

# PENNYRAIL

March 2020

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 23

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...*

- ♦ Photo Galleries
- ♦ A Good Night's Sleep
- ♦ Chapter Interchange Track
- ♦ Minutes & Financial Report
- ♦ Photo contest dates in Time Table, p. 7

**Next Meeting**  
**Monday**  
**March 16**  
**7:00 pm**

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

**Program by Rick Bivins**

*The Last Incarnation  
of the  
Illinois Central RR  
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:

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**Two IC Lanterns For Sale**  
**See Details in the Chapter**  
**Interchange on page 6**



# February Meeting Minutes and Financials

President Ricky Bivins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, February 17, 2020. There was a total of 14 members and 3 guest present for the meeting.

The minutes from the January 20,2020 meeting were approved as printed in the club bulletin (PennyRail).

The treasurers report was given by Bill Farrell, of 2,248.87. The treasures report was approved by the membership present.

## Old Business;

President Bivins called on Steve Miller for a report on the Don Clayton slides. Steve reported that all that was needed was to send the slides off to the company and have them digitized.

Bill Farrell gave a report on the Lionel Ready to Run Train Set raffle. The chapter took in 330.00 on the project. After expenses the raffle produced a total of 187.02 revenue.

Ricky reported that the chapter hats were in and all members could purchase as many hats as they would like. If we run out more will be purchased in the future.

President Bivins and Bill Farrell both reported on the presentation to the City of Crofton, War Memorial Park. It was noted that Crofton was receptive to the idea of a small railroad museum in their community. Bill noted that the original Crofton Depot was still in northern Christian County and could be restored.

Ricky, reported on the M-9 speeder grant that was applied for in January. The application process was a total of 14 pages. It has been mailed and now it is a watch and see process.

## New Business

Jim Pearson announced that he had a photo exhibit stating at the Madisonville Community College on the first of March. The title is “Steel Rails” and can be found in the, “Glenna Mar Center for the Arts”. President Bivins encouraged all members present to take time and visit Jim’s exhibit.

The winner of the chapter photo contest was Bill Farrell and second place went to Jonathan Young. There was a total of 9 entries in the January contest.

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

Business meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully;

William Farrell

2/1/2020	Beginning Balance		2,374.87
2/3/2020	Check # 1248, City of Crofton	200	2,174.87
2/19/2020	Members Jacket Steve Gentry	29	2,203.87
2/19/2020	Members Dues Steve Gentry	5	2,208.87
2/19/2020	Members Jacket, Ricky Bivins	29	2,237.87
	Member s Jacket Ricky		
2/19/2020	Bivins rs Dues Ricky Bivins	5	2,242.87
2/19/2020	Donation	6	2,248.87
2/19/2020	Hats	210	2,458.87
2/19/2020	Donation	0.13	2,458.00
3/1/2020	Beginning Balance		2,458.00

## Photo Contest Winners

1st Place by Bill Farrell, January 2020 - First Place winner of the West Kentucky Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society's January Photo Contest - A north bound CSXT 5291 pulls a mixed freight north on the Henderson Subdivision as it passes a south bound CSXT 763, leading a mixed freight in the siding at Kelly, Ky. - Photo by William Farrell



2nd Place by Jonathan Young, January 2020 - Second Place winner of the West Kentucky Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society's January Photo Contest – My content 2-year-old, Hayden does some railfanning from the backseat as he watches a northbound mixed freight pass through Mortons Gap, Ky on the Henderson Subdivision. A young railfan in the making for sure!! - Photo by Jonathan Young



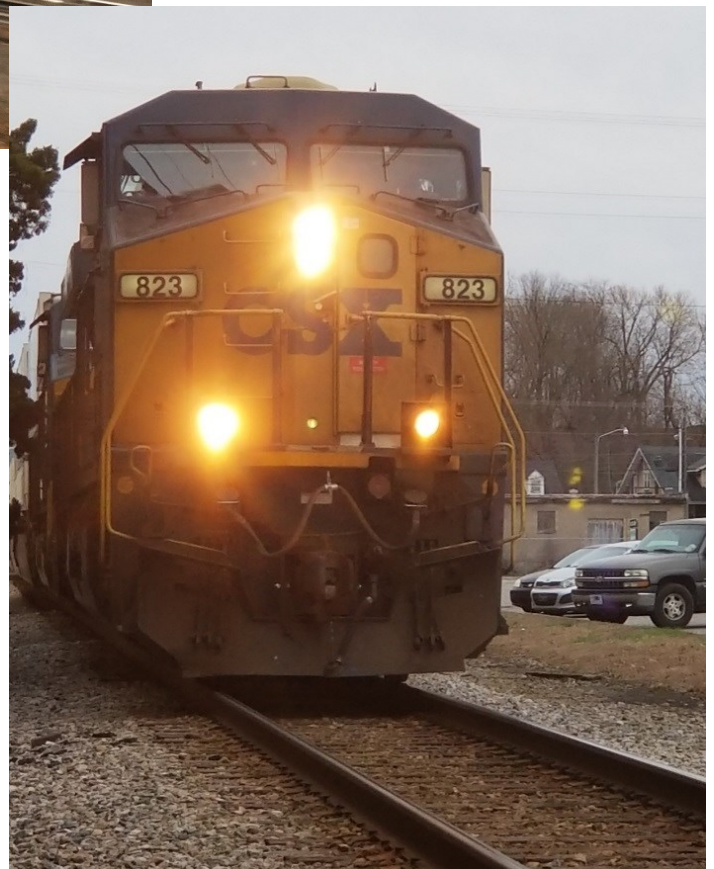
## Photo Gallery

Ricky's Santa Fe sightings!



