

PENNYRAIL

August, 2020

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 7

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

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Meeting August 17 Innovation Station Madisonville, KY

Program

“Stories From the Caboose”

by

Neville Crawford
Retired L&N Conductor

No Refreshments Provided
Due to Covid 19 Guidelines

Guests are Welcome

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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Reminder!

Chapter T shirts are in and will be at the meeting on Monday evening, July 20th. Shirts are 10.00 each and we have extra in all sizes if you failed to order one last month.

That is until they run out. These are dry fit T shirts and you will love how they feel and wear.

July Meeting Minutes and Financials

Western Kentucky Chapter/NRHS Minutes July 20, 2020

President Ricky Bivins called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm, July 20, 2020. There was a total of 10 members present for the meeting.

The minutes from the June 15, 2020 meeting were approved as printed in the club bulletin (PennyRail). The treasurers report was given by Bill Farrell, of 2,373.87, according to the Hancock Bank account. The treasurers report was approved by the members present.

Old Business;

President Bivins called on Steve Miller for a report on the Don Clayton slides. Steve reported the slides had been sent off to the digitizer for processing. Steve also reported the processing would come back as a DVD. Steve will use a thumb drive as a backup of the DVD. The club T shirts had arrived and those members who ordered one picked them up at the meeting. Bill Farrell reported that the chapter had ordered extra shirt and they were on sale on a first come first served bases. The Breakfast with Santa committee did not meet in June but will meet before the next meeting in August. That committee is made up of Jim Kemp, Ricky Bivins, and Bill Farrell. Bill Farrell reported that we have a reservation for the shelter in Crofton on September 26th. This will be the site of the chapter's annual Pic Nick pending any additional problems with COID 19. Meeting time will be any time after 9:00 AM.

New Business;

The Chapter is presently holding its fourth photo contest of the year. Results will be judged at the next meeting in August or by chairmen Jim Pearson. Ricky reported that Jim Pearson's photograph of trains had been featured in, "Trains Magazine". It was pointed out that this was an honor to have a member with such talent in our organization. The September 21st meeting will be held in Hopkinsville. Steve Miller will host the program with Bill Farrell providing refreshments. Location of the meeting is yet to be determined. 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

**Financial Report
Available During
August Meeting**

Photo Contest Gallery

1st Place West KY NRHS July 2020 Chapter Photo Contest by Bill Thomas - CP No. 7021 (Canadian National) has a Desert Sand color with black markings used on military vehicles used in modern conflicts such as Afghanistan and Iraq. This locomotive dons the modernized "Army" stencil font for the road numbers. The unit is a rebuilt SD70ACU, one of five locomotives honoring Canadian and U.S. armed forces. The train is southbound on CSX's Henderson Subdivision just south of the Badgett Loop overpass off of Stagecoach Road, Madisonville, KY



2nd Place West KY NRHS July 2020 Chapter Photo Contest by Blair Terry - South bound CSX locomotive # 3020 pulling a train of mixed freight. The locomotive has just cleared the lift bridge that crosses the Tennessee River at Decatur, Alabama.



Photo Contest Gallery - Second Section

3rd Place West KY NRHS July 2020 Chapter Photo Contest by Cooper Smith - CSX 5331 leads Q688 northbound on the Louisville and Indiana Railroad in Seymour, IN.



Minutes from Breakfast With Santa Committee

Breakfast with Santa & His Polar Express Friends - Committee Members, Bill Farrell, Jim Kemp, and Ricky Bivins.

Pending date: December 12, 2020 - Pending location: Catfish Harbor Restaurant

The original concept of this fund raiser was to raise money to cover the chapters Liability's Insurance.

Issues discussed:

Check with chapter members for amount of interest in this project.

Have more membership involvement in the project.

Activities at the fundraiser:

Santa Clause, George Fillingham, Bill Farrell

Christmas Crafts, Ann Farrell

Operation of Polar Express Layout, Blair Terry

Door Greeter, Ricky Bivins

Flyers to schools, Jim Kemp

Polar Express Friends, Bill Farrell

City & County dignitaries to bus tables, (6-8)

Photographer, Jim Pearson

Photographer's assistant, Steve Miller

Decorations & decorating for event

Advertisement, signs, radio interviews, Facebook etc.

Reading of the book, Polar Express, Bill Farrell

Obtains a sponsor(s) for the bells- 75 to 100.00

Liaison with restaurant, Ricky Bivins

All active members support and attend project.

