



Vol. 55, No. 9

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

September 2026

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 5, advertise an upcoming fundraising trip on Pages 3 and 4, share photos of 2 recent activities on the LM&M Railroad on Page 6, and recap the August meeting on Page 7. If you have taken a trip, read a book, or pursued any activity you would like to share, we encourage you to submit articles for future issues.

We were generously offered 20 tickets to sell on the August 30th Rare Mileage excursion on the LM&M Railroad to benefit the Whitewater Valley Railroad and assist in their flood recovery. Thanks to those who purchased tickets and a matching donation approved at the last meeting, the Chapter was able to raise \$1320 for the Whitewater Valley RR.

Looking ahead, the LM&M also generously offered 2 coaches to be attached to the Murder Mystery Dinner Train on October 17th, with ticket sales to benefit the WVRR flood recovery. The Chapter is selling those tickets, along with the Queen City Hi-Railers and the Greater Cincinnati Garden Railway Society, for \$50 which includes the ride, hot dogs, drinks, and snacks. A minimum of \$40 per ticket goes to the WVRR. See the flyer on Pages 3 and 4 to learn more about this fundraising opportunity and support the WVRR flood recovery.

The LM&M Railroad also celebrated 40 years of railroading with a Train Fest on September 12 and 13. I stopped by on the 13th to take a few photos and see some folks, and photos appear on Page 6.

In National news, the Fall Conference/Convention will be held in Cleveland, Ohio, on September 21-25. This is the last in-person meeting planned for 2026. Plans for 2027 are under way.

Thanks to Chapter Treasurer Dave Price for presenting last month's program. This month, Dave returns with even more photos and videos of his trip. See the next column for details. Looking ahead, our newest Member, Ward Wells, will present our October 27th program, featuring images of railroad infrastructure gleaned from over 6,000 ODOT aerial photographs taken between 1946 and 1975.

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

Scott Andes, President

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Our Chapter Meeting on Tuesday, September 22nd, will be held at our Chapter Library, 10 Village Square, Glendale, Ohio, 45246, at 7:00 p.m. This month Chapter Treasurer Dave Price returns to present more photos and a movie of his trip to Pittston, PA, featuring an excursion behind the Reading 2102 on Reading and Northern rails. Dave's trip also included seeing the Big Boy 4014 on its trip east for the America 250 celebration in July. Two steam locomotives in one presentation! 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!



STEAM NEWS By John Biehn

Nashville Steam...The Nashville Steam Preservation Society announced recently that following a comprehensive ten-year restoration, locomotive No. 576, the former "Centennial Park Train," has been fired up for the first time since 1952. This milestone makes a major step forward in the donor-funded effort to return one of Tennessee's most iconic steam locomotives to operation. In addition to firing up No. 576 last month, the restoration crew started testing the various appliances that have been fully serviced and reinstalled. The original cross-compound air compressor was completely rebuilt thanks to a grant from the Emery Rail Heritage Trust, with work completed by FMW Solutions. This air compressor creates the air needed to operate the train's braking system as well as the air-powered appliances on the engine, for instance, the power reverser. For more than six decades, Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis Railway locomotive No. 576 stood as a familiar landmark in Nashville's Centennial Park, a monument to the steam era and the golden age of American railroading. Today, that monument is once again becoming a living, breathing locomotive. "Despite spending more than sixty years exposed to the elements, No. 576 was always a strong candidate for restoration," said NSPS President Shane Meador. Nashville Steam combined thousands of volunteer hours with the expertise of specialized contractors to complete one of the most comprehensive steam locomotive restorations in the United States. Once restoration is complete, Nashville Steam will expand its long-standing partnership with the Tennessee Central Railway Museum to operate special steam-powered passenger excursions over the Nashville & Eastern Railroad. Built in 1942, steam locomotive No. 576, a 4-8-4, served the region and the country by hauling troop and supply trains during the mobilization for World War Two. No. 576 is one of only a handful of mainline steam locomotives currently being restored to operating condition in North America. Steam testing marks the beginning of a series of commissioning tests that will continue over the coming months as crews prepare No. 576 for public excursion service in 2027, when one of Nashville's most recognized landmarks is expected to return to the rails for the first time in more than seventy years. (Thanks to Nashville Steam and Darrel Cason)

