



Whistle Stop



Watauga Valley NRHS
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Railroading – Past, Present and Future

Volume 30 No. 4
Mike Jackson, Editor


April 2010
Duane and Harriet Swank, Printing/Circulation

Next Chapter Meeting is April 26; See Page 3

Gary Price, Keeping Norfolk Southern safe...one tie at a time

2010 Norfolk Southern Safety Awards Banquet

This journey began for me early in 2009 when the Production Engineer from Atlanta toured our gang and told me that he liked my attitude and my dedication to the railroad. He said that when I discussed railroad issues, that I "spoke from the heart". He then asked me if I was interested in taking part in the yearly NS awards event held every March in Norfolk. Of course, I said yes, because I knew that NS pulls out the red carpet for this prestigious event. However it wasn't until February 2010 that I learned what my duties would be. I had been chosen to take the stage and announce all the safety award winners for the entire Maintenance of Way division. The event was held on March 9-10, 2010 at the Marriott Waterside Hotel in Norfolk.

 Considering the fact that Suzie had never seen the ocean, I decided to build a family vacation around this event. So we packed up the car and headed east until we ran out of land, and we exited into downtown Norfolk. The railroad provided us lodging for the first night, and I checked into the Sheraton Norfolk Waterfront on Tuesday March 9, 2010, grabbed a bite for lunch then headed across the street to the Marriott to register, pick up my name badge and itinerary, and find some familiar faces in a sea of employees. Out of 30,000 NS employees, only 500 employees received invitations to attend.



Left, the Emerald Tower, as it is known locally, is Norfolk Southern Corporation's headquarters with its green tinted windows and stands out in downtown Norfolk, VA.

The evening's events kicked off at 4 p.m., with the overall theme of "Be a Big Wheel for Safety". Attendees could visit one of 20 carnival type games or booths and answer safety rules or ethics questions and receive special NS prizes like coffee mugs, key chains and hats. The NS Lawman band was on hand providing musical entertainment, and finger foods and drinks were being served. The displays included an NS Hi-rail welding truck (designed to weld continuous rail together when sections are replaced), an NS snowmobile (used by the NS police

to patrol snow covered territories), and 5 different ice sculptures featuring the NS logo, an NS diesel locomotive, an NS coal car, two workers on a pump-hand car, and penguins. The events wrapped up around 6:30 p.m., and I left with a bag full of NS goodies. Later I was treated to supper at Joe's Crab Shack by the heads of the Maintenance of Way department.

Morning came bright and early as I had to be across the road to the Marriott at 6:30 a.m. for breakfast and to prepare myself for the stage. It was a suit and tie affair, so I bought me a suit with a hint of Southern Green in it. I was handed 10 pages of names that I had to practice reading before I took the stage. The Awards ceremony started promptly at 9 a.m. with speeches by NS VP Safety and Environmental David Julian and Executive VP & CEO Mark Manion. The Key-note speaker for the morning was Federal Railroad Administration administrator Joseph Szabo. He spoke of President Obama's dedication to high-speed rail. One thing that caught my attention in his speech was that while America admires the high-speed passenger trains that operate in Europe, Europeans in turn admire America's dedicated freight railroads and wants theirs to operate more efficiently like American Railroads operate.

