

PENNYRAIL

November 2013

VOLUME 17 NUMBER 11

Please send your digital photos and story material to billtrainthomas@gmail.com

or mail to

Bill Thomas,
1025 Lakewood Dr
Madisonville, KY
42431.



Chapter Chatter

Next Meeting Monday,
November 18, 2013, 7:00 pm
Former Louisville & Nashville
Passenger Station, Madisonville, KY

Program by
Guest Gary Osland
Japanese Bullitt Trains of 1969
Refreshments also by Gary

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

In this issue...

- ◆ Words From Our President
- ◆ Heard it On the Scanner
- ◆ Photos from Chicago/Amtrak Trip
- ◆ Buy Sell Trade Special Entry

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
Thomas Bryan

“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 renew your NRHS membership as soon as possible. If you have not received your bill, please contact Wally Watts, 270-821-5136 or email wallacewattsjr@att.net

Ricky's Replies by President Ricky Bivins

Hello once again fellow NRHS members and welcome to cool weather. First I would like to say "Thanks" for the many offers of condolence as to the passing of my Mother. She will be missed by many people.

As you recall the October meeting brought about the first round of Officer Nominations. The only change being I will not seek re-election as President. At this point, Tom Johnson has agreed to "consider" accepting the nomination for President. He will give us an answer at the next meeting.

Other than then the nominations for officers and Wallace Henderson's report on the Status of National, we had very little business last month. Several people voiced their enjoyment of the train trip in early October as well as the annual picnic. Steve Miller could not get the video equipment to function and plans to show his video this month along with our friend Gary Ostlund. Gary plans to show his slide of Japanese Bullitt trains dated 1969. I am sure this will be a delightful program.

Also discussed were the plans for our Christmas Dinner. A food list has been sent to the news-

letter recipients. That list is shaping up to be a feast. Please review the list as contact me if you would like to bring a dish. Tom Johnson has expressed an interest in having the dinner at the Depot as opposed to my house. He will bring this up at the next meeting for further discussion.

Outside of that, very little was left to discuss. So, members, once again the program for November looks to be very interesting so make plans to attend and bring a guest.

**Mark Your
Calendars
December 13 2013
Christmas Dinner**

Our Thoughts and Prayers

go out to Ricky Bivins and his family upon the passing of his mother Rose Marie Bivins, on October 31. Any donations may be made to the Richland Missionary Baptist Church Building fund.

Interesting Links

<http://www.arborwayrailroad.com/index.html>

Arborway T.T. & Northwestern Miniature Railroad
Submitted by Rex Easterly

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y2uR3bMkxJc>

Rex Easterly/Steam Show set up

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1Pz64MoTIow>

Christmas Train Window

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HRkr7Xfsy-g>

N Scale Christmas Layout (for Steve Miller!)

Midwest Hi Speed Rail Report

We did it!

We knew we needed to stand strongly together to urge Indiana Gov. Mike Pence to save the Hoosier State Amtrak Line, which connects Indianapolis to Chicago and towns and cities in between.

Last night, we learned that Gov. Pence and the Indiana Department of Transportation had reached an eleventh hour agreement to fund the Hoosier State Line

[If you live in Indiana, can you send a message to Gov. Pence thanking him for doing the right thing and saving the Hoosier State?](#)

This victory demonstrates that a strong, people-powered campaign can make a big impact. Thousands of you mobilized to save the Hoosier State, the lifeblood of so many communities and families in Indiana and Illinois. You came to the rallies, spoke up at public hearings and sent thousands of messages to Gov. Pence and other elected leaders.

Quite simply, we could not have won this without you. Let's let Gov. Pence know he made the right choice by listening to our voices. [Click here to send him a note.](#) (This link only works if you live in Indiana.)

This victory is about more than just one Amtrak line. It's about the future economic viability of our entire region--of millions of Midwestern families.

Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,
Rick Harnish
Executive Director
Midwest High Speed Rail Association
4765 N. Lincoln Ave.
Chicago, IL 60625
[Join Us at MidwestHSR.org/Join](http://MidwestHSR.org/Join)

- submitted by Bill Corum

Christmas Dinner Menu

This is the food list members are bringing to the Christmas dinner at Ricky Bivin's house on December 13, 2013. If anyone wants to bring anything not on the list please let Ricky know as soon as possible.

