



Vol. 54, No. 10

Visit our Library at 10 Village Square, Glendale, OH 45246

October 2025

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, 4, and 5, provide a flyer for our annual Banquet on Page 3, and recap the September meeting on Page 5.

Our fundraising excursion on October 5 was a success, with 32 tickets sold and \$800 raised to benefit the Chapter. Thank you for your support! A photo of the Ohio River from the cab of the NKP 902 appears on the right, courtesy of Frank Kammer.

Our annual Banquet will be on Tuesday, December 9th, at Raffel's Catering in Evendale, at 7:00p.m., and a reservation form appears on Page 3. We will celebrate another successful year, enjoy a catered buffet dinner by Raffel's, and enjoy a great program "The Northwest!" by the Legendary Father Dale Peterka, featuring scenes in Montana, Idaho, Washington, and the Dakotas. We will also celebrate our 50 year member:

David C. Mund

This month our Chapter meeting is our annual organizational meeting, and we will have our election of officers and trustees for the coming year. In accordance with our By-Laws, the current officers and trustees must provide at least one nominee for each position. All of the current officers and trustees are being re-nominated for another term except for the office of Secretary, which is vacant, and Trustee George Vergamini, who is retiring from office at the end of the year. Carl Edwards is being nominated to serve in George's Trustee role next year. A nominee is needed for Secretary, and additional nominations will be accepted from the floor at the Meeting prior to the election.

The 2026 NRHS Convention may be held in or near Cincinnati.

Thanks to Chapter Trustee Frank Kammer for presenting last month's program. This month, the Legend returns! Father Dale Peterka will present this month's program. See the next column for details.

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

Scott Andes, President

OCTOBER MEETING

Our Chapter Meeting on Tuesday, October 28th, will be held at our Chapter Library, 10 Village Square, Glendale, Ohio, 45246, at 7:00 p.m. This month, our good friend Father Dale Peterka will be presenting our program. Father Dale has dug into the files for a program of vintage steam pictures from 40-50 years ago. If you remember the American Freedom Train, the Chessie Safety Express, the Southern Steam Specials, and the 765 Berkshire, you will relive the good old days. And even if you don't! You won't want to miss this program!!

Our Library is located at 10 Village Square, which is on the square at the south end of the oval and southwest of the Glendale Station. Parking is available along the streets near the Library and in a small lot behind the Library (accessible from the nearby alley). 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!

SUCCESSFUL CHAPTER EXCURSION 2025 A Beautiful Ohio River Photo from Frank Kammer



STEAM NEWS By John Biehn

Soo Line 1003 Charter...On October 26, 2025, the A-Train 4014 Production Team and the Steam Locomotive Heritage Association are planning a steam photo charter featuring Soo Line 1003. Patrons will be able to enjoy multiple photo runbys as Soo Line 1003 will be leading a freight train in different settings that include various stage actors and vintage vehicles throughout the Wisconsin countryside. The event includes lunch, maps/directions, and carpooling opportunities. On October 1, the event will be determined if it is a "Go or No Go," based on ticket sales. The Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste Marie (Soo Line) 2-8-2 Mikado L-1 class steam locomotive was built by the American Locomotive Company in 1913 in Schenectady, New York, and is now owned, maintained, and operated by the Steam Locomotive Heritage Association in Hartford, Wisconsin. Ticket price is \$283.38 per person. For ticket information, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com>.

