



BLUE RIDGE DISPATCHER

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NS (N&W) eastbound CPL signal at Lee (west end of Appomattox) protecting crews in its last days of service as it has for decades. Its replacement awaits installation only feet away.

mis-cel-la-neous *adj* \mi-sə-lā-nē-əs, -nyəs\ Webster defines it as: consisting of diverse things or members. When filing my slides in Logan metal slide file boxes, each metal box was assigned a particular railroad with yellow dividers inside further dividing up the collection of slides for that particular railroad by class of locomotive, etc. In all of my metal boxes, there always ended up being a "Miscellaneous" section that caught all slides that couldn't find a home somewhere else in the box. Sort of a "redheaded stepchild" location, you might say! Mind you, they were not bad slides - probably quite the opposite - they just didn't fit into the scheme of things or my filing system, so that's where they got stuck! They also got overlooked for programs with "SD40-2" and "FP7" sections receiving the attention.

Well no longer! As I was digging through these "Miscellaneous" sections in the wee hours of the morning several nights ago, I came across stuff that I forgot I had even shot!!! So make sure to be at our June Blue Ridge Chapter meeting and I might jog some great (and not so great) memories!

Wednesday, June 8, 2011. 6:00 p.m.
Charley's Restaurant 707 Graves Mill Rd. Lynchburg, VA



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



**Blue Ridge Chapter, National Railway Historical Society
Minutes of Meeting - May 11, 2011**

President Rick Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. at Charley's Restaurant and welcomed 21 members and 3 guests, including Dale Rums smoke, who was on leave from Avanti Rehabilitation Center, Reggie Akers, Peggy Deyerle and Edie Tanner. Minutes of the April meeting were approved as distributed and the Treasurer then reported.

Under Old Business Lee Hawkins and Garland Harper were thanked for another great circle trip on May; 26 members, spouses and friends rode. Trains were on time throughout and the weather was excellent. There was only a \$114.00 deficit for the trip and members who rode felt that it was very worthwhile to see the 40th Anniversary Amtrak exhibits at Union Station.

Under New Business the VMT has asked for volunteers to help with their Roanoke Rail Day on May 14. Barry Moorefield reported that Lynchburg Rail Day fliers are out and posters are ready for distribution. John Tanner reported that 72 vendor forms had been sent out, 1500 fliers were printed and George Riley had donated 100 posters. Norris Deyerle reported that the photograph sponsored by the Blue Ridge Chapter was now on display with the correct credit line.

There were no reports from the Vice President, the National Director or the Newsletter Editor. The Newsletter Editor Garland Harper received a round of applause for all of his work on the newsletter. The Webmaster reported that everything on the chapter's webpage had been updated and it was running smoothly. Earl Guthrow inquired again if anyone would be interested in a trip to Philadelphia to see the 30th Street Station.

The program was presented by Kurt Reisweber and included a variety of slides taken on the Southern Railway dating back to steam. Lee Hawkins won the 50/50 and donated his share to the chapter. The May Fun Meeting will be C&OHS President Emeritus Tom Dixon showing a collection of Union Pacific and Burlington Northern slides taken in the 1960s. The June 8th meeting will feature Winston-Salem Chapter member Steve Hutchison's slides. Meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Tom Ledford, Secretary

Edward Rowland's passing - As many of you know that have attended our annual BRC, NRHS, Christmas Banquet in Altavista, Mrs. Geneieve Rowland has been our caterer for years. Her husband Edward died Sunday, May 15, 2011. A memorial contribution of \$50.00 has been sent to Hurt United Methodist Church {Parking Lot Fund} in his memory. Our thoughts and prayers are extended to the Rowland family.
- Norris Deyerle

Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS 2011 Calendar of Events
53rd 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".

June 2011:

06-08-11: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Rick Johnson presents the program.
"Miscellaneous shots I forgot I had!" 6:00 p.m.

