



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.



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Next Meeting Monday, Monday May 21 7:00 pm

Hopkinsville Former L&N Depot

Business Session

Program by William Turner

Refreshments by Bill Farrell

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:

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Hey folks, we need material for June! 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.

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



Above: Chapter members enjoy “Holy Train Night” at Steve Miller’s in April.
Photos by Rick Bivins

Ricky's Replies - Trains in the Gap



Several chapter members wave to CSX crews Saturday, May 19, as they gather in Morton's Gap, KY, for Trains in the Gap Day!

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>

Right: Trains at sunrise,
April 11, 2018. Photo by
Ricky Bivins.





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.

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



To all Members, Chapters and NRHS FaceBook followers;

As you may of heard Amtrak has announced a new policy for private passenger cars and special trips. This change will effect many of our members and I would like you to read it. You can find the Amtrak Policy at <https://admin.nrhs.com/public/AmtrakPolicyChanges.pdf>

I would like you to contact your congressmen and women expressing your thoughts on this Amtrak policy change. You can find the committees and the contacts at http://rpca.com/webpages/Gov_Contacts.html

It would be nice if you also contacted your Senators and Representatives about this expressing your views on the policy change. The link to find them and their contacts is at the bottom of the RPCA Gov_Contact page.

Thanks
Al Weber - President
NRHS

Minutes from April 2018

Western Kentucky Chapter/NRHS Minutes March 19, 2018

President Ricky Bivins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, April 16th, 2018. There was a total of 11 members present. The minutes were approved from the March 19, 2018 meeting. The treasurers report was given by William Farrell, of 1,923.47, approved.

Old Business; The membership approved Keith Kittenger as our chapter Director at Large. A report by Keith was given on a road trip to visit old railroad depots in Western Kentucky. Keith said there are two different trips one east and one west. A date of June 6th was proposed for the road trip. President Bivins suggested that we coordinate it with Steve Miller to make a trip to the eastern stations in May. It was suggested that we look at possible Western Kentucky “caboose Road Trip”, in the future. The winners for the March photo contest were voted on by the membership that were present for the meeting. First place was _____, second place was a tie _____. Project chairmen Jim Pearson announced the next photo contest will start on May 1st and end on May 15th. The dead line for entries to be submitted will be May 22. Bill Farrell reported that the club calendars have arrived and can be purchased at a cost of 16.95 each. Bill Farrell also gave a report on a trip to Korber Models in Indiana. President Bivins suggested to pick a date and those who wanted to attend to contact Bill Farrell.

New Business: The membership discussed the date for this years annual Picnic would be September 29th in the Crofton City park next to the City Hall. Steve Miller made a motioned that we hold the Picnic on September 29th, and it was seconded by Keith Kittenger. Motion carried. There was some discussion to donate 100.00 to the NRHS Rail Camp to be held this summer. Bill Farrell made a motion that our chapter make the donation of 100.00, Keith Kittenger seconded the motion, the motion carried. Do to a mistake in Bill Farrell’s computer in November 2017 an email was delivered last. Money for Christmas raffle tickets is still coming in and the raffle was held on December 23rd. It was suggested that Bill contact those people who have sent money and give them an option getting their checks back or applying it toward this year’s raffle. Bill Farrell announced that we have four members who do not have computer and do not get a copy of the club bulletin, “The PennyRail”. A motion was made by Will Kling to mail a copy of the bulletin to those members. Motion was seconded by Keith Kittenger. Business meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully; William Farrell

Current Financial Report

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
		Reimbursement for		
3/9/2018	Check # 1226	Calendars	111 94	1,923.47
4/1/2018	Beginning Balance			1,923.47
4/10/2018	Deposit	Dues 2018	10	1,933.47
4/10/2018	Deposit	Neurirk 2018 Raffle	10	1,943.47
4/22/2018	Check # 1227	NRHS Fund RailCamp	100 00	1,843.47

