



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.



In this issue...

- ◆ Words From Our President
- ◆ Links to Order 2018 Calendars
- ◆ Timetable Calendar
- ◆ Precious Memories...

**Next Meeting Monday,
Monday March 19
7:00 pm
Innovation Station
(Former L&N Depot)
Madisonville, KY**

**Program by
Blair Terry
“My Rail Travels”**

**Business Session
and
Refreshments Served**

Western Kentucky Chapter, NRHS, Inc.
* * * * *

President
Ricky Bivins

Vice President
Steve Miller

Secretary-Treasurer
Bill Farrell

National Director
Will Kling

Director at Large
Keith Kittinger

“PENNYRAIL” is the official publication of the Western Kentucky Chapter, NRHS. Send news notes, historical notes and other rail information to:

Editor
Bill Thomas

1025 Lakewood Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431
(270) 339-9482 Cell
e-mail:
billtrainthomas@gmail.com

**Hey folks, we
need material
for April!
Editor Bill**

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.

Pickin' the Points

Opinions and Stories by Bill Thomas, Editor

Many of you have experienced the recent uptick in our “holy train nights”. Honestly, I felt our chapter took a little dip in enthusiasm for a while, but I just left Keith Kittinger’s man cave over on Plainview Dr, and when I walked in, I was a bit taken by the number of people milling around, having conversations in small groups, and eating peanuts! The room had a great positive energy I enjoyed being in.

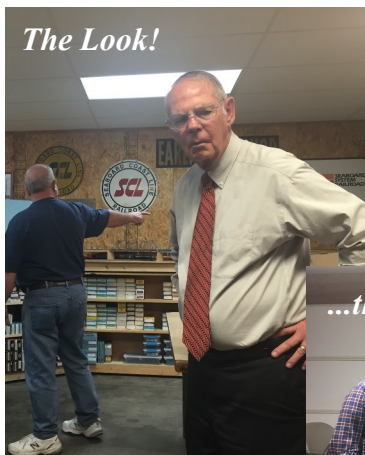
Every group or organization goes through hills and valleys - it’s a human dynamic no one can absolutely put their finger on. We just know it happens.

Our success is due to a few ingredients: 1. We have common interests. 2. Within that interest spectrum, we all have our different niches which provides some variety and makes us a bit interdependent - some know electronics, some know carpentry, some know painting, some know track-work, etc. 3. Most of us enjoy fellowship with one another which is probably the most important. But, I don’t think any of these ingredients would stand on their own.

I learned the term symbiotic by watch Star Wars movies since 1977. The term refers to the belief that living things survive by sharing life from common sources. It’s a little abstract for this article, but the older I get, the more it makes sense to me. I think our chapter lives that kind of life, good or bad. The life of the group varies with the

health, contributions, and vitality of its members.

So, I think we’re on an upswing as I’ve witnessed a couple of these gatherings outside the monthly formal meetings. I see good relationships, and enjoyment every time. Just look at the pictures president Ricky sent me...



Somehow, Keith managed to get into every shot!



Ricky's Replies!

Greetings Western Kentucky Chapter Members! The February meeting was a success. Ray Hagerman presented a detailed overview of Innovation Station its uses and goals. I believe our beloved train station is in good hands with a secure future. Jim Pearson was able to "connect" to the wifi/media center giving us an outlet for power point/DVD/VHS etc. for our programs. And speaking of programs, Blair Terry will be presenting a program covering his rail related travels while Bill Farrell provides refreshments. A big nod goes to Alicia Terry for taking minutes during the February meeting in Bill Farrall's absence.

I received an email from the National organization regarding National Membership renewal delays. As stated last month National is between 600 and 800 membership renewals behind. If you have not received a renewal notice from National, you can go online via National webpage and renew without the dues notice. As we have discussed numerous times, we do not collect National dues nor will the Chapter "police" the National dues. It is an honor system and we shall leave it at that! If you have not paid the Chapter dues for 2018, please do so at the next opportunity.

The recent National online publications and mailings do contain a plethora of information as well as discounts to museums, gift shops etc. The photography in these publications is splendid as are the stories. It is well worth ones time to visit

the National Web Page. And while on the subject of Web Pages, Our own website guru Jim Pearson has kept the Chapter sight fresh and inviting...visit often.

