

# PENNYRAIL

November, 2020

VOLUME 24 NUMBER 10

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...*

- ♦ Officer Election
- ♦ Photo Galleries
- ♦ Minutes and Financial Report
- ♦ Chapter Interchange Track

No Meeting  
Due to Covid 19  
Happy Thanksgiving  
Merry Christmas  
And  
Happy Holidays!

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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A Social Distancing  
Idea  
By  
Gary Ostlund  
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# October Meeting Minutes and Financials

## Western Kentucky Chapter/NRHS Minutes October, 2020

Minutes from October meeting

Welcome Treasures report: as of last month- \$2452.00

Old Business- September photo contest 1st place- Matt Gentry 2nd place- Cooper Smith 3rd place - Cooper Smith Next photo contest will be the last one of year. Next contest will run from November 1-15. Entries due by November 23. Picnic attended by 10 people 501c3 tabled to next meeting- there will be a \$400.00 fee to get 501c3 reinstated. 500 pictures have been placed on DVD for archives. Keith working on identifying pictures for historical purpose. After holidays, members will get together to identify pictures.

New Business- motion made and second that Christmas party/Dinner will be canceled for 2020 due to Covid pandemic concern. Motion carried. Motion made by Will and second by Steve that Christmas show be cancelled for 2020 due to Covid pandemic concerns. Motion carried. Club will proceed with raffle. Bill Thomas will have raffle tickets at November meeting. Nominations for officers President- Keith Kittinger VP- Steve Miller Treasurer/secretary- Bill Farrell Chapter representative- Will Kling Director at Large- to be appointed by next President Chapter Dues will be due January 30, 2021 and they are \$5.00 per member. Proposal by Bill Farrell that dues remain \$5.00 for 2021 then increase dues by \$1.00 on even years for 10 years. This was tabled. No vote occurred.

Show and Tell Next meeting - November Program and refreshments by Jim Pearson Vote to adjourn.

Members attending October meeting Rick Bivins Matt Gentry Will Kling Don Clayton Jack Richardson Rich Haynes Steve Miller Wally Watts Keith Kittinger Cooper Smith/ Sonia Smith Adam Comer Keith Comer Blair Terry Bill Thomas Alicia Terry Jim Kemp

5/4/2020		Members Dues & Jacket, Brown					34	2,393.00
5/4/2020		Member Dues					5	2,398.00
5/4/2020		Donation					5	2,403.00
5/4/2020		Members Dues & Jacket, Thomas					34	2,437.00
5/4/2020		Dues 2020					15	2,452.00
6/1/2020		Beginning Balance						2,452.00
7/1/2020		Beginning Balance						2,452.00
8/1/2020		Beginning Balance						2,452.00

# Photo Gallery

I lucked out with a friend at Fortner Gas here in Madisonville. He let me know about the spur upgrade so I could get some shots. Just a few days after it was completed, I caught the local headed that way with some loaded tankers and got the switching action on camera. The cab shot in the trackmobile was a surprise bonus for me! Fortner has become a regional supplier of propane with this new transloading facility across from the Madisonville Industrial Park off Hwy 41A.



Notice the little touch of re-engineering on 4302's panel door above! Yes, I got to couple up to the tank car and blow the horn!



## Tips for Photographing Trains at Night - Jim Pearson

Shooting trains at night can be troublesome so I here's a few tips on shooting at night using manual settings. You can also shoot on auto, but you'll get better results if you use manual as the headlights from a train can "fool" your camera on auto. Also, many folks photograph trains at night using flash, but that's another ball of wax and involves a lot more work and I won't be covering that in this article.

First and foremost are two things. Use a tripod and turn off your VR on your camera or lens, otherwise when shooting it can cause blurry images when shooting on a tripod. If your gear doesn't have it then you don't need to worry. This applies if you're using a tripod.

For best results use the fastest lens you have with the fastest shutter speed. if you are hand holding also use the highest ISO you can, but no higher than you must, and when hand holding use the VR if you have it. It's also a good idea to brace yourself against something to help hold the camera steady when hand holding at night.

Shoot a test exposure based on what the camera tells you. If it's too dark, increase the exposure, too light, decrease it.

Join other night photography groups on Facebook so you can see what other people are doing and how.

Use the self-timer when possible when shooting at night. It helps eliminate camera shake from when you press the shutter. Better still, get an electronic cable release.

Learn to manually focus your camera. Auto focus at night can be troublesome.

If your camera has a setting for Locking the mirror up before taking your picture, then use it. When shooting at night, sometimes the slap of the mirror can cause camera shake.

Pop over to YouTube and watch videos on shooting at night. There's a wealth of them available and free!

Here's a few good ones.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HPytBIKUD-k&t=17s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R3cbg3A38Lw>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z1cuelg3PMw>

Here's some articles on the subject as well:

<https://www.cnn.com/travel/article/railways-at-night-pictures/index.html>

<http://www.railphoto-art.org/exhibits/link/>

<https://lens.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/11/16/when-steam-locomotion-ground-to-a-halt/>

Night photography of trains and railroads can be very dramatic and enjoyable, but it can take time along with some trial and error till you get used to it, but very rewarding. When trackside at night or anytime always remember to be safe!!

# Company Store

## Western Kentucky Chapter/NRHS

### Company Store

	Amount	Size	Price
Chapter Jackets	2	2 XL	29.00 ea.
Chapter Hats	7		10.00 ea.
Chapter T Shirts	5	4- L	10.00 ea.
		1- 2XL	10.00 ea.



**Promoting  
Social  
Distancing**

**Submitted by  
Gary Ostlund**

# Steam Leak?



## Not at all a leak..!

The engineer has just opened the throttle to get underway. When an operating steam engine sits, unmoved for any period of time condensation builds in the cylinders. Steam and air can compress, water and vapor cannot. So, when the train is to be moved the engineer must open the cylinder cocks at the bottom of the piston chamber and let the movement of the piston drive out the moisture. Obviously, it is not a safe place to observe, note the seagull scrambling to exit the scene.

In the picture, the Great Northern mallet # 2050 is exiting Interbay Yard in Seattle, with a long freight. Snow in Seattle is not rare, rather, just an annoyance to be dealt with. Having snow and cold temps does enhance the drama of steam and smoke, however.

That's Queen Anne hill in the background, with city center beyond. Soon this freight will cross Bridge #4, over the Lake Washington Ship Canal trekking north along Puget Sound. Its destination could be Stevens Pass and points east, or continue north to Bellingham or Vancouver, B.C.

Our two oldest kids learned how to count watching slow moving boxcars from this same vantage point. We lived in nearby Ballard in '61 & 62. All diesel by then, darn.

Credits: Hall Will Collection, Museum of History & Science, Seattle

Submitted by Gary Ostlund

# 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

- All plans to be announced.



**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.

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.tcrystory.org/](http://www.tcrystory.org/)

**VISIT THE CHAPTER WEB SITE: <http://www.westkentuckynrhs.org>**

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