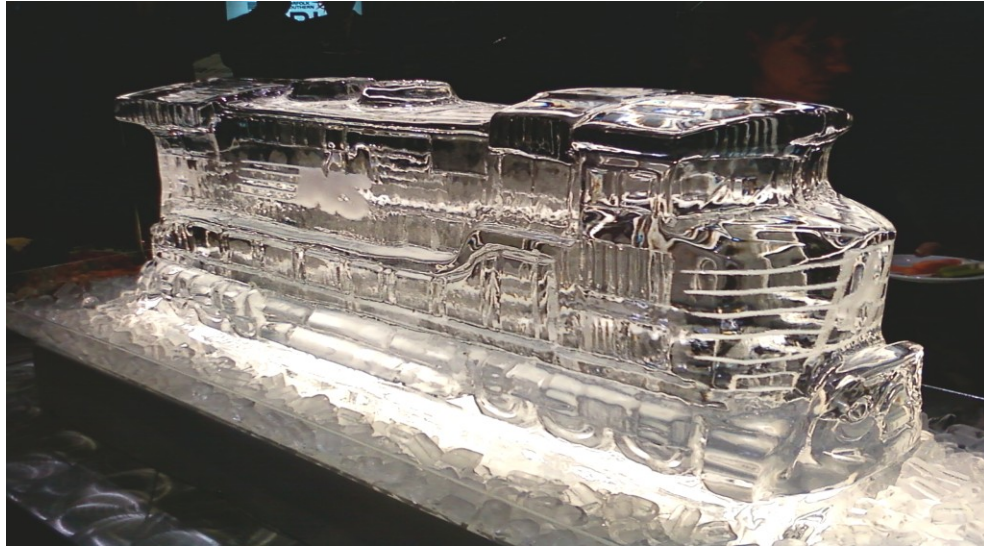
After 2 1/2 hours of speeches and videos, it came time for my part in the program. As Mrs. Sherree Poplin finished calling out the awards for her department, it was her job to welcome me to the stage with a short biography of my career, and to my surprise after she read of my 13 years of injury free service to NS, she said, "but Gary's association with railroads goes back even further than that. Gary is a 21 year member of the Watauga Valley Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society, and is currently serving as the Chapter's historian". She even mentioned my past volunteering on NS steam excursions and that I write this monthly column for the *Whistle Stop*. I was well pleased to hear the WVC name announced in front of the entire NS board of directors, officers, guests, and employees, and it gave me the confidence to get up and announce all of my awards clearly and with precision.

After the ceremonies ended we convened to the banquet hall for a five star lunch, and then hear words of encouragement and outlook from Mr. Charles W. Moorman. His podium is manufactured to resemble the front of a NS F-unit complete with operating headlights and ditch lights. After his speech, awards were presented to participants from the morning ceremonies. As our names were called out, we had to walk through a line and shake hands with NS executives and at the end, Mr. Moorman handed us our award. When I got to him, he tightly grabbed my hand and said, "The Watauga Valley! Home of the *Crescent Harbor!*". I said "yes sir and proud of it", and he gave me a wink. As we were leaving the building, I spoke with Mr. Moorman and invited him down to our yard to see our progress, and he informed me that he has been reading the *Whistle Stop* and is keeping up with the progress of the *Crescent Harbor*, and he can't wait to see her on the rails again.



After relaxing a couple of days at the Dolphin Inn on Virginia Beach, the Price family met up with Mr. and Mrs. Skip Banner for breakfast at a local restaurant. He said to tell everyone hello and that he looks forward to seeing everyone in October. We then set out for home by following VA route 460 West, following the NS mainline as much as we could, and we managed to see several coal and double-stacks headed for Norfolk.

Left, Norfolk Southern Police had one of their snowmobiles on display at the 2010 Safety Awards show. The snowmobiles were purchased to patrol blizzard stricken properties along the railroad. **On the next page** is a picture of an ice sculpture of an NS diesel locomotive that was one of many displayed throughout the conference hall. **Gary Price, Keeping Norfolk Southern safe...one tie at a time.**



Program on Clinchfield No. 1 by Richard Baker

Next Watauga Valley Chapter Meeting is April 26

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The next General Membership Meeting of the Watauga Valley Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society will be held Monday, April 26, 2010 at 6:30 p.m., at the Johnson City Public Library, 101 West Millard St., Johnson City, TN. Details about our spring, summer, and fall excursions will be discussed during the business meeting. An all-time favorite program on the Clinchfield Engine No. 1 Excursion Train will be presented by Richard Baker. Nice weather is here, so come on out for an enjoyable evening of railroading.

CLEANUP DAY AND COOKOUT AT THE JONESBOROUGH COACH YARD

On Saturday, May 1, 2010, the Chapter will have our annual Spring Cleaning at the Jonesborough Coach Yard. There are all kinds of jobs available for everyone. We will start at 9:30 a.m., and work until 12:30 p. m., when we will have a cookout for all the workers. Men and Women are all needed for this big event. There is **plenty** of light duty work on tap for the day. Please make plans to attend; we need to get everything cleaned up for our Special July 4 display event during Jonesborough Days. Ways to Sign up.

Sign the form at the next meeting, call the chapter office at 423-753-5797, or E-mail wataugavalley@embarqmail.com

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO VOLUNTEER AT THE YARD FOR LIGHT DUTY WORK OR DO WHAT YOU CAN TO HELP OUT. MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND.