American Freedom Train 250 News...On June 29, the American Freedom Train 250 was placed under steam for the Cleveland Railroad Festival. It was the first time in nearly twenty years that the 4-8-4 has been fired up for a public event. The locomotive, now known as American Freedom Train 250, was built in 1945 as Reading Company No. 2100. One of twenty T-1 class locomotives constructed in the Reading Shops in Pennsylvania, the locomotive was designed to haul fast freight at speeds up to 65 mph. The locomotive later pulled passenger excursions before being placed in storage. Although it did not pull the original American Freedom Train during the country's bicentennial celebration in 1975 and 1976, it has a close connection to that train. When its sister locomotive, Reading No. 2101, was renumbered American Freedom Train No. 1 and hauled the patriotic exhibit train throughout the eastern U.S., No. 2100 supplied important spare parts for the 2101. Later, some components from the 2101 were used for the current 2100's restoration. The American Steam Railroad Preservation Association carried that legacy forward by painting No. 2100 in the AFT's red, white, and blue color scheme and renumbering it No. 250 in recognition of the nation's 250th anniversary. After signing a long-term lease, the non-profit preservation group moved the locomotive from Richland, Washington, to Cleveland, Ohio, in 2015. Volunteers and contractors have

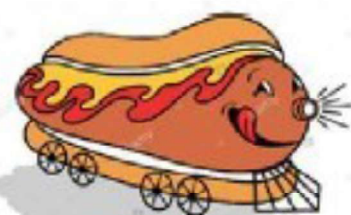
since committed more than 26,000 hours to the restoration. The project reached a major milestone in February when the locomotive passed a two-day steam test witnessed by the Federal Railroad Administration. Its boiler was brought to its maximum operating pressure as contractors tested its piping, water delivery systems, throttle, and safety valves. Work remains before the locomotive can fully return to service. This includes work on the running gear plus other mechanical and cosmetic work. At the Cleveland Railroad Festival, over 1000 people attended. There were cab visits and opportunities to blow the whistle. There were also tours of the historic roundhouse and rail yard. (Thanks to Ryan Cohick, Cleveland.com)

Alaska 557 News...Here are some notes from the July steam-up of the Alaska Railroad 2-8-0 No. 557. On the evening of July 10, the 557 was pulled out and lit off from cold with used oil for the July 11 event. The next day, the 557 started an eight-hour burn and put on a good public show that even had the Alaska Railroad dispatcher alert all the north-bound passenger trains for more exposure. After the fire up settled down to a little black smoke that faded away as the crew settled the boiler into work with dynamo, air pump, injector, whistle, and occasional blowdown. The crew was able to do a brake test and all that gear and plumbing worked great with an application. On this day, 557 volunteers learned a lot the locomotive entertained a lot of happy people. As a reminder, the restoration of 557 is being done by the volunteers of the Engine 557 Restoration Company with the financial and in-kind support of many foundations, businesses, and individuals. The restoration group is now coming close to returning 557 to the rails. They are now at the point where they need to acquire start up funding for "Operations." Please consider sending a contribution to Engine 557 Restoration Company Box 75360, Wasilla, Alaska 99287. (Thanks to Patrick Durand)

Locomotive Returns to Service...Norfolk & Western 4-8-0 "M" class No. 475, the only operating 4-8-0 in the United States, made a triumphant return to regular excursion service at the Strasburg Railroad on August 7. Built in 1906 by the Baldwin Locomotive Works for the N&W Railway, No. 475 was a heavy freight "Mastodon" type locomotive. Retired from N&W service in 1959, it was restored by the Strasburg Rail Road in 1993 and has since been a centerpiece of their tourist operations. It is also the oldest operating steam locomotive on the Strasburg Rail Road. The August 7, 2026, return followed a brief test run the day before, during which the locomotive was fitted with a Southern Pacific 5-chime whistle. If you're in the Strasburg area around August, you can catch No. 475 in action on its regular excursion runs, a fitting tribute to its long preservation history. (Thanks to the Strasburg Rail Road, via Alex Mayes)

