



BLUE RIDGE DISPATCHER

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Wayland Moore brings the March program to Blue Ridge Chapter. He'll finish up the California show he started at a fun meeting last year and will then move eastward to Louisville, KY. Pictured above left is United States Gypsum's narrow-gauge RSD39 #112 in Plaster City, CA. Above right is R. J. Corman's dinner train F7A (ex-SOU) #1940 at Bardstown, KY.

A delightful and colorful show is in store for you. Be sure to attend.

Wednesday, March 14, 2012. 6:00 p.m.
Charley's Restaurant. 707 Graves Mill Rd. Lynchburg.



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BLUE RIDGE CHAPTER
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Lynchburg, Virginia



Blue Ridge Chapter, National Railway Historical Society
Minutes of Meeting - February 8, 2012

President Rick Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and welcomed 26 members and 2 guests. Rick announced the death of former member Glenn Olinger in October and retired Southern Railway special agent Charles Willis who passed away the previous week. The minutes of the January 11th meeting were approved as distributed. John Tanner gave the treasurer's report.

Under Old Business Rick again reminded members that dues were due! He reported that the January Fun Meeting was a great success with 18 members and 16 guests attending. Bob Flippen will present the program again on March 11 in Farmville at Charlie's Restaurant there. Member Guthrow moved that \$250 be donated to the Friends of High Bridge Trail State Park to help with the purchase of the Vail photographs. Seconded by Diacont and passed without dissent. Member Fielding reported that 86 attended the Virginia Blue Ridge Railway program at the Amherst Historical Museum on January 15th.

Under new business, Lee Hawkins suggested a field trip to Manassas for the 150th observance of the Battle of Second Manassas on Saturday, August 25th. Members and guests would ride the Amtrak regional and spend approximately three hours there before returning to Lynchburg with a 7:30 pm arrival time. Fare is currently \$44.00 and everyone would ride and eat at their own expense.

There was no report from the Vice-president or the National Director. Director for the Regional Rail Heritage Area, Norris Deyerle, mentioned the calendar of events, including the C&OHS George Washington show in Clifton Forge on Feb. 18-19. Thanks were given to the Editor for the newsletter and the Webmaster, John Siegle, described some of the features of the new webpage software.

Dale Diacont presented the evening's program featuring slides from 2011. Rick announced that Wayland Moore would present the March meeting program and Aubrey Wiley will have a program on the restoration of his antique railcar at the March Fun Meeting. Norris Deyerle won the 50/50 and the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Tom Ledford, Secretary

Norfolk Southern to debut heritage-schemed locomotive fleet

NORFOLK, Va. - To celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Norfolk & Western/Southern merger in 1982, Norfolk Southern plans to honor many of the predecessor, aka, "fallen flags", railroads that make up the present day NS system. As Union Pacific did a half-decade ago, NS plans to create a fleet of heritage locomotives, though NS's plans are bigger: 18 units honoring a wide variety of its predecessor roads! The locomotives will be 10 SD70ACs on order from EMD that are being constructed at its Muncie, IN, plant, and eight ES44ACs from an upcoming order for 25 units from GE. While EMD will paint all 10 heritage units in-house, NS forces will paint the eight GEs. The railroad's Altoona, PA, shop will paint five, while the Chattanooga, TN, shop will handle three heritage units.

The 18 predecessor railroads selected for heritage paint are: Central of Georgia, Conrail, Erie, Erie Lackawanna, Lehigh Valley (red), New Haven (not definite yet), New York Central, Nickel Plate Road, Norfolk & Western (blue), Penn Central, Pennsylvania (Tuscan Red), Pittsburgh & West Virginia, Reading, Savannah & Atlanta, Southern, Tennessee, Alabama & Georgia, Virginian and Wabash

NS plans to recreate the paint schemes as accurately as possible. By contrast, UP used the old railroads' logos and colors, but created new interpretations on the old liveries. See the proposed images on Page 3.

NORFOLK SOUTHERN

30TH ANNIVERSARY HERITAGE LOCOMOTIVES



NORFOLK SOUTHERN ES44AC



SOUTHERN ES44AC



CONRAIL ES44AC



PITTSBURGH & WEST VIRGINIA ES44AC



SAVANNAH & ATLANTA ES44AC



WABASH ES44AC



PENN CENTRAL ES44AC



READING ES44AC



TENNESSEE, ALABAMA & GEORGIA ES44AC



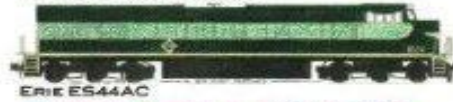
ERIE LACKAWANNA ES44AC



NORFOLK & WESTERN ES44AC



PENNSYLVANIA ES44AC



ERIE ES44AC



LEHIGH VALLEY ES44AC



VIRGINIAN ES44AC



CENTRAL OF GEORGIA ES44AC



NEW HAVEN ES44AC



NEW YORK CENTRAL ES44AC



NICKEL PLATE ROAD ES44AC

...AND CENTRAL RAILROAD OF NEW JERSEY, LACKAWANNA, LEHIGH & HUDSON RIVER, ILLINOIS TERMINAL, MONONGAHELA, PENNSYLVANIA-READING SEASHORE LINES, GEORGIA & FLORIDA, AKRON, CANTON & YOUNGSTOWN AND ORIGINAL NORFOLK SOUTHERN.

