



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello everyone! Here are a few highlights of recent Chapter activities and news.

This month we catch up on Steam News on Pages 2 and 3, say goodbye to Brother John Martin and Trustee Bernie Coppock on Pages 3 and 4, and recap the April meeting on Page 5.

Bernie and I had a number of common interests and, while I knew he was active with the Chapter, EJ, Honor Flight, and the local auto racing scene, it was only after his passing that I learned of so many other activities that he was involved with. He clearly left a legacy of activity and volunteerism, and will be missed by many. I did not know Brother John as well, but I knew by reputation how much he had been involved with and contributed to our Chapter. Despite being retired and living in Michigan, he continued to donate books to our Chapter Library right up to the end. A large portion of our Library is a legacy of his generosity. Both of them will be greatly missed.

In National news, plans are on track for a Summer Convention in Harrisburg, PA, August 25-31, featuring events and excursions in Pennsylvania. The Fall Conference will be in Wilmington, DE, October 10-12. Among other items of business at the Spring Conference in Cedar Rapids, IA, May 4-6, I prepared and presented a policy for approval to ensure that host Chapters are reimbursed for NRHS meeting room expenses.

Our annual membership renewal campaign has wrapped up for the year. We are mailing the 2024 Roster separately from the Newsletter. For anyone who has not yet renewed, however, it's never too late! Contact Frank Kammer with any questions about your membership status. As a 501(c)(3) tax exempt non-profit organization, donations to the Chapter are tax deductible to the maximum extent permitted by law. We look forward to having you on board this year!

Thanks to the Legendary Father Dale Peterka for presenting our April program. This month, longtime Chapter member and rail historian Dan Finfrock will present our May program. See the next column for details.

That's all for now. I'll see you at the meeting!

Scott Andes, President

## MAY MEETING

Our Chapter Meeting on Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, will be held at EnterTRAINment Junction (EJ) in West Chester, Ohio, at 7:00 p.m. This month, longtime Chapter Member and noted rail historian Dan Finfrock will be presenting our program. Actually, 2 programs! Dan will present programs entitled New York Central Steam and The Railroad I Grew Up With – the CI&W. Dan's programs are always first rate, and you won't want to miss this month's programs.

We will be having our meeting in one of the event rooms adjacent to the courtyard and we have drinks and snacks available. As always, guests are welcome so please spread the word and bring a friend. The business portion of the meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. with the program to follow. We hope you will make plans to join us!



## THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

This month we send our thoughts and prayers to the families of Chapter Member Brother John Martin and Chapter Trustee Bernie Coppock. Brother John passed away April 24<sup>th</sup>, and Bernie passed away on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Both will be greatly missed.

Please report the passing or serious illness of any member to Frank Kammer.

Scott Andes, Chapter President



## STEAM NEWS By John Biehn

Nashville Steam Update...Recently, workers rolled 4-8-4 No. 576 outside to remove the side rods. Work continues in the shop as they inch closer and closer to seeing Music City's locomotive back in steam. Recent projects include completing repairs to the firebox, installation of hundreds of flexible and rigid staybolts, and disassembly of the tender trucks. Nashville Steam will operate No. 576 on the Nashville & Eastern Railroad. This line is 32 miles long and runs between Nashville and Lebanon, Tennessee. Nashville Steam will hold an open house on April 27. The event is being held in conjunction with Tennessee Central Railway Museum's 2024 Model Train Show.

CNJ113 News...Railway Project 113 is pleased to announce their shuttle trips for the first ever Minersville Community Day on May 18. Powered by 0-6-0 No. 113, the trains will run from Minersville to the New St. Nicholas Breaker and return. These trips are in cooperation with Reading Anthracite and Reading & Northern Railroad. Steam engine CNJ 113 will pull six trips. This is the first time since 1982 that the 113 will return to the coal company property, and the first time in over 90 years that a passenger train will depart northbound out of Minersville. Trips depart on the hour starting at 10:00 a.m., and will continue until 3:00 p.m. Ticket prices are \$11 for persons four years old and up. Each ride lasts about forty minutes. For ticket info, go to [www.fareharbor.com/embeds/book/rproject113/items/525179/calendar/2024/05/](http://www.fareharbor.com/embeds/book/rproject113/items/525179/calendar/2024/05/).

