



BLUE RIDGE DISPATCHER

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Wayland Moore presents the program at the November meeting of the Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS. Its description, in his own words: Many times you good folks have commented about my not making up my mind about which pics to show at a show. Nooo, not this time. It will be a digital show with all the pics put together, in order. The only issue this time is which show to show. One could be the Southern Railway Historical Association convention this year in Spencer that included a train ride on some ex-NS track OR it could be trains we saw this spring in Scotland, Switzerland, etc., because the wife wanted to go see a circle of rocks older than Stonehenge [Six languages, five different currencies - and you thought "Europe" had a common market].

So, come on out to the meeting and see for yourself what Wayland has up his sleeve... or on his flash drive.

Wednesday, November 9, 2016. 6:00 p.m.
Charley's Restaurant. 707 Graves Mill Rd. Lynchburg, VA.

RESERVATION DEADLINE FOR CHRISTMAS BANQUET IS NOVEMBER 18.
Please let President Rick know if you wish to attend. \$15.



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



**Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS
Minutes of Meeting – October 12, 2016**

President Rick Johnson called the meeting to order at Charley's Restaurant at 7:30 pm. Rick welcomed 14 members and 3 guest for a total of 17 in attendance. Our guests for the evening were Peggy Harper, Dona Duvall and Wiley Wright. Rick announced that Norris was still hospitalized but slowly improving. Earl Guthrow, who had visited Norris prior to the meeting, gave an update on Norris' improving condition. John Tanner announced that Tom Ledford had been ill and hospitalized recently but was also improving. Rick announced that he had just received information that BRC member, Dr. David Harris, had recently passed away.

Rick asked that the reading of the September 2016 minutes be dispensed. The minutes were approved as published in the "Blue Ridge Dispatcher" with no additions or corrections. Rick thanked Lloyd Lipscomb for taking those minutes in Norris' absence.

Old Business:

Rick reminded everyone of our upcoming Christmas Banquet in Altavista on Saturday, December 3. The cost will again be \$15.00 per person and money will be collected at the November meeting. Norris was making arrangements for our evening's program.

Elections were delayed until November as Rick was concerned that the low attendance (14 members) did not constitute a quorum requirement for vote. Volunteering to run again are Rick Johnson (President), Gale McKinley (Vice President), John Tanner (Treasurer) and Bob Leslie (National Representative). There is no nominee for Secretary. There have been no volunteers to serve on the nominating committee.

The matter of continuing Lynchburg Rail Day for another year was discussed, as was growing concern of obtaining the large number of heavy tables required from several outside sources. The table concern is based on the physical and time requirements of the aging Rail Day staff. Earl Guthrow made a motion to continue Rail Day for 2017 and to rent required tables from a rental company including delivery and removal. Charlie Long seconded. The vote carried unanimously.

New Business:

Rick thanked the Roanoke Chapter, NRHS for a generous \$500.00 donation for BRC members volunteering their time and efforts as car host for 611 excursion trips this year. Rick also thanked Roanoke Chapter for calling on us to assist. Rick also stated that he was accepting program request for next year and that the program schedule was beginning to fill up. Several members volunteered to provide programs.

Vice President's Report: Gale McKinley – Reported that National dues would soon be due and asked that members pay their dues in a timely manner. Gale also stressed the importance of National and asked that everyone renew their National membership.

Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS Chairman of Virginia's Rail Heritage Region Partners: Norris Deyerle - absent due to illness

Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS National Representative: Bob Leslie – absent due to travel to NRHS directors meeting in Portland.

Webmaster Report: John Siegle - absent

Editor's Report: Garland Harper - Very much present with his "Chief Dispatcher", Peggy. Rick thanked Garland for his monthly efforts getting the newsletter out.

Program: Rick informed everyone that Wayland Moore would present the November program and there would be NO "Fun Meeting" in November. December would bring in a special guest speaker/presenter, Felix Freeman to provide our program.

The evening's program "Norfolk Southern on Norfolk & Western - Part 2" presented by author/photographer, Kurt Reisweber was a great show with terrific photography!!! Thanks Kurt!!!!

