



Ties & Tracks



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

Volume 50 #2 Feb 2026

Miami Valley Railfan Subdivision Meeting Time/Place

Saturday 2/14 7:30 pm at the West Carrollton Community Center (library)
300 E Central Ave, West Carrollton, OH 45449

Program

Slides/digital by the members

Food Before Meeting

For those interested, prior to the meeting we will meet at 5:30 pm at Bob Evans
220 Byers Rd., Miamisburg, OH 45342 (west of Dayton Mall, west of I-75)

DRHS Meeting Time/Place

Tuesday 2/17 5:00 pm dinner, 6:00 pm meeting starts at the
MCL Cafeteria, 4485 Far Hills Ave, Kettering, OH 45429

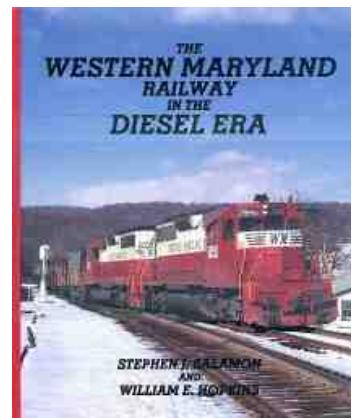
Program

Steve Salamon – Western Maryland During the Mid-1970s

Steve Salamon will present a program on the Western Maryland during the mid-1970s, focusing on its operations in the last days before it was absorbed into Chessie System. The program will also include a sidebar look at the Reading Railroad's Gettysburg Branch that connected with the WM at Gettysburg, PA, plus the short line operation that took over the Gettysburg Branch after the formation of Conrail.

Steve is no stranger to many of the members as he grew up here in Dayton, but left in the 1970s with his family when they moved to Silver Springs, Maryland. After graduation from college, Steve spent most of his career working for Conrail and then retiring from Norfolk Southern.

In 1991 Steve co-authored with Bill Hopkins, one of the best books ever done on the WM. And I've been lucky to have worked with Steve and Dave Ori on a series of books on the Baltimore & Ohio, with hopefully a few more to come.



--- NS Safety Train - For those who like to plan ahead, the Norfolk Southern's Safety Train is scheduled to be in Dayton April 21-23, most likely at Moraine Yard.
(norfolksouthern.com/en/newsroom)

--- Tracks at the elevator at Eldean, OH, are being repaired so that CSX local L319 can deliver five cars from Needmore Yard. In addition, another Trackmobile has recently arrived at the facility. I recently visited the facility and observed employees from Midwest Rail at work on the track. Its been a long time since this elevator has received any rail cars. Eldean is located between Troy and Piqua on the former B&O Piqua & Troy (P&T) branch.
(CSX Toledo Sub Railfans Facebook group)

--- C&O Covington Roundhouse - The City of Covington, KY, has partnered with several other organizations to acquire the former C&O roundhouse and shop, later used by the Duro Bag Company. Leaders have not yet announced any future plans for the site, which cost around \$4.5 million. The property was purchased with future funding and support from the Catalytic Fund of Northern Kentucky, the city itself, Kenton County and the Northern Kentucky Port Authority. BE NKY Growth Partnership has also invested in the project, the city said. Planning for the site won't begin until closing is complete in the first quarter of 2026.

"I think mixed use is definitely going to be the vision for this, and what those mixes are, we are open to discussions with developers," said Christine Russell, executive director of the Northern Kentucky Port Authority. Russell said that partial demolition could be an option when construction begins, but their priority is honoring the historical buildings on the property. "Full-scale demolition is not on the list for us," Russell said. Covington leaders said that this new redevelopment will strengthen Covington neighborhoods, create jobs and benefit the community. (www.wcpo.com)

--- Tampa, Florida's 113-year-old train station is getting a facelift. Union Station is set to begin a six-million-dollar renovation this year. The renovation comes as the building, last renovated in the 90s, was seeing signs of wear and tear from termite damage, water leaks, and more. The renovation will include new windows, bathrooms, and more – all designed historically to maintain the building's historic status. Over 156,000 Amtrak travelers rode through the station in 2024, a 21% increase from the year prior.
(www.wmnf.org/tampas-historic-union-station-to-undergo-6-million-renovation)