Tennessee Steam...On June 1, the Tennessee Valley Railroad will be running a special double-headed steam excursion featuring two former Southern Railway locomotives: 2-8-2 No. 4501 and 2-8-0 No. 630. The train will depart the Grand Junction Depot in Chattanooga at 9:00 a.m., and travel to Summerville, Georgia, and return to Chattanooga the same day. The route is the former Central of Georgia and passes through Rossville, Georgia, Chickamauga & Chattanooga Military Park, and several quaint Georgia towns. Patrons will also have the opportunity while at Summerville to see and photograph both engines as they are individually turned on the turntable there. Numerous ticket options are available and can be found by going to [www.tvrail.com](http://www.tvrail.com).

Big Boy Westward Bound Tour...Union Pacific's Big Boy No. 4014, the world's largest operating steam locomotive, will return to the rails this summer with a scenic tour in four western states: Wyoming, Nevada, California, and Utah. Big Boy will journey from its home base in Cheyenne, Wyoming, on Sunday, June 30, enroute to Roseville, California, before returning to Wyoming by the end of July. The locomotive will make numerous whistle-stops in communities along the way, with public display stops scheduled on July 12-13 at Roseville, and July 20-21 at Ogden, Utah. Additional route details and approximate times for whistle-stops will be shared closer to the tour. A route map can be found on [www.upsteam.com](http://www.upsteam.com). During the tour, the Union Pacific Museum will host a special passenger trip. This unique experience is the annual gala fundraiser for the non-profit organization and provides a rare opportunity to travel on historic heritage equipment. More information about this trip will appear at [www.uptraintix.com](http://www.uptraintix.com) when they become available. This is one of two public tours planned

for the Big Boy in 2024, with the second tour planned later this fall with stops in Texas, Arkansas, Kansas, and Illinois. Details of the second tour will be released later this spring. (Thanks to the UP Steam Club via Alex Mayes)

Big Boy Tender Work...Work on the tender of Union Pacific Big Boy No. 4014 is continuing at Railroading Heritage of Midwest America. When the 4014 re-entered service in 2019, it did so with the tender off "Challenger" 4-6-6-4 No. 3985, which had already been converted to hold oil. Switching tenders was very common in the steam era, including different types and classes of steam locomotives. When No. 3985 was donated to RRHMA a few years ago, part of the deal was that the Silvas, Illinois, based non-profit would rebuild 4014's tender and then send it back to Union Pacific, which in turn would return the one off 3985. Recently, 4014's tender was sand-blasted and it received a coat of primer. Now, it is receiving wheel work before being returned to Union Pacific. (Thanks to Railfan & Railroad Magazine)

Southern Pacific 1744 News...In 2020, the Pacific Locomotive Association purchased a native Bay Area steam locomotive, the SP 1744. In that same year, most of the locomotive was returned to the Niles Canyon Railway to be rebuilt for operation. The boiler stayed behind at a contract shop in Colorado for work. That contract shop will soon be moving to northern California, where the work will be completed. The 2-6-0 "Mogul" was built by the Baldwin Locomotive Works in 1901. It operated for many years out of Oakland on the Southern Pacific's Western Division and in California's Central Valley. The PLA's commitment and plan to return the 1744 to service will not be a quick or inexpensive proposition, but they are looking forward to the future when she will once again steam on the Niles Canyon Railway. To date, the locomotive has seen a lot of active restoration including: Frame & running gear: Cleaning (by needle gun), inspection, priming of frame. Removal of drivers, main axle boxes, and spring rigging. Removal of driver wheel tires, repairing and turning of driver centers, delivery of new tires, installation of new tires, and repainting of the drivers in preparation for re-installation. Boiler Work (Contracted). Installation of all new firebox sheets, drilling of firebox sheets for staybolts, and riveting of mud ring to boiler. Fabrication of all staybolts for the boiler, including flexible caps and sleeves. The railroad's fundraising now for the 1744 revolves around the installation of over 1,400 rigid and flexible staybolts. The staybolts are needed to secure the 1744's new firebox sheets in the boiler. The fundraising goal is set at \$125,000 will enable the workers to finish painting the frame, start re-assembly of the running gear, and rebuild the pilot truck. If you would like to help with a donation, please go to [www.ncry.org/donate](http://www.ncry.org/donate). One final note: During the first week of April, the Steam Department painter started the process of removing the previous owner's lettering from the tender of the SP 1744. This is the start of a long process of prepping, painting, and re-lettering the tender. (Thanks to the Niles Canyon Railway)