SPRING EXCURSION

Our annual Spring Excursion on Saturday, March 27, 2010, on the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad from Bryson City, NC, to Nantahala Gorge, NC was a great success with over 250 people on this year's train (**Nick White Photo at Left**). All five buses were full to capacity. After a breakfast stop in Asheville, we proceeded on to Bryson City where our group boarded a 14-car train for a beautiful trip through the Nantahala Gorge along Fontana Lake. After a stop at the Nantahala Recreation Center, we got back to Bryson City for a visit to the Railroad Museum and other shops in the town. At 4:15 p.m., our



passengers boarded the buses for an early arrival back into Johnson City. It was an excellent trip with a great bunch of passengers and beautiful weather. If you missed this one, plan on going next year. Thanks to our Chapter hosts who help make these trips possible.

SPRING BRISTOL LINE TOUR ON NS

On Saturday, April 10, our parade of cars headed out of Johnson City to Knoxville for the Spring Bristol Line Tour of the former Southern Railway. We first stopped at the Telford station site, then on to Limestone Station. Next came the Chucky Depot, Greeneville Passenger Station, Greeneville Freight Station, Mohawk Station, Bulls Gap Yard, Bulls Gap Hotel, and a visit to the late Country music star Archie Campbell's house. We proceeded on west to Russellville where we met NS 726, a coal train, then to Pickens, Morristown Station Site, and the New Line where the Asheville Line joins the Bristol Line. We stopped in Jefferson City for a photo opportunity of Train 38Q and then on to the New Market 1904 wreck site. A visit to the famous Holston River Bridge was next where we took pictures of 16T. Then, Mascot was next and on to the first Hump Yard that Southern built in John Sevier yard. Well, it was lunch time now, and we feasted at the S&S Cafeteria. After eating too much, we got to visit the Old Smoky Railroad Museum in Knoxville, and we had a tour of the equipment and a slide program of the rebuilding of the 154 steam locomotive which is being rebuilt at the Holston River Railroad Company in Knoxville. It was a great day and a lot of fun. Make plans for our next outing if you missed this one!

PROGRAMS FOR 2010

We need programs for our General Membership meetings each month in 2010, so if you have any programs, including railroad slides, a video, a DVD, or know a possible speaker, please see Nick White, the Program Director at the April meeting or call the chapter phone 423-753-5797, or e-mail wataugavalley@embarqmail.com

HELP AT THE JONESBOROUGH SPRING STREET COACH YARD

Due to the demands in preparing our equipment for the 2010 season, we need volunteers to work at the Jonesborough Spring Street Coach Yard. Projects, such as restoring the *Crescent Harbor* and general Maintenance work on our other equipment are areas in which we need more volunteers. Please volunteer one day or as many days as you can to help us out. THERE IS A JOB FOR EVERYONE, AND YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE MECHANICALLY INCLINED TO HELP OUT. LIGHT DUTY WORK IS AVAILABLE so all you need to do is show up, and we will have all kinds of jobs available. Workdays are Tuesdays and Saturdays. Please call the chapter office at 423-753-5797 and leave a message so we can contact you on times and dates.

CHAPTER WEB SITE

Our new Chapter Web site is up and running, so take a look – www.wataugavalleynrhs.org. Also visit the Chapter's FACEBOOK page. Thanks to Gary Price for putting the chapter Facebook page together.
Mike Tilley, President Watauga Valley Chapter NRHS



Watauga Valley NRHS Chapter Members enjoyed a day-long tour of the Bristol-Knoxville NS line on April 10. In the picture above, the crew enjoyed a visit to the Old Smoky Transportation Museum in Knoxville and toured all cars including this office car. From left are Watauga Valley Chapter Members Jack Maloney, Charlene and Dan McLeod, Walter Byrd, Frank Rohrer, Nick White and Mike Tilley. Contributed by Nick White.

Bob Yaple's Mechanical Crew Report Yard Clean-up, *Crescent Harbor* Work Continues

GENERAL: The clean-up at the Spring Street Coach yard in Jonesborough continues. Our Box Car Shop is getting quite organized, but we are still kicking out stuff from the corners. We recently installed a new 1,000-pound capacity jib crane in the doorway so that we "older" guys can get heavy items in and out of the Shop without undue strain. Bad weather in March curtailed outdoor work.

ROLLING STOCK: The Chapter's *400 Moultrie Diner* arrived back in the Yard on March 21. The *Clinchfield 500* Coach remains at the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum.