Below: While dad Jonathon watches trains, daughter Harper practices her dance which happens to be at the dance school next to the railroad tracks in Madisonville.

Photos by Jonathon Young.



## Photo Gallery Continued



**Left:** Rick Bivins shows off his photo skills with this speed shot of a Lionel switcher on the Clayton/Watts layout.

**Below:** Ricky also caught this Metra locomotive in the consist of a north-bound freight passing through Morton's Gap, March 9, 2020.



## Reminder

Hats are in and will be at the February meeting. The cost is 10.00 per hat and I (Bill Farrell) will take check or cash. Members may purchase as many hats as they would like, we bought extra. By the way the hats look very good in gray with the club logo on them.

## A Good Night's Sleep

Pride of the Northern Pacific Railway, the eastbound vista-domed North Coast Limited, Train # 26 is drifting down the Yakima River Valley near Easton, Washington. This 1962 shot was taken from an open vestibule by the late great photographer Jim Fredrickson. The nose of the leading unit is under the Milwaukee's line crossing to the other side of the river. In less than a mile it will bridge back to this side of the river.



The NCL left Seattle at 2:45 PM and has tunneled under Stampede Pass and descended into the scenic valley. It will follow the river for over a hundred miles, and will slip into Chicago Union Station the second afternoon out.

So, if this is the center-piece of the NP's passenger fleet, why didn't they paint the third car..? That car is a Slumbercoach, sort of a mini-Pullman, but not a Pullman requiring first-class ticket. Rather, the budget-minded sleeper was available for a reasonable price to coach-class passengers. Imagine 24 single and 8 double rooms, with sinks and toilets in each room, all put into less than 850 square feet of railcar. Accommodations were tight, but you had your privacy, a bed, your own bathroom for a decent price. Justine and I travelled to Butte in 1969 on a house search utilizing the NCL and a double Slumbercoach. Very adequate.

The stainless-steel Budd-built cars were left unpainted so they would stand out prominently. Sort of a "look what we have – that you don't," to the other railroads. Slumbercoach space was sold-out more often than not. Amtrak?? Take note.

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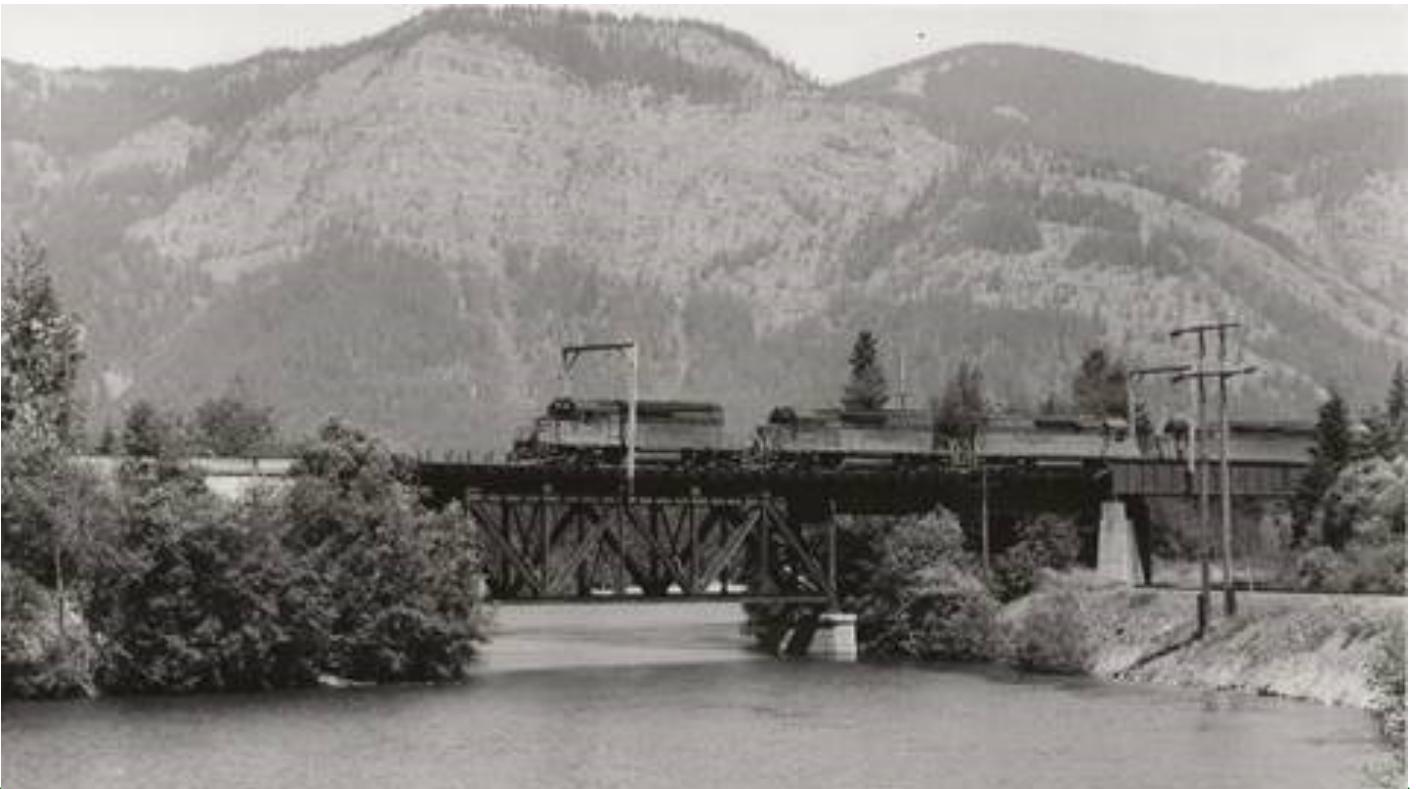
## Photography Contest News