I request of the Chapter that all Chapter email notices etc. be sent to VP Steve Miller and he to distribute same to the membership via the Chapter email provider. This will help maintain control of the newsletter, information and financial data. Two former members has asked to be removed from the list, there are names on the list that need updating and a few past members that are no longer living! This action will streamline our newsletter mailings and the work Steve is faced with on the Chapters behalf.

As I type this, the March photo contest is wrapping up. Please participate in the next contest. These photos are judged by the membership and will be presented in our next Chapter Calendar. It takes very little time or effort to snap a photo on a camera or phone. A simple and fun way to be involved with the Chapter. And remember, calendars can be purchased from the Chapter Website.

In closing, try to make the meeting Monday, we will have an excellent time I'm sure. And bring a guest...let's grow our membership base.

Rick Bivins

Here's a link where you can purchase copies of our 2018 Chapter Calendars

Small Calendar 8.5x11 -\$16.95 + shipping

<http://www.lulu.com/shop/jim-pearson/2018-west-ky-nrhs-small-calendar/calendar/product-23458388.html>

Large Wall Calendar 13x19 #14.95 + Shipping

<http://www.lulu.com/shop/jim-pearson/2018-west-kentucky-nrhs-large-calendar/calendar/product-23458434.html>



Photography Contest News

Below are the dates for upcoming chapter photo contests. During the months listed all members are invited to shoot pictures and submit no more than two entries to webmaster@westkentuckynrhs.org by the deadline listed next to each contest. You must be a paid member of the chapter to participate in these contests.

Jim Pearson will judge the photos and select 1st through 3rd place and the winners will be presented in the PennyRail and on the chapter website. We'll also view them at the meeting following each contest.

At least the 1st place winners will be used to produce a chapter calendar for the next year. All submissions must have a caption that lists at least the railroad, location and date with photographer's credit and any other relevant information.

March 1-31, 2018
 Submission Deadline: April 7, 2018
 May 1-31, 2018
 Submission Deadline: June 7, 2018
 July 1-31, 2018
 Submission Deadline: August 7, 2018
 September 1-30, 2018
 Submission Deadline: October 7, 2018
 November 1-30, 2018
 Submission Deadline: December 7, 2018



December to Date Treasury Report By William Farrell

12/1/2017	Beginning Balance			1,464.57
12/11/2017	Deposit	Drawing	8	1,472.57
12/16/2017	Deposit	Santa Pictures	93	1,565.57
12/20/2017	Check # 1223	Ky Farm Bureau Ins.	309 08	1,256.49
12/23/2017	Check # 1224	ABC Hobbycraft, Inc.	250	1,006.49
12/24/2017	Check # 1225	David Haverly (Raffle)	100	906.49
12/27/2017	Deposit	Raffle	720	1,626.49
12/27/2017	Deposit	Breakfast with Santa	257 92	1,884.41
12/27/2017	Deposit	Santa Pictures	0	1,884.41
12/27/2017	Deposit	Dues 2018	15	1,899.41
1/1/2018	Beginning Balance			1,899.41
1/4/2018	Deposit	Raffle	15	1,914.41
1/22/2018	Deposit	Dues 2018	65	1,979.41
1/25/2018	Deposit	Dues 2018	5	1,984.41
2/1/2018	Beginning Balance			1,984.41
2/12/2018	Deposit	Dues 2018	5	1,989.41
3/1/2018	Beginning Balance			1,989.41
3/4/2018	Deposit	Calendar Sales	11	2,000.41
3/4/2018	Deposit	Dues 2018	35	2,035.41
3/9/2018	Check # 1226	Reimbursement for Calendars	111 94	1,923.47

Minutes from February 2018

President Ricky Bivins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, February 19th, 2018. There was a total of 20 members present. The minutes were approved from the November 20, 2017 meeting. The treasurers report was given by Alicia Terry, of 2,007.41, approved.

Ray Hagerman, from the city of Madisonville gave the chapter a tour of the newly renovated Madisonville Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation building which is the former L&N Passenger Depot.