The *Powhatan Arrow 539* Coach will have a new wheel set installed. The new wheel set was unloaded at the Jonesborough Farmers' Co-Op yard, and the Co-op furnished the unloading equipment free of charge, saving us a bundle! All of the crane quotes for changing the 539 wheel set in the Yard were very expensive, so we have arranged with the Co-op to do the work at their siding on Depot Street. A 90-ton crane will do the job at this location, and Norfolk Southern has agreed to move the car back to the Chapter's Yard at a very reasonable price!

CRESCENT HARBOR: Wiring work on the car's marker lights continues. The new side bearings have been completed, and the rubber inserts have been ordered. A paint job and installation will finish the work. With this type of side bearing and the friction-type shock absorbers, the *Crescent Harbor* should behave quite well on the road. The drawings for the waste water tank are complete, and the materials have been ordered. Johnny Jones will partially assemble the tank in his shop. We are developing a new system called Hand Brake "On" Warning. It will have a very bright blinking red LED light on both ends and both sides of the car. It will activate when the train crew hooks air to the car and will stop when the hand brake is released. If the system tests out OK on the *Crescent Harbor*, then we will install it on the other three cars. With better weather recently, we have started installation of the buffer tubes at the doorways. **By Bob Yaple, Asst. Chief Mechanical Officer**



Watauga Valley Chapter NRHS Minutes for March 22, 2010, Meeting

The Chapter meeting came to order at 6:30 P.M. on March 22, 2010, at the Johnson City Public Library. There were 25 names on the attendance sheet.

SPRING EXCURSION – Approximately 250 tickets have been sold for the March 27 Great Smokey Mountains Railway Excursion. There will be 5 bus loads, with volunteer bus hosts, leaving the Legion Street Parking lot at 6:30 a.m. Mike is still exploring other bus-train trips.

SOUTHERN RAILWAY TOUR –The tour of the Southern Bristol to Knoxville line will be on April 10. Stops will be made at several towns along the line. Visits to the New Market wreck site and the Knoxville Railway Museum are possibilities.

MECHANICAL – Bob Yaple reported on the 539 wheel change. The diner will be back soon from Spencer. Help is always welcome at the Yard.

WEBSITE - The new Chapter website is up and running thanks to Nick White and Fred Waskiewicz. Members were asked to send pictures to Nick to be used on the website.

NEW BUSINESS – Programs are still needed for future meetings. Speakers are especially welcome. Let Nick White know of any program suggestions.

The program tonight was on the Potomac Yard with DVDs showing various freight and passenger railroad services.

The meeting adjourned at 8 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Jewell, Acting Secretary



Membership Chairman Report**2nd Renewal Notices may be sent from the NRHS**

If you did not get your 2010 membership renewal sent in by March 1st, then you will probably receive a 2nd notice from NRHS. If you did mail your renewals after that date and you are still getting a newsletter, then this means your dues have been received by the Chapter and you can disregard the notices from NRHS. There is only once a month that the renewals can be transmitted to National, which is around the 1st Friday of each month. If your dues are not received by then they do not get transmitted until the following month. So, if you have in-fact sent in your renewal dues, please disregard the 2nd notice from NRHS. If you have questions about your membership, please feel free to call me at 423-542-8989.

Also, I want to welcome **new member Sam Castle** of Church Hill, TN. Ben & Jonah Blevins of Marion, VA, joined last month, and again we welcome them. Let's invite more folks to attend our meetings and join our Chapter. Thank you,

Harriet Swank, Membership Chairman

**Member Notes - April Whistle Stop**

WELCOME to the Chapter's newest member, Sam Castle of Church Hill, TN. Look for Sam at member meetings and Chapter activities.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Mary Hart in her April 1, 2010, death at her home in Johnson City. Mary and her husband Bill joined the Chapter in 1994 and took part in many activities as long as their health permitted. Bill had been on the Board of Directors for several years prior to his death in 2007. Mary and Bill will be remembered as loyal members and friends.

Several of our members and friends deal with ongoing health concerns. Please keep them and others you know in your thoughts. Let us know of anyone to whom a card or phone call might be a way to share our joys or sorrows. Call Nancy Jewell at 423-282-0918 or the Chapter phone at 423-753-5797. Thanks for taking just a moment to remember others.