--- **The Cincinnati Eastern Railroad**, which runs east out of Cincinnati on the former N&W Peavine line, has taken delivery of two SD40-2s from the Port Harbor Railroad which operates in Granite City, IL. The engines are 2301 in Illinois Terminal paint and America's Central Port 2758 in blue and gray. The GP15s will be leaving. (Various Facebook reports)

--- **Reading & Northern Railroad (R&N)**, the largest privately owned railroad in Pennsylvania, has shipped more than one million tons of Anthracite coal for the third straight year. This was an impressive feat considering the downturn in export volume in 2025. The backbone of R&N's Anthracite business continues to be the booming domestic market, which mainly supports American steel production. This business segment grew nearly 20% in 2025 with most of the shipments going to electric-arc furnace (EAF) steel mills located across the country.

To support this growing market, R&N purchased additional covered hopper railcars in mid-December with delivery expected in January or February. This equipment will be added to a fleet of nearly 2,000 railcars owned by R&N. With continued growth expected in the domestic market in 2026, R&N will continue to purchase additional equipment to support the demand.

Reading & Northern Railroad, with its corporate headquarters in Port Clinton, is a privately held railroad company serving over 80 customers in nine eastern Pennsylvania counties (Berks, Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Northumberland, Schuylkill, and Wyoming). It has expanded its operations over the last 40 years; and projects 40,000 carloads of freight in 2026 (which removes over 220,000 trucks from the highway), while its Passenger Department welcomed over 410,000 happy customers in 2025. Reading & Northern operates its freight and steam- and diesel-powered passenger excursions over 400 miles of track, owns almost 2,000 freight cars, and employs over 400 dedicated people. Reading & Northern has been repeatedly honored as one of the premier railroads in the nation, including being named Regional Railroad of the Year in 2020 by Railway Age magazine. (www.rbmnrr.com/happenings/2025/coal-tonnage)

--- **Norfolk Southern has ordered** 40 new ES44AC locomotives from Wabtec, their first new locomotive purchase since 2022. (www.facebook.com/wabtec)

--- **CPKC has ordered** 65 new EMD SD70ACe-T4 Tier 4 locomotives from Progress Rail and 70 Wabtec Evolution Series ET44AC Tier 4 locomotives as part of the railway's \$800 million, multiyear fleet renewal program. (<https://www.trains.com/pro>)

--- **The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad** announced that two of its FP4A diesels will be repowered with electric engines. The \$3.5 million project is a result of a partnership between the railroad and Ohio EPA. The Ohio EPA will provide \$2.1 million in federal funding allocated to the state under a \$2.7 billion U.S. EPA settlement reached with Volkswagen in 2017 for violations of the Clean Air Act. (www.trains.com, CVSR Facebook)