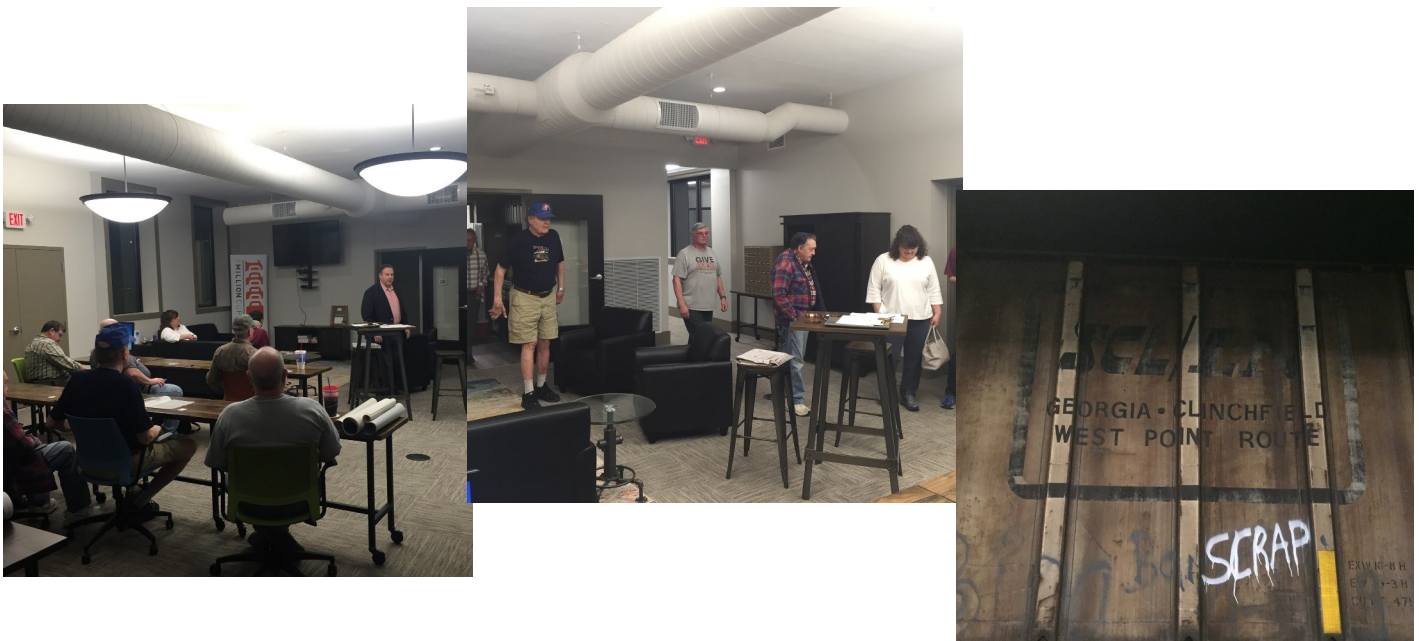
Old Business; The Christmas Show was cancelled due to the illness of Bill Farrell. The chapter made approximately \$700 from the Lionel Train Set raffle and \$200 from the breakfast with Santa and his Polar Express Friends. The individual who won the train set elected to take the \$100 dollars. The chapter still has the train set to raffle off next year. Scott from the Catfish Harbor Restaurant would like to hold a summer event in conjunction the Western Kentucky Chapter.

Annual club dues are \$5 and national dues are \$50. National dues can be paid online. Two calendars were sold online. There is a link to purchase the calendars online. Motion was made and seconded that money be used from the treasury to purchase six Spohn calendars. This money will be replaced once the calendars are sold. Motion carried.