Mt. Washington Cog Railway News...On August 29, the Mount Washington Cog Railway resumed its regular steam operations. Built in the 1860s, the Mt. Washington Cog Railway was the world's first mountain-climbing cog railway. From 1869 to 2008, steam power dominated the west slope of Mt. Washington. However, in the late 2000s, diesel locomotives started replacing most steam engines. Two steam locomotives are currently on the railroad's active roster: Locomotive No. 2, Ammonoosuc, built in 1875, and No. 9, Waumbek, built in 1908. Both locomotives were built by the Manchester Locomotive Works, which became part of the American Locomotive Company. Earlier this year, pre-season preparations showed that the two locomotives could not operate at full pressure until further repairs were completed. Repairs have now been made on the Waumbek locomotive that will enable it to operate with a reduced amount of steam. This locomotive will be pushing regular runs half way up the mountain on Thursdays through Sundays until mid-October, departing at 10:00 a.m., and 12:00 p.m. The railroad says it remains dedicated to steam and has two boilers on order to ensure that the locomotives can operate for decades to come. For more info, go to <https://www.thecog.com>.

California Locomotive Restoration...In partnership with Friends of No. 9, the California State Railroad Museum has announced that the beautifully restored No. 9 steam locomotive and companion exhibit are now on display inside the Museum's historic roundhouse. No. 9 is the only surviving locomotive of the Mount Tamalpais Scenic Railway, a tourist railroad in the late 19th and early 20th centuries that enabled tourists to leave the city and enjoy the scenic beauty of Mt. Tamalpais and later, Muir Woods. The Mount Tamalpais Scenic railway, built in 1896, was known as the "Crookedest Railroad in the World," based on its 8.2 mile route with 281 curves that climbed from Mill Valley at 70 feet to the summit at 2,353 feet. At the top, visitors enjoyed sweeping views of San Francisco and the Pacific Ocean. Despite its popularity, rising automobile travel, mounting debt, and a 1929 wildfire ended operations by 1930. The Heisler locomotive No. 9 dates to 1921, when it was purchased by the Mount Tamalpais & Muir Woods Railway of Mill Valley to operate on the rails of the scenic tourist railroad. In 1924, the locomotive was sold and spent the next two and a half decades working for lumber companies in

Siskiyou and Humboldt counties. In 1953, the Pacific Lumber Company bought the locomotive for display next to its new museum in Scotia, California. The locomotive was later put up for auction in 2018. At that time, a group of dedicated rail fans joined together to raise funds to secure No. 9 and begin restoration. The dedicated group was steadfast in their focus to return No. 9 to its Mount Tamalpais roots and viewed it as the "last piece of a lost era." Carefully researched, the meticulous restoration began in 2018 and completed in 2025. The prized No. 9 steam locomotive and companion exhibit will remain on display in the museum's round house until January, 2026. For more information about the California State Railroad Museum go to <https://www.californiarailroadmuseum.org>. (Thanks to the California Railroad Museum via Tom Schultz)

Chesapeake & Ohio 614 News...C&O No. 614 was built in 1948 by the Lima Locomotive Works, and was one of the last commercially produced steam locomotives in America. After only working for six years, it had demonstrated its mechanical potential. After being a display piece for years, the locomotive was restored in the 1980s and began hauling railroad safety campaign trains, revenue coal drags, and high-speed excursions. After the 1990s, the locomotive once again sat silent. In November, 2024, RJD America purchased C&O 614 with a mission to bring her back to operation. Now, she is undergoing a complete and thorough restoration at Strasburg Rail Road Mechanical Services at the Strasburg Rail Road in Pennsylvania. The promise of a thorough restoration ensures 614's longevity and reliability, not just as an excursion locomotive, but as a visceral educational tool that can be both studied and experienced. RJD America envisions the locomotive visiting a wide variety of railroads, bringing even more people into the steam railroading family. Over two days in June, the locomotive traveled over three railroads to reach its new home. The final leg of the journey found Strasburg Rail Road 2-10-0 No. 90 leading the 614 into Strasburg and greeted with a warm reception. Here are some of the latest developments in the ongoing restoration of locomotive 614: In the first two weeks of August, Strasburg Rail Road Mechanical Services restoration team made significant strides in the early phases of work. The locomotive's boiler jacketing has been removed. A detailed parts inventory is being performed to document every component, ensuring each piece is accounted for before repair and future reassembly. The tender and engine have been disconnected, and the engine has been moved inside the shop where skilled craftsmen can work under optimal conditions. Strasburg crews are conducting ultrasonic testing of the firebox, along with a complete assessment of the running gear and frame components. The restoration remains on schedule. Mechanical and boiler work are scheduled for 2026, followed by reassembly, testing, and FRA approval stages in 2027. For more information, go to <https://www.co614.com/restoration>.

