

# PENNYRAIL

September 2018

VOLUME 22 NUMBER 9

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



## Chapter Chatter

### *In this issue...*

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**Next Meeting Monday,  
Monday September 17  
7:00 pm**

Innovation Station (Former L&N Station)  
Arch Street and CSX Main

*Archive Video From the  
Library of Dennis Carnal  
(The Old Goat)  
By Steve Miller*

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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***UP COMING PHOTO  
CONTEST  
September 15-30, 2018***

***Submission Deadline  
October 7, 2018***

***Get out there!  
Never know what you'll find on the rails!***



Steve and Keith inspect some new equipment at Holy Train Night Sept 11.

# Ricky's Replies

## Western Kentucky Chapter, National Railway Historical Society

September, 2018.

Greetings fellow *Western Kentucky Chapter, National Railway Historical Society* members, and welcome to September! This is one of the best months of the year, one of my favorite months. Summer is winding down yet the temperatures are still enjoyable. Of course I like cooler even cold weather. So it means the beginning of my favorite time of year. If you were not in attendance at the August meeting, you missed a good one. Member Kris D's presented his West Tennessee railroads program. Chris had put many many hours of work in this program and as he says it continues to evolve. It was very informative, enjoyable and colorful.

*Jim Pearson* informed us the dates of the photo contest have been changed. They will begin September 15 and run through the end of the month with submission date of October 7. This gives us the opportunity to announce the contest during its respective meeting month. The winners of the last contest or on the website for all to enjoy. Login and take a look. And, get out this month and try to get your name in the hat for first second or third place.

As a side note to everyone, our meeting night, Monday, 17 September files two days prior to *Wally Watts* 88th birthday! Remember to give him a thumbs up and an ata-boy Monday night.

As noted in the minutes in this newsletter, the upcoming months will be busy. With the Christmas show, breakfast with Santa and our annual Christmas dinner, there is much to be had and enjoyed. Please take note that we are always in need of programs and events. If you would like to host an event just speak up. That's all it takes.

Meanwhile, make plans to attend the September meeting on Monday the 17th at the Innovation Station. Most likely we will be downstairs. And be sure to bring a guest. We have gained a new member very recently and a new member a few months ago who were introduced as guests at previous meetings. Until then keep your eyes on the trains.

Rick Bivins



**Left:** A real treat (and rare) Atlas O, O Gauge EMD SD-35-2 in VMV paint. Nice. Rich Hane owns the unit and is seen here on C&W Railroad.



18, 19. Matt Gentry from Athearn showed off the new Amtrak SDP40F phase 2 paint for the first time, along with the new Norfolk Southern SD60E in HO Scale, in the "Honoring our Veterans" #6920 paint scheme. I asked Matt about his passion for trains. He said it started when he was five years old with a 3-rail O scale layout his father was building that filled a 70 x 30-foot basement. After college he still had the modeling bug but discovered just how expensive O scale was -- this is when he switched to HO scale. About this time, he discovered Athearn was hiring graphic artists. He applied, got the job, and moved to California. He said he loves working in the hobby every day and when he leaves work he models at home as well. That is a real passion for model trains.

**Above:** Chapter member Matt Gentry (who works for Athearn) made the pages of Model Railroad Hobbist. Read at <https://s3-us-west-2.amazonaws.com/mrhpub.com/2018-09-sep/online/index.html>



# 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

## Photos



Left: At Crofton (KY) a North bound mixed freight (is) pulled by Canadian Nation unit 8102 and assisted by Union Pacific 2513. The train lost its air and went into an emergency stop just North of Kelly, KY. Photo by Bill Farrell.

Right: Again at Crofton, 5 minutes behind the CN unit above, CSX locomotive 2513 in the lead being assisted by an additional 5 CSX units in order to pull the 10,841 foot, 900 axle, 2 1/2 mile-long empty coal train. Statistics by Steve Miller. Photos by William Farrell