Photo Gallery



Above: At 70 miles per hour, this Kansas City bound Piggybacker will disappear across the Oklahoma prairie as quickly as the sky darkens in the vivid sunset. You probably have never heard of Avard, but to a railfan, this is a "hot spot." This line in northwestern Oklahoma was the Santa Fe mainline. Now as the Burlington Northern Santa Fe's "Transcon," these rails see more action than ever, over a hundred trains a day. Gary Ostlund



Former chapter member Fred Ripley sent me this for my birthday back in April! Great present. Bill

High-speed steam action!
Louisville & Nashville 4-8-2 No. 407 on Cincinnati-Birmingham train 7 passes 2-8-0 No. 1212 on a northbound freight on double track 10 miles south of Louisville in November 1948. C. William Streit photo

Precious Memories...

Dinner and a...Train Ride!

Kathy and I celebrated our 18th anniversary the weekend of April 8 by going to Bardstown KY and a ride on "My Old Kentucky Dinner Train" for the noon meal trip on April 7.

Our trip started out with snow and icy roads. My drive to Bardstown from Mortons Gap was, at times, white knuckle! Once we arrived and redeemed our vouchers, I walked around the old ex-L&N depot, looked over the model trains on display, took in the many prints on the wall and admired the remaining antique scale.

Once on board the train and seated in car number 003, we chatted with our table mates Tyrell and NaTosha. No, I am not making this up! This newly wed couple had never ridden a train and seem to enjoy the event. Tyrell and I had some common ground and interests.

The ride was nice. The track was surprisingly uneven for RJ Corman Railroad standards. But slow speed made the ride "real"! Kathy had a first time experience of walking on a moving train and laughed the whole time! The aforementioned snow made the view outside our window most pleasant.

On the return trip we were having dessert when I felt the generator change tone, vibrate...(I looked at Tyrell and he had the same look on his face I did. His experience as a mechanic told him what I felt to be as well) then...it died. Out went the lights, the AC and the noise was...no noise!

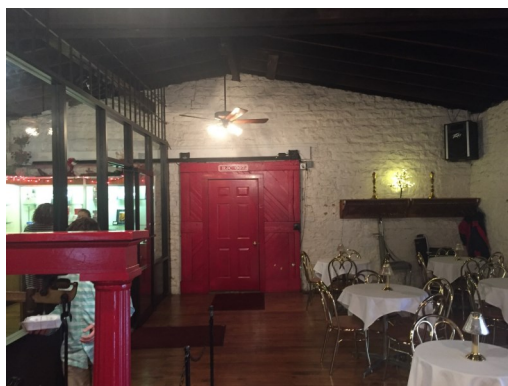
Even though it was about 38 degrees outside by this time, with 60 plus people in our car it began to heat up quickly! Our train came to a stop, crew members arrived outside our window with tools. Within minutes we were on our way with lights and AC....and generator noise!

A high light for me was seeing the RJ Corman Railroad EMD F units run around our train at each end of the run.

The trip back was over in a flash it seemed. We left our passenger car for the open road...well, hi-ways 150 and 68 to Wilmore KY. and the Potters Inn B&B.

As for the meal...we ordered the Kentucky Hot Brown. Now, I grew up with Mom and Kathy's KY Hot Brown served with brown gravy! I did not know the traditional KY Hot Brown has creamy cheesy... stuff on it! The quality was excellent. I did not like the meal which is no reflection on the cook or the train. The Apple Dumpling though...beyond good!

I doubt I will do the dinner train again unless for a really special occasion. I do however recommend same for anyone whom enjoys trains.





TIMETABLE #110
FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- May 21 - Regular Chapter Meeting at Hopkinsville
- June 18 - Chapter Meeting at Bill Thomas' - Cookout and Garden RR

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

So the question becomes, "why paint up a fancy new locomotive and leave the wheels and coupler all rusty..?" Very simply put, the wheels and couplers take a horrendous beating. Hairline cracks occasionally form, and if painted are difficult to detect. Broken couplers and chipped wheels cause nasty derailments. Rail managers feel that a little rust isn't going to hurt anything, and maintenance forces can easily stay ahead of the problems. Submitted by Gary Ostlund.

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>

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