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. 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.

**See photo contest dates in The Time Table on page 8!**



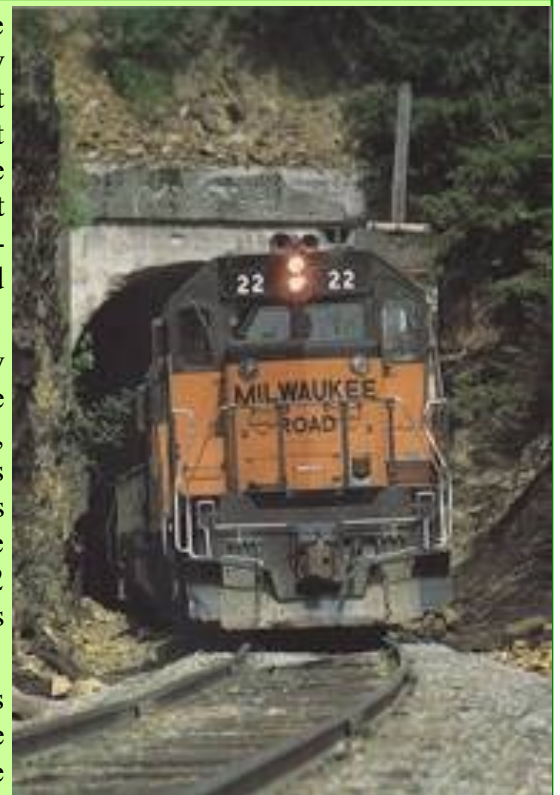
## A Good Night's Sleep - Follow-Up



A week ago (preceding page), I stumbled portraying the closeness of the Milwaukee Road to the Northern Pacific Railway trackage. The two pictures here are the same location as last week's Northern Pacific eastbound North Coast Limited, just nosing under the bridge. In both pictures above, the Milwaukee freights are westbound. The tunnel where #22 is exiting is about two car lengths behind the four diesels. If you were to Google-Earth this location you would see the valley is quite constricted here. The river is flowing away from the photographer.

The four diesels are crossing the Yakima River, but will only remain on that side for about a mile. The Milwaukee line continues up the Yakima River Valley, ducks into a short tunnel, follows the shoreline of Lake Keechelus, enters two snow sheds before the 11,789-foot Snoqualmie Pass tunnel. Both railroads enjoy relatively level travel up the valley, the Milwaukee all the way to the long tunnel. Northern Pacific trackage climbs a 2.2 percent grade from just behind the cameraman for about six miles to their Stampede Pass Tunnel.

The NP and Milwaukee do chase each other at various locations in the states of Washington and Montana. They are within sight of each other from the scene in these pictures, Lake Easton to Ellensburg, most of 40 miles. In western Montana for many miles along the Clarks Fork River they are much like double-track in some places, and zip in and out-of-sight for about a hundred miles. They share sides of the Yellowstone River in eastern Montana for about 85 miles.



Picture credits: diesels on bridge by Robert W. Johnston; #22 at tunnel by Dale Sanders

# The Bumper

## Chapter Interchange Track

- ◆ Illinois Central Lanterns For Sale - Asking \$100 each. Contact David Bratcher at 270-836-4973 (pictures on front page) **Price is negotiable!**

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.



**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](mailto: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

## TIMETABLE #110

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- March 16 - WKNRHS Meeting
- Photo contest March 15-30, deadline Apr 7
- April 20 - WKNRHS Meeting
- May 18 - WKNRHS Meeting
- Photo contest May 15-30, deadline June 7
- June 15 - WKNRHS Meeting (At Bill Thomas's)

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

**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>**

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