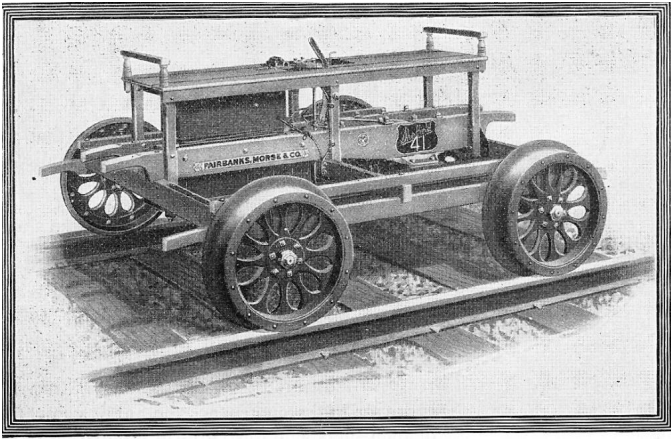
SIGHTINGS

Feb. 9 - TWO ethanol trains seen passing Kemper Street station. Loaded 66D after sitting behind the station for several hours left northbound at 9:00pm. Empty 67D just came south by Kemper St at 10:55pm. (G. Harper)

Feb. 13 - Ringling Bros Circus Blue Unit train spotted passing through town making its way from Greensboro, NC to Richmond, VA. (G. Harper)



March Fun Program Announced - The March 28, 2012 Fun Meeting is titled, "A Ninety Year Old Gal and Her Identity Crisis: Restoring the 109." In July 2009, Aubrey Wiley obtained what would become the center piece of his railroad junk collection, a model 41, Fairbanks Morse Sheffield motor car, owned by the Virginian, N&W, NW and even Norfolk Southern railroads. Two years later in 2011, its restoration was completed and the meeting program will take us through the journey of research and the sleuthing for documentation necessary to restore the car correctly. As it turns out, there are only five of these cars still in existence in the world, restored and unrestored. Come out and see how this labor of love was executed!
Wednesday March 28, 2012.



Prominent N&W CPL signal retired and out of service - Well guys, it's a sad evening here in Appomattox as the old N&W style CPL (color position light) signal protecting eastbound movement through the control point at "Lee" (west end of Appomattox) saw it's last Valentine's Day yesterday and was replaced today. It's westbound double-mast counterpart was replaced over a year ago when it succumbed to a wind storm December 1, 2010. The eastbound CPL's replacement has been "hanging around" on the ground taunting the old CPL for over a year now also.

The old CPL always greeted me into Appomattox.....my eyes always searching the horizon for it's glow when headed east on US 460, just as engine crews have for decades.....hoping for that vertical green. I know I have on many occasions (I probably shouldn't tell this) pretended I was at the controls of that eastbound as I hauled butt down 460 and barreled through the "Lee" interlocking with horn blasting!!!! (Ed. note: long-long-short-loooong, I assume?) Guess the "locals" wondered what in the world was going on!!! (Oh, by the way, Denise was never present during these wonderful events of total insanity in case you were wondering.) I don't foresee having as much fun with it's new replacement. Goodbye old buddy.....

Also see Rick-2's post on Trainorders.com

<http://www.trainorders.com/discussion/read.php?2,2689471>

- Rick Johnson

Project to Restore the Virginian Ry. station in Roanoke breaks ground - On January 29, 2001, on the same date that passenger service ended on the Virginian Ry. in 1956, the Virginian Railway's passenger station in Roanoke was set on fire and was horribly damaged by a street person trying to keep warm. Since then efforts by many persons and groups were begun to repair and restore the building.

On March 7, 2012, a ground breaking ceremony was held to kick off the renovation project. Blue Ridge Chapter friend Ed Burnett was there and provides us with his description and picture of the event.

Speaking at the event were Roanoke Chapter, NRHS, President Jeff Sanders and several other Roanoke Chapter officers, Roanoke Mayor David Bowers, a representative of Rep. Bob Goodlatte's office and several others. In attendance was a representative of Norfolk Southern, Bev Fitzpatrick of the Transportation Museum of Virginia, quite a few Virginian Ry. veterans as well as many others.