Rick and Kathy Bivins will provide Turkey and Dressing and dinner rolls
Matt Gentry will treat us with a Boston Butt
Wally Watts will bring soda
Wallace Henderson will bring cup cakes
Donny and Betty Knight will bring baked beans and pie
Tom Johnson will bring green pea salad
Birk Fisher will bring plates and utensils
Bill Thomas will bring apple pie
Steve and Marilyn Miller will bring green bean casserole
Chuck and Shirley Hinrich will bring cranberries
Rich and Karen Hanes will bring a sweet potato casserole

Amtrak Illini Photos more on pages 6-7

Last week I was fortunate to travel to Chicago with several other from the Madisonville area to see the Kentucky Wildcats play in the State Farm Champions Classic at the United Center, Chicago. We caught the Illini at Carbondale, IL, for the northbound trip and the Saluki for our ride back south two days later. These are some snap shots taken with my iPhone along the way.



Snow had been falling since Champaign/ Urbana. We meet the City of New Orleans on her southbound trip at Homewood, IL, one stop shy of Chi town.



The lobby of the Palmer House hotel, Chicago.



Some of my traveling companions had never ridden the "L" so I took them for a spin around half the downtown loop.



A steady stream of Metra commuter trains came and went from Union Station as we departed on the Saluki.



Picking the Points

Editorial Comments by Bill Thomas

I'm not sure exactly when I told Chuck Hinrichs I would try my hand at producing and editing our chapter's fine newsletter, *The PennyRail*. I was following a long line of astute volunteer railroad walking encyclopedias like Chuck and our missed-friend Dennis Carnal. Talk about tough acts to follow - needless to say I felt inadequate for the job. But with encouragement from both and many chapter members I set out to simply maintain the integrity and level of quality we'd all come to expect.

With my recent shift in career paths from professional minister to realtor, I need to reorganize my civic work load in order to assure financial stability for my family. So, beginning this January, 2014, our own Ricky Bivins will take the bull by the horns and begin the task of assembling and producing our newsletter. I hope you will join me in welcoming him to the post and encourage him by contributing publishing material on a regular basis. No information or stories are too small or insignificant for publication. Remember, this is a local chapter, not the Chicago Board of Trade. Personal stories and local photographs are necessary. Keep those cameras and smart phones handy. You never know when a once-in-a-lifetime shot will come along.

I want to say "thanks" to the chapter for your support and many contributions to the *PennyRail* over the last several years as I attempted to bring you a publication of which you are proud. I'm looking forward to being a contributor in the future!

New Feature!

I heard it through the scanner...

By Thomas Bryan



Q648-We got less than 2 hours to work and 300 hundred gallons. T149
-Just get some corn from the field, stuff it in the tank and maybe it'll turn to ethanol.

-Two crews chatting at Henderson, Q648 would leave Henderson with less than an hour to work.



Northbound Train-The wheels on the train go round and round, round and round, round and round, the wheels on the train go round and round all through the town.

-Entertaining themselves sitting in the siding at Robards.

Rail Flicks

By Tommy Johnson



Title	A Rocky Mountain Winter
Producer	Highball Productions
Format	Wide Screen DVD
Playing Time	1 Hr 55 Min
Purchased From	Railfan Depot
Date Purchased	1/4/2010
Price Paid	\$34.15

"A Rocky Mountain Winter" is a joy to watch. It combines some great railroad action with spectacular scenery from the Canadian Rockies. The videography is excellent and the format is wide screen.

It's early February 2008 and we are on the Canadian Pacific Railroad west of Calgary, Alberta, and are headed west through some of the most magnificent mountain scenery on this planet. We see the bright red CP locomotives in three different paint schemes providing the power for unit coal trains, unit grain trains, unit potash trains, mixed manifest freights, double stacks and auto racks.

Our route takes us alongside the Bow River through the beautiful Bow Valley as we head west. The free-flowing Bow River runs beside the tracks and massive snow-capped sunlit peaks provide a breath-taking backdrop.

