

# PENNYRAIL

August 2016

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 6

Please send your digital photos and story material to [billtrainthomas@gmail.com](mailto:billtrainthomas@gmail.com)

or mail to

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Madisonville, KY  
42431.



## Chapter Chatter

**Next Meeting Monday,  
August 15, 2016, 7:00 pm  
L&N Depot, Madisonville, KY**

**Program by Blair Terry  
Refreshment by  
Jim Kemp**

### 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
- ◆ Photos
- ◆ Book Review by Ricky Bivins

Western Kentucky  
Chapter, NRHS, Inc.

111 Reed Place  
Madisonville, KY 42431

\* \* \* \* \*

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Bill Farrell

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Steve Miller

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Wally Watts

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Ricky Bivins

Director at Large  
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“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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***The deadline for getting  
your entries to Jim  
Pearson for the chapter  
photo contest is noon on  
August 15th!***

[jim@jimpearsonphotography.com](mailto:jim@jimpearsonphotography.com)

Well, it has been hot this summer and it even got hotter last week. On Tuesday afternoon I received a call from Ricky Bivins. He asked me if I had read my emails for Tuesday. I reply with, "no". Then he unloaded a ton of coal on me, with, we lost our meeting place in the Madisonville train depot. Yes, if you have not heard they started renovation on the building last week.

Ricky's next question was, where are we going to meet for the August meeting? Well, that was another ton of coal dropped on me. Before I could even think Ricky said, we can meet at the airport. Well, with all that coal, now I at least had a shovel to start digging out. So, we will meet at the Madisonville Airport for the August meeting. I have placed time on the agenda for us as a club to discuss the future of where we will meet. I would like for the membership to give it some thought on a good place to meet.

By the time you receive the August issue of the "PennyRail" the third quarter photo contest will be over. I hope everyone had a chance to submit a photo to Jim Pearson. Our next club contest

will take place in October from the 1st to the 8th. After the final judging of the pictures we plan on making up a club calendar which can be purchased at our December Christmas Party. Jim has also made reference to selling them online to other individuals who may be interested. Jim will tell us more about that later.

The Christmas Special, at the Parkway Plaza Mall is starting to pick up speed now. James Kemp who is serving as the chairperson will need everyone's help for this to be a success. So when you get the call to help, please say yes, you will more than likely have fun. This will be an event you can show off to your family, friends and neighbors. This will be a free event to our community and people shopping at the mall.

We have several new items on the agenda this month, other than a new meeting place so please try to make an effort to attend, your input is very important.

Bill Farrell, President

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## Pickin' the Points



I have some great news. As most of you know, we came to Madisonville in 2003, when I answered the call to First Baptist Church to serve

as their Minister of Music. Since leaving that church in the summer of 2013, two week shy of my 10 year anniversary there, I've been making a living in lawn care, landscape design, real estate sales, driving a school bus, and serving as an interim music minister at First Baptist Bowling Green.

I am happy to announce that on August 28, 2016, I will begin service as the Full-time Associate Pastor/Minister of Music at First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), Madisonville.

It is a bitter-sweet transition as I leave a great church in Bowling Green which has helped

me find the joy in music ministry again. I often tell them, "They've been better for me than I could ever be for them!"

I also am sorry to leave the hard working team of professional drivers, trainers, and staff in our Hopkins County School District's Transportation Department, led by Marcie Cox, who answered a late-night call from me needing another job to make ends meet. I am forever grateful.

While I will be full-time at the church, I'll be keeping my real estate license and business active for the time being. Time will tell if I can manage the two while giving First Christian my time priority.

Thanks to all of you for your support, prayers, and kind words over the last three years of this long transition. I look forward to continuing my work as your editor and fellow railway historian. Whether you're looking for a home in Madisonville or heaven, I can help. In a pinch, I can mow your yard and drive a bus too.

Bill Thomas

# Photos



**Above:** Former WKNRHS member Dr. Fred Ripley stands with his photography exhibit at the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Fred is getting creative in his display venues.

**Fred's work can be seen and purchased at  
The Village Bookshop  
2424 W. Dublin-Granville Rd.  
(Ohio Route 161)  
Columbus, OH 43235**

**Telephone: (614) 889-2674**

**Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10:00 AM– 9:00 PM; Sun. 11:00 AM–7:00 PM**

Dramatic and colorful images of railroading “come to life” in this series of 20 x 30” mounted and framed photographs, all for sale, taken by a life-long observer and interpreter of the railroad scene. A guide sheet available at the bookstore provides detailed information about each photo.