After brief remarks were made by the named individuals, Skip Salmon read the names of Virginian retirees who had died since the station burned and will not be around to see it restored. In front of him as he spoke was a lighted VGN lantern, a very nice touch! Another nice touch was the use of 14 antique VGN shovels by 14 various officials who turned the first bit of dirt towards the station's restoration.

The ceremony lasted about an hour. It is great to see this project getting underway and we all wish it well. This is a project that the Blue Ridge Chapter has contributed to.



**Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS 2012 Calendar of Events
54th Anniversary of the Blue Ridge Chapter
A Virginia's Rail Heritage Region Partner**

Compiled By Norris Deyerle, Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS Chairman of Virginia's Rail Heritage Region Partners

Newly added events since last month printed in "*Bold Italics*".

Notice: The NRHS is the lead member of a new group of railway heritage groups and preservationists that list their upcoming events on their new website, RHICalendar@nrhs.com. I urge our friends with the other railway historical groups and museums to take advantage of this new NRHS service. There is no cost to subscribe to this service. This is a website that will help us all get the word out about our events!

March 2012

03-14-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Wayland Moore presentation

03-17-12: {Saturday} *Harrisburg Railroad Show & Collectors Market, IW Abel Union Hall, Steelton, PA, Info: www.harristower.org*

03-24-12: {Saturday} *Model Train Day, The Roanoke Valley Model Engineers will display their ON3, HO and N-Scale layouts. Info: www.vmt.org*

03-28-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Aubrey Wiley, Restoring A 100 Yr. Old VGN Motor Car+

03-30 & 31-12: {Friday & Saturday} C&OHS Hawk's Nest Modelers Conference 2012+, Registration info will soon be available at <http://www.sa-com.net>

April 2012

04-07-12: {Saturday} *Bunker Hill Train Club Show, Ranson Civic Center, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm Ranson, WV, Within 5 min. of Charlestown WV. Info: <http://www.bunkerhilltrainclub.org/EVENTS.html>*

04-11-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Skip Hansberry Slide presentation

04-14-15-12: {Saturday & Sunday} The Great Scale Model Train Show, Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium, MD, Info: www.gsmts.com

04-19-21-12: {Thursday . Saturday} Train Collectors Association TCA+York Train Meet, York, PA, Info: www.easterntca.org

04-21-12: {Saturday} Buckeye Railroadiana Show, Ohio Expo Center, Columbus, OH, Info: www.gserr.com

May 2012

05-05-12: {Saturday} C&O Railway Heritage Festival, Clifton Forge, Va. Info: www.cohs.org

05-06-12: {Sunday} *Shenandoah Valley Railroad Club, Model Train & Railroad Show, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm, Rockingham County Fairgrounds, Harrisonburg, Va. Train Show Coordinator: Paul Graham, {540} 828-1106.*

05-09-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Kurt Reisweber presentation

05-12-12: {Saturday} Roanoke Rail Fest, Info: www.vmt.org

05-23-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS %un Meeting+

June 2012

06-13-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Steve Hutchison presentation

06-18 - 6-24-12: {Monday - Sunday} NRHS National Convention 2012, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Info: www.nrhs.org

06-21 - 6-24-11: {Thursday - Sunday}: N&WHS 2012 Convention, %Mainline To Norfolk+, Location: Lynchburg, Va. Info: conv2012@earthlink.net and www.nwhs.org, Contact: Charlie Long, H. {434} 239-3521, C. {434} 660-6989

06-23-11: {Saturday} North Carolina Railroad Show, Location: Metrolina Expo Trade Center, Charlotte, NC, Info: www.gserr.com

06-23-24-12: {Saturday & Sunday} The Great Scale Train Show, Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium, MD, Info: www.gsmts.com

July 2012

07-11-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Fred Mayer presentation

07-25-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS %un Meeting+

August 2012

08-08-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Dale Diacont, Green Mountain, Vermont Railroad, Mt. Washington Cog Railroad and the D&H.

08-08-12-12: {Wednesday – Sunday} C&OHS Annual Conference. Old Town Alexandria, Va., Info: www.cohs.org

**08-11-12: {Saturday} Lynchburg Rail Day 2012, BRC, NRHS
Vendor Table Prices: 6 Ft. = \$25.00 each, 8 Ft. = \$33.00 each**

Info: www.blueridgenrhs.org

Barry Moorefield: bmopar@verizon.net {434} 821-2174

Norris Deyerle: railcow@msn.com {434} 237-4912

John Tanner: flytrains@verizon.net {434} 525-1318

September 2012

09-12-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Norris Deyerle presentation

09-16-12: {Sunday} BRC, NRHS Summer Picnic

09-26-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS %un Meeting+

October 2012

10-10-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Kurt Reisweber

10-18-21-12: {Thursday . Saturday} Train Collectors Association %CA+York Train Meet, York, PA. Info: www.easterntca.org

10-27-28-12: {Saturday & Sunday} The Great Scale Model Train Show, Maryland State Fairgrounds, Timonium, MD. Info: www.gsmts.com

November 2012

11-04-12: Railroadiana & Transport Show and Sale, Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg, MD, Info: www.gserr.com

11-14-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Wayland Moore

11-21-12: No November %un Meeting+due to Thanksgiving

December 2012

12-01-12: {Saturday} BRC, NRHS Annual Christmas Banquet, Altavista, Va.