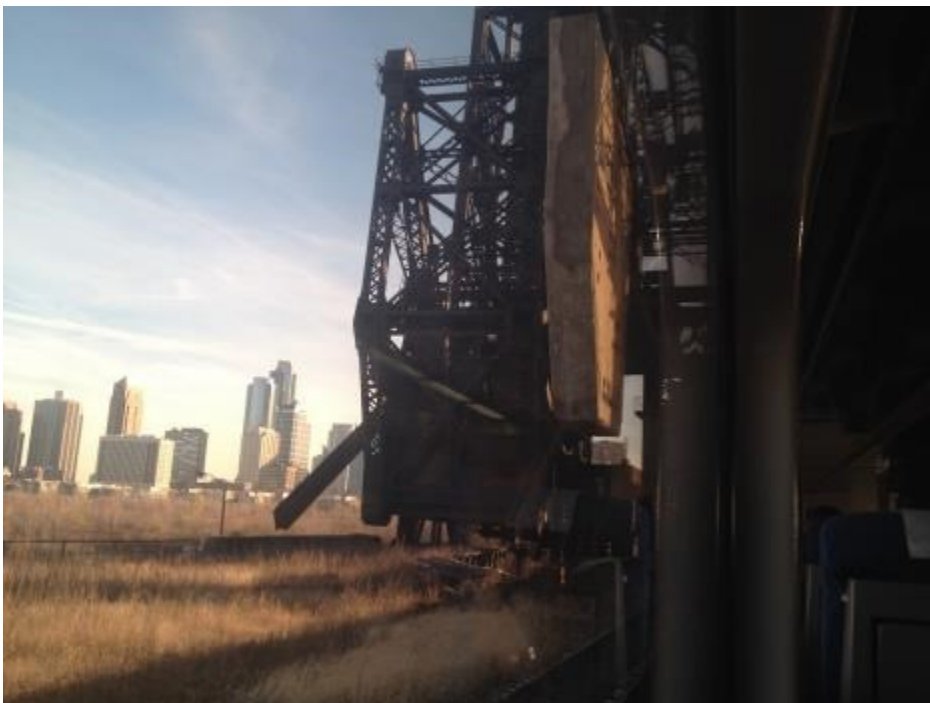
We eventually reach Morant's Curve which is one of the most photographed railroad locations in North Amer-

ica. It was named for Nicolas Morant, a Canadian Pacific photographer who used pictures from this area in promotional materials. It is such a beautiful location that one might choose to sit there all day and stare.

My only serious complaint about this video is the total absence of maps. Not only are maps not used but we get no overview in the narration as to the route we are going to be following. The narration simply moves from one point to the next.

This is a serious shortcoming but the gorgeous scenery and good railroad action along with the high quality of the video and the wide screen format make this video well worth the price. It is two hours of pure joy. I definitely recommend this one.

A spell-binding account of a runaway train in 1977 at Rogers Pass can be found by following this link. <http://www.carknocker.com/runaway3.htm> Rogers Pass is located on this same route that we follow in this DVD.



Left: It's amazing the amount of steel left behind in the RR landscape around Chicago. Several draw bridges are out of service placed in their raised positions.

Minutes Summary of October Meeting 2013

- ◆ MINUTES: Approved of Sep. meeting.
- ◆ TREASURERS REPORT: Approved.
- ◆ OLD BUSINESS: Christmas dinner tentative date set at Rick's house for 13 Dec. We need to get list of what to bring.
- ◆ NEW BUSINESS: Several gave reports on our recent N & E trip to Monterey, Very enjoyable -A good time had by all! A 1st. call for nominees for our upcoming election of officers was held and results are: President-Tom Johnson.; 2,VP-Steve Miller {incumbent}; Sec.-Treas-Wally Watts {incumbent}; Nat'l. Rep.-Wallace Henderson [Incumbent]; Tom says his decision is tentative.
- ◆ NATIONAL REP. REPORT: Wallace reports upcoming meeting in Delaware paid-but may not go due to health issues. Next year convention in Arkansas [Springdale].
- ◆ NEXT MEETING: Monday evening 7PM on 18 Nov. at the Center with Gary Osland bringing Program and Refreshments.

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| 1.Birk Fischer | 13.Jim Pearson |
| 2.Donny Knight | 14.Bill Heaton |
| 3.Betty Knight | 15.Bob McCracken |
| 4.Matt Gentry | 16.Tom Johnson |
| 5.Danny Kober | 17.Wallace Henderson |
| 6.Rick Bivins | 18.Thomas Bryan |
| 7.Willism Corum | |
| 8.Wally Watts. | |
| 9.Bob Moffet | GUEST: |
| 10.Bill Thomas | Steve Weiner |
| 11.Rich Hane | |
| 12.Chuck Hinrichs | |

October 2013 Financial Report

Beginning Balance:	1241.23
Income:	
Nat Dues Rec	584.00
Donations	100.00
Total Income	684.00
Adjusted Balance:	1925.23
Expenses:	
Nat Dues Paid	207.00
Total Expenses:	207.00
Ending Balance:	1718.23

Membership Statistics

Beginning Membership	45
National Membs Added	0
National Membs Deleted	0
Chapter Only Membs Added	0
Chapter Only Membs Deleted	0
Ending Membership	45

Presented by Wally Watts, treasurer



Left: Looking north up the Chicago River toward the Willis (Sears) Tower. Above: Reciprocal shot - looking south from floor 103 of the Willis Tower. Shot at left made from point of arrow.

Buy Sell Trade Special Pages

The following items are being offered for sale by Bob McCracken. He may be reached at 270-584-3340.



