

PENNYRAIL

April 2016

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 2

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

or mail to

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1096 N. Main St.
Madisonville, KY
42431.



Chapter Chatter

**Next Meeting Monday,
April 18, 2016, 7:00 pm
Former Louisville & Nashville
Passenger Station, Madisonville, KY**

**Program by Thomas Bryan
“Working on the Santa Fe”**

**Refreshments by
Donny and Betty Knight**

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 maintain and grow the organization

In this issue...

- ◆ Words From Our President
- ◆ Article from Rick Bivins, our National Representative
- ◆ Photos
- ◆ Rail Flicks Review by Tom Johnson

Western Kentucky Chapter, NRHS, Inc.

111 Reed Place
Madisonville, KY 42431

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President
Bill Farrell

Vice President
Steve Miller

Secretary Treasurer
Wally Watts

National Director
Ricky Bivins

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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Be careful out there!



From the President

Bill Farrell

The Spill with President Bill

The time sure has passed since our last meeting; it just seems like last week we were conducting the March meeting. All the membership cards have been mailed out to the membership. If you have not received yours please contact me so I can re-issue a new card.

This is the second issue of the “Pennyrail”, by Bill Thomas this year. Matt in the past did a great job with the news letter. Bill is doing a great job of dissemination of information to the club members. If you have anything worth publishing in the “Pennyrail” please submit it to Bill for publication. I think we need to have a deadline on information to Bill in order to give him time to assemble the newsletter. We can talk about it in the meeting on Monday evening.

I hope everyone had a chance to get out and get a picture for the photography contest. All pictures needed to be submitted to Jim Pearson by April 11th. Jim will announce the winners at the meeting Monday evening. If you have one of the trophies from the last photo contest please bring it with you or try to get it back in time for the meeting. Blair and I were in Florida last week for spring break and got some great pictures of the Florida East

Coast Railroad. Needless to say I thought about all of you in Kentucky with the cool weather.

I need to set a date for a work day on the modular layout. It is very close to completion and we need to get the modules out to the members that want them. All we need to do is plaster cloth the top, wiring, and insert the legs. We need to do this within the next three week and get this project out of the way and into the hands of the members. In the last meeting the membership agreed that a module can go to a non Western Kentucky Chapter/NRHS member. So if you know of someone who is interested in “O” scale railroading and they would like to be part of the modular group invite them.

Remember to bring “Show and Tell” along with Raffle items to the meeting. This month refreshments will be provided by Betty & Donny Knight, the program by Thomas Bryan.

Bill Farrell, President

Pickin' the Points



Well, we've experienced another tragedy in the railroad industry. As I'm sure all have heard, two Amtrak track workers were killed earlier

this month due to what looks like human error or some sort of communication glitch. Either way, we should send up a prayer for their families.

It is a strong reminder how quickly a situation can turn deadly when multiple tons of massed energy are speeding down the tracks. Take time to check your surroundings when standing track-side. It occasionally occurs to me to think about my escape route should a passing train derail—granted, the

chances are slim— but when so close to such machinery it crosses our minds.

Also take time to do an amateur inspection of track, possible obstructions, etc. in your location. As impersonal as the major railroads may seem these days, they don't put those 800 numbers on the cross bucks for nothing. Put the numbers in your smart phones. I know we've had chapter members report broken rail and stuck air horns in the past.

So let's be good neighbors and wisely choose our photo spots and watching locations as we continue to enjoy plenty of RR activity in our area and abroad.

Keep the news and pictures coming! Bill

Mystery Location - Where Are We?

There is no submission for this feature this month. If you have a “spot” you’d like to submit, please do so. Get a photo that does not reveal the location. If you have an old photo but it contains the location, drop it off at Coldwell Banker Terry & Associates, 1096 North Main St, Madisonville, and I will scan it, then return the photo to you. I can “fuzz” out the identity if necessary. Please put your photo in an envelop clearly marked with my name, your name, phone number, email, etc. Mona Forker, our receptionist will put it in my mail box.

Below: March 30, 2016 - Ex-Southern Pacific, Ex-Union Pacific, NREX 2738 sits at CSX's Atkinson Yard in Madisonville, Ky attached to a string of other power. - Tech Info: 1/640 | f/5.6-6 | ISO 1000/1800 | Lens: Sigma 150-600 @ 280-440mm on a Nikon D800 shot and processed in RAW. Photo by Jim Pearson



Above: Blair Terry and his father Brien are pictured here in front of the “Back to the Future” motion picture locomotive while on a vacation trip to Universal Studio in Orlando, FL, April 6, 2016.



Left: April 1, 2016 - Norfolk Southern's 1071 Heritage Unit "Jersey Central Lines" pulls out of the Warrior Coal Mine Lead onto Paducah and Louisville Railways Main line at Madisonville, Ky as it begins its northbound trip to Louisville, Ky. The train tied down at Pond River, north of Madisonville till the new crew takes it on north this afternoon around 4pm CST - Tech Info: 1/2500 | f/6 | ISO 400 | Lens: Sigma 150-600 @ 370mm on a Nikon D800 shot and processed in RAW. Photo by Jim Pearson

Photos



Left: Chapter member, Bill Corum got out with the action while CSX crews replaced rail along their main line between Madisonville and Earlington, KY, earlier this month.

Photos by Bill Corum



Above: A quartet of KCS units run light (north bound) through Mortons Gap, KY, October 21, 2015.

