

PENNYRAIL

October 2017

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 9

Please send your digital photos and story material to billtrainthomas@gmail.com or mail to **Bill Thomas**, First Christian Church 1030 College Dr. Madisonville, KY 42431.



Chapter Chatter

**Next Meeting Monday,
October 16, 2017**

7:00 pm

**Hopkins County Government Center
At Main and Arch Streets
Madisonville, KY**

**Program Following Business Session
and
Refreshments Served**



A north-bound CSX freight looks great under the clear blue skies of Crofton, KY, during the chapter's annual picnic. More pictures P. 8

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- ♦ Up North with Chris Dees
- ♦ The Bumper

Western Kentucky Chapter, NRHS, Inc.

* * * * *
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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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Ricky's Replies!

Greetings fellow NRHS members, and here we find ourselves at the beginning of October! September was a good month for our group, we had an excellent September meeting at Bill and Angela Thomas' home with hotdogs on the grill, Gauge One trains in the garden and a good time had by all. September also saw our annual outing to Crofton Kentucky trackside at the Veterans Park with a good day of train watching, food on the grill thanks to Bill Ferrall, fellowship and more trains. What could be better?

As I commented a month prior, October is our annual call for officers. In November we will hold elections for the upcoming 2018 calendar year. If you have an officer candidate in mind or if you would like to hold an office yourself, speak up at this meeting and get your name on the "official ballot"!

I look forward to a report from our Christmas show committee this meeting. We need to get the ball rolling on this. Last year we had an enjoyable

time at the Parkway Plaza Mall with the modular layout as well as the other events we had. As I understand Bill and his gang have a bang up event planned for the 2017 Christmas season!

It has been discussed at several previous meetings that our group go on some sort of outing. Fall is a great time for this although a busy time for many. If you have a trip in mind be it long distance, short distance or what ever, by all means speak up. We need to become more vocal about this.

We should have several other items of business this month that we will touch on quickly in the business meeting. If you have other thoughts or ideas bring them forward, we will discuss them of course. Meanwhile, make plans to be at the meeting on Monday, October 16, 2017 and bring a guest, bring a show-n-tell item and bring a raffle item. I hope to see you there.

Ricky Bivins, President

2018 convention to be headquartered in Cumberland, Md.

The 2018 NRHS convention will be held Tuesday-Sunday, Aug. 7-12, with headquarters in Cumberland, Md. The tentative schedule includes scenic rail trips through the countryside of West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania, plus the annual meetings of the Society. The registration room for the convention will open in mid-afternoon on Tuesday, Aug. 7. The board meeting for the NRHS Fund Inc., will be held that evening.

The first trip is scheduled for Wednesday with an all-day outing to Cass, W.Va. to ride the Cass Scenic Railroad up to Spruce, W.Va. At that point, there will be a "cross platform transfer" from the Cass steam train to the Salamander diesel train to Elkins, W.Va. Lunch will be served on the Salamander. Once in Elkins, NRHS members will re-board the buses for the return trip to the hotel in Cumberland.

The tentative schedule for Thursday includes a charter train ride on the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad from the depot on Cumberland (three blocks from the hotel) to Frostburg, Md., behind the newly rebuilt steam engine No. 1309. Photo run-bys are scheduled for this trip. Cab rides will be offered in both directions with proceeds benefitting the NRHS.

To read more from the NRHS News, go to https://admin.nrhs.com/NRHSNews/NRHS_News_October_2017.pdf.



Photography Contest News

Below are the winning entries from our August 2017 Chapter Photo Contest from a field of nine entries. Our next and last contest of the year will run from November 1-31, 2017 with a **Submission Deadline of December 7, 2017.**



1st Place, August 2017 - CSX Q504 is headed Northbound on the street running at LaGrange, KY on August 5th, 2017. The folks in their cars seem like they don't care, but they know it is coming. Photograph by Bill Grady

Photo by Bill Grady

2nd Place, August 2017 - A surprise on CSX Train Q647 today as it comes through the work zone, as UP #6815 sports fresh paint leading the way at Nortonville, KY on 8-12-2017. Photograph by Bill Grady



Photo by Bill Grady

Photography Contest Continued



Photo by Rick Bivins

3rd Place, August 2017 - CSX sets out track ties with a "Freightliner" locomotive! South bound at Mortons Gap KY. August 7, 2017. - Photograph by Rick Bivins

Bonus from September...

Mystery Photo September 2017

Most of our members can identify two people in this photo and a possible third. The fourth is a resident of this location. Name the location, town and state.