Aristocraft 0-4-0 steam switcher locomotive. Pennsy markings. ART-21301. Aristocraft couplers. In box. Fair condition. \$25.00.



Aristocraft bobber caboose ART-42201. PRR. Plastic wheels, Aristo couplers, In box, excellent condition. 15.00



Aristocraft long steel caboose, ART-42113, Union Pacific, steel wheels, detailed interior, Aristo couplers, good condition, \$30.



USA Trains Refrigerator car, Northern Reefer Car Co., #R16302, steel wheels, USA couplers, new, never been on the tracks, \$40.00



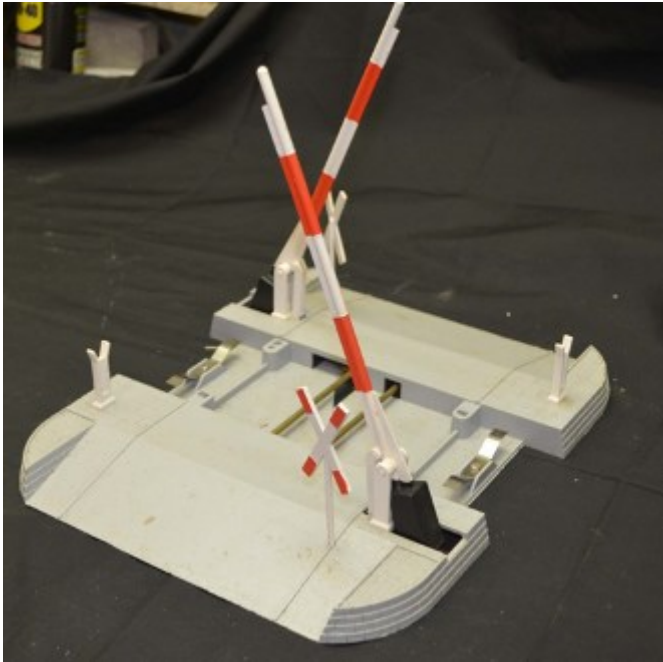
Two (2) Bachman Jackson-Sharp coaches #89091, steel wheels, Bachman couplers, good condition, \$10.00 each



Bachman South Pacific Coast observation car, steel wheels, Bachman couplers, good condition, \$10.00



Bobbie's Garage Pola, #388 of limited run. Fair condition, used outdoors. Chimney guy wires and eyes are missing due to storm damage. Signage also missing due to weather exposure. Smoke generator for forge needs repair. Gas pumps are in poor condition with missing parts. All accessories in photos are included. Also includes a Pola welding set. \$100.00



Crossing gates, LGB 5065,
operating, Excellent
condition, \$40.00



Cherry Hill Station,
Pola, good
condition, \$15.00



G Track (#1 gauge, 45mm)

All track is LGB brass except for an Aristocraft reailer.

- 1 box (12 pieces) full circle 4' diameter excellent condition, \$45.00
- 38 pieces #1600 curved track (8' diameter) rail is in good condition, but many ties are rough. Most have had the spring clips removed to accommodate Split-Jaw clamps. \$5.00 /pc.
- 17 pieces 300 mm straight track. Rail is in good condition, but ties are rough. Spring clips have been removed. \$3.00 / pc
- 4 LGB right hand switches (1600), electrically operated. Fair condition. \$20.00/pc
- 3 LGB left hand switches (1600) electrically operated. Fair condition. \$20.00/pc.
- 1 Aristocraft reailer, good condition, \$10.00
- 180 (approx..) Split Jaw rail clamps, good condition, \$1.00/pc.
- LGB track bumper, illuminated, \$4.00
Aristocraft track bumper, \$3.00.

TIMETABLE #110

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- **West Kentucky NRHS Chapter Meeting** - Monday, November 18, Madisonville, KY
- **Jim's Express Christmas Open House - 1825 Taylor Ave, Evansville, IN 47714** - Fri Nov 28 5-8pm; Sat Nov 30 12-3 and 5-8pm; Sun Dec 1 12-3 and 5-8pm; Fri Dec 6 5-8pm; Sat Dec 7 12-3 and 5-8pm; Sun Dec 8 12-3 and 5-8pm
- **Chapter Christmas Dinner** - December 13, at the Bivins home, Mortons Gap, KY

If you know of regional events we can put on the Timetable, please forward those to me, bill@fbcmadisonville.com.

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

billtrainthomas@gmail.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
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CSX	800-232-0144
NS	800-453-2530
UP	888-877-7267
Amtrak	800-331-0008

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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% Bill Thomas, Editor

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