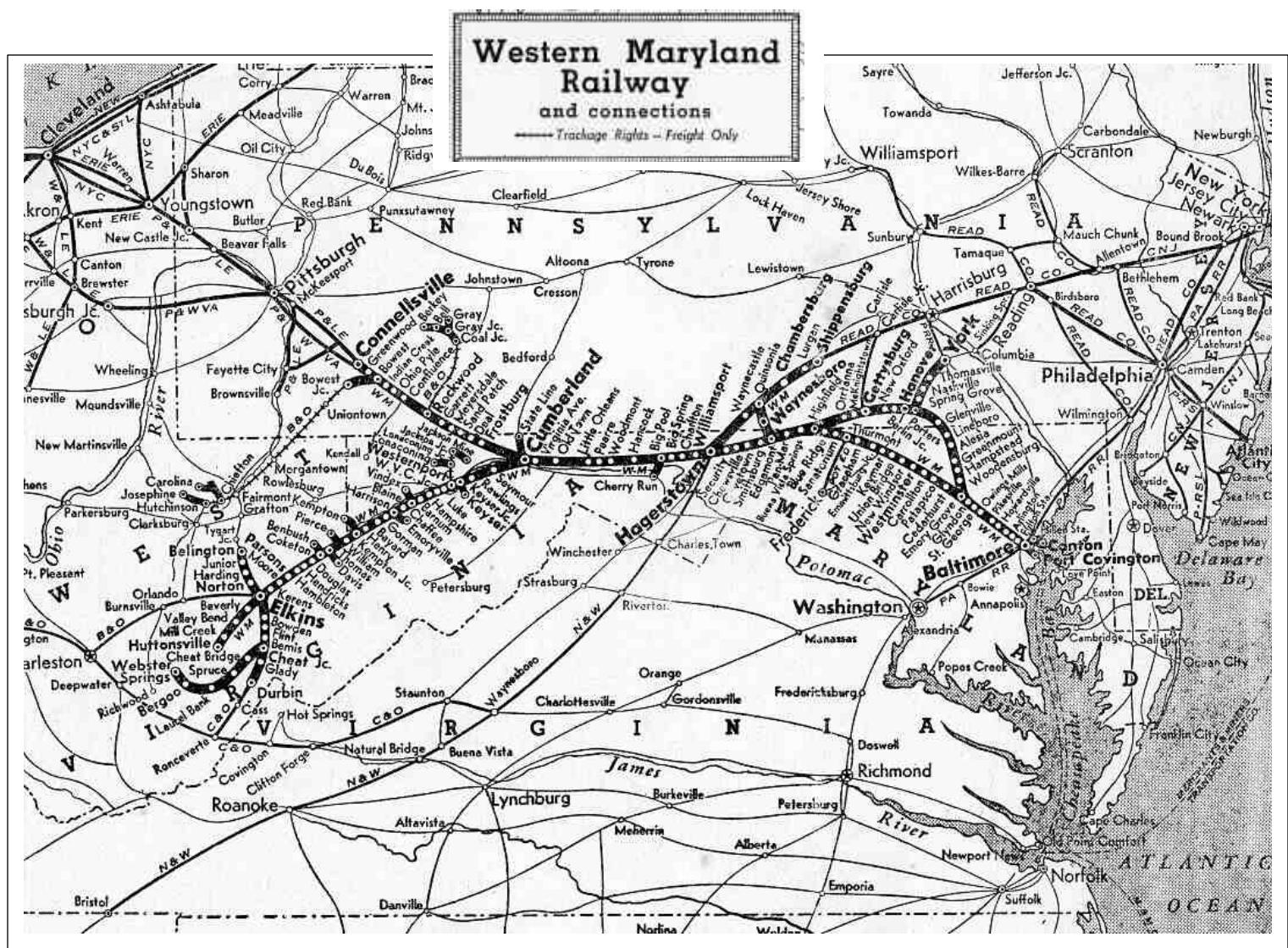
--- **Rittman, OH Station** - A group called Save the 1891 B&O Train Station has been organized to save and relocate the former B&O station in Rittman, OH. The group has received a \$45,000 grant from the Wayne County Community Foundation to move the station. A spot on Sterling Ave. has been cleared for the move which is planned to happen in the Spring. Rittman is located about 15 miles west of Akron on the CSX New Castle Sub. (Save the 1891 B&O Train Station Facebook group)

--- **Buffalo Terminal** - Work is progressing on restoring the Buffalo Central Terminal in Buffalo, NY. A \$300,000 grant from National Grid's Upstate Economic Development Grant Program supported critical cleaning and clearing work — essential steps toward reactivating this long-vacant landmark and preparing for future reuse. Inside the building, they've removed over 540 tons of debris from the 11 floors of the Tower and the Waiting Room and pumped more than 100,000 gallons of water from the basement.

(Buffalo Central Terminal Facebook group)