12-12-12: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Rick-2 Johnson, presentation

12-22-12: {Saturday} BRC, NRHS Kemper Street Station Christmas Gathering

Railroad Related Events Information: Visit: www.varailheritage.org, www.vmt.org, www.linkmuseum.org, www.roanokenrhs.org, www.nwhs.org, www.cohs.org, www.vatraincollectors.com, www.klnl.org, www.railroadcollectors.org, www.nhvry.org, www.norfolksouthernrhs.org, www.RailServe.com, www.trains.com, www.TrainFinder.com, www.gserr.com, www.wghshow.com or RHICalendar@nrhs.com.

Norfolk Southern/TVRM Steam Excursion Website: <http://www.21stcenturysteam.com>

Steam Train Events in the United States and Canada: www.diary.svsfilm.com

Steam Locomotive Locations: www.steamlocomotive.com

Railroad Historical Information And Related Photos: www.hawkinsrails.net

Danville & Western Ry. Website: Railway operated in Southwestern Virginia between Danville and Stuart.

<http://southern-railway.railfan.net/dw/>

Trains & Travel International: www.traintrips.biz

Additional links to other NRHS Chapters, Railroad Historical Societies and Museums available at www.blueridgenrhs.org

Virginia Museum Of Transportation Rail Cam: <http://www.nwhs.org/cam/vmt>

Roanoke, Va. Rail Cam: <http://128.173.197.94:443/RRCmov>

Lynchburg Rail Day 2012 {Saturday} August 11, 2012

Now here is a news story that really caught our attention. What do you think? Can anyone figure out who the anonymous "rail expert" is? Does he know what he's talking about?

Liberty University offers to build new Lynchburg train station

Tim Saunders, WDBJ-7 Lynchburg Bureau Chief March 7, 2012

When Amtrak trains arrive at Lynchburg's Kemper Street Station, passengers are dropped off in the heart of the city.

It's a convenient location for travelers like Robert Thomas.

"It's been excellent," said Thomas, who was traveling through Lynchburg Wednesday on his way to Philadelphia. "We would not be in Lynchburg if it wasn't for the Amtrak service."

Not everyone likes where the station is located. Some say it's hard to find. Others want it closer to a major highway.

Officials at Liberty University are offering a solution. They want to build a brand new train station, right next to their campus.

"We believe many more students would use the train if it would be close by here," said LU Chancellor Jerry Falwell, Junior, who has submitted a proposal to Amtrak.

The school is offering to build a new train station, and pay for all construction costs. Amtrak would then lease the property from LU.

Students who already ride Amtrak are excited about the idea.

"I think it would be great, because it would actually be close by," said LU Student, Josh Brelsford.

But would it be convenient for everyone else?

Falwell believes it would. His proposed site is next to the junction of Routes 29 and 460. A train station in this location would be 15 minutes closer to Roanoke and points west than the current Kemper Street station.

By building a new train facility near the Lynchburg Regional Airport, Falwell thinks the area could become a regional transportation hub.

"It's the only place that's easily accessible by car to the whole four-county metro area," Falwell said.

Liberty's proposal could disrupt plans to extend passenger train service from Lynchburg to Roanoke and Bristol.

A train expert who wished to remain anonymous told WDBJ7 Wednesday that extending service westward would "not be feasible," if Lynchburg's train station were located in LU's recommended location.

The new facility would be several miles south of the city's east-to-west train tracks. Trains coming from Roanoke would have to move to another track in the middle of Lynchburg, then travel south to the new station before turning around again and going north to Charlottesville and Washington DC. That scenario would likely be too time consuming for Amtrak, according to the expert.

Building a new train station doesn't mean the existing one has to close. Falwell says his proposal is just an idea; one that he believes will ultimately benefit Lynchburg.

"It's out there and it's on the table," said Falwell. "It's something we hope will help the community, help LU, and that's what our goal is."

LU officials made their pitch to Amtrak a few weeks ago.

A final decision on the new station will be made by Amtrak. Falwell says approval from the city of Lynchburg will not be necessary to move forward.

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Lynchburg Rail Day 2012. Saturday, August 11, 2012