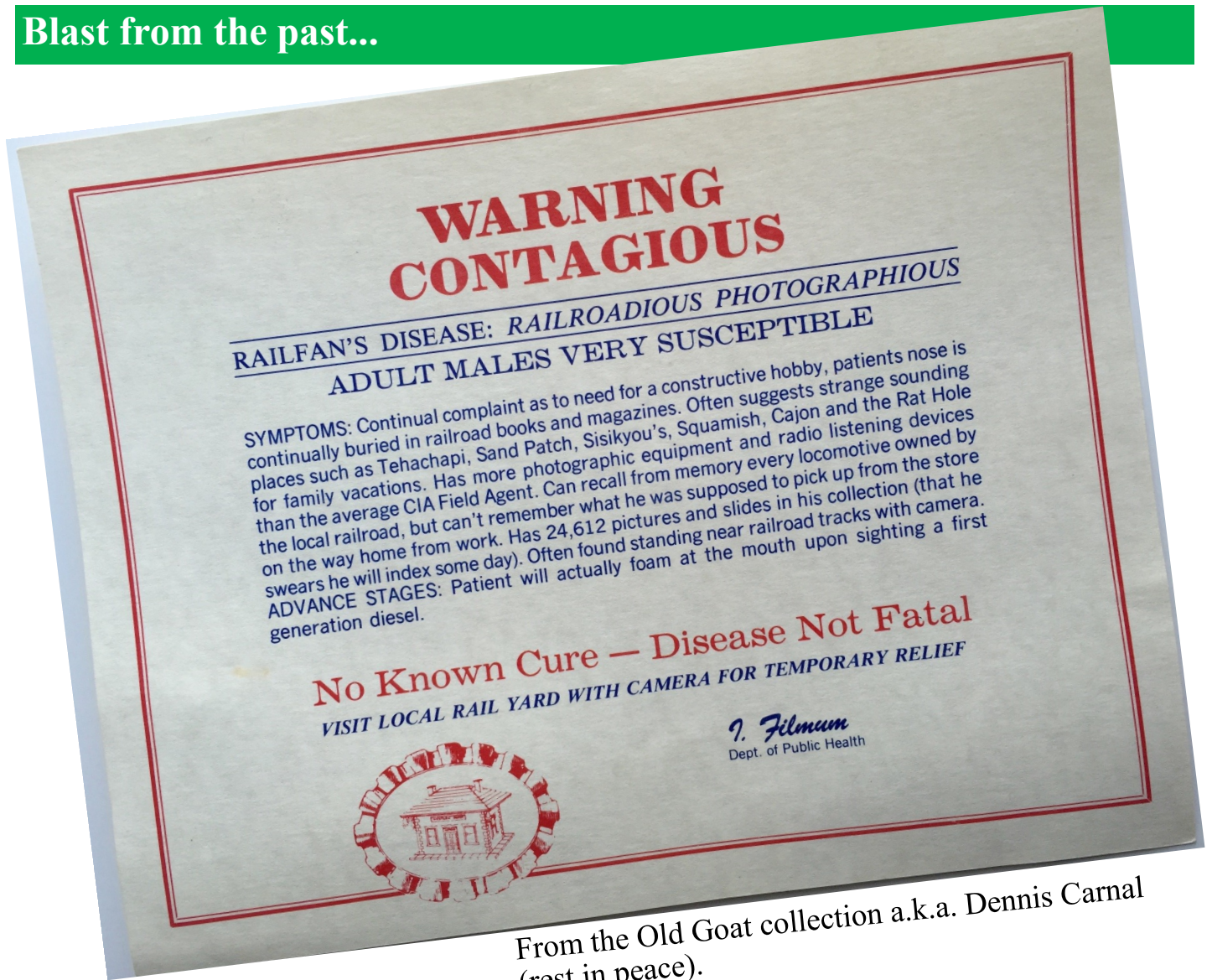
New Business; Motion was made and seconded to move the meeting to the Madisonville Hopkins County Economic Development Corporation facility. Motion carried. The email list is to be reviewed and revised. There was a reminder that all material for the newsletter should be sent to Bill Thomas. Keith Kittinger will be serving as the coordinator for trip events/planner. Future events- March 3rd, Evansville train show, March 24, Louisville Division 8 train show, May 19th day at the Gap, June 18th summer meeting at Bill Thomas's house. The chapter will continue with our monthly drawing. Jim Pearson will conduct the photo contest for two weeks and then the membership will vote on the entries at the monthly meetings. See the PennyRail for the contest schedule. Winners from the February contest were 1st place Bill Grady, 2nd place tie- Bill Farrell and Ricky Bivins. Meeting adjourned

February minutes taken by Alicia Terry
Respectfully;
William Farrell

Shots from the February Meeting



Blast from the past...



From the Old Goat collection a.k.a. Dennis Carnal (rest in peace).

Rapido Announces GE B36-7;
<https://rapidotrains.com/ho-ge-b36-7/>

Most notable is the TTI paint scheme which is a conditional announcement, meaning that they require a minimum order number to produce the models. I have talked to the R&D guys and the magic number is 250. I know that I am in for a few TTI units and probably a CSX unit to patch for TTI to be a unit in service before repaint. I just saw the pre-production samples at the Rocky Mountain Train show in Denver Co. this past weekend, and these are stunning models. You will not be disappointed.