Nancy Jewell, Contributor

Jeff's Rail News: Ex-Southern Loco Moved to SARM

KNOXVILLE, TN — Former Southern U23B 3937 (now VILX 3937) has been purchased by Vintage Locomotive Inc., with ultimate destination being the SARM (Southern Appalachian Railway Museum; <http://www.southernappalachia.railway.museum/>) in Oak Ridge, TN. The unit has the distinction of being the only preserved Southern U boat.

The locomotive arrived in Chattanooga on March 16th via NS 346. The unit has one of the nicer GE car bodies (usually they are rotten out basket cases by the time they reach 15 years old). The bad news is that it had a drive shaft failure coming off the main alternator going to the equipment blower. The unit ran for 10 years at Martin Marietta's Ruby Quarry near Macon GA. Typically, maintenance by Industrial users is minimal, but the Ruby Quarry site did an above average job. 3937's horns were removed by the buyer before shipment as dead engines tend to lose their "jewelry" in transit. Both of the original P5Ls were still there after all these years.

On March 19th, the unit arrived at Sevier yard in Knoxville TN and then was moved on to Blair (NS connection with the SARM) via NS local T12 the next day.

Round-up of Rail News from AMTRAK and the Nation's Class 1 Railroads

NORFOLK, VA – **Norfolk Southern Corporation** will present its first-quarter 2010 earnings on Tuesday, April 27, 2010, at 4:30 p.m. EDT via teleconference and live Internet webcast. The company will issue its earnings results shortly after market close on April 27. Norfolk Southern Corporation is one of the nation's premier transportation companies. Its Norfolk Southern Railway subsidiary operates approximately 21,000 route miles in 22 states and the District of Columbia, serves every major container port in the eastern United States, and provides efficient connections to other rail carriers. Norfolk Southern operates the most extensive

intermodal network in the East and is a major transporter of coal and industrial products. **Norfolk Southern News Release**

NEW YORK — The CEO of **Union Pacific** said recently that shipments carried by the nation's biggest railroad are stronger than expected this year, but they are still a long way from full recovery. In an interview with The Associated Press, Union Pacific's Jim Young said some key segments, including agricultural, automotive and intermodal shipments show signs of strength. "I'm not willing to say the challenges are over, but some areas are pretty strong," Young said. **Union Pacific News Release**

WASHINGTON – AMTRAK is on pace to break its annual ridership record carrying a best ever 13,619,770 passengers during the first six months of fiscal year 2010 with the historically busier summer travel season still ahead. The 13.6 million passengers who rode AMTRAK trains during the first two quarters of FY 2010 (October 2009 – March 2010) contributed to a 4.3 percent increase over the same period the prior year. "Americans are beginning to travel again and are choosing AMTRAK as an affordable and efficient way to move around the country," said President and CEO Joseph Boardman, noting a slowly improving economy and continued high fuel prices as factors in AMTRAK ridership growth. **AMTRAK Virginia** has announced it is partnering with the Virginia Tourism Corporation and localities along Virginia's new Lynchburg *Northeast Regional* service to offer vacation packages for AMTRAK passengers. These packages provide vacations to two of the route's most popular destinations—Charlottesville and Lynchburg. Each package provides lodging and access to local activities, with some packages offering additional dining and transportation perks. For more information on AMTRAK Virginia vacation packages or AMTRAK's Northeast Regional service call 1-800-USA-RAIL or go to www.AmtrakVirginia.com. **AMTRAK News releases**

JACKSONVILLE, FL – CSX Corporation Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Michael J. Ward said recently that CSX positioned itself as a "stronger and more capable company" in a tumultuous 2009. In his annual report message to shareholders, Ward said "Our 30,000 employees didn't just let the economy happen 'to' us. When the downturn began, we moved quickly to respond." While a 15 percent volume decline led to a 22 percent reduction in earnings per share from continuing operations, the company set records in safety, lowered full-year operating costs by 20 percent and achieved a record 74.7 percent operating ratio. These achievements were made while delivering strong customer service and maintaining a healthy balance sheet with strong cash flows for future investment and value creation. CSX's 2010 Annual Shareholders Meeting will be held at 10 a.m. (EDT) on Wednesday, May 5, 2010, at The Rittenhouse Hotel, 210 West Rittenhouse Square, Philadelphia. **CSX News Release**



Roanoke Rails: A Celebration on the N&W Mainline Set for May 8 at the Link-VA Transportation Museums

What: Roanoke Rails

When: Sat, May 8, 10am – 3pm (National Train Day)

Where: O. Winston Link Museum and The Virginia Museum of Transportation

Roanoke Rails: A Celebration on the N&W Mainline will be held May 8, 2010, at the O. Winston Link Museum and The Virginia Museum of Transportation in Roanoke, Virginia. The museums invite railfans and families from all over the world to attend a now yearly celebration of railroad heritage.

