

# PENNYRAIL

July 2019

VOLUME 23 NUMBER 7

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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- ♦ NC&StL 576 Update
- ♦ Photo Contest Winners
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**Next Meeting  
Monday July 15  
7:00 pm**

**Innovation Station  
(Former L&N Depot)  
Main Line & Arch St**

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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**Program  
And  
Refreshments  
Served**

***UP COMING  
PHOTO  
CONTEST  
Submission  
Deadline Dates  
On page 5***

# Filler UP! by Gary Ostlund

After reaching their goals, and becoming profitable, the western railroads soon made major improvements to their infrastructure. On the western slopes of Snoqualmie Pass the Milwaukee Road crossed six water courses. The forests provided ample supplies of heavy timber and wooden trestles such as we see here were the result.

Wooden trestles required a lot of maintenance, and were subject to forest fires. Some were filled like Humpback Creek. The planking shields the structure from damage when dumping fill. A hefty culvert allows passage of the creek to this day. The other five wooden trestles were replaced by steel structures, assembled within the confines of the wooden trestles. Traffic was only minimally disrupted. Somewhere in my “stuff” I have a picture



of that work in progress that I will share, someday.

Many years later the westbound Olympian Hiawatha is seen at the same location, about to enter a snow shed, also made out of 12 x 12 timbers. The locomotive, (a motor in railroad lingo) is one of 5 Bi-polars built by General Electric. They were unique in that the axles were the armature, no gears. Other than the clickety-clack of jointed-rail, they were extremely quiet. While traversing the warehouse district of Seattle, with many street crossings, the engineers were required to keep the bell clanging in addition to using the whistle.

Credits: Wooden trestle: Unk; westbound Olympian: Milwaukee Road photo

## 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).

In late June, the super heaters were removed from 576. Each unit has 4 sets of curved parallel pipes that send steam back into the tubes re-using the heat from the boiler to convert the saturated steam into dry steam. The longer pipes in the front are for the super heaters along the bottom. The units in the middle and the top are tucked behind the front row. (taken from Nashville Steam Facebook page)



July 2 - The feed water heater is carefully removed from the top of the smoke box.





# Ricky's Experiences



Left: Our very own Cooper Smith takes up flying. 4H Aviation Camp, Madisonville Regional Airport.



Above: This is a Jack Delano photograph from the Internet, taken sometime in the 60s on the Santa Fe line. The hand car is significant. We believe it to be a Fairmont M-9 series. Standby, you will learn more later!



Below: Anyone care to guess what rides in the CSX bright orange hoppers? This orange color was a trademark color for CSX Maintenance of Way equipment. Photo taken at Mortons Gap Kentucky.



Above: Serval of us in the Chapter have visited the hallowed grounds of Rochelle Rail Park, Rochelle Illinois. I found this vintage photo online of Rochelle.



## Photography Contest News

All members are invited to submit no more than two entries each to [webmaster@westkentuckynrhs.org](mailto:webmaster@westkentuckynrhs.org). You must be a paid member of the chapter to participate in these contests. Your photo must have been shot between June 15-30th. The Membership will judge the photos at the meeting following each contest and select 1st through 3rd place. The winners will be published in the PennyRail and on the chapter website. At least the 1st place winners will be used to produce a chapter calendar for the next year.

Our next contest will run:  
July 15-31, 2019  
Submission Deadline: August 7, 2019



## Photo Contest Winners June 2019

First Place, May 2019, West Kentucky NRHS Photo Contest - The “Big Boy” and UP’s 844 double headed, eastbound between Laramie and Cheyenne, WY. - Photo by Blair Terry





## Photo Contest Winners Continued



Second Place,  
May 2019, West  
Kentucky NRHS  
Photo Contest -  
The Big Boy 4014  
on the fly at  
Medicine Bow,  
WY. on May 19,  
2019. - Photo by  
Bill Farrell

Third Place, May 2019, West Kentucky NRHS Photo Contest - After a crew change at Bruceton, Tennessee, CSX Q532 is rolling onto the west approach of the bridge over Kentucky Lake at New Johnsonville, Tennessee on May 29, 2018. - Photo by Bill Grady





## Photo Contest Honorable Mention



Honorable Mention, May 2019, West Kentucky NRHS Photo Contest - A Paducah and Louisville railway coal train heads north through Princeton, KY on its way to Warrior Coal in Madisonville.  
- Photo by Cooper Smith

## On the Road Again with Don Clayton



This is a former Harvey House, now a B&B in Slaton, TX on BNSF (ex-ATSF) near Lubbock, TX. Photo by Don Clayton.



## Photo Gallery



Let's Dew(ey) This...  
On July 2, 2019, one of the rare twelve Illinois Central GP28 locomotives toils on under a different shade of orange paint for Fishers Farm, Grain & Coal Company. FFG&C 1828 was originally IC 9437 and works the former Illinois Central spur west of Rantoul, Illinois to the little down of Dewey. Photo by Chris Dees.