06-11-11: {Saturday} Virginia Train Collectors Nansemond-Suffolk Meet, Nansemond-Suffolk Academy,
9:00 am – 1:00 pm, \$6.00 at the door, VTC Members \$5.00, Suffolk, Va. Info: www.vatraincollectors.com
or contact Stuart Gordon, {804} 798-3739

06-11 & 12-11: {Saturday & Sunday} "Family Rail Days Festival", North Carolina Transportation Museum,
Spencer, NC, Info: 704-636-2889, www.nctrans.org

**06-16-11: Roanoke Chapter, NRHS Membership Meeting {Thursday} Guests Welcome, OWLM, 7:30
pm, Roanoke, Va. Info: www.roanokenrhs.org**

**06-18–26-2011: {Saturday through Sunday} "Day Out With Thomas" on the Strasburg Rail Road,
Strasburg, Pa. Info: www.strasburgrailroad.com**

06-20-26-11: {Monday-Sunday} "Cascade Rails 2011" NRHS Convention, Tocomo, WA. Info:
www.cascaderails2011.com

06-22-26-11: {Wednesday-Sunday} N&WHS Convention, Norfolk, Va. Wick Moorman, Chairman,
President and CEO of Norfolk Southern Corporation will be the guest speaker. Info:
www.nwhs.org/convention/2011norfolk/, Posting courtesy of the N&WHS.

06-25-11: {Saturday} Eighth Annual North Carolina Rail Fair Model Train & Railroad Artifact Show & Sale,
9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Metrolina Expo Trade Center, Charlotte, NC Info: www.gserr.com, print off discount
coupon for show admission

**06-25 & 26-2011: The Great Scale Model Train Show, {Saturday & Sunday} Sat. 9:00 am till 4:00 pm,
Sun. 10:00 am till 4:00 pm, Maryland State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Road, Timonium, Md. Info:
www.gsmts.com**

**06-26 through 7-31-11: "Hollywood's Star Cars", Over a month long exhibit only at the Virginia
Museum Of Transportation, Roanoke, Va. Info: www.vmt.org**

July 2011:

**07-10-15-11: {Sunday through Friday} NRHS RailCamp at the Steamtown National Historic Site,
Scranton, Pa. Info: www.railcamp.com/offerings**

07-13-11: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Fred Mayer

07-16-11: {Saturday} 2nd Annual Lancaster Lock Show, HOST Resort, Lancaster, Pa. Info:
www.lancasterlockshow.com, Posting courtesy of Key, Lock & Lantern.

**07-21-11: Roanoke Chapter, NRHS Membership Meeting {Thursday} Guests Welcome, OWLM, 7:30
pm, Roanoke, Va. Info: www.roanokenrhs.org**

07-27-11: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS "Fun Meeting"

August 2011:

08-03-07-11: {Wednesday – Sunday} C&OHS Annual Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio, www.cohs.org

08-06-11: {Saturday} VTC Summer Richmond Meet, Chesterfield Fairgrounds Exhibition Hall, Info:
www.vatraincollectors.com

08-10-11: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Dale Diacont

**08-13-11: {Saturday} Lynchburg Rail Day 2011 by the BRC, NRHS, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm, Boonsboro
Ruritan Club, 1065 Coffee Road, Lynchburg, Va. 24503, Model Train Show and Vendor Information
is now available on our website, www.blueridgenrhs.org. We are now accepting table registrations
on a first come first served basis. Table space is limited and usually sells out prior to the show.**

**This is the only model train show in our area. If you have questions please contact Barry
Moorefield, {434} 821-2174 before 9:00 p.m., bmopar@verizon.net, Norris Deyerle, {434} 237-4912
railcow@msn.com, John Tanner {434} 525-1318 flytrains@verizon.net Model & Photography
Contest Chairman: Fred Mayer {434} 384-2773 barbalin@comcast.net**

**08-18-11: Roanoke Chapter, NRHS Membership Meeting {Thursday} Guests Welcome, OWLM, 7:30
pm, Roanoke, Va. Info: www.roanokenrhs.org**

September 2011:

09-14-11: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Norris Deyerle

09-15-11: Roanoke Chapter, NRHS Membership Meeting {Thursday} Guests Welcome, OWLM, 7:30 pm, Roanoke, Va. Info: www.roanokenrhs.org

09-18-11: {Sunday} BRC, NRHS Annual Chapter Picnic {Pending}

09-23-25 & 30 – October 2-11: "Day Out With Thomas at the NCTM" North Carolina Transportation Museum, Spencer, NC Info: 704-636-2889, www.nctrans.org

09-28-11: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS "Fun Meeting"

October 2011:

10-12-11: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Kurt Reisweber

10-13-15-11: {Thursday-Saturday} Train Collectors Association, Fall York Train Meet, York, Pa. Info: www.tca.org

10-20-11: Roanoke Chapter, NRHS Membership Meeting {Thursday} Guests Welcome, OWLM, 7:30 pm, Roanoke, Va. Info: www.roanokenrhs.org

November 2011:

