

PENNYRAIL

April 2019

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 4

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 April 15
7:00 pm

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

Program by Will Kling
Refreshments by
Keith Kittinger

UP COMING
PHOTO
CONTEST
Submission
Deadline Dates
On page 5

Right: Bill Thomas got this view of a south bound CSX freight at Mannington, Ky. See more photos inside!

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

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Bill Farrell

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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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Ricky's Replies

Greetings fellow rail fans. And welcome to spring! I'm sure everyone is ready for warm weather, rail fan events, mosquitoes, sunburn and grass to mow! Yes I am being sarcastic. I always say I enjoy winter much more than summer. I actually enjoy the cold and the luxury of the above mentioned events not cutting into rail fan time, train room time along with the many Holy Train Nights throughout winter. But summer is upon us and that means other things to do. However, we will continue with our monthly meetings and scheduled events many of which will be mentioned in the meeting Monday the 15th. Hats off the Cooper Smith for presenting a fine program in March.

The Tennessee Central is an interesting railroad. Cooper brought much research and information to the table last month. If you have been keeping up with rail fan news, Union Pacific Big Boy number 4014 will be on the rails very soon to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Driving of the Golden Spike at Promontory Utah. I am sure the Big Boy under steam will be a sight to behold. Nashville Steam is making progress returning NC&St.L 576 to to life. These are only a few events. Many more are in the works. Being track side right here in our Western Kentucky backyard can yield quite a show of trains. I have seen many foreign road units lately. Not to mention watching for rolling stock from fallen flag roads. Our meeting agenda this month has a few items of importance but the business portion should go quickly.

Our program and refreshments should be spot on for spring. Get out and see some trains. Make the meeting and bring a guest. Stay track side on public property and stay safe. I hope to see you Monday.

Ricky



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

NC&StL 576 Photo Update

These photos of NC&StL 576 are taken from Nashville Steam's Facebook page. See Nashville Steam on Facebook for credits. 576 sits beneath the shed at the Tennessee Central Museum (Nashville). The Facebook post with the shot beckons people to come see the locomotive this Saturday, April 13, before she begins being disassembled for inspection work.



The first volunteer safety training was held April 3, 2019, at the Tennessee Central Museum. Source- Facebook.



What's In a Picture?



Spotting features:

photo- Kalmbach Media

This is not your ordinary well-manicured railroad R-O-Way (city park..?) The roadbed is nicely maintained, the ballast is neatly dressed, (little attention is given to most land abutting RR ROW.) The crossing arm is down as it should be, and we must assume the lights are flashing alternately. (The crossing arms might be short, as there are no counter-balancing weights. Perhaps this is a walking trail (in that park) rather than a highway crossing.)

Orange-tipped gas line marker (some rights-or-way are used for buried utilities, phone lines mostly, but this appears to be a line crossing under the railroad). Rusty - welded, protective barrier made of used "rail." To me that means the railroad probably fabricated and placed it there. (is it protecting a fire Hydrant.? Seems to be in an unusual location, so close to the rails, yet there is foliage). Graffiti-laden well-cars. (the closest being an articulated unit, then a solo, followed by a 5-set, the fifth segment in the shade. Articulated units share a wheel-set between each car.)

Wally-world has gone modern (those containers have been extended to the legal limit of 53 feet, also there just may be an element of "promotion" with such dominant placement.) It's Spring or Summer (who can identify the red flowers..? Can anybody ID the location?)

My friend and advisor, Dave Sprau correctly pointed out that this was a promotional display kicking off new logistics within the Walmart organization.

Gary O. Ostlund



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 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.

Submission Deadline: May 15-30, 2019

Submission Deadline: June 7, 2019

July 15-30, 2019

Submission Deadline: August 7, 2019



Photo Gallery



Pere Marquette 2-8-4 Berkshire 1223, a couple of cabooses, and the former coaling tower at Grand Haven, Michigan, stand as a proud reminder of an earlier era. After retirement in 1951, the locomotive was displayed at the Michigan State Fairgrounds in Detroit until moving to Grand Haven in 1981. Sister 1225 carries on the tradition of the family as the star attraction of the Steam Railroad Institute in Owosso, Michigan and was featured in the movie adaptation of *The Polar Express*. Photo taken 03/21/2019 at Grand Haven, MI by Chris Dees.