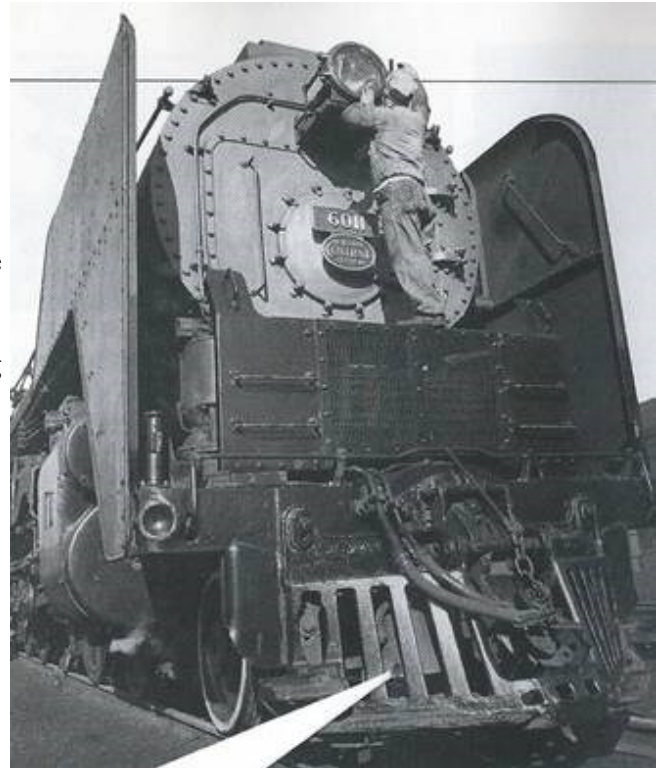
# Railroad Stories

Yes, that's the bell, mounted behind the cow-catcher, or more officially, the Pilot. Whether the bell rotates with an independent clanger, or mounted rigid and mechanical, is unanswered. Perhaps a New York Central aficionado will set the record straight.

There is a very good reason why the bell would be placed somewhere other than on top of the boiler, typical on most steam locomotives. Clearances were tight on the NYC and most others in the east. Early railroad infrastructure was built to a smaller standard, and as trains got longer and heavier the motive power and rolling stock grew in size. Lineside obstructions could be moved, but tunnels were unforgiving.

If we could see the top of the boiler, you would notice that smoke stack, whistle and other apparatus is also very low profile. Clearance issues is the reason dome cars were virtually nonexistent in the northeast. Double stack container trains were also late in coming to the east coast railroads for the same reason.

The loco above is one of New York Central's finest, a Niagara 4-8-4 #6011 built by American Locomotive Company. Those smoke-lifting wings gave them a sleek appearance.



Credits: photo by Ed Nowak – NYC, as seen in Classic Trains magazine, Summer 2013  
Gary O. Ostlund

**Right:** Steve Miller and Keith Kittinger watch a coal train overtake an auto rack on Steve's N scale layout during Holy Train night this month. Photo by Ricky Bivins.







## Photography Contest News

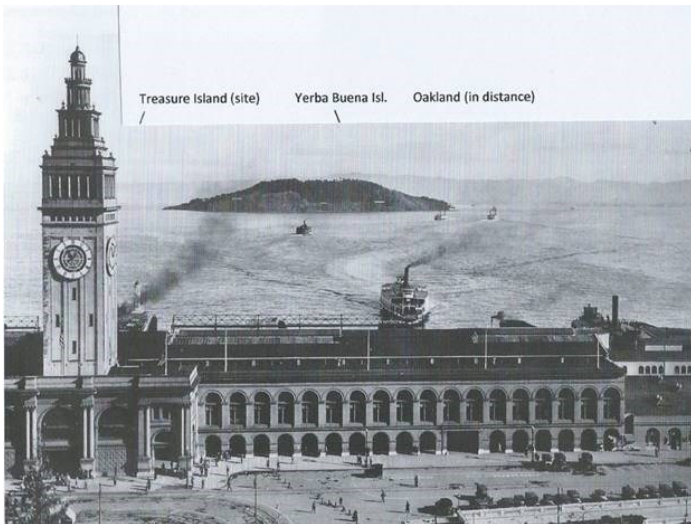
Below are the dates for upcoming chapter photo contests. During the months listed all members are invited to shoot pictures and submit no more than two entries each to [webmaster@westkentuckynrhs.org](mailto:webmaster@westkentuckynrhs.org) by the deadline listed next to each contest. You must be a paid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

Jim Pearson or the membership 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 photographers credit and any other relevant information.

September 15-30, 2018  
Submission Deadline: October 7, 2018  
November 15-30, 2018  
Submission Deadline: December 7, 2018

January 15-30, 2019  
Submission Deadline: February 7, 2019  
March 15-30, 2019  
Submission Deadline: April 7, 2019  
May 15-30, 2019  
Submission Deadline: June 7, 2019  
July 15-30, 2019  
Submission Deadline: August 7, 2019



Ok, at least ferry terminal is rail related, being the headquarters for the Southern Pacific railroad empire. I'll admit I'm a sucker for old landscape pictures. What I find so interesting about this picture, is what's not in the picture. In 1925 the SF/Oakland Bay Bridge was only a dream. In 14 years the area adjacent to Yerba Buena island's north side, and behind the clock tower, will become the nearly square mile site of the 1939/40 Golden Gate International Exposition. Thus, Treasure Island is formed.