A farmer once said that a good crop of corn is knee high by the 4th of July. During the weeks that follow, the corn has to go to market, and that usually involves rail transportation. Seen in Gibson City, Illinois on July 01, 2019 is one of ICG's former GP10 Paducah rebuilds of the Bloomer Line Railroad,



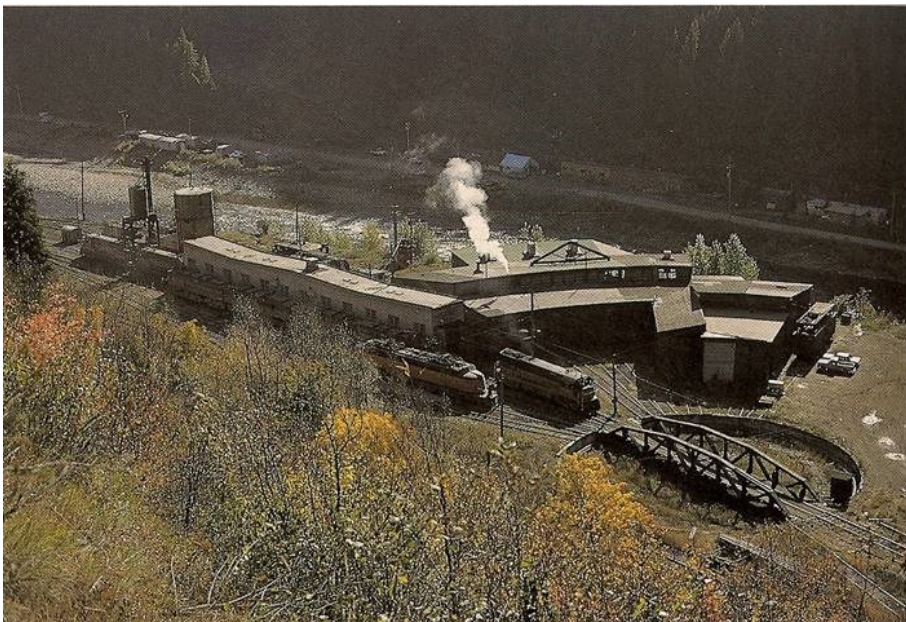
road number 7405. Formed in 1985, the Bloomer Shippers Connecting Railroad Company (The Bloomer Line) operates the former ICG from Colfax, Illinois to Kempton, Illinois. Photo by Chris Dees



## Photo Gallery



Just in time for the 4th of July! Chris Dees



Most railroad roundhouses were round, thus the name, duh!. However, here in Avery, Idaho we have a unique design dictated by geography. The narrow valley, with the robust St Joe River immediately behind, made for this unusual building. Avery was where helper engines were added to assist trains over St Paul Pass, crossing the Bitterroot Mountains into Western Montana. A two-mile tunnel was dug under the summit. The history of that event is recorded in the book: *Doctors, Dogs and Dynamite*. A good read.

Avery became a key terminal for the Milwaukee Road with crew and engine changes. 440 miles of electrified operations from central Montana ended here. Westward trains switched to

steam, and more recently diesel locomotives. The line from Othello in Central Washington to Tacoma and Seattle was also electrified. Monday morning QBs say the 216 mile gap was one of the downfalls for the Milwaukee. Either way, for 71 years the Milwaukee Road provided "spirited" competition to the NP, GN and UP.

The Milwaukee was the last kid on the block, in its westward venture, necessitating two important facets. First, the railroad had fewer choices in selecting routes, particularly through mountainous areas; and second, they rose to that challenge by constructing the most direct, and subsequently the fastest route from Chicago to Tacoma. In their heyday, the Milwaukee Road ran freight trains from the windy city to the coast in 55 hours. Amtrak could only wish.

Credits: Photo by Bruce Black as seen in Frederick W. Hyde's book: *The Milwaukee Road* - Gary Ostlund



## Minutes from May 2019

President Ricky Bivins called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm, June 17, 2019. There was a total of 11 members and 1 guest present for the meeting.

The minutes were not read, from the May 20, 2019 meeting.

The treasurers report was given by Bill Farrell, of 2,940.02. There was no activity in the treasurer since the last meeting. The treasurer's report was approved.

Old Business;

Ricky Bivins said with a absents of Jim Pearson we would wait for the July meeting to find out the winners of the May photo contest.

The members present could not come to a decision on what to do with the Don Clayton slides.

New Business

Bill Farrell announced that the club had a reservation for September 28th to hold the annual club Picnic in Crofton, KY.

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

Business meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully;

William Farrell

## Current Financial Report

1/1/2019	Beginning Balance		2,568.02
1/2/2019	Check # 1235	Ky Farm Bureau Mship 51	2,517.02
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
4/28/2019	Anonymous Donation	100	2,940.02
5/1/2019	Beginning Balance		2,940.02
6/1/2019	Beginning Balance		2,940.02
7/1/2019	Beginning Balance		2,940.02



# 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](mailto:billtrainthomas@gmail.com) with the information and I will list it here.**



## TIMETABLE #110

July 15, 7PM - WKNRHS Meeting  
August 19, 7PM - WKNRHS Meeting  
September 16, 7PM - WKNRHS Meeting  
September 28 - Crofton Picnic  
October 21, 7PM - WKNRHS Meeting  
November 18, 7PM - WKNRHS Meeting  
No meeting in December

**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.

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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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