Photo forwarded by: Gary Ostlund.
Photo submitted by: Rick Bivins.



Mystery Photo
October 2017

Photo Section

In 1942, the first full year of the U. S. involvement World War II, there were few sites as important to the war effort than a large copper mine in Bingham Canyon in Utah. The Office of War Information sent a young photographer named Andreas Feininger to document the mine pictorially and show how the ore was extracted. To be included was the role played by in-mine railroads.

More than a hundred miles of rail line spiraled downward into the mine's ever-widening amphitheater. More tracks connected the mine with other important sites such as waste dumps and a smelter and refinery several miles away.

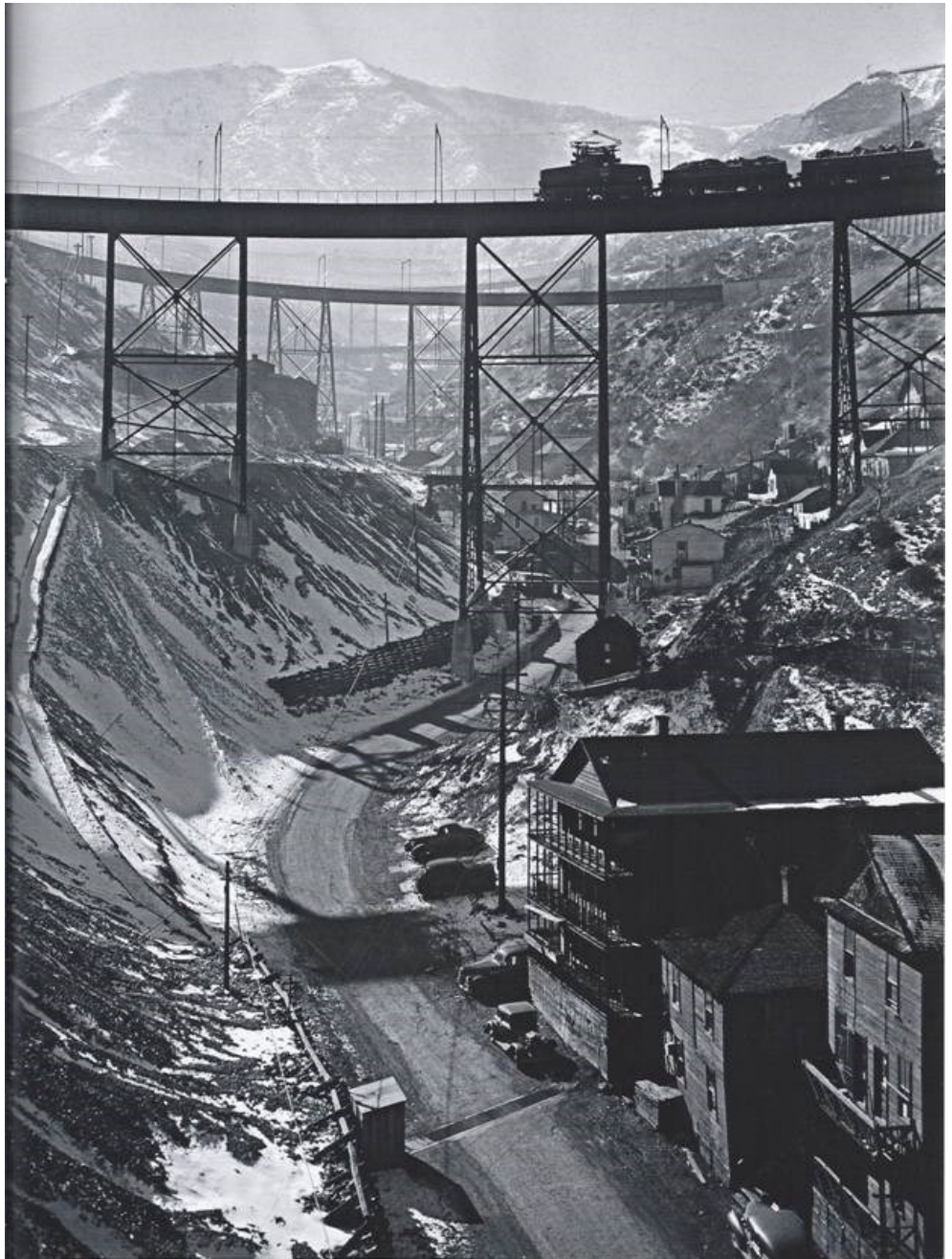
During WW2, Bingham's production spiked as miners strove to meet the war material needs. A single tank for example, required 800 pounds of copper, a large bomber a full ton. A battleship required 1,000 tons. Bingham produced one-third of all the copper used by the U. S. and its allies during the war.

