



Ties & Tracks

Newsletter of the Dayton Railway Historical Society
And the Miami Valley Railfans Subdivision



Volume 47

#5

May 2023

Miami Valley Railfan Subdivision Meeting Time/Place

Saturday 5/13, 7:30 pm at the West Carrollton Community Center (library)
300 E Central Ave, West Carrollton, OH 45449

Program

Slides/digital by the members.

Like usual, the first 30 minutes or so will be movies converted by Aubrey Flock.

Food Before Meeting

For those interested, prior to the meeting we will meet at 6:00 pm at Frisch's
8181 N Springboro Pike, Miamisburg, OH 45342 (**NOTICE. This is a new location near Dayton Mall**)

DRHS Meeting Time/Place

Thursday 5/10 7:00 pm at the Dayton Metro Library–Kettering Moraine Branch.
3496 Far Hills Ave, Dayton, OH 45429

Program

90 Years of Dayton Trolley Buses by Tom Morrow

The program will emphasize the 39 years prior to the formation of the Dayton RTA
(which was presented in Nov 2022)

Food Before Meeting

For those interested, prior to the meeting we will meet at 5:30 pm at MCL Cafeteria,
4485 Far Hills Ave, Kettering, OH 45429



---**The Indiana Railroad** has taken delivery of ten former Norfolk Southern SD70Ms. These engines, which came from Progress Rail, are slated as replacements for the INRD's aging fleet of SD90MACs. The C40-8Ws that CSX gave them as replacements turned out to not be worth fixing. The SD70Ms are cycling through the paint shop and coming out in the INRD's beautiful red livery. (INRD Facebook group)

---**The Chesapeake & Ohio Historical Society** will be working with City of St. Albans, WV to "develop and showcase" the former C&O depot. The C&OHS plan is to "establish and develop a satellite presence at the depot, with plans to create museum space, construct an O-scale model train layout and display and offer rail- and history-oriented merchandise." The depot is currently owned by the City which has plans to restore the depot to as close as possible, including the passenger platform. (Charleston Gazette-Mail)

---**Autumn Colors Express** - I reached out to RailExco to find out if the *Autumn Colors Express* would be running this Fall over the former C&O in West Virginia. This is their response: "Thank you for your interest, but due to increasing costs outside our control, the Autumn Colors Express will not be returning in 2023. We share your disappointment and apologize for any inconvenience."

---**CASS, W.Va. - Cass Scenic Railroad** operator Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad has announced that the 2023 Parade of Steam will take place June 17 at the Cass depot. In previous years, this increasingly popular event has featured five of Cass Scenic's geared steam locomotives, in various combinations, under steam. However, if all goes as planned, six locomotives should be available this year: Climax No. 9 and Shays Nos. 2, 4, 5, 6, and 11. For more info visit <https://mountainrailwv.com/tour/paradeofsteam/> (Trains Magazine via Art Kinser)

---**ELKINS, W.Va.** - The inaugural run of Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad's Greenbrier Express operation is set for Saturday, May 13, the railroad has announced. The initial run on the recently reopened, 15-mile Cass-to-Durbin remnant of the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad's Greenbrier Subdivision quickly sold out. Regular service will begin the following Saturday, May 20. For more info visit <https://mountainrailwv.com/tour/greenbrierexpress/> (Trains Magazine via Art Kinser)

---**CSX Toledo Subdivision** - According to local railfan reports, a new hotbox detector is being installed on the CSX Toledo Sub at Anna, Ohio, just north of St Rt 119 at MP105.

---**NEW HAVEN, Ky. - Louisville & Nashville No. 152**, the Kentucky Railway Museum 4-6-2 named the official steam locomotive of the Commonwealth of Kentucky by an act of the Kentucky Legislature, is beginning an overhaul to be returned to operation. (Trains Magazine)

--- **The Hocking Valley Scenic Railway** now owns SW1200 No. 1231. This vintage diesel switcher has been serving ADM in Columbus, but has been dormant for the last four years. When it arrives in Nelsonville, the 1231 will receive some minor maintenance before entering service. It will eventually begin a new career hauling tourist passenger trains for the HVSR. (HVSR Facebook page)

---**Dayton District Rail Camera** - For those like to watch live rail cameras, a new one has been set up viewing the NS's Dayton District (Cincinnati-Dayton-Columbus) near Columbus. Check out this address on youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gi-qkO5ZjAM> or search for "The Traveling Gandy Dancer Live Stream."