Locomotive Restoration News...The Mt. Tamalpais & Muir Woods Railway was a scenic tourist railway that operated between Mill Valley and the east peak of Mount Tamalpais in

## STEAM NEWS (Continued)

Marin County, California. The railroad was incorporated in January, 1896, and closed in the summer of 1930. The mountain railway put Mill Valley on the world map, introduced countless passengers to the importance of protecting redwood forests, and marked the beginning of Marin County's long history of environmental stewardship. Recently, a historic Mill Valley engine, a 1920 built two truck Heisler steam locomotive has been reconnected with its 8 ton boiler, kicking off reconstruction of the last steam locomotive of the historic Mt. Tamalpais & Muir Woods Railway. The boiler was lowered via a crane onto engine No. 9's frame and remounted. The front plate and door also were attached to the smoke box on the locomotive. The cosmetic restoration of the 103 year old locomotive is being guided by brothers Jeff and Don Millerick at a workshop in Sebastopol. Next up for the locomotive is that repaired and painted pieces can be attached. The first of which was the historic spot plate that was attached to the nose at the front of the engine. This plate has a new "9" on it made of bronze. Locomotive No. 9 is the only surviving piece of rolling steam rail stock that pushed gravity cars and passenger cars to the top of Mt. Tamalpais. No location has been decided upon to display the locomotive when the restoration is completed. "We believe the local community will ultimately embrace displaying No. 9 in a prominent location that is easily accessible, somewhere near or on the original path of the mountain railway," said Eric Macris, a board member of Friends of No. 9. (Thanks to Giuseppe Ricapito, Marin Independent Journal via Tom Schultz)

East Broad Top News...East Broad Top Railroad 2-8-2 engine No. 16 is out of service until the end of August due to a cracked driving-wheel center, the railroad announced on April 11. In its place, the narrow gauge EBT will substitute its General Electric 55-ton center-cab diesel electric switcher M-7. The railroad also said it would add several trips over the summer with its 1927 Brill gas-electric car, the M-1. EBT created a sensation in February 2023 when it completed the restoration of No. 16, which had been idle since the common-carrier EBT closed in 1956. At various times during the railroad's tourist-era years from 1960 to 2011, EBT restored and ran four other Baldwin Mikados, Nos. 12, 14, 15, and 17, but not No. 16. In a statement, EBT officials said, "This winter, crews planned to use the off-season to conduct inspections and complete a list of preventative maintenance projects. During these inspections, the EBT's Mechanical Department discovered a cracked driver center, extending the timeline for returning No. 16 to service further into the 2024 season. The railroad gave no firm estimate for the return of No. 16. EBT General Manager Brad Esposito said, "These are normal obstacles when running a 150 year old railroad and operating century-old equipment. As the stewards of this historic site, it is our responsibility to take as much time as needed to complete the work properly and safeguard years of continued service." A National Historic Landmark, EBT is owned and operated by the EBT Foundation, Inc. For 2024, the rest of the EBT operation, said Jonathon Smith, director of sales and marketing, is "business as usual," with expanded shop tours, archives tours, master mechanic tours, and scheduled special events such as the annual "EBT Goes to War, Living History Weekend on May 11-12. (Thanks to Dan Cuppder, Trains.com)