Restoration in Montana...Cosmetic restoration has begun on the former Northern Pacific 2-8-0 No. 25 at Butte, Montana. No. 25 is one of 13 2-8-0s built in 1899 by the Schenectady Locomotive Works for the Northern Pacific. No. 25 hauled freight and passenger trains over Homestake Pass until its retirement in 1958. The locomotive was then donated to the city and, on July 3, 1958, she was displayed and dedicated to the



CINCINNATI CHAPTER NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY



**54th ANNUAL DINNER MEETING
TUESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 9, 2025**



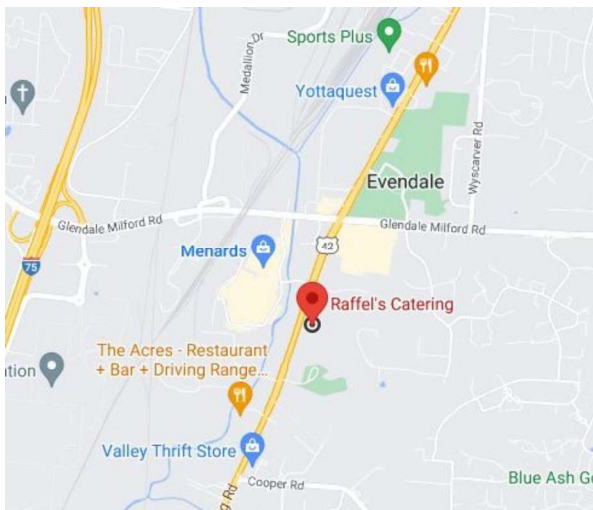
**AT
RAFFEL'S
CATERING**
10160 Reading Road
Evendale, OH



**CASH BAR
Starting at 6:00 PM**

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

**Guest Speaker Father Dale Peterka
Noted Railfan, Photographer, Historian
Program: "The Northwest!"
Plus Honoring Our 2025 50 Year Member**



**Dinner 7:00 PM
Menu Catered by Raffel's
Roast Beef in Au Jus
Vegetable Lasagna
Parsley Buttered Red Skin Potatoes
Steamed Vegetable Medley
Tossed Garden Salad
Dinner Rolls & Butter
Assorted Sodas, Coffee, Tea & Water
Assorted Desserts**

\$40.00 Per Person

**Reservations Accepted
By Mail Through December 1st
(Use Form Below)**

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Name (List all persons attending) _____

Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **ZIP** _____

Telephone # _____

Number Attending _____ **X \$40.00 = \$** _____

Make Checks Payable To: Cincinnati Chapter NRHS

**Mail To: Frank P. Kammer III
1706 Marilyn Lane
Cincinnati, OH 45231**



STEAM NEWS (Continued)

children of the community. Now 67 years later, Butte is remembering its history through Northern Pacific No. 25 and, after cosmetically restoring it, Butte will also enhance the exhibit and landscaping that surrounds it. As with many locomotives on static display in public places, No. 25 has suffered from exposure and other forms of deterioration. The current restoration project has a budget between \$300,000 and \$350,000. It will include new stylized fencing around the locomotive and a roof system for protection from the elements. (Thanks to Bob Lettenberger, Trains.com)