The Dispatcher's Line (continued)

---**PENINSULA, Ohio - The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad** will resume its National Park Scenic excursions and its Explorer Program as of May 5, the tourist railroad has announced. The railroad through Cuyahoga Valley National Park has faced a series of limitations on operations or complete shutdowns because of erosion issues along its right-of-way, which follows the Cuyahoga River. The 26-mile heritage rail operation had aimed to resume full operation in March after installation of an advanced stability monitoring system along the riverbank, but instead was forced to shut down completely when that system showed increasing erosion. (Trains Magazine via Art Kinser)

---**The Indiana Rail Experience** - The rail excursion partnership of the Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society and Indiana Northeastern Railroad, will return for its second season with an expanded schedule of events beginning May 27-28 and continuing through December. Excursions will feature diesel locomotives, as well as Nickel Plate Road 2-8-4 No. 765 on select occasions, with trains featuring vintage equipment including coach, first class, lounge, and dining cars. Group packages and private passenger car charters will be available.

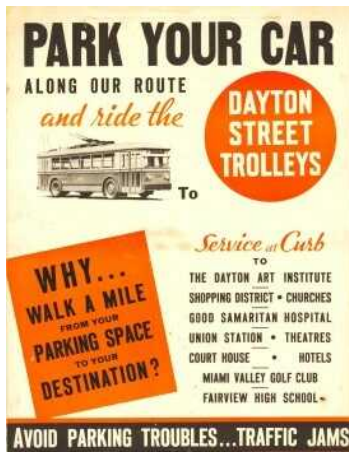
The schedule will begin with Ice Cream Trains operating out of Angola, Ind., on Memorial Day weekend. Other events on the calendar include all-day excursions to Hillsdale, Mich.; Wine & Whiskey Trains; a Railroad Open House featuring steam and diesel locomotives at the Indiana Northeastern shops in Hudson, Ind., and Fall Colors and Christmas trains. Tickets are currently on sale. For more info visit <https://www.indianarailexperience.org/> (Trains Magazine via Art Kinser)

---**The Haley Tower Historical & Technical Society, Inc.**, which operates the Wabash Valley Railroad Museum in Terre Haute, IN, recently announced it has begun restoration work on its historic interlocking tower and namesake "Haley Tower." Haley Tower guarded the crossing of the north-south C&EI and the east-west New York Central mainlines 50 feet from its present location at the museum. In December 2022, the society launched a fundraiser to raise \$25,000 to complete the project. For more info visit <https://www.wvrrm.org/> (Terre Haute Tribune-Star)

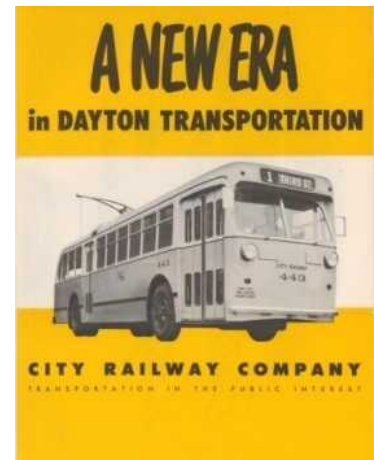
---**Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum** has transferred ownership of Steam Locomotive 5288 to Colebrookdale Railroad Preservation Trust Chattanooga, TN, and Boyertown, PA.: The Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum (<https://www.tvrail.com/>) and the Colebrookdale Railroad Preservation Trust are pleased to announce a partnership that will return to Pennsylvania a historic steam passenger locomotive. Locomotive 5288, a 4-6-2 Pacific-type locomotive built by the Montreal Locomotive Works in 1919 for the Grand Trunk Railway, will be moved to the Colebrookdale in the next few weeks for eventual restoration. It will be displayed later this year near the railroad's Boyertown, Pennsylvania, station. (Colebrookdale Railroad Facebook page)

---**Sugarcreek, Ohio** - The 2023 tour season has started for the Age of Steam Roundhouse in Sugarcreek, OH. For more info visit <https://www.ageofsteamroundhouse.org/>