Feininger stood on Bridge G and snapped our picture above. Having lived in Butte, Montana where the Anaconda Company's Berkeley Pit continues to gobble up the town I found this picture fascinating. 1) How many more bridges crossing the canyon are behind the photographer? There are at least four visible up the canyon. Is Bridge A out of sight up the canyon, or way down and behind the lens? 2) The boarding houses in the foreground are classic. 3) The company houses up the draw are typical, very basic and minimal.

I don't know about you, but I would get no sleep in the house directly under the closest bridge. Overloaded gondolas undoubtedly arrive at their destination, wherever and whatever, with a few less rocks in the hopper. 4) The snow covered walkway up the hill to the left is no doubt the route to the workplace. Looks like a long trek. 5) What a collection of vintage cars on the street.

The Berkeley Pit is a truck operation. They are BIG trucks, and today's are probably triple the size of what I witnessed in 1969-73. A follow-up seems in order.

Submitted by Gary Ostlund.



Credits: Photo & story from the Summer 2014 Railroad Heritage published by the Center for Railroad Photography & Art.

Photo Section - Chris Dees Going North

What's In A Number? 3985... 765... 611... while simple numbers have a different meaning to different people, for railfans a number can be magical. Although not living the fabulous life of some of her sisters in the realm of railroad history, former Canadian National 1395 is seen on October 8, 2017 at Coopersville, MI awaiting one of two fates... rust & scrapping, or perhaps restoration one of these days. The locomotive is part of the Coopersville & Marne Railway's museum collection. Both photos by Chris Dees.



My Little Runaway
On October 8, 2017
Coopersville &
Marne's Great
Pumpkin
Train departs
Coopersville, MI,
behind SW9 7014.
Coopersville - a
northwest suburb of
Grand Rapids - is
the hometown
of Del Shannon,
whose hit
"Runaway"
propelled him to
fame in 1961.
Photo by Chris
Dees.



Steam Engine 101

A TSBY,
A Tasket, An Alco in a Basket
Former Tuscola & Saginaw Bay RS1
number 2394 rusts away at
Coopersville & Marne Railway on
October 8, 2017. The former "Corkpine
Express" began her career in 1951 for
the Rutland Railroad. Photo by Chris
Dees



Blazing New Trails - Marquette Rail GP38-2 2040 and sister 2044 get ready to depart Ludington, MI on October 8, 2017 with the Baldwin Blazer. Enroute, they will pick up cars from Manistee at Walhalla, MI before proceeding east. At Baldwin, it will meet with the Sparta-Baldwin road freight powered by SD40-2 3389. Marquette Rail is now a subsidiary of Genesee & Wyoming's Orange Empire. Photo by Chris Dees

Go North Young Man - Great
Lakes Central GP38-2 number
395 prepares to depart on the
advertised with The Northern
Arrow excursion train between
Kalkaska and Petoskey,
Michigan on October 8, 2017.
Sister GP38-2 390 is on the
other end to facilitate the
return trip. Although rainy and
overcast, passengers enjoyed
the beautiful fall colors of the
northern Lower Peninsula on
the day long event. Photo by
Chris Dees



July - October 2017 Treasurer's Report Available at the September Meeting.

7/1/2017	Beginning Balance			2,006.57
		Nashville		
7/17/2017	Check #1221	Steam	500	1,506.57
8/1/2017	Beginning Balance			1,506.57
8/21/2017	Check # 1222	Madisonville Design	52	1,454.57
9/1/2017	Beginning Balance			1,454.57
9/7/2017	Deposite	Drawing	10	1,464.57
10/1/2017	Beginning Balance			1,464.57

September Minutes Available at the October Meeting

**Visit our website At
www.westkentuckynrhs.org**

Below: A couple of candid shots of this year's Crofton Picnic. Food, fellowship, and trains!



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

TIMETABLE #110
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- October 16 - Monthly Meeting
- November 4 - Clayton-Watts Open House
- November 20 - Monthly Meeting
- December - No PennyRail - Train Display at Mall
- Christmas Party - TBA
- No regular meeting in December

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

Photo Contest Schedule for 2017

Week of Oct 30 – Nov 5, 2017
Submission Deadline: Nov 9, 2017

The Bumper

Chapter member Blair Terry gives a wave from the car of a Tennessee Central excursion run this past summer.



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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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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