11-05-06-11: {Saturday & Sunday} Two Fall Foliage Amtrak Excursions from Roanoke, Va. Roanoke Chapter, NRHS, Info: www.roanokenrhs.org

11-06-11: {Sunday} 34th Annual Railroadians & Transportation Artifacts Show and Sale, Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg, Md. Info: www.gserr.com

11-09-11: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Rick-2 Johnson

11-17-11: Roanoke Chapter, NRHS Membership Meeting {Thursday} Guests Welcome, OWLM, 7:30 pm, Roanoke, Va. Info: www.roanokenrhs.org

11-23-11: No BRC, NRHS "Fun Meeting" due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

December 2011:

12-03-11: {Saturday} BRC, NRHS Annual Christmas Banquet

12-14-11: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Monthly Meeting, Charlie Long - Video

12-17-11: {Saturday} BRC, NRHS Annual Kemper Street Station Christmas Gathering. Kemper Street Station, Lynchburg, Va.

Upcoming 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.nhvry.org, www.norfolksouthernrhs.org, www.RailServe.com, www.trains.com, www.TrainFinder.com or www.gserr.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/>

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 2011 {Saturday} August 13, 2011

Lynchburg Rail Day 2012 {Saturday} August 11, 2012

News from the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation - The Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT) is working to increase access to passenger rail transportation to Virginia's major population centers. Projections show that the Hampton Roads region will be one of the Commonwealth's most populated regions by 2035. While Amtrak currently provides service to Newport News, no direct intercity passenger rail train service exists today to connect South Hampton Roads with Richmond, Washington, D.C. and points north.

DRPT is changing that. Using state Rail Enhancement funds, DRPT is working with Norfolk Southern, CSX and Amtrak to extend Richmond's Amtrak Virginia regional service, which began in July 2010, to Norfolk. When complete, residents in and around Norfolk will have a one-seat ride from Norfolk as far north as Boston. The estimated start date for this new service is 2013.

The Department of Rail and Public Transportation website (www.drpt.virginia.gov/activities/norfolk.aspx) will provide monthly progress updates as DRPT, NS, CSX and Amtrak work together to advance this project. Once infrastructure improvements are complete and service begins, information on the service will be found at www.amtrakvirginia.com.

Project status as of May 2011

Project partners have established bi-weekly update meetings to advance the project in the most efficient manner possible.

- Discussions have begun regarding Amtrak facility improvements and design to support the introduction of the new service. Partners involved in these discussions include DRPT, Amtrak, NS and the City of Norfolk.
- DRPT is working with CSX to complete the agreement necessary for use of CSX tracks that will be used for this service between Staples Mill Station and the NS connection at Petersburg.
- Discussions have begun regarding the design of the connection near Petersburg. Partners involved in these discussions include DRPT, CSX and NS.
- The Amtrak service agreement has been executed and work is underway on service design.

Work is Ramping up at High Bridge Trail

Eric Hougland, Park Manager, High Bridge State Park



The rehabilitation work on High Bridge once a part of N&W's old main line is beginning to take shape on the bridge itself. Because of the lag time in ordering and delivering materials, Keith Barber Construction has been focusing their work on the bridge approaches. Now that bridge timbers are being delivered the work on the bridge itself is beginning.

Once completed the bridge will provide a 10-foot-wide wooden-decked surface and 5-foot-high wooden hand rails with vinyl coated fencing incorporated within the gaps of the side rails. The bridge will also have three observation overlooks. The overlooks will provide places for parks guests to enjoy incredible vistas from the bridge. The estimated date for completion is early 2012.

[High Bridge Trail State Park](#) is a 30-mile rail to trail conversion that offers hiking, bicycling and horseback riding. The park is closed at each end of High Bridge during construction. Twenty seven miles are currently open for the public to enjoy. Please contact the park at 434-315-0457 or email highbridgetrail@dcr.virginia.gov for more information.

- Contributed by Roy Evans

I wonder what kind of commission the salesman got! – Norfolk Southern has purchased 20 EMD SD60's from Helm Leasing. The units will be renumbered to NS 6530-6549. Units will initially get "patched", i.e., NS number will be applied at all the appropriate places and will keep their existing paint for the time being. NS 6534 has already been patched at NS's facility in Chattanooga. The full roster of these new units showing the previous units' histories can be found on Chris Toth's excellent NS roster website: <http://www.nsdash9.com/rosters/6530.html>

- Ed Fielding

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LYNCHBURG RAIL DAY 2011. SATURDAY, August 13, 2011.