---**NKP Indianapolis-Michigan City Branch** - Some changes in operation have taken place on the former Nickel Plate branch that ran from Indianapolis to Michigan City, IN. There's a segment of this line between Walkerton, IN and Rochester, IN that has been operated by the Elkhart & Western RR which is owned by Patriot Rail. The E&W has given up operation between Argos and Rochester and a new railroad called the Rochester & Erie has taken over operation of the Argos to Rochester segment. (North & Central Indiana Railroads Facebook group)



90 Years of Dayton Trolley Buses



The month of August 1932 was perhaps the most impactful in the history of Dayton transit. On August 3, 1932, the bridge carrying the Dayton & Troy interurban collapsed under the load of concrete the D&T was carrying to build US-25 north of Dayton. By August 10, 1932, the D&T was no more.

At 4:45 AM on August 24, 1932, the Dayton Street Railway car barn at Lorain and Pritz Avenues caught on fire and burned to the ground. Fifteen cars and two buses were destroyed in the fire, leaving the DSRy with seven operable cars (all single trucks). At this point, DSRy was serving approximately 1/10th of the city's ridership on their line from Salem and Catalpa (with a feeder bus up Salem to Fairview) on the northwest side to Linden and Santa Cruz (with a rail feeder to Linden and Smithville) on the east side. City Railway leased them 4 cars in order to keep the line operating.

After some deliberation, the leadership of the DSRy decided to convert the line to trolley buses. The first buses arrived from Brill on April 12. On April 14, 1933, the first bus was operated on the street, running out to the east end loop at Santa Cruz. On April 23, 1933, the DSRy operated the first electric trolley bus in revenue service in Ohio.

Soon, more buses had to be ordered to keep up with new ridership, and a larger loop via Catalpa, Hillcrest and Philadelphia was installed on the north end. By Spring 1935, when the Oakwood Street Railway was faced with the need to get a new franchise in Dayton and Oakwood, their direction was clear: replace their many times rebuilt single truck fleet (last car being bought in 1906) with electric trolley buses. The OSRy got rid of their streetcars, bought trolleys from Pullman and put them into operation on their line from Dayton View to Oakwood on January 19, 1936.

The day after the OSRy began trolley operations, People's Railway had yet another derailment on their streetcar line at Valley and Alaska. Management recognized that something needed to be done, as the line out Valley Street had been built in 1903, and it showed. They, too, chose to replace their line on Valley with trolley buses, and tied it to their line on Cincinnati Street, and began operations on Oct 11, 1936. They subsequently converted the Leo-Lakeview line on August 14, 1938, and the Main-Wayne line on August 18, 1940.

City Railway was not sitting on the sidelines. Owing to a street reconstruction project on Richard Street, which would've required them to rebuild their line, they also chose to replace their streetcars there with trolley buses, which they initiated on March 27, 1938. On July 22, 1941, City Railway extended their line on Kammer Avenue and converted to trolley buses.

Meanwhile, the Dayton & Xenia Railway converted their streetcar line to Belmont to trolley buses on October 1, 1940. After this conversion, Dayton had five separate operating trolley bus companies on the street.

WWII intervened, which slowed streetcar conversion until 1947. In August 1947, the Fifth Street line was converted to trolley bus, leaving Third Street. Most of Third Street was converted on September 28, 1947, except for a little over a mile of streetcar shuttle alongside Third Street, which awaited state approval for trolley bus operation. The last streetcar in Dayton, #672, made its last run on November 22, 1947.



**Oakwood trolley bus 24
Shafor Blvd & Brydon Rd
c1953 (by Richard Glaze)**



**Dayton & Xenia trolley bus 51
turning from Phillips Ave to Wayne Ave
1951 (by Pat Carmody)**

**Peoples Street Ry trolley bus 39
Wayne Ave 4/1942 (Ohio Brass photo)**



**City Ry trolley bus 140
Western Ave car barn**

UPCOMING EVENTS edited by Art Kinser

20-21 MAY 2023, All N-Scale Event, Union Co. Fairgrounds, The Beef Barn, 845 N. Main St., Marysville, Ohio, Sat 10:00am-5:00pm, Sun 9:00am-3:00pm, Adm ?,
Info www.centralohiontrak.org

11 JUN 2023, Train Show, Kane Co. Fairgrounds, 525 S. Randall Rd., St. Charles, Illinois
Sun 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$6, Info www.rrshows.com