50/50 Raffle Winner: Garland Harper

The business meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Rick Johnson, acting BRC Secretary.

Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS 2016 Calendar of Events
58th 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 updated or added events since last month printed in "Bold Italics".

Renew your NRHS membership on www.NRHS.com today! Good things are happening with the new and improved NRHS! Also log on to www.NRHS.com to see what the future holds for today's railroad preservation historical society! It's alive!

Vote "Yes" for a future Amtrak stop in the Town of Bedford, Va. also serving the Smith Mountain Lake area riders. It's easy and free! Go to www.thebedfordstation.com/petition

Notice: I urge our friends with the other railway historical groups and museums to take advantage of these two websites to promote your train show: <http://trc.trains.com/events.aspx> or <http://modelshopsusa.com/other/raillinks.php>. There is no cost to promote your train show on these websites. It's simple to add your event to their websites and your event approval is fast and efficient. These are websites that will help us all get the word out about our events!

NOVEMBER 2016

11-09-16: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Regular Monthly Meeting – Wayland Moore Presentation
11-23-16: {Wednesday} ALERT! NO BRC, NRHS "FUN MEETING" DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

DECEMBER 2016

12-03-16: {Saturday} BRC, NRHS Annual Christmas Banquet, Prior reservations required, social hour starts at 6:00 pm. with no alcoholic beverages, Buffet meal following. Slide or PowerPoint railroading presentation rounds out the evening. Former Southern Railway Station, the current Altavista Area Chamber of Commerce, 414 Washington Street, Altavista, Va. 24517 Directions: www.altavistachamber.org/directions
12-14-16: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Regular Monthly Meeting – Felix Freeman will present the program.
12-17-16: {Saturday} BRC, NRHS Kemper Street Station Holiday Gathering

NRHS items which demand your attention!

#1... annual dues. As mentioned above in the Calendar of Events Chapter dues and National dues are being received for the 2017 membership year. Chapter dues can be paid by mailing a \$13.00 check to the Chapter's post office box. National dues are \$50. The easiest way to renew your National membership is to go on-line at this address, <http://www.nrhs.com/membership/renew> and renew. If you wish, you can mail a \$50 check to the Chapter's post office box. If you are reading this and are considering joining the NRHS, an application form is provided on the next page. Thanks.

#2... the Blue Ridge Annual Christmas banquet. This year's banquet is Saturday, December 3. Details, again, are mentioned above. The cost is \$15/person. You do not have to be a Chapter member to enjoy this event, so bring a friend! Please bring a check to the November meeting if you plan to attend this month or let President Rick know and mail a check to the P. O. Box. We are hoping to watch the latest video on 611's history, 611: AMERICAN ICON November 18 is the deadline for signing up.



National Railway Historical Society

Be the Difference in Rail Preservation

By joining the NRHS, you get to make a difference in rail preservation. Along the way, you may just get some opportunities that the general public will never get, including exclusive member discounts and even free admissions to hundreds of railway attractions nationwide. Sign up online at www.NRHS.com/membership/join or mail the application to us.

MEMBERSHIP TYPE

\$50 National Membership

\$5 Youth (5-12)

\$16 Student (13-24)

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Yes

No

MEMBER INFORMATION Please fill in All fields

Full Name *

Email Address *

Phone Number *

Date of Birth

* is a Required Field

ADDRESS

Enter mailing information Please fill in All fields

Full Name

Address

City

State/Province

Zip Code

Country

Email

ADD FAMILY MEMBERSHIPS \$7 each family member

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Family Member #2

Family Member #3

Family Member #4

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Enter Information if this is a gift membership

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OPTIONAL DONATION

Donations to the NRHS are tax-deductible to the maximum extent permitted under IRS rules.

Dollar Amount \$

PAYMENT OPTIONS

PAY BY CREDIT CARD on line at www.NRHS.com/membership/renew or go to our main web page and follow the links to Membership Renewal.

On our secure web site we accept Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express. If you have a PayPal account we take that also.

