

The Bluegrass Railroader

September 2023



Volume 51

Issue #9

BLUEGRASS RAILROAD CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AUGUST 28, 2023

The August meeting of the Board of Directors was held on August 28, 2023, electronically via Zoom on the internet. The following Officers and Directors were present: Wes Ross, Larry Mitchell, Josh Johnson, Shelby Jett, Tony Guttridge, Kelly Chapman, Larry Smith, and Tom Hornsby. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Tony Guttridge. Tony welcomed everyone to the meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Board were approved, with the motion of Larry Mitchell and seconded by Kelly Chapman.

Shelby Jett presented the Treasurer's Report. The report was accepted by a motion of Wes Ross and a second by Tom Hornsby. A copy of this report is shown elsewhere in this issue of the *Railroader*.

Programs were discussed:

September – The Swap Meet. The Swap Meet will be the program for the September meeting at the Meadowthorpe Presbyterian Church. The meet is open to both Club Members and members of Division 10, NMRA. The persons desiring a table are asked to contact Shelby Jett via e-mail at: www.shelbyjett@gmail.com. The doors will open at 7:00pm for table holders and the meet will begin at 7:30pm. The business meeting will be held at approximately 8:15pm. Zoom coverage of the meeting will be available at 8:00pm.

October – Georgetown-Scott County Museum, 229 East Main St., Georgetown, KY (Old Post Office). The program on Scott