Locomotive to Remain on Static Display...Back in July, the City of Hagerstown was set to donate its historic steam locomotive No. 202 to the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad for just \$1. This agreement aimed to facilitate the full restoration of the locomotive. No. 202, a 4-6-2 Pacific type steam locomotive, has been a part of City Park for years after it was donated to the "children of Hagerstown" by the Western Maryland Railroad in 1953. After over seventy years of exposure to the elements, the engine has fallen into disrepair. Previous attempts to restore it have faced significant financial hurdles. Initial estimates for a cosmetic restoration project reached approximately \$800,000, but bids for the work came in much higher, with one bid exceeding \$3.3 million. Faced with these costs, city officials explored various options, including seeking additional funding or revising the restoration plans. Eventually, the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad proposed a new plan for the locomotive. Under the terms of the donation agreement, the Western Maryland Scenic would cover all costs associated with relocating and restoring the locomotive. The project was expected to be completed within ten years, although the railroad anticipated finishing sooner. At a recent meeting of Hagerstown's City Council, the plan to donate the locomotive was rejected following resident's passionate testimony that convinced the City Council to vote down the resolution. Council members cited the public's overwhelming opposition as the reason for their decision. With the donation rejected, the engine will remain a static display in Hagerstown's City Park.

City officials and advocates are now exploring alternatives, including non-profit partnerships, to fund restoration and maintenance. (Thanks to Jessica Swann, www.localnews1.org via Tom Schultz)

Chesapeake & Ohio 2716 News...The former C&O 2-8-4 No. 2716 is currently under restoration at the Kentucky Steam Heritage Corporation's facility in Irwin, Kentucky. The restoration is being headed by Chief Mechanical Officer Jason Sobczynski, who stated that work continues as much as people and financial resources have allowed. Their main focus recently has been stripping the boiler to do an external inspection of the boiler vessel as well as taking apart the known bad areas of the firebox. This year will see finishing off work on the firebox. Workers will remove all of the super heater tubes and flues. The locomotive's rods, wheels, and trucks will be removed and all will be inspected. It is basically a complete rehabilitation of the locomotive before putting it all back together for future mainline operation. Kentucky Steam would like to have a more volunteer engagement. They would like more people to get involved with the restoration effort. They need folks with just a low-level mechanical aptitude to journey union folks and everything in between. If you would like to help with a monetary donation, please go to <https://www.kentuckysteam.org>. They have two sites for donation: 2025 Capital Fund Drive and C&O 2716 Restoration Fund. (Thanks to the Kentucky Steam Heritage Corporation)

Steam in Hawaii...A 30-inch 0-6-2T saddle-tank steam locomotive has been restored in Hawaii. Hawaiian Sugar Company No. 3, named Kaipu, was built by the Baldwin Locomotive Works in 1925 and it worked on the west side of Kauai hauling sugarcane. It was later sold to the Grove Farm Company where it got its current name and number. The locomotive operated until 1953, when it was retired and stored. In the 1980s, the locomotive was restored to operation and it ran occasionally up into the 2010s. In 2023, the Grove Farm Homestead Museum decided to put the loco-

(Continues on Page 5)

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SEPTEMBER 23 MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: By Mr. Andes, President, at 6:59 p.m.

QUORUM: Mr. Andes confirmed a quorum with 17 members present.

GUESTS: Linda, Frank Kammer's daughter, and Timothy, Lee Hamersley's neighbor.

JULY AND AUGUST 2025 MINUTES:

Mr. Andes asked for a motion to approve said minutes. A motion was made by Mr. Hamersley and seconded by Mr. Goins. The motion was approved unanimously.

REPORTS:

PRESIDENT: Mr. Andes reported that 32 seats had been sold for the upcoming trip. Mr. Andes then discussed a possible annual banquet in early December, which was supported by the members present. He also mentioned upcoming elections in October.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Mr. Neal had no report.

SECRETARY: Vacant.

TREASURER: Mr. Price reported that our Checking and Investment accounts were in good shape, despite ups and downs with the holdings in our investment account. A motion was made by Mr. Kammer and seconded by Mr. Hamersley to approve the proposed 2025 budget discussed at previous meetings.

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE TO NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

Mr. King, Chapter Representative to the National Railway Historical Society, reported on the upcoming Fall Conference October 3-5.