The shoals immediately north of Yerba Buena Island were a danger to shipping. Creating an artificial island by placing a jillion tons of rock and massive dredging of the harbor quelled that hazard. By the time the expo was over, war was brewing and the Navy seized the newly created island. It became a training base including an airfield. In 2007 the government sold the island to the City of San Francisco. On-going now is a multi-billion Treasure Island Development project for up to 8,000 new residences, 140,000 square feet of new commercial and retail space. The picture (above) is pretty cool too,

*(Continued on page 9)*

# Minutes from August, 2018

Western Kentucky Chapter/NRHS Minutes August 20, 2018 - President Ricky Bivins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, August 20th, 2018. There was a total of 15 members and 3 guest present, Vince Brown from Hopkinsville along with Cooper & Sonia Smith from Clarksville, TN. Darrell Grisham was introduced as our newest member. It needs to be noted that former member Tom Johnson has rejoined our chapter as of the August meeting. The minutes were approved from the July 16th, 2018 meeting. The treasurers report was given by William Farrell, of 1,897.80, approved.

Old Business - Steve Miller reported the Veterans Park in Crofton was still under construction but should be finished by September 29th. It was noted that there is a structure on the North side of the firehouse that could be used for the club picnic. Steve reported, it looks like the concrete pad that once held the shelter now looks like the permit site for the artillery piece. Bill Farrell and Blair Terry will be hosting a Railfanning event on October 13th in Hopkinsville at the L&N Depot on 9th Street, Hopkinsville, everyone was encouraged to attend. Bill announced that all chapter members who attend should bring an appetite and enjoy the passing trains.

New Business - Jim Pearson reported that we had just finishing up the July photo contest and the winners were, 1st place Ricky Bivins, 2nd place Bill Farrell and 3rd place Chris Dees. Jim reported that we had several good photos submitted for the July contest. Jim also said the next contest would start on September 15th and finish on the 30th with a deadline of October 8th. Ricky Bivins reported that we need programs for the months of October and November. Bill Farrell passed around the sign-up sheet so members could volunteer to do a presentation. Steve Miller volunteered to host the Christmas Party but had to first check with his wife. It was noted that the Millers have done an excellent job hosting the Christmas party in the past. Steve will give a report in the September meeting. Bill Farrell gave a report on the Christmas activities that are coming up. Catfish Harbor wants to host the "Breakfast with Santa and His Polar Express Friends activity. The owner of Catfish Harbor said, he would like increase the price one dollar so our chapter would make more money. The mall is still on for the model railroad exhibit in December. Bill will give a more detailed report in the September meeting. Will Kling made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Steve Miller, motion carried. Business meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully, William Farrell

## Current Financial Report

8/3/2018 Deposit	Calendars	55	1,928.47
8/3/2018 Deposit	Calendars	12	1,940.47
8/3/2018 Deposit	Drawing	7	1,947.47
7/18/2018 Check # 1228	Steve Miller, DVD Player 49 67		1,897.80
8/1/2018 Beginning Balance			1,897.80
8/21/2018 Deposit	Dues 2018	5	1,902.80
Beginning Balance			
9/1/2018			1,902.80

## Photo Gallery



Take a close look at Gary Ostland's photo of the San Francisco Ferry Terminal on page 5. When I saw it, I thought, "I've seen that in a movie!" Then it came to me, "It Came From Beneath the Sea", a 1955 horror flick about a radio active octopus terrorizing the North American west coast.



**Is that an O  
scale 40 foot  
boxcar??**



## Photo Gallery



**Above:** Matt Gentry and Ricky Bivins spent Labor Day in “Train Mode” between Gorham, IL, and Delta, MO. Looks like the well-worn signal bridge’s days are numbered as the “bland” modern covered wagon awaits activation.



**Left:** On the same trip, they catch a UP woody scene.



# The Bumper

*(Continued from page 5)*

taken in about 1936. The north tower of the Golden Gate bridge is near completion. The caisson for the south tower at the end of the temporary pier is not yet complete. The massive concrete structure at water's edge is not part of the tower, rather a support for what will become the bridge approach. The adjacent land is part of the Presidio of San Francisco. The bridge opened in 1937 and a few years later a hurricane swept through the "Golden Gate" and to this day there are claims bridge is out of alignment, inward, by about 18 inches.

## TIMETABLE #110

- September 17 - Chapter Meeting at Innovation Station (former L&N depot)
- September 29 - Chapter Picnic Crofton
- October 13 - Railfanning in Hopkinsville hosted by Bill Farrell and Blair Terry

**If you know of regional events we can put on the Timetable, please forward those to me, [bill@fbcmadisonville.com](mailto:bill@fbcmadisonville.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**  
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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>**

## PENNYRAIL

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