25-26 JUN 2023, Rail Festival, Carillon Park, Dayton, Ohio
Sat 9:30am-5:00pm, Sun 11:00am-4:00pm, \$14 adults, \$12 seniors, \$10 children
Info www.railfestival.com

15-17 JUL 2023, Train Show, Shriners Temple, 326 Southland Dr., Lexington, Kentucky
All Days 10:00am-5:00pm, Adm \$5

16 JUL 2023, Train Show, Dayton Convention Center, Dayton, Ohio

29-30 JUL 2023, Model Railroad Show, Van Wert Co. Fairgrounds, 1055 S. Washington St., Van Wert, Ohio, Sat 10:00am-4:00pm, Sun 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$6

5-6 AUG 2023, Train Show, Johnson Co. Fairgrounds, 250 Fairground St., Franklin, Indiana
Sat 10:00am-4:00pm, Sun 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$7, Info www.cidnmra.org

12 AUG 2023, Summerail, Marion Palace Theater, 276 W Center St., Marion, Ohio
Sat 10am-5pm Railroad Show & Sale, 1pm-10pm multimedia presentations
Adm \$5 Show & Sale only, \$30 Show & Sale and Presentations, cash or check only at the door
www.summerail.com

25-26 AUG 2023, Hoosier Traction Meet, Normal, IL, Holiday Inn, 8 Traders Circle, Normal, IL 61761
\$80 both days, \$45 single day (if paid advance) \$85 both days, \$50 one day (at door)
www.hoosiertractionmeet.com

10 SEP 2023, Train Show, Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds, Dayton, Ohio
Sun 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$5

21 OCT 2023, Train Show, Allen Co. Coliseum, 4000 Parnell Ave., Fort Wayne, Indiana
Sat 10:00am-4:00pm, Adm \$8

4-5 NOV 2023, Dayton Train Show, Montgomery Co. Fairgrounds, Dayton, Ohio
Sat 11:00am-5:00pm, Sun 11:00am-4:00pm, Adm \$8, Info www.DaytonTrainShow.com

9 DEC 2023, Train Show, Allen Co. Fairgrounds, 2750 Harding Highway, Lima, Ohio
Sat 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$7

10 DEC 2023, Springfield Train Show, Clark Co. Fairgrounds, 4401 S. Charleston Pike, Springfield, Ohio, Sun 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$5

DRHS/Dave Oroszi
4415 E Greenview Dr
DAYTON, OH 45415

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Dayton Railway Historical Society and Miami Valley Railfans Subdivision

4415 E Greenview Dr., Dayton, OH 45415

www.daytonrolleyss.net/drhs/drhs.htm

President:	David Oroszi	david.oroszi@usa.net	937-238-5655
Vice President:	Tom Morrow	rtm@trolleybuses.net	
Treasurer:	Tom Grady	tgrady1956@gmail.com	937-277-3406
Secretary:	George Vergamini	VERG3317@yahoo.com	
Trustee:	Jim Gumbert	otown@frontier.com	
Trustee & MVR Superintendent:		Rick Acton, Jr	Richard.Acton@pepsiamericas.com
Trustee & MVR Asst Superintendent:		Steve Fuchs	stalbanmedia@yahoo.com
Editor:	David Oroszi	drhsnewsletter@daytonrolleyss.net	937-238-5655
News:	Bill Haines	oldopr@yahoo.com	

The Dayton Railway Historical Society (DRHS) is a non-profit, historical and educational group of railfans serving Dayton, Ohio and the Tri-State area. We have a 501c3 tax-exempt status granted by the US Internal Revenue Service. This means the DRHS can receive tax-deductible gifts, bequeaths and transfers of funds. Our Treasurer will issue a receipt to all givers of such gifts.

Dues are \$10/year for an emailed PDF in color or \$20/year for a mailed hard copy in B&W

Send checks to DRHS, Tom Grady, 4888 Goodyear Dr., Dayton, OH, 45406-1128

The DRHS normally holds meetings /programs on the second Thursday of each month except for January, February and August, and tend to be more of the historical nature of railroads and trolleys.

The Miami Valley Railfans (MVR) is a Subdivision of the DRHS and normally holds meetings/programs on the second Saturday of each month, except for August and October. These meetings tend to be more on current happenings in the railroad industry.

For both groups, see the meeting notices on front page for programs and location of meetings.