Southern 722 News...The former Southern 2-8-0 No. 722 is under restoration at the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad shop in Dillsboro, North Carolina. Some recent highlights of recent work on the 722 include the boiler being mounted to the frame, and the delivery pipes tapped and ready for installation. Work has been done on the steam and sand domes to prepare them for installation. The tender frame rebuild is complete and ready for the arrival of 722's new tender tank. The crew will next move forward to begin pipe fitting and install new oil firing components, the smoke stack, blast nozzle, and smokebox door in preparation for 722's steam test. When ready, the steam test will be the first time Southern 722 will be under steam since 1985. Most recent pro-

(Continues on Page 5)



**HOT DOG TRAIN
RIDE**



**Join us for an evening of fun!
Hot Dog Train Ride to benefit the
Whitewater River Valley Railroad Flood Recovery.**

The Lebanon Mason and Monroe has donated to the three organizations, Queen City HiRailers, Cincinnati Chapter NRHS and the Greater Cincinnati Garden Railroad Society to sell tickets for 2 coaches that will not be used on the Murder Mystery / Bourbon tasting train ride that will operate on October 17, 2026. We will not be part of the Murder Mystery and will remain separate

We will have a cook out of Brats Metts and Hot Dogs before the train ride. Be at the platform by 5 pm and you may have 2 sandwiches, a bag of chips and a soft drink or water.

Tickets are \$50.00 where a Minimum of \$40.00 will go to the WVRR. After the expenses of the cookout the money that is left will also be donated to the WVRR for the Flood Recovery.

Date: October 17, 2026
Time: 5:00 PM Hot Dogs
5:45 PM Train Boards
Cost: \$50.00
Location: LM&M RR
16 E South St., Lebanon, OH

All of the tickets for this event will be purchased through the CCNRHS. This is to keep the records in one place not 3. All of the proceeds go to the WVRR Flood Recovery.

Other donations are also welcome.

Order Form for the HOT DOG TRAIN TRIP:

The Fine Print

The LM&M RR has been very gracious in donating 2 cars that will be at the rear of the Murder Mystery Train for our sale of tickets to be sent to the Whitewater Valley RR to help in the Flood Recovery of the RR. Approximate length of the ride is about 1 ½ hours.

There will be no interaction of the Murder Mystery passengers and our train ride.

You may bring other food and drink other than Alcohol on the train.

The RR has a liquor permit and that will jeopardize their license. Soft drinks only.

Food served from 5 to 5:30 PM and the train will start boarding at 5:30 PM, leaving at 6:00 PM

Date: October 17, 2026

Time: 6:00 PM

Cost: \$50.00

Location: LM&M RR Lebanon, OH

I will send you a confirmation letter which will be your actual ticket.

I will also have your information at the station with me.



Please include this information just for our records:

Your Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____ - _____

Email Address: _____

Location: LM&M RR; 16 E South St, Lebanon, OH 45036

Number of Tickets you want: ____ X Cost per Ticket: \$50.00

Total amount of your check: \$ _____

Make your Check Payable to CCNRHS (Cincinnati Chapter NRHS)

Please Mail to: Cincinnati Chapter NRHS at

CCNRHS %Frank Kammer

1706 Marilyn Lane

Cincinnati, OH 45231

The coaches are not Handicapped Accessible.

Questions call or email Frank Kammer:

513-729-1919 – fpk3rd@gmail.com

If no answer please leave a message I will call back.

