

PENNYRAIL

September 2011

VOLUME 15 NUMBER 9



Chapter Chatter

**Next Meeting Monday,
September 26, 2011,
7:00 pm
At the former L&N Depot
Madisonville, KY
Program by
Ricky Bivins and Wally Watts
Refreshments by Jim and Thomas
Bryan (Fish Fry)**

Western Kentucky
Chapter, NRHS, Inc.

111 Reed Place
Madisonville, KY 42431

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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,
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“PENNYRAIL” is the
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the Western Kentucky
Chapter, NRHS.
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Rick Bivens catches the Loram Rail Grinder working north under the Hwy 41 bridge at Morton's Gap, KY, August 20, 2011.



We Say “Goodbye” to a Great Friend
Dennis Carnal 1958-2011

Ricky's Replies

President, Ricky Bivins

Greetings Everyone. This month is a bitter sweet month, September marks that time of year when the weather starts to change. We can experience cool temperatures at night and an occasional 90 degree day. For the most part though, very pleasant days, which are often, reflected in lower energy bills!

While this is the norm, the hurt-filled news of member and friend Dennis Carnal passing away at a young 53 years has really put a damper on the season. Our Chapter has lost more than a member with Dennis, we have lost an icon. I say that with sincere repose. Dennis could recall from memory, local history be it rail or coal mining or what ever...and then ensue a LONG discussion about same! For that alone he will be missed. At the September meeting, I will ask the Chapter to remember Dennis with a moment of silence.

I would like to use Dennis' untimely passing as a reminder or a "wake up" call as to our Chapter Photo Archive. Steve is working on rescanning the photo's provided us on disc and as I understand, they are of poor quality. Dennis was in possession of a large majority of the photos used in

the first archive. Keith and I will be talking with his estate executor about obtaining them once again for photo coping purposes. As everyone recalls, I have "adopted" this project while I do not possess the skill or equipment necessary to properly see it through. I will rely heavily on Steve and Keith to see this through.

At the September meeting we will confirm details of the Clayton/Watts open house, the December Christmas Dinner and dare I say, ELECTIONS. That is correct folks, October will see our Chapter calling for nominations for officers and November will see the election results....that time will be upon us very soon.

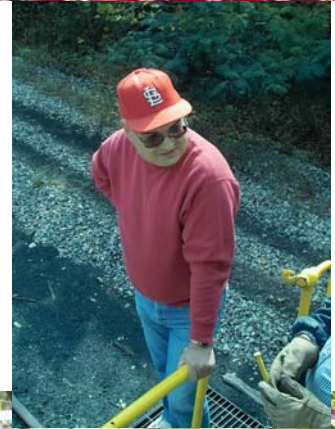
Until then, remember to be safe when watching or photographing trains. Remain mindful of private property, be it the railroad of interest or land owners along the right of way. Living next to CSX's Henderson Sub at Mortons Gap KY has opened my eyes to a problem I knew existed but had seen very little of. Motorist AND Pedestrians alike simply do not have time to wait for the train to pass...or so they think. I have not witnessed a collision as of yet (and hopefully I never will) but I have seen many close calls. One motorist was even verbal with me when I commented on her un-necessary haste...with two children in the car no less! Rick Bivins



This is the new diamond (at Fulton, KY) recently reinstalled to support NS coal trains going to Nashville via Jackson TN. These are from fellow railfan and CN engineer Darren Doss.

Submitted by James Futrell

Special Photo Section



The Old Goat In Memoriam

PHOTO SECTION 2

This Page: Clean up has begun after a CSX container train derailed at Guthrie, KY, on September 15, 2011. Photos by Chuck Hinrichs



New Feature!

Rail Flicks

By Tommy Johnson



Greetings, fellow members of the Western Kentucky Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. I hope that I can provide information through my monthly reviews that will be useful to you in your search for entertaining and informative RR videos. I have eighty-four different RR videos at this time and plan to continue adding to my collection as time goes by. Thank you, Bill Thomas, for allocating some space in the Pennyrail for my reviews.

As we kick off this monthly feature, I would like to share with you my favorite on-line vendors for RR videos. I have found the following websites to be excellent sources of good videos and the vast majority of my collection has come from these sites:

www.trainvideodepot.com

www.railfandepot.com

www.greenfrog.com

I will try to rate the videos in an objective manner but we all have our favorite railroads and we all have connections to particular areas of the country. If I review a video that has special meaning to me, I will warn the reader that my review might not be entirely objective.

Let's start this thing off with a 7idea Productions video entitled "Marias

Title	Marias Pass, BNSF Railway's Hi Line Sub
Producer	7idea Productions
Format	Wide Screen DVD
Playing Time	1 hr 52 Min
Time Period Covered	Fall 2009
Geographic Area	Western Montana; Glacier Park area; Marias Pass, the northernmost crossing of the Continental Divide in the Lower 48 States by a RR (originally, the Great Northern RR).
Purchased From	TrainVideoDepot.com
Comments	I highly recommend this DVD. The scenery is magnificent, with beautiful fall colors and some fresh snow on the mountain peaks.

The image quality is even better than Pentrex quality, and that says a lot. I have never been disappointed with a 7idea video. In every case where I have the same area covered by two or three producers, the 7idea video is always the best by far.

There is good RR action, including the use of helper locomotives and even some footage of the Empire Builder. There are tunnels, snow sheds, and trestles included in the scenes. The sound quality is excellent.