**contact the photographer:**

**Frederick J. Ripley**

**P.O. Box 21491**

**Columbus, OH 43221-9998**

**Telephone: (614) 949-2056**

**E-mail: fjr68@live.com**

# All Things Trains and Photography by Jim Pearson

Welcome to my first installment on this new column for the Pennyrail! I hope that everyone gets at least something from my ramblings here!

## The Best Camera

I'm often asked what's the best camera to use when taking photographs? My short answer is, the one you have with you! It doesn't really matter what brand you use or like as long as you get out trackside and shoot pictures!

Now, of course some cameras offer better results than perhaps others, but what it all comes down to is that it's the person behind the camera that "makes" the picture, not the equipment you use! I shoot and have seen others shoot with everything from smartphones to high priced digital cameras, but what it really comes down to a lot is you, the photographer and how you see and capture the scene before you! That's what I love about photography, the ability to decide when and what I want to photograph. No one else tells me, or you, when to press the shutter.

Simple advice to keep in mind when shooting pictures. First and foremost, if something in your picture doesn't contribute to what you want the final photo to say then eliminate it when your shooting. Do this by getting closer, lower, higher, picking up trash or whatever else it takes. It's much easier to do it before you shoot than it is to have to do it in the computer. Second, when shooting trains, don't get hung up on the direction of the light! It is what it is and you can't always control it.

You have to shoot the picture when the train and you are there! Third, don't shoot everything from eye level! Get low sometime to add drama to your pictures, or high sometimes to give a different perspective. Fourth, don't shoot just on bright and sunny days. Great pictures are to be made on cloudy, rainy, snowy filled days.

Fifth, don't put the camera away when it gets dark! Drag out the tripod or fast lens and shoot! There's great pictures to be made during twilight and after dark. Sixth, Study the pictures of photographers you like! Ask yourself questions such as why did he shoot from this angle, time of day, etc. Seventh, look for things to photograph that are different. Heritage Locomotives, Steam Engines, Unusual paint schemes, obscure out of the way short lines, trains with different types of cargo, etc. I hope some of these help and good luck trackside and always be safe! Keep Clicking!!!

**Above Right:** One July 22, 2016 I made a trip to find the South Tunnel on CSX's Mainline Subdivision. I didn't catch a train unfortunately, but this shot taken with my iPhone 6s really doesn't need one! Look for photos that



can provide you with good leading lines to help draw your subject into your picture!

**Left:** Look for trains or railroad photos that show something different to help add interest and impact to your photos such as this shot I did on August 5, 2016 – Southbound CSX loaded coal train N320 (Evansville, IN (EVWR) - Cross, SC) meets W987-30 with a load of wind turbine motors waiting to go north from the north end of Hanson siding as N320 makes its way south on the Henderson Subdivision at Hanson, Ky. - Tech Info: 1/640 | f/13 | ISO 720 | Lens: Sigma 150-600 @ 290mm with a Nikon D800 shot and processed in RAW. - #jimstrainphotos

# Southern Indiana Excursions

## Train Rides on the Hoosier Southern (ex-Southern) Tell City, IN to Lincoln City, IN during the Fall of 2016

The Scenic Lincoln Way is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to welcoming tourists to the historic land of President Abraham Lincoln's childhood in Spencer and Perry Counties in Southern Indiana. This is over the Hoosier Southern (ex-Southern) Tell City, Indiana branch east of Evansville, Indiana.

Past events have traveled west out of Tell City to approximately Troy, Indiana. The September trip should be from Tell City to Lincoln City (most of the route). Suspect equipment is borrowed from the nearby City of Jasper and/or Indiana Railway Museum.

### 2016 Excursion Train Rides

September 10, 2016—Bicentennial Ride to the Beer Fest at Lincoln Amphitheatre. Details coming soon!

October 2016—Fall and Zombie-themed rides. Details coming soon!

December 2016—Holiday Excursions—Details coming soon!

Visit <http://www.sceniclincolnway.org/events.html>

Submitted by Don Clayton

## Continued Book Review By Ricky Bivins

As promised, here is a synopsis of "Flying Sparks", a book published in 1914 authored by M. E. Munsell. Mr. Munsell was a Pullman Conductor on the Missouri Pacific Railroad. His favorite niece requested that he tell her about his travels and about the area he traveled through.