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Rev 151101

Chapter member Davis Harris dies. Chapter members learned at the October meeting that Davis Harris, MD had died October 7. Dr. Harris enjoyed being associated with the Chapter and was present for many of the outings the Chapter sponsored. He travelled on Amtrak quite often. Chapter members Garland Harper and Ed Fielding attended his memorial service. Ed was invited to speak about Dr. Harris and his love of trains to those gathered at the service. His presence will be sorely missed. His obituary follows.



David L. Harris, MD, departed this life on Friday, October 7, 2016, at Lynchburg General Hospital, surrounded by his loving family. He served his country faithfully in the U.S. Air Force from 1951 to 1955. Dr. Harris received his medical training, internship and surgery residency at Freedman's Hospital in Washington, D.C. He was a member of the surgical staff at St. Elizabeth's Hospital and was a member of the teaching staff as a surgical instructor at Howard University. He was born on June 13, 1929 to the late Sydney Harris Sr. and Orianna Bondurant Spencer Harris. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by two brothers, Sydney, Jr. and Robert and a daughter, Dyan Harris Adams. David is survived by his youngest brother, Godfrey Harris; three daughters, Denise Burriss, Donna Harris, and Deirdre Harris-George; four sons, David Harris Jr., Dennis Harris, Darryl Harris and Douglas Harris; two son-in-laws, Allen Burriss and Paul George; one daughter-in-law,

Annette Carter-Harris; ten grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; a host of nieces and nephews he loved dearly as his own children; his beloved soul-friends of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; and a host of other family and friends. A memorial service for David L. Harris, MD will be held Saturday, October 22, 2016, at 11 a.m. at Eighth Street Baptist Church, 801 8th Street, Lynchburg, Virginia, officiated by the Reverend Steven L. Smith Sr. and the Reverend Denise Burriss. The family will receive friends one hour prior to the service. Immediately following the service there will be a repast at Eighth Street Baptist Church. If you wish to make a donation in the memory of David L. Harris, MD, please select from any of these organizations which were near and dear to his heart: The Anne Spencer Memorial Foundation, Inc., Centra Health Cardiac Pulmonary Rehabilitation Center, the Hunton Randolph Community Center, the Lynchburg chapter of Habitat for Humanity, the Gamma Omega chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and the Senior Golfers of Virginia. Service of comfort rendered by Davis-Turner Funeral Service.

Pictured here are two images of Dr. Harris taken during the outing several Blue Ridge Chapter members made to Norfolk in May 2013. Below: Lee Hawkins and Dr. Harris study the Norfolk light rail map. Right: Dr. Harris watches a coal train east of Crewe, VA.



Norris Update: Norris is slowly improving. He underwent reconstructive surgery late in October and is being moved to The Summit November 7 for further rehab. He appreciates ALL the cards, calls, visits and concern expressed during this trying time. Keep 'em coming.

Norris sent this picture taken outside his current fifth-floor hospital room of them preparing to move him to the Summit.



SIGHTINGS

Oct. 17 - A picture of one of the most interesting engine consists EVER on a train passing through downtown Lynchburg was captured by former BBRR employee Steve Nicely. The train, G76013, sported Ferromex, UP, NS, CP and CSX... one each. Thanks, Steve, for sharing this with us.



Oct. 29 - The Spencer, NC, - Charlottesville, VA, autumn foliage excursion was captured by Skip Hansberry crossing the Tye River as it travelled north. Heritage units 822 and 156 and 174 powered the train.





Nov. 1 - Skip Hansberry hits paydirt again with this photo of former Indiana Railroad SD90MAC, now NS 7338, in the consist of NS train 211. Since the photo was made Skip has learned that NS has purchased ten of INRD's SD90MAC's. So far it appears that only four may be in service, with the balance possibly at Altoona awaiting their patch. These units are numbered 7329-7338. You can now follow these on "heritageunits.com" Be on the lookout...they are really quite impressive.



Nov. 6 - Private car NYC 3 spent the first weekend in November in Lynchburg. Pictured above is the Lynchburg Regional, train 145 coupling up to the car prior to its Monday morning departure. It arrived Friday night, Nov. 4. (G. Harper)

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