The Link Museum will feature the famed J Class locomotive 611, a historic paint scheme Southern Unit 4610, railroad memorabilia and activities, model trains, railroad photography, children's activities and more.

The Virginia Museum of Transportation will feature railroad motorcar rides, antique model trains, and children's activities. There's sure to be something for everyone at this nostalgic and enriching event. On the evening of May 8, the Link Museum will also hold a photo shoot on the tracks, featuring the 611.

For more information please visit the Link Museum website at:
<http://linkmuseum.org/index.html> **From O. Winston Link Museum**

Americans Discover Rail on National Train Day, May 8

WASHINGTON – AMTRAK will host the third annual National Train Day on May 8 with events across the country to celebrate America's love for trains. National Train Day commemorates the 141st anniversary of the first transcontinental railroad's inception by bringing to life the rich narrative of how trains transformed America. Large-scale, family-friendly events will be held in Washington, Philadelphia, Chicago, and Los Angeles.

"National Train Day celebrates the train's impact on our country and provides an opportunity for Americans to further understand the influence rail has on the future of transportation in America," said Emmett H. Fremaux, vice president, marketing and product management, AMTRAK. "With a greater national focus on energy efficiency in travel, trains are already a leading alternative with 20 percent more fuel efficiency than commercial airlines and 28 percent more efficiency than car travel per passenger mile," he added.

National Train Day will feature opening events at 11:00 a.m., in four of its gateway stations across the U.S.: Washington, DC, Philadelphia PA, Chicago, IL, and Los Angeles, CA, plus there will be hundreds of local celebrations across the country.

"Trains have always been an important part of this country's fabric and with the spotlight on green and increasing options for intercity and high-speed rail growth, it's clear that they will continue to drive innovation in transportation, Fremaux said.

More information on National Train Day will be available in the next *Whistle Stop* supplement the week of April 26th, and you can visit the National Train Day website at <http://www.nationaltrainday.com/> **From the National Train Day Website**



Editor Mike's Notes:

I want to thank Duane and Harriet Swank for their assistance each month with the preparation and distribution of the *Whistle Stop*. They invest their time proof reading, printing, addressing, and mailing the newsletter. I appreciate their volunteer work! In like manner, I am thankful for our monthly contributors who also make our newsletter an excellent publication of which I am very proud!

Please visit our Chapter website. Chapter Webmaster Fred Waskiewicz and Publicity and Program Director Nick White have worked on re-designing and improving it for almost a year, and their work has paid off. The web address is <http://wataugavalleynrhs.org/index.php>. Additionally, Chapter Historian Gary Price has created a link to the Chapter on Facebook. To see the Watauga Valley Facebook page go <http://wataugavalleynrhs.org/contact.php>.

As more rail news and pictures are received, a supplement to the April 2010 *Whistle Stop* will be prepared and released the week of April 26. It will be distributed at the meeting and sent to members who receive their monthly newsletter by email. If you want to receive a copy by email, please email me at ki4ojomike@gmail.com

Watauga Valley NRHS Officers, Board of Directors and, Appointments for 2010

Mike Tilley	President
Bob Schubel	Vice- President
Betty Jackson	Secretary
Duane Swank	Treasurer
Jim Pahriss	National Director, Chapter Librarian
Gary Price	Historian

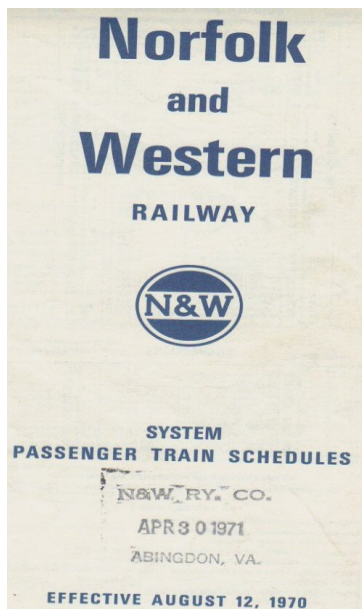
Directors: Bill Beagen, Jim Calhoun, Helen Calhoun, Art Devoe, Mike Jackson (Newsletter Editor), Penny May, Nick White (Publicity Chairman, Program Chairman), and Bob Yaple