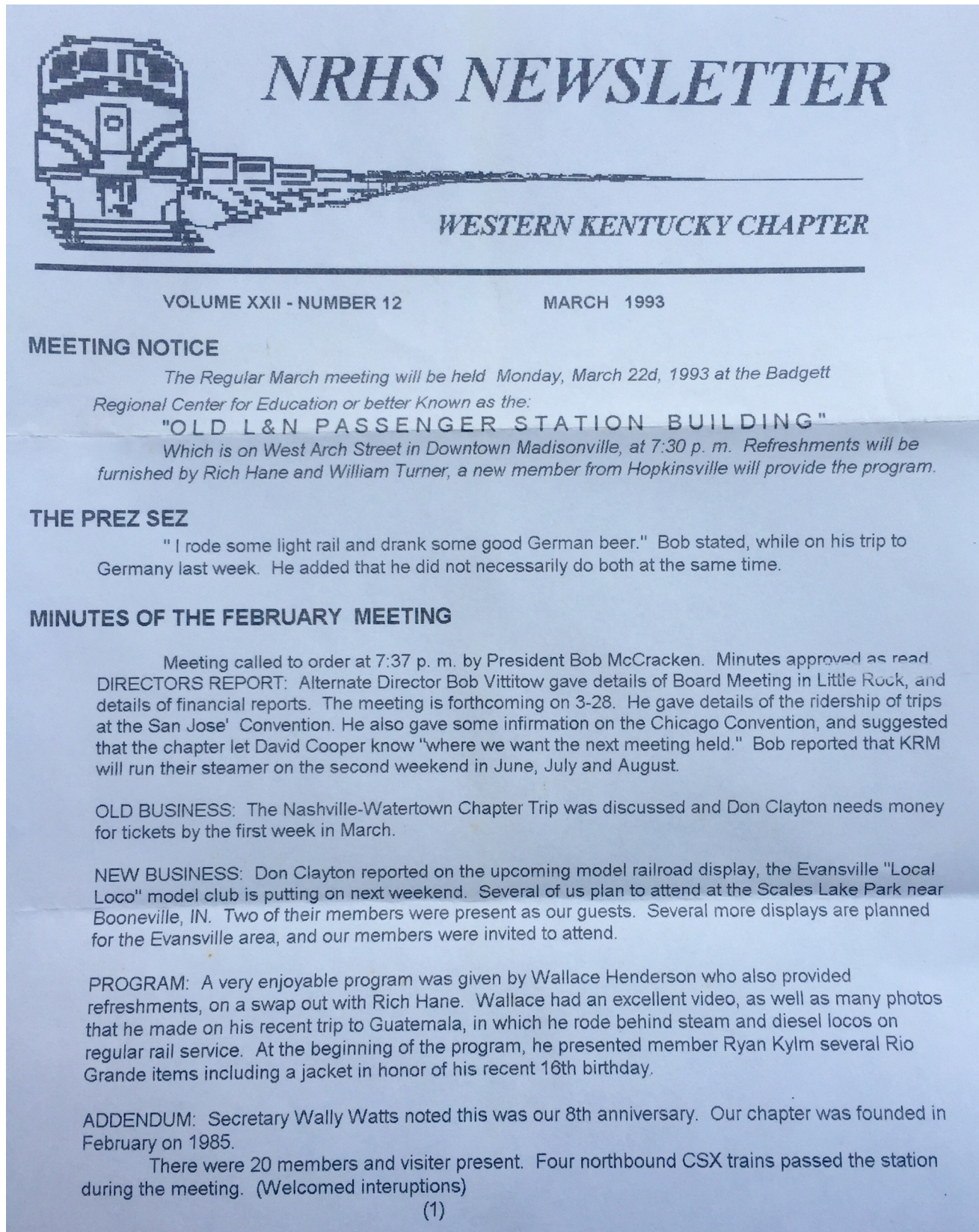
Matt Gentry



FIRST PRE-PRODUCTION SAMPLES

Precious Memories...

Below: Take a look at this Chapter newsletter from 1993! The chapter was only eight years old at the time as noted by Wally Watts at the bottom.



TIMETABLE #110
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- March 18 - Regular Chapter Meeting
- April 16 - Regular Chapter Meeting
- May 21 - Regular Chapter Meeting at Hopkinsville

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

The Bumper

If you have items for sale or looking something in particular, feel free to send a description and digital photographs to me for publication in the next issue of The PennyRail.



Free to a good home - Time Books. Bill Thomas, 270-339-9482 or my email in the left box below.

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
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

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
1025 Lakewood Drive
Madisonville, KY 42431