Photo by Ricky Bivins



Rail Flicks

By Tommy Johnson



Title: Through the Oregon Cascades
Part 1: The Long Grade
Producer: 7idea Productions
Format: DVD Wide Screen
Playing Time: 2 hours 35 Minutes
Purchased From: Trainvideodepot.com
Date Purchased: 3/28/16

While I would not classify this DVD as a “must have,” it is a very good one. It would make a nice addition to your collection of RR videos. The viewing time is 2 hours and 35 minutes and there is plenty of railroad action amid the backdrop of the gorgeous mountain scenery of the Oregon Cascades.

The viewer would expect excellent quality videography since this is a 7idea Productions offering; he would not be disappointed. This video is in wide screen format and that very much enhances our view of the natural beauty and the railroad action contained in this video.

We travel southward in this video from Eugene, OR, to Cascade Summit over the 46 mile long Brooklyn Sub and then the 40 mile long Cascade Sub. The Brooklyn Sub has only gentle grades but the Cascade Sub has an overall 1.8% grade which

southbound trains must climb. A total of 4458 feet of elevation is gained from Eugene to Cascade Summit.

The Coast Starlight appears in many scenes in this video, sometimes northbound and sometimes southbound. We also see oil trains, double stacks, and mixed manifest trains.

We see a rail grinder in action on Salt Creek Trestle and the sparks look like fireworks. Salt Creek Trestle is the only trestle we see but there are a series of tunnels along the route.

Throughout the video are views so typical of the Pacific Northwest: coniferous trees standing in the mountain mist with rain dripping from their needles.



Left: April 3, 2016 - Paducah and Louisville Railway 2104 pulls out of the siding at West Yard with 7 units as it works on building a local which had another 2 CSX units and about six cars. Pretty much a power move I'd say! The train headed south toward Paducah. - Tech Info: 1/500 | f/4.5 | ISO 110 | Lens: Nikon 70-300 @ 80mm on a Nikon D800 shot and processed in RAW.
Photo by Jim Pearson

Minutes Summary of March 2016

Minutes: Approved of the Feb. meeting

Treasurer Report: Approved

Old Business: Date set for April 9 trip to KRM.
Leave here about 7:30 AM.

Bill reports the modular layout has one module left.
2016 calendar complete bill will get to us directly.
Ricky motioned we set April 7 as tentative date for
photo contest. Approved.

New business: Discussion on several railfan events
for near future. Ricky suggested a short easy one at
Mortons Gap where the 2 lines join. No date set. He
encouraged all to check NRHS Website for
upcoming events such as the upcoming convention
in Denver.

No other business discussed. Next meeting-Monday
evening 18th April at 7PM at the depot. Program by
Thomas Bryan and refreshments by Donny and Betty
Knight.

Those present were:

- 1.Wally Watts
- 2.Tom Johnson
- 3.Al Fraser
- 4.Thomas Brayn
- 5.Bill Ferrell
- 6.Steve Miller
- 7.Rick Bivins
- 8.Keith Kittinger
- 9.Betty Knight
- 10,Donny Knight
- 11.Jim Kemp
- 12.Rich Hane
- 13.Blair Terry
- 14.Greg Utlely

GUESTS: 1Will Kling

**March 2016 Financial Report
Will be available at the March Meeting**



March 30, 2016 - Paducah and Louisville Railway "Salute to our Troops" engine 2127 heads up a ballast train sitting in the number 2 track at West Yard in Madisonville, Ky waiting for a crew to take it on south to pick up a load of rock. - Tech Info: 1/250 | f/2.8 | ISO 100 | Lens: Sigma 24-70 @ 24mm on a Nikon D800 shot and processed in RAW. Photo by Jim Pearson

C&O Coaling Towers



Above: Towards the former west end of the larger of the two Chesapeake and Ohio yards in Hinton stands this monument to the steam era, an enormous coaling tower built in the style of C&O's "modern" installations (also in this style is the much smaller coaling tower at Thurmond, WV, built in 1922 and seen in this up-close view on the right). Hinton was a critical facility for both classification and locomotive servicing on the main line across West Virginia. To the west, the New River Subdivision follows the course of the New River (some of the most spectacular scenery in the eastern U.S.), resulting in a route with many curves but with grades kept to a minimum. To the east, however, the Allegheny Subdivision, after following the course of the Greenbrier River, climbs to the summit at Allegheny, VA. Perhaps Hinton's most famous role, late in the steam era, was dispatching eastbound loaded coal trains with two of the most powerful steam locomotives ever built, the C&O's H-8 2-6-6-6 "Allegheny" class. Leaving Hinton, every coal train bound for Tidewater at Newport News was powered by an H-8 on the front, with a 2nd example of the class cut in in front of the caboose. The helper would remain there until the train crested the grade at Allegheny, at which point it would cut off and return light to Hinton. Photographs by Frederick J. Ripley

TIMETABLE #110
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- **May 7** - Spring Photo Contest
- **May 15** - Monthly meeting at Hopkinsville
- **June 20** - Monthly meeting
- **July 16** - Adams, TN, Steam Days
- **Crofton Chapter Picnic** - September 24

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

The Interchange

- ♦ HO estate for sale. Charles Ellis lost his brother recently. Mr. Ellis had started collecting and operating HO in the 1980's. Most of his collection is from the 80's and early 90's., and the family wants to liquidate this part of his estate. If you are interested contact Mr. Charles (Chip) Ellis at 270 886-3357 (Pennyrile Door & Glass) or pennyriledoorandglass@gmail.com.
- ♦ If you have items you'd like to buy, sell, or trade, send descriptions and pictures to me, your editor, billtrainthomas@gmail.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
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.

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- UP 888-877-7267
- Amtrak 800-331-0008

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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
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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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