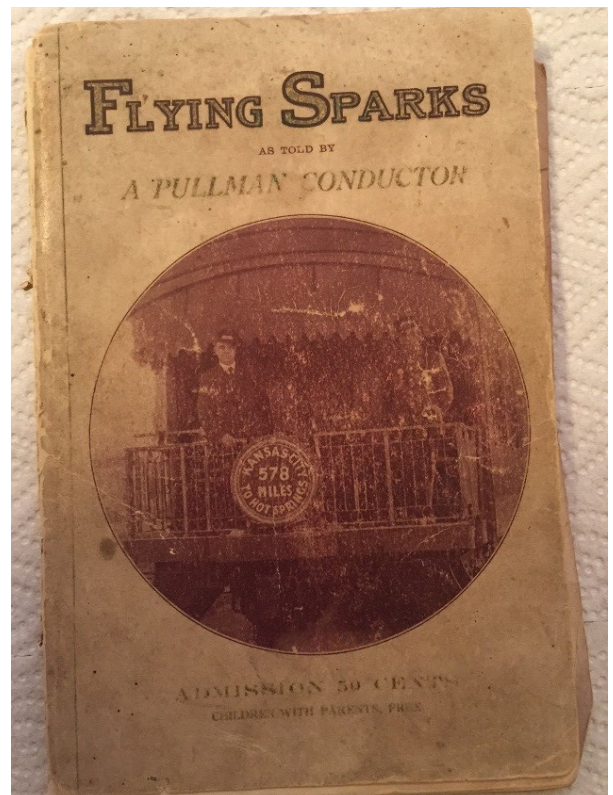
In 1914 the Missouri Pacific or MoPac as it was known, ran from St. Louis Missouri to several points west via Kansas City, Kansas, Arkansas and into Texas. Mr. Munsell wrote a series of letters to niece from which the book was authored.

The book is not arranged in chapters but in a series of paragraphs much as his niece would have read. Mr. Munsell was a fan of poetry which readily shows in the book.

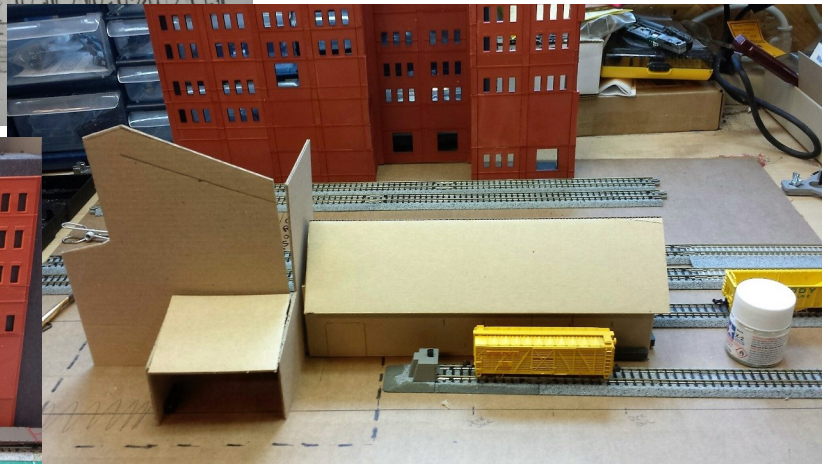
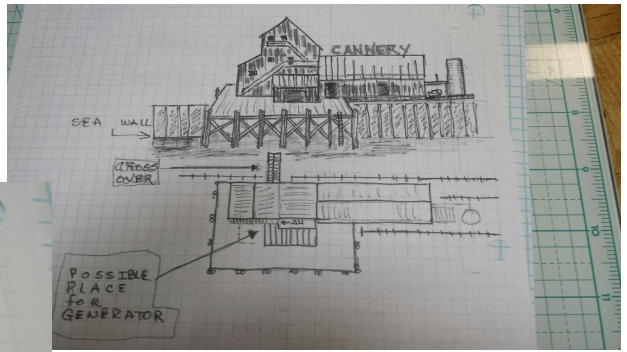
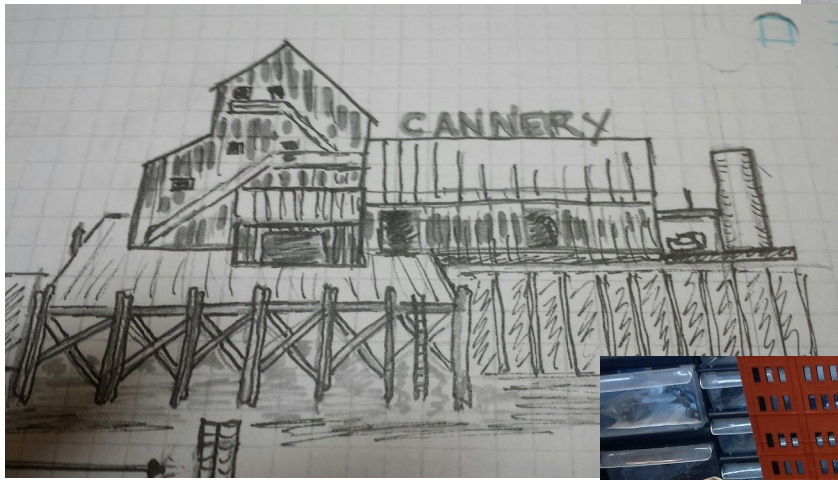
The synopsis begins: " Hefflebower's Six Buxom Daughters at Bucyrus" and tells of a prominent farmer and of his daughters and hired hands!