Appointments:	Jim Magill, Chief Mechanical Officer
Bob Yaple	Asst. Chief Mechanical Officer
Duane & Harriet Swank	Newsletter Circulation
Fred Waskiewicz Jr.	Webmaster
Mike Tilley	Trip Director
David Denny	Chapter Attorney
Nancy Jewell	Membership Notes Reporter
Harriet Swank	Membership Chairman
Walter Byrd	Communications Chairman
Jack Maloney	Spring St Coach Yard Maintenance



39 Years since AMTRAK! N&W Train 18 from Bristol, VA, to New York City by way of Roanoke, VA, and Washington, DC, was the last passenger train between Bristol and Roanoke on April 30, 1971, the day before AMTRAK took over nationwide passenger train operations. **Top Left**, the Marion, VA, depot minutes before the arrival of the train. **Top Right**, the N&W Train Schedule Board at Marion that day indicated four trains had been marked out as the *Tennessee* (Memphis to New York) and the *Pelican* (New Orleans to New York) were discontinued by 1971.

The timetable listed Marion as a "Flag Stop" (**Left**). Train 18 arrived shortly after 8:07 a.m., that memorable morning with three Southern cars (two coaches and a baggage car) powered by an N&W GP-9, No. 519, and it departed about five minutes later (**Bottom Right**). **Bottom Left** is the front page of the last N&W timetable used with the station agent's stamp for Abingdon, VA, affixed to the front of the document.





N&W Railway Train 18, bound for Roanoke, VA, Washington, DC, and New York City, arrived in Marion at 8:07 a.m. Train 18 was the last regularly scheduled passenger train from Bristol to

Roanoke prior to the AMTRAK Era that began the next day. By 1971, several trains on this line including the *Tennessean* and the *Pelican* had been discontinued by Southern Railway and the N&W as of June 25, 1966 and August 2, 1970, respectively. Trains 17 and 18 were once the *Birmingham Special* that ran from Birmingham, AL, to New York City, but passenger service west of Bristol was discontinued on August 12, 1970. At that time, Trains 17 and 18 were continued by N&W from Bristol to Roanoke until April 30, 1971. That night, Betty and I saw Train 17 arrive in Bristol around 12:30 a.m. Sadly, being brought home on the last passenger train to Bristol was the body of a young man. N&W baggage car workers move the coffin toward the door in the photo (left). Photos and the copy of the N&W timetable on pages 9-10 are from our railroad memorabilia collection.



Mike and Betty Jackson.



Join Us In Scranton!

for
The Annual Convention
of the
National Railway Historical Society
June 22-26, 2010

Hosted by the Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Chapter

Enjoy:

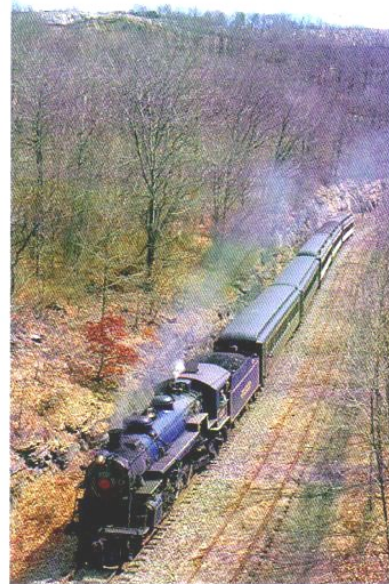
- All Day Steam and Diesel Excursions!
- Short Line Trips with Rare Motive Power!
- Unique Photo Opportunities!

Explore:

- Historic Sites and Museums!
- Area Tourist Railroads and Coal Mines!
- Steam, Diesel and Electric Traction!

Discover:

- Why Scranton is called "The Electric City"!
- The true "Birthplace of the American Railroad"!
- What became the "Anthracite Capitol of the World"!



Be sure to ask an Endless Mountain Rails Staff Member for Registration Info!



Endless Mountain Rails 2010
PO Box 4195
Wyoming, PA 18644

www.endlessmountainrails.com



Through June, the *Whistle Stop* is including pictures of the Ole Clinchfield Railroad from Mike Tilley's collection. In this photo, Clinchfield's popular Santa Train is seen at Johnson City in November 1979.

**Railway Historical Society
Watauga Valley Chapter
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