Confirm Lionel Ready to Run Raffle for 2020, start November 16th at chapter meeting, Chair?

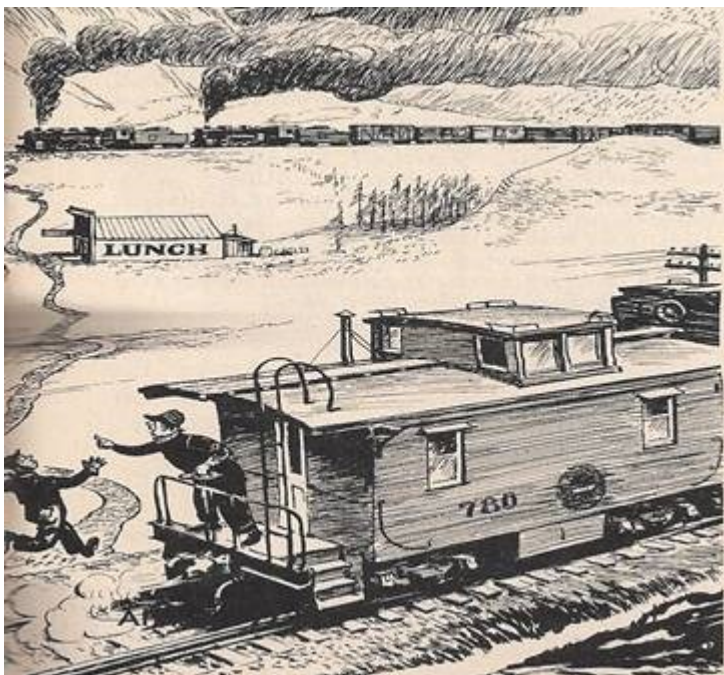
Photo Gallery - Third Section



It's Friday August 7, 2020 along the Canadian National (ex-Wisconsin Central) in Waukesha, WI.

Some 30-plus years after being rebuilt at Paducah, KY two Illinois Central GP40u locomotives, 3115 and 3138, await the crew of the Waukesha-based Sussex local to come on duty. Photo by Chris Dees.

With only 15 of these still active, what are the odds???



Sadly, these days we rarely see a caboose at the end of a train. Yesterday's train crew of five or six is now an engineer and conductor, and they ride in comfort up front in their diesel locomotive. But in days past, the caboose was not only an observation platform, it served as the "Home on the Road" for the crew.

Until laws were passed limiting a workday to 16 hours (more recently reduced to 14 and now 12) the train crew relied on the caboose for food and housing. Trains were dispatched with orders stating essentially: "get it there - no matter how long it takes" Train crews cooked and slept aboard.

Trains would also stop where restaurants were close by, and many depots had a beanery. This cartoon by

Joe Easley depicts the conductor instructing the hustling brakeman to "make mine Ham on Rye." As you can imagine, train crews weren't going to go hungry for long, as they knew where the food was good, pies fresh and coffee hot (and a cute waitress thrown in for good measure.) And more than just occasionally a track-side farmer lost a chicken or two.

In Trains Magazine's special "Railroads and World War II" a story is told that President Roosevelt and Mexican President Manuel Avila Camacho and their entourage were travelling in Mexico to Laredo at night. The train stopped out in the middle of nowhere, and as you can imagine the Secret Service went nuts. The Mexican Trainmaster calmly told them the crew was enjoying their usual late-night snack. "They can't do that. There's a couple of presidents on board." At some point the agents were pointed toward a barely visible light. They ended up walking nearly a half mile to a small shack, where they found the crew enjoying sandwiches washed down with tequila. As presidential secretary Grace Tully later wrote, "Conversation in neither English nor Spanish could prevail upon them to return to the train until they had finished their meal."

Gary O. Ostlund
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Pinehurst - USA

The Bumper

Chapter Interchange Track

Various HO scale freight and passenger cars. Most with Kadee or compatible couplers. Contact Bill Thomas, 270-339-9482, for a detailed list. Examples below.



TIMETABLE #110

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF RAILFANS ONLY

- August 17 - WKNRHS Meeting
- September 21 - WKNRS Meeting at Hopkinsville
- October 19 - WKNRHS Meeting
- November 23 WKNRHS Meeting
- December - No Meeting

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
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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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Tennessee Central

Railway Museum

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