LIBRARIAN: Mr. King, Librarian, reported that progress on a post-move inventory was slow but steady.

TRUSTEE: Mr. Vergamini was absent.

TRUSTEE: Mr. Hindt reported on the upcoming "rare mileage" excursion September 28 on the LM&M railroad and the upcoming Lakota NMRA show October 11-12.

TRUSTEE: Mr. Kammer stated that he had enough to say for now.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Andes asked for a motion to approve votes taken in prior meetings without a quorum, including approval of Minutes. Mr. Price made said motion, seconded by Mr. Hamersley. Motion was approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Price made a motion to form a committee to report back in a year with a proposed plan to divest the collection if we are unable to stay in Glendale. Mr. Kammer seconded the motion, which was passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Kammer reported on progress with our storage room and a plan to sell excess furniture. He also reported that the Whitewater Valley RR was still interested in our timetable collection for their museum.

ADJOURNMENT: Absent any further business, Mr. Andes called for a motion to adjourn. So moved by Mr. Neal and seconded by Mr. Price.

Adjourned at 7:29pm.

POST MEETING:

Mr. Kammer presented a program which featured digital photographs taken during his recent trip to Alaska with his daughter, Linda. During their trip Frank accomplished his 2 major goals, driving the complete Alaska Highway and riding the Alaska Railroad from Seward to Fairbanks. Many thanks to Frank for sharing this fine presentation with us. Program concluded about 8:35pm.

Submitted:

/s/ Mr. Andes, Acting Secretary

STEAM NEWS (Continued)

motive back in service with the help of FMW Solutions. The locomotive was completed in the spring and was back under steam in July. The locomotive now leads short excursions throughout the year. For more information, go to <https://www.grovefarm.org>. (Thanks to Honolulu KHNL via Tom Schultz)

Indiana Rail Experience...The Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society and the Indiana Northeastern Railroad Company have teamed up for three days of excursions powered by the famous Nickel Plate Road steam locomotive No. 765. On October 17, 18, and 19, the 2-8-4 will power the Fall Colors Steam Special. These excursions will depart Pleasant Lake, Indiana, for Hillsdale, Michigan, traversing the former lines of the New York Central Railroad. These trips offer scenic and picturesque glimpses into quiet farms, lakeside towns, and more. There is nothing like taking a tour of autumn colors in Northeast Indiana and Southern Michigan in October, powered by a 1940s steam locomotive. For ticket information, go to <https://www.indianarailexperience.org/#booknow>.

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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.

Cincinnati Chapter
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 62023
Cincinnati, OH 45262-0023

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER

Tue. Oct. 28 Regular Chapter Meeting & Program 7:00 P.M.
Chapter Library, 10 Village Sq., Glendale, OH

NOVEMBER

Sat. Nov. 1 NMRA Division 3 Show & Sale
and The New Montgomery County Fairgrounds
645 Infirmary Road, Dayton, OH
Sun. Nov. 2 Hours Saturday 11am-5pm, Sunday 11am-4pm.
Tue. Nov. 25 Regular Chapter Meeting & Program 7:00 P.M.
Chapter Library, 10 Village Sq., Glendale, OH

DECEMBER

Sat. Dec. 6 Buckeye Model Train & Railroad Artifact Show
Ohio Expo Center, Columbus, OH
Hours 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Sun. Dec. 7 Springfield Train Show
Clark County Fairgrounds, Springfield, Ohio
Hours 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.
Tue. Dec. 9 Annual Chapter Banquet & Program
Cash Bar 6:00 P.M., Dinner 7:00 P.M.
Raffel's Catering, Evendale, OH
Tue. Dec. 23 NO Regular Chapter Meeting

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

September Meeting:
The Trip of a Lifetime! North - to Alaska!



Chapter President Scott Andes (left) and Chapter Trustee Frank Kammer (right) pose for a photo after Frank's program of photos taken during his Trip of a Lifetime to Alaska. Photo by Richard King.