## BROTHER JACK (JOHN) MARTIN, S.J.

June 30, 1937 - April 24, 2024

Let us pray in thanksgiving for the life of our brother, Br. Jack (John) Martin, S.J., who died on April 24, 2024, at Colombiere Jesuit Retirement Center. He was 87 years old. He is survived by his sibling Mary Martin. He is preceded in death by his parents Madeline and Fred Martin, his brother James Martin. Jack was born on June 30, 1937, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He entered the Chicago Province of the Society of Jesus September 11, 1955, at Milford Novitiate, Milford, Ohio. He professed final vows on August 15, 1968, at St. Xavier High School Cincinnati, Ohio. While in the Society Jack worked as a cook at the novitiate in Milford, Ohio, and West Baden College, West Baden, Indiana and at Bellarmine School of Theology, North Aurora, Illinois. He also served as the Secretary to the Assistant Principal at St. Xavier High School, Cincinnati, Ohio. He was the Manager/Director of Mary Magdalen House in Cincinnati, Ohio. Jack was a devoted Jesuit and Brother. He had a great love of the Society of Jesus and Mary Magdalen House in Cincinnati. He was caring, thoughtful and supportive to those he served and lived with in the Society of Jesus. Visitation Wednesday, May 1, 2024, from 4PM until the time of the Wake Service at 7PM at Colombiere Center, 9075 Big Lake Rd., Clarkston, MI 48346. Funeral Mass Thursday, May 2, 2024, at 10:30am at Colombiere Center. Burial will follow in the Colombiere Cemetery. The Wake and Funeral Mass will be livestreamed through Colombiere's YouTube channel. A.J. Desmond & Sons, (248) 362-2500. <https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/legacyremembers/br-jack-john-martin-s-j-obituary?id=54968537>



## 2024 NRHS CONVENTION

The latest news from [www.nrhs.com](http://www.nrhs.com).

The 2024 Convention dates are Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, through Saturday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, in Harrisburg, PA. Convention events are in the initial planning stages. We hope to see you in 2024 in Pennsylvania.

The host hotel will be the Hilton Harrisburg Hotel in downtown Harrisburg, PA. The Special NRHS member rate per night will be \$134.00 plus 11% state tax. To make a reservation with a hotel Agent, call 1-800-HILTON, or 1-717-233-6000. The reference Group Code is 900.

To make an online reservation, use this link: [National Railway Historical Society Reservation Link](#) and use the reference Group Code 900.

Rooms must be booked by August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024, to receive the discounted rate. Rooms booked after that date may be at a higher rate and subject to availability.

# BERNARD L. COPPOCK

## December 4, 1934 - May 6, 2024

Bernard L. Coppock, age 89 of Franklin, passed away Monday, May 6th 2024. He was born in West Carrollton, Ohio on December 4, 1934 to the late Claude and Ruby Coppock. Bernie had a long career as a Tool and Die Engineer at General Motors where he retired after 26 years. He proudly served his country in the United States Army. Bernie was a longtime volunteer and key member with Honor Flight Dayton where he was instrumental in developing the RVC program. Bernie took part in all 24 trips escorting Veterans to Washington D.C. to see their memorials and be honored for their service. He was active in the American Legion where he was second in command at his local post in Franklin. Bernie was an active Freemason, Shriner, and always proud to mention that he was a Kentucky Colonel. Bernie's passion for racing led him to his lifetime membership in DARF, Dayton Auto Race Fan Club, where he was President for many years and later inducted into the DARF Hall of Fame. Bernie was an avid pilot dedicated to aviation where he was a longtime member of EAA. He attended and volunteered at Oshkosh and Sun n' Fun for almost 50 years. Bernie was a member of the National Railway Historical Society where they met and volunteered at EnterTrainment Junction. Bernie was a giving person and liked to make others happy. During the Christmas season, he volunteered to play Santa Clause for parties, events, school functions, and various organizations. He enjoyed the peace and tranquility of his pond at home, where the only thing he enjoyed more than fishing in it was welcoming others to enjoy it as well. Throughout his lifetime of these adventures, Bernie's greatest joy and proudest accomplishments were being a Husband, Father, Babaw, and Uncle Bernie. He impacted the life of everyone he met and will be dearly missed by all.

Bernie is survived by his wife of 54 years, Nancy Coppock; sons, Scott Coppock, George (Beth) Coppock, and John Coppock; daughter, Kelly (Bill) Whiteman; Grandchildren, Ashleigh (Kevin) Cronk, Drew (Janiya) Coppock, Mackenzie (Patrick) Chaffin, Taylor (Derek) Whiteman, Ella Coppock, Josie Coppock, Katelyn Whiteman, Max Coppock, Sophie Coppock, and Wyatt Coppock; Great-Grandchildren, Teddy Chaffin, and Everett Cronk; sisters, Judy Musgrave, Margaret (Russell) Wolfe, and Louise (David) Shiverdecker; brother, Andy Coppock; and by numerous other family and cherished friends.