Minutes from March 2019

President Ricky Bivins called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm, March 18, 2019. There was a total of 12 members and 4 guest present for the meeting.

The minutes were read by Bill Farrell and approved, from the February 18, 2019 meeting.

The treasurers report was given by Bill Farrell, of 2,800.02, and approve.

Old Business;

Bill Farrell pasted around the sign-up sheet for “Programs and Refreshments”. Bill noted that we only have three months for the remained of this year where we need a program or refreshments.

Bill Farrell, reported on the Christmas committee report for the layouts at the mall. A vote was taken weather to support this project. Only 6 members voted to man this project. That was not enough member support to justify keeping the layouts operational.

Jim Pearson, reported that a new photo contest would start on March 15th and end on the 31st of the month. The deadline to submit pictures for the photo contest would be April 7th.

New Business

Bill Farrell reported that the Hopkinsville depot was having some structural problems and we need to check to see if the club can have the May meeting at that location. It was also decided to check on the restrooms across the street at the newly constructed city restroom building. President Bivins suggested that we check on using the historical center for the business meeting and then walk down to the station for training and refreshments.

Keith Kittinger made a motion to adjourn the meeting and it was seconded by Will Kling, motion carried.

Business meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully;

William Farrell

Current Financial Report

2/1/2019	Beginning Balance		2,517.02
2/19/2019	Calendars	113	2,630.02
2/19/2019	Dues, 2019	170	2,800.02
3/1/2019	Beginning Balance		2,800.02
3/12/2019	Dues, 2019	25	2,825.02
4/1/2019	Beginning Balance		2,825.02
4/2/2019	Dues, 2019	15	2,840.02

Photo Gallery - Kentucky Proud

Ricky's shots from Mortons Gap, KY. Notice my trick editing in the top shots. Bill



Photo Gallery



Top to bottom - A New York Central Lionel GP-9 hustles freight on the C&W RR. A Southern Pacific Cab Forward owned by Wally Watts on the C&W RR. A custom painted C&EI Lionel F-3 owned by Don Clayton speeds along the rails of the C&W RR. Rick Bivins.

Scoopin' on the NYC



A large high-speed locomotive, like the New York Central's Niagara 4-8-4, will consume a lot of water. By volume, the loco will require many times more water than fuel. At Tivoli, beside the Hudson River, #6009 takes water from a track-pan at 80 MPH. A Hostler fills the tank to capacity from a water-plug, probably at Harmon where passenger trains from Grand Central Terminal switch from electrics to steam or diesel.

The Central's marketing and advertising many times, included the phrase the "Water Level Route." Chicago-bound trains followed water-courses and avoided any serious grades. Their posh all-Pullman *20th Century Limited* promotional material toted "ride and sleep on the Water Level Route."

Track pans were spaced about thirty miles apart for the entire route. A closer look at the tender clearly shows the enormous length of the 46-ton coal bunker, and the relatively small water compartment. The Niagara needed refueling only once between the "Big-Apple" and the "Windy-City."

Credits: Photos by W. A. Akin as seen in Kalmbach's *Steam's Lost Empire*

Submitted by Gary Ostlund



The Bumper

Chapter Interchange Track

Bill Thomas - I'm looking for HO scale detail parts found at an engine service facility in the early 60s to mid 70s.

If you have items for sale or looking for a particular item or items, Email me at billtrainthomas@gmail.com with the information and I will list it here.



TIMETABLE #110

April 15- Chapter Meeting at Innovation Station (former L&N depot)

May 20 - Chapter Meeting in Hopkinsville

June 17 - Chapter Meeting at Bill Thomas' home - 1025 Lakewood Dr. Madisonville

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

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National Railway Historical Society
www.nrhs.com
Railway Preservation News
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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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