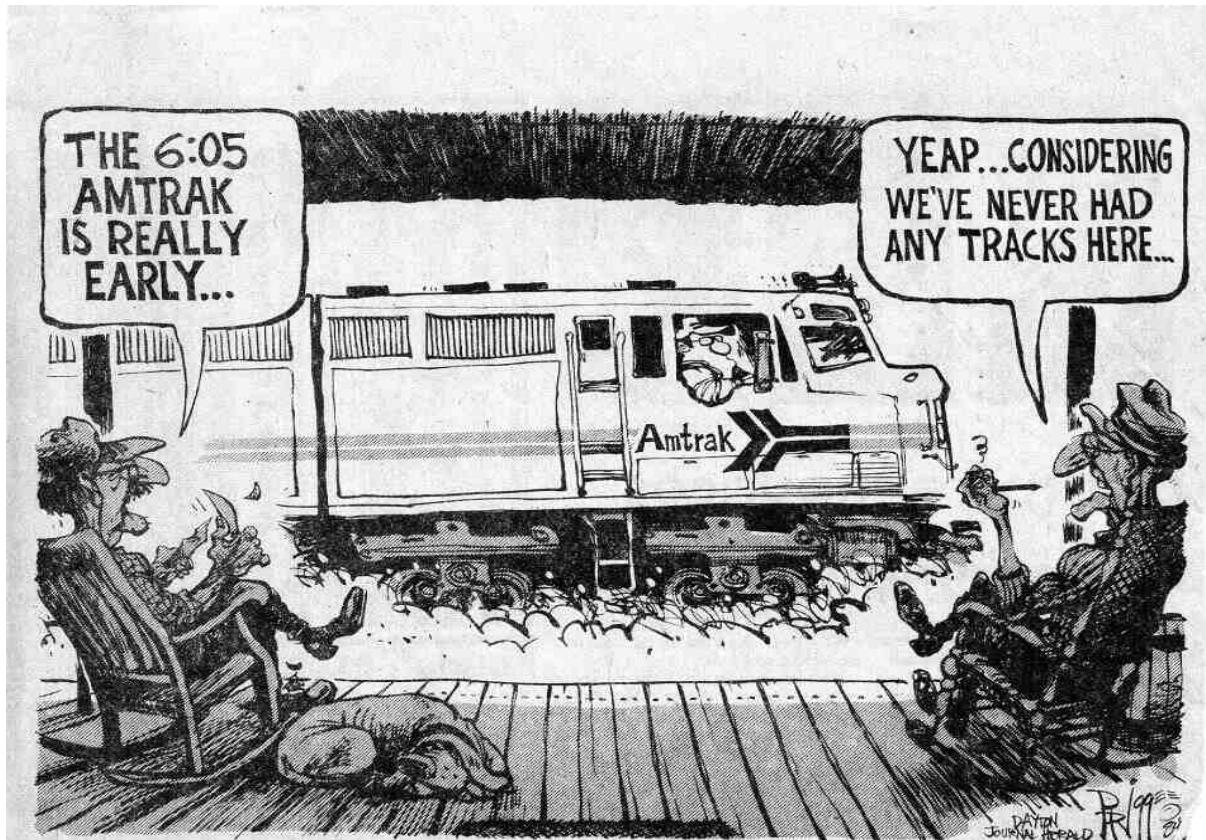
--- **SAGINAW, MI — Lake State Railway Co.**, the Michigan regional railroad, today announced that it is purchasing four SD70ACe-T4 locomotives from Progress Rail. LSRC received an emissions grant to replace five older locomotives with four newer Tier 4 locomotives. The railroad says it chose the SD70ACe-T4 built by EMD successor Progress Rail due to several factors, including delivery timing, parts commonality, and after sale support. Locomotives being retired include four SD50-3 locomotives and an SD40-2, all of which are over 40 years old. LSRC's 32-locomotive roster is all-EMD and includes MP15, GP38, GP40, SD40, SD50, and SD70 variants. (www.trains.com/pro)

--- BNSF achieved a safety milestone on Dec. 9, 2025, when the former Montana Rail Link (MRL) lines were fully implemented with positive train control (PTC) technology. In June, 36 miles were first put into service, followed by three more segments. Combined, that makes more than 216 miles of PTC protection on what is now the MRL subdivision on our Montana Division. (bnsf.com/news-media)



WM SD35 #7435 and
others at Port Covington
Yard in Baltimore,
Maryland on 7/9/1978.

(Stave Salamon)