"Osawatomie, John Brown Fought First Battle of Civil War Here" tells of the man and his fight. A monument is here to honor the man. Look it up. Interesting. Osawatomie is located 62 miles from Kansas City and in 1914 was home to 4000 residents. The 2010 census shows 4447! The name is a merger of two river names, Osage and Potawatomi! Near here is the town of Paoli Kansas, and is the boyhood home of Charlie Pullman, Georges brother!

More next Month!



# Modeler's Corner



New Chapter member Will Kling submitted these photos and drawings of his recent work in N Scale. - ed.

From Will...

*Attached is the drawing of the cannery in N Scale each square = 1 inch I also included a site mock up and a picture of the warehouse with the cross over opening where the two building will connect. The warehouse is not yet painted, still working on roof details. Tonight started cutting out of sheet styrene the Cannery. Once that is done will start working on the dock. I've been taking photos and drawings of the complex I am building.*

*I was asked to build an N scale cannery and warehouse for a guy in California. The warehouse is a kit bash but the cannery and the dock are being scratch built. My wife and I are building an addition to our home that will have a basement. I plan to build a two-tiered N scale layout. The top layer will be the EK division and the bottom will be SP/UP division in the St. Louis area.*

**If you have photos and/or stories about your modeling activities, please send them to me for this portion of the newsletter. Thanks - ed.**

**Minutes Summary of July 18 2016 Meeting  
Wally Watts, Secretary/Treasurer**

- MINUTES: Approved of June Meeting.
- TREASURER REPORT: Approved
- OLD BUSINESS: our insurance policy is paid to Riddle Insurance.
- NEW BUSINESS: Wallace Henderson asked to have handrails (installed) at the station steps to platform ramps. Some discussion followed. Ricky Bivins reported on national newsletter—46 pages. Lots of pictures.
- NATIONAL REPORT: None
- Reports: Bill Ferrell reported that NS's steam locomotive 611 may be in excursion service next year. No other business or reports, meeting adjourned.
- NEXT MEETING: Monday 15 August at Madisonville 7PM, program by Blair Terry, refreshments by Jim Kemp.
- Those present:

- |                    |                       |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Wally Watts     | 11. Bill Thomas       |
| 2. Betty Knight    | 12. Steve Miller      |
| 3. Bob McCracken   | 13. Wallace Henderson |
| 4. Rick Bivins     | 14. Bill Ferrell      |
| 5. Thomas Bryan    | 15. Blair Terry       |
| 6. Jim Kemp        | 16. Rich Hane         |
| 7. Donny Knight    | 17. Jim Pearson       |
| 8. Tom Johnson     |                       |
| 9. Keith Kittinger | GUESTS                |
| 10. Will Kling     | 1. Robert Metcalfe    |

**Treasurer's Report July 18 2016 Meeting  
Wally Watts, Secretary/Treasurer**

Beginning Balance	1772.81
Income:	
Raffle	12.00
Balance	1784.81
Expenses	0.00
Balance	1784.81
Ending Balance	1784.81
Membership	33
Nat Members Added	
Nat Members Deleted	
Chapter-only Members Added	
Chapter-only Members Deleted	
Ending Membership	33

I just received this via email from President Bill Farrell, rail fanning in Richwood, KY, south of Cincinnati.



# The Interchange *Expanded*

THIS IS ALL THAT'S LEFT!

Enco 8' X 30" vertical knee mill. 1 1/2 HP 110V motor. R8 spindle with collets. Includes Palmgren 4" vise, work clamping kit, angle table, and cast iron angle plate. This mill sells new by Grizzly Imports for \$3450 with no accessories. Purchaser must move it. \$1750 complete. Bob McCracken (270)584-3340





**TIMETABLE #110**  
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- **August 15** - Monthly meeting at Madisonville Airport
- **September 18** - Monthly meeting - location TBA
- **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](mailto:bill@fbcmadisonville.com).



Your photo could be here if only you'd sent it to me!  
[billtrainthoas@gmail.com](mailto:billtrainthoas@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](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>**

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