A Celebration of Life Gathering will be held on Saturday and Sunday, July 6th & 7th 2024, starting at 12:00PM at his home and continuing throughout the weekend. To share a memory of Bernie or leave a special message for his family, please click the Share Memories button above.

<https://www.newcomerdayton.com/Obituary/277577/Bernard-Coppock/Dayton-OH>



### COMING UP SOON



**RAIL FESTIVAL  
AT CARILLON PARK**

Presented by the James F. Dicke Family

**JUNE  
22 & 23**

**2024**

SATURDAY | 9:30am - 5:00pm  
SUNDAY | 11:00am - 4:00pm



**CARILLON PARK RAIL FESTIVAL**  
- A DAYTON HISTORY EXPERIENCE -

**ADMISSION**

\$14 / Adult (18-59)  
\$12 / Senior (60+) \$10 / Child (3-17)  
2 & Under are FREE  
Dayton History Members are FREE

Train Rides • Model Train Displays  
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• FUN FOR ALL AGES •

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# APRIL 23 MEETING MINUTES

**CALL TO ORDER:** By Mr. Andes, President, at 7:00 p.m.

**QUORUM:** Confirmed by Mr. Andes. There were 13 members present.

**GUESTS:**

There was two guests present, Robert Perrin and our speaker, Father Dale Peterka.

**MARCH 2024 MINUTES:**

Mr. Andes asked for any changes to the March 2024 minutes. None were offered. Mr. Andes called for a motion to approve said minutes.

So moved: Mr. Price

Second: Mr. Kammer.

The March 2024 minutes were unanimously approved as written.

**REPORTS:**

**PRESIDENT:** Mr. Andes briefly discussed the possible sale of EnterTRAINment Junction and what that might mean for the Chapter. He assured the members present that the Board of Trustees was watching the situation carefully. Mr Andes also offered a brief update on the health of Trustee, Bernie Coppock.

**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Mr. Neal had nothing to report.

**SECRETARY:** Mr. Thompson, Secretary, was absent and excused.

**TREASURER:** Mr. Thompson, Treasurer, was absent and excused. Mr. Kammer offered a brief Treasurer's Report from Mr. Thompson. All of our finances are in order and our accounts are in good shape.

**TRUSTEE:** Mr. Kammer had nothing to report.

**TRUSTEE:** Mr. Coppock was absent and excused.

**TRUSTEE:** Mr. Vergamini was absent and excused.

**CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE TO NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY:**

Mr. King, Chapter Representative to the National Railway Historical Society, reported on the upcoming Spring Conference.

**LIBRARIAN:** Mr. King, Librarian, reported a large donation of books and materials is coming May 2 and he needs some assistance.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mr. Hindt reported that an N-scale event will be May 18-19. Bill Mense reported on upcoming Cinder Sniffer events, see [www.cindersniffers.org](http://www.cindersniffers.org) for a listing.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Absent any further business, Mr. Andes called for a motion to adjourn.

So moved: Mr. Price.

Second: Mr. Carter.

Adjourned at 7:23pm.

**POST MEETING:**

Members enjoyed a presentation by Father Dale Peterka, featuring scenes from the 1970s in Cincinnati. Father Dale's program was enjoyed by all, and ended at 9:01pm.

Submitted:

/s/ Mr. Andes, Acting Secretary



## NEWSLETTER PRINTED BY



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*The Cincinnati Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society is a non-profit educational organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Ohio and is recognized as a tax-exempt organization under Section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations to the Chapter are tax-deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law.*

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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### MAY

Tue. May 28 Regular Chapter Meeting & Program 7:00 P.M.  
EnterTRAINment Junction, West Chester, OH

### JUNE

Sat. June 22 Miami Valley Rail Festival  
and Carillon Park, Dayton, Ohio

Sun. June 23 Hours 9:30-5:00 Saturday, 11:00-4:00 Sunday

Tue. June 25 Regular Chapter Meeting & Program 7:00 P.M.  
EnterTRAINment Junction, West Chester, OH

## CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

### April Meeting Programs: Cincinnati Scenes from the 1970s!



**Guest Speaker Father Dale Peterka (left) and Chapter President Scott Andes (right) pose for a photo after Father Dale's program on Cincinnati rail scenes from the 1970s. Photo by Richard King.**