, August 13, 2011

1:00 pm to 10:00 pm

and

Railroad Show and Sale  
in the Rotunda

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Cincinnati Union Terminal  
1301 Western Avenue  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Join us at this historic art deco railroad terminal to escape the summer heat and enjoy a day of high quality railroad photography. There will be twelve multimedia digital and dual-projector slide presentations, all set to music. The programs will run from 1:00 - 10:00 pm, with a break for dinner (on your own) approximately from 4:30 - 7:00 pm. Admission is \$20.

More info on the web at <http://cincinnatiirrclub.org/Summerail/index.shtml>

**Crossings Get Face Lift!** I'm sure many of you have notice several CSX grade crossings getting work lately. This one on Laffoon Trail, near the Hopkins Co. YAA ball fields is a long time coming. Thanks to the squeaking wheels.



## Support Area Railway Museums

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



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



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



<http://tcry.org/>

## NRHS Mission Statement

National Railway Historical Society, Inc.  
Mission Statement - The National Railway Historical Society promotes railway heritage preservation and educates its members and the public about rail transportation, its history and impact, with a focus on North America.

### Objectives

1. To foster the experience of rail transportation
2. To develop and expand educational services and programs
3. To build and maintain archives, to encourage and to support archival activities, and to disseminate information in archives
  - A. To increase collaboration between existing archives
  - B. To develop listing of National and Chapter archives
4. To support preservation of memorabilia and artifacts
5. To facilitate association and networking
6. To support preservation of memorabilia and artifacts
7. To maintain and grow the organization



## Minutes Summary and Financial Report

**March 2011 minutes** and treasurer's report approved.

**Directors Report:** Wallace had no report this month. He will be attending the Summer board meeting in August.

**Old Business:** WE still plan to participate in the Saturday Night Live downtown this summer. Some discussion held and more planning later. Discussion on printing of chapter brochures. Bill will get estimate from Happy's

**New Business:** No new business.

**Announcements:** Ricky announced that a Blackhawk, and Apache Helicopters will be at the (Madisonville) airport tomorrow, March 29. Jim Finley is not doing well. Motion to send him a card was made and passed.

**Members Present:** Wally Watts, Ricky Bivins, David Millen, Steve Miller, Wallace Henderson, D. A. Fraser, Bill Thomas, Tom Johnson, Keith Kittinger, Chuck Hinrichs, Dennis Carnal, Thomas Bryan, Jim Bryan, Tim Moore, Danny Koeber, Fred Ripley, and Rich Hane.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, April 25, 2011, with program by Fred Ripley: Continuation of PRR East of Pittsburg. Refreshments by Steve Miller.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Report Date: March 2011 by Wally Watts.

Beginning Balance 1012.09

**Income:**

National Dues Received 129.00

Chapter Dues Received 7.00

Donations 10.00

Other (Raffle) 0.00

Total: **146.00**

**Adjusted Balance 1158.09**

**Expenditures:**

National Dues Paid. 0.00

Supplies 0.00

Printing 0.00

Other (Ballard Catering for Xmas) 0.00

Total: 0.00

Ending Balance: 1158.09

Membership Statistics

Beginning Membership 51

National Members Added 0

National Members Dropped 3

Chapter Members Added 0

Chapter Members Dropped 2

Ending Membership 46

# Bonus Photo

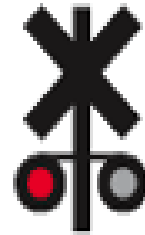
Lone Canadian Pacific ES44AC breezes south through Madisonville, KY, with a grain train early Fall of 2009.



# TIMETABLE #110

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- **West Kentucky NRHS Chapter Meeting** - April 25, Madisonville, L&N Depot, 7pm.
- **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>
- **Summerail at CUT**, August 13. See page 6 for details.



## OPERATION LIFESAVER®

**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](mailto:bill@fbcmadisonville.com)

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.

BNSF	800-832-5452
CN/IC	800-465-9239
CSX	800-232-0144
NS	800-453-2530
UP	888-877-7267
Amtrak	800-331-0008

**National Railway Historical Society**

[www.nrhs.com](http://www.nrhs.com)

**Railway Preservation News**

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

**Kentucky Railway Museum**

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

**Indiana Railway Museum and French**

**Lick Scenic Railway**

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

**Illinois RR Historical Society**

<http://icrrhistorical.org/>

**Illinois Railway Museum**

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

**Tennessee Central**

**Railway Museum**

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

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

## PENNYRAIL

% Bill Thomas, Editor

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