STEAM NEWS (Continued)

gress includes installing the air brake system on the tender, installing the smoke stack and delivery pipes, oil firing controls, water glasses, and cab appliances. Many components have been rebuilt and are ready to be installed, such as the throttle and the headlight. The steam crew is excited to know that seeing No. 722 under steam is coming up very soon. (Thanks to the Great Smoky Mountain Railroad)

Pere Marquette 1225 News...On August 13, the Steam Railroading Institute announced that Pere Marquette 2-8-4 No. 1225 would not be able to move to Virginia for a series of fall foliage excursions. While the trips had not yet been announced, No. 1225 was slated to appear on the Buckingham Branch Railroad, which in recent years has hosted N&W No. 611. SRI has been a partner in those trips by providing passenger cars. "Unfortunately, circumstances beyond SRI's control made it impossible to secure the necessary arrangements to move the steam engine, preventing us from planning and operating the excursions," officials wrote. Pere Marquette No. 1225 was built by Lima in October, 1941, and restored for excursion service in the late 1980s. The locomotive is perhaps

best known as the inspiration for the engine in the 2004 film "Polar Express." (Thanks to Justin Franz)

Mohawk No. 3001 News...The long-awaited journey to its new home for an operational restoration is now in sight for New York Central No. 3001. The 4-8-2 "Mohawk" was moved beyond the fence line at the National New York Central Museum at Elkhart, Indiana, for the first time in years on July 18, 2026. This was the result of multiple days spent with HZRX-Locomotive Leasing rearranging the museum yard, assembling the outbound train, and positioning the locomotive for its eventual relocation to the Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society facility in New Haven, Indiana. The society (No. 3001's owner since 2024) states: "while a departure date has not yet been announced, we'll be working closely with the museum to host a public send-off celebration in the coming weeks before the locomotive begins its trip." Please visit the American Locomotive Project website at <https://www.americanloco.org> for more information and future announcements.

MYSTERY LOCATION

Can You Identify This Location in 1960?

By Ward Wells - The Answer Will Be in the Next Issue of *The Cincinnatian*



LM&M Rare Mileage Fundraiser August 30 - Photos by Scott Andes



Conrail GP-10 No. 7544 standing by ready for departure on our Rare Mileage Fundraiser for the Whitewater Valley Railroad.

LM&M Lebanon Train Fest September 13 - Photos By Scott Andes



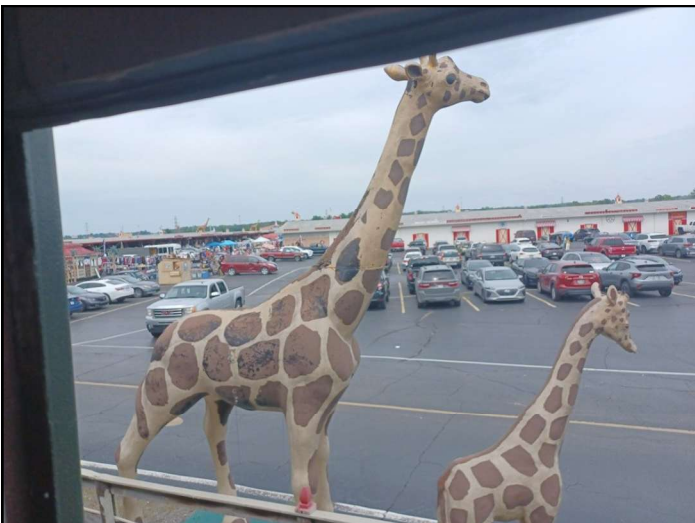
Little River Railroad No. 1 was the star of the show for Lebanon Train Fest 2026 on the LM&M Railroad.



Our own Frank Kammer working his way through our Coach No. 90 greeting all of our fundraiser guests.



Little River Railroad No. 1 with its consist of the DT&I caboose and 2 coaches at the end of a long weekend.



The Traders World Giraffes greet us at Monroe.



Long shadows mark the end of a successful weekend!

AUGUST 25 MEETING MINUTES

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

QUORUM: Mr. Andes determined a quorum of 10 members was present.

GUESTS: There were no guests present.

JULY 2026 MINUTES:

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

REPORTS:

PRESIDENT: Mr. Andes reported on tentative plans for an annual banquet at Raffel's on December 8th at 7pm. We have two 25 year members to celebrate this year.

VICE-PRESIDENT: Mr. Neal had no report.

SECRETARY: Vacant.