Pickin' the Points

Editorial by Bill Thomas

Some say if you have three good friends in your life, you're a lucky man. I must say that my luck has been abundant. When my family and I moved to Madisonville just a bit over eight years ago, we went through the normal new-in-town steps of finding a physician, dentist, hair dresser, barber, and other necessary people for living. I make friends pretty quickly, guess it comes with the territory of ministry. Not long after our arrival, someone at church told me, "You need to meet Don Clayton and that bunch of guys in the train club." You see, I included my fascination of trains in my bio that went out to my church - why not?

That was the beginning of what is still a wonderful relationship I have with those of you in our chapter. Outside the chapter meetings we gathered at the Clayton home and while Wally smoked up the basement with lamp oil, several of us sat around the table, on the fireplace hearth, and floor to ramble about railroading, women, taxes, and several other topics. Dennis Carnal was always in the seat on the north side of the room or at least it seemed that way. With his bowl of peanut M&Ms he'd munch away, sharing his colorful treats with me and Liam, who was then only 4 or 5.

Liam is now 12! He and I were both fortunate enough to see Dennis at our house the Saturday before he passed. He had a way of popping in and carrying on a conversation with you while you continued to whatever odd job you may be in the middle



of. This was the case on that Saturday afternoon. I'm in the pool (74 degree water) painting the deck and Dennis is sitting at the patio table. We talked about everything under the sun.

That was the beauty of my friendship with Dennis. We could talk about anything, while doing anything, and enjoy it. Dennis could appear a little rough around the edges at times, but he had a soft spot for my kids. A few Christmases ago he dropped by with a nice stuffed Santa for them and even that Saturday around the pool, he gave Joe a dollar because the cheap-o tooth fairy only left him a quarter the night before.

I admired the way he cared for his mother in her last days. I was privileged to officiate the grave-side burial service for her. I know Dennis had a love for his dogs. Not so much for cats, but deep down I think he took to mine ok.

As Ricky as already stated in his column, Dennis had a remarkable gift for recalling railroad information, especially when it came to locomotives on the L&N.

He always told me I wasn't a normal minister and I usually questioned him about that statement. As I grew to know and love Dennis as a friend, I guess I figured I kind of knew what he meant in a positive way. I look forward to seeing him again some day and if your theology allows you to believe that, I'm glad. Feel free to join us!

If I can find a free Thursday evening in the near future, I'd like to have Dennis' friends over to the back yard just to give the Old Goat a roast in memoriam. I'll be in touch. I think it would do us all good.

CSX's business train made a quick appearance on the Henderson Sub on its trip from Nashville to Evansville August 23, 2011. Wallace Henderson caught it at Pembroke, KY, that day. Nicely framed by the grain elevators.



Minutes Summary and Financial Report

August 22, 2011 Meeting

Minutes of July meeting approved.

Treasurer's report read and approved.

Director's Report: Wallace reports the new systems will go into effect from National next fall, 2012, one year from now. In meantime the situation will be in transition. More details at next summer's convention in Cedar Rapids in June. The Chinese 2-10-2 locomotive will run.

Old Business: The 8th of October is confirmed for our Crofton picnic at the Veterans Park in Crofton. All are encouraged to come and bring a guest. Steve had no updates on the archives.

New Business: No new business.

Announcements: None

Next Meeting: Monday, September 26, 7pm. Program by Tom Johnson. Refreshments by Jim and Thomas Bryan - their famous fish fry.

Members Present: Wallace Henderson, Thomas Bryan, Wally Watts, Bob Moffet, Chuck Hinrichs, Steve Miller, Danny Koeber, Tom Johnson, Rich Hane, David Millen, Dennis Carnal, Rick Bivins, Keith Kittinger, Bill Thomas. Guests: Joe Thomas

FINANCIAL REPORT

Report Date: August 22, 2011 by Wally Watts.

Beginning Balance	601.22
Income:	
National Dues Received	00.00
Chapter Dues Received	00.00
Donations/Raffle	13.00
Other (Royalty-Neff Video)	00.00
Total:	13.00
Adjusted Balance	614.22
Expenditures:	
National Dues Paid.	00.00
Supplies	00.00
Printing (brochures)	00.00
Other (Annual Corporation filing)	00.00
Total:	00.00
Ending Balance:	614.22

Membership Statistics

Beginning Membership	49
National Members Added	0
National Members Dropped	0
Chapter Members Added	0
Chapter Members Dropped	0
Ending Membership	49



Above: Empire Builder #27 west bound and Amtrak Cascades #501 from Vancouver, BC arrive at Portland, OR on August 9, 2011. Photos by Bill Corum who was traveling on the Empire Builder.

Below: A BNSF freight passes the East Glacier National Park Amtrak station after crossing the continental divide through Marias Pass, MT on Aug. 7, 2011.

Bill Corum



Left: Tail shot of the CSX business train from Brown Badgett Loop wooden bridge, Madisonville, KY. Bill Thomas, photo.

TIMETABLE #110

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- **West Kentucky NRHS Chapter Meeting** - September 26, Madisonville L&N Depot (The Center), 7pm.
- **West Kentucky NRHS Chapter Fall Crofton Picnic** - Saturday, October 8, Veteran's Park, Crofton, KY.
- **Clayton/Watts Open House** - Saturday, November 12. Evening.



From Trainorders.com...

"Sad news from Kentucky Railway Museum. L&N 4-6-2 number 152 has been taken out of service with leaking flues. There are no plans for steam to operate at least for 2011."

submitted by Chuck Hinrichs

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

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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>

PENNYRAIL

% Bill Thomas, Editor

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