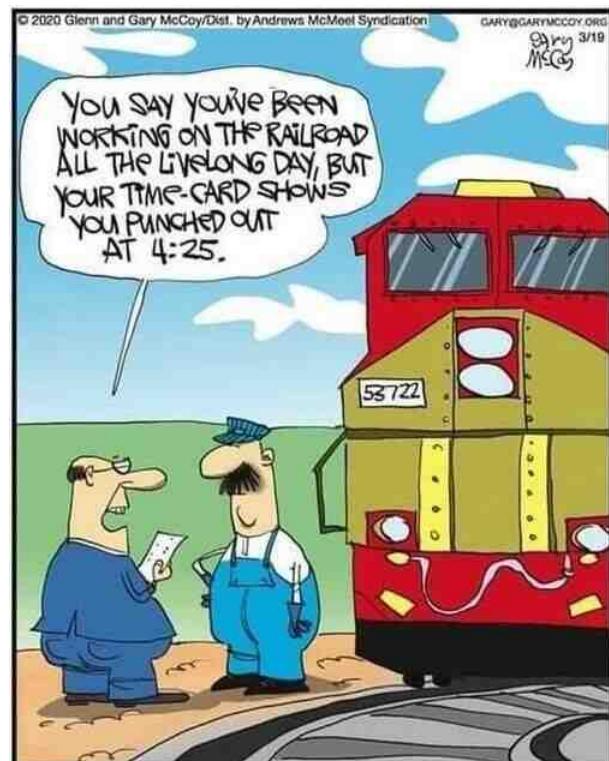




2026 Schedule

April 24.....	Quincy Sunset Tasting Train
April 25.....	DT&I - The Middle
April 26.....	South Charleston Rocket
May 1.....	Fayette County Tasting Train
May 2.....	Spirit of Urbana
May 3.....	Urbana Train Rides
September 26.....	Return To The Big Four
September 27.....	Applefest Express
October 3 & 4.....	Lima Limited

www.ohiorailexperience.com



UPCOMING EVENTS edited by Art Kinser

7 FEB 2026, Train Show, St. Mary's Assumption Social Center, 356 South Bella Vista Ave., Youngstown, Ohio, Sat 9:00am-2:00pm, Adm \$7

14 FEB 2026, Train Show, Richmond High School Cafeteria, 380 Hub Etchison Parkway, Richmond, Indiana, Sat 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$5

14 FEB 2026, Train Show, Canfield Fairgrounds, Event Center, 7265 Columbiana, Canfield, Ohio Sat 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$8

21 FEB 2026, Train Show, Independence High School Fieldhouse, 6354 Selig Dr., Independence, Ohio, Sat 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$8

21 FEB 2026, O-Gauge Train Sale, Painesville Railroad Museum, 475 Railroad St., Painesville, Ohio, Sat 9:00am-3:00pm, Adm FREE (Donations Accepted), Info www.painesvillerrailroadmuseum.org

1 MAR 2026, Train Show, Emidio's & Sons Expo Center, 48 East Bath Road, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, Sun 9:00am-3:00pm, \$5

8 MAR 2026, Train Show, Owens Community College SHAC, 30335 Oregon Road, Perrysburg, Ohio, Sun 11:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$7, Info www.toymasters.org

14 MAR 2026, Train Show, Wayne County Fairgrounds, Wooster, Ohio, Sat 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$8

21 MAR 2026, Train Show, Clayton Event Center, 13924 N 1100 W, Nappanee, Indiana, Sat 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$5, Info www.emrrc.com

21-22 MAR 2026, Model Railroad Show, Lakeland Community College, 7700 Clocktower Dr., Kirtland, Ohio, Sat & Sun 10:00am-4:00pm, Adm \$9, Info www.railfest.org

22 MAR 2026, Model Train Show, 12505 County Road 99, Findlay, Ohio, Sun, 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$5

28 MAR 2026, Train Show, Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds, 164 Eastland Rd., Middleburg Heights, Ohio, Sat 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$6

11 APR 2026, Train Show, Crawford County Fairgrounds, 610 Whetstone Street, Bucyrus, Ohio Sat 10:00am-3:00pm, Adm \$5

18 APR 2026, Model Railroad **TRAINING Day**, Carillon Park, 1000 Carillon Blvd, Dayton, Ohio SAT 9:30am-4:00pm, **FREE**, Demonstrations on track, scenery, locomotives, layout design, etc.

15-16 MAY 2026, Large Scale Train Show, Metroplex Expo Center, 1620 Motor Inn Dr., Girard, Ohio Fri & Sat 10:00am-4:00pm, Adm \$10, Info www.greatlakestrainexpo.com

**DRHS/David Oroszi
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

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4415 E Greenview Dr., Dayton, OH 45415 www.dayontrolleys.net/drhs/drhs.htm**

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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 third Tuesday of each month except 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. 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.