TREASURER: Mr. Price reported on the status and balances of our Checking and Investment accounts, and all were in good shape. The money market account, which is funded by investment dividends, should be adequate to cover expenses for the remainder of the year.

CHAPTER REPRESENTATIVE TO NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY:

Mr. King, Chapter Representative to the National Railway Historical Society, reported on the Fall Convention September 21-26. Registration is still open, but the early bird registration date has passed.

LIBRARIAN: Mr. King, Librarian, had no report.

TRUSTEE: Mr. Hindt reported on the upcoming rare mileage trip on the LM&M out of Lebanon on August 30th and the upcoming Lakota train show.

TRUSTEE: Mr. Edwards reported on the 40th anniversary weekend on the LM&M and the September Ohio Rail Experience trips.

TRUSTEE: Mr. Kammer had no report.

OLD BUSINESS: Mr. Andes asked for a motion to ratify votes taken at prior summer meetings which lacked an official quorum. The motion was made by Mr. Price, seconded by Mr. Kammer, and approved unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Mr. Kammer made a motion to donate 14 excess chairs, which are currently in our storage unit and cannot fit into our Library, to the Whitewater Valley Railroad. Motion was seconded by Mr. Carter and approved unanimously. Mr. Andes then made a motion to nominate our newest member, Ward Wells, current National Assistant Treasurer, to fill the remainder of the 2026 term as Secretary. Mr. Andes discussed his qualifications and background, including experiences with his home Chapter in developing remote meeting options. Mr. Goins seconded the nomination and spoke in support of Mr. Wells. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Price also made a motion to match the donation to the WVRR for tickets sold for the August 30 excursion, up to \$800. Motion

seconded by Mr. Kammer and passed unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Carter asked that we tell the Whitewater Valley Railroad to investigate freezing any documents which experienced water damage from the flood. An Eastern Kentucky organization was able to rescue a lot of their documents this way.

ADJOURNMENT: Absent any further business, Mr. Andes called for a motion to adjourn. So moved by Mr. Neal and seconded by Mr. Hindt. Adjourned at 7:17pm.

POST MEETING:

Dave Price began his program with an overview of Reading & Northern operations. They haul 80,000 carloads a year and operate 400 miles of track in 9 counties in Pennsylvania. Their primary steam power for excursions is the recently-restored former Reading T-1 No. 2102, a powerful 4-8-4 that easily handled their 24 car train. Dave shared many photos taken from his vantage point in an open window coach, as well as photos during layovers, of the 2102 as well as the Big Boy, which was on its way to the America 250 celebration in Philadelphia. Thanks to Dave for taking us along on a rare opportunity to see 2 steam locomotives in one outing. The meeting disbanded about 8:58pm.

Submitted:

/s/ Mr. Andes, Acting Secretary



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NEWSLETTER PRINTED BY



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

SEPTEMBER

- Sun. Sept. 20 All Trains Flea Market 10:00A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Darke County Fairgrounds, Greenville, OH
- Tue. Sept. 22 Regular Chapter Meeting & Program 7:00 P.M.
Chapter Library, 10 Village Sq., Glendale, OH
(Note: Fourth Tuesday, Not Last Tuesday!)
- Sat. Sept. 26 Fostoria Rail Festival 10:00A.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Fostoria, Ohio, High and Elementary Schools

OCTOBER

- Sat. Oct. 10 NMRA Division 7 Show at Lakota West H.S.
and West Chester, Ohio
- Sun. Oct. 11 Hours Saturday 10-4pm, Sunday 10am-4pm
- Sat. Oct. 17 Hot Dog Train Fundraiser For WWV Railroad
On the LM&M Railroad, Lebanon, Ohio
Departure 6:00 P.M., See Enclosed Flyer
- Tue. Oct. 27 Regular Chapter Meeting & Program 7:00 P.M.
Chapter Library, 10 Village Sq., Glendale, OH

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

August Meeting Program: Two Steam Locomotives in One Program!



Chapter Treasurer David Price (left) and Chapter President Scott Andes (right) pose for a photo after Dave's program on his June excursion on the RBMN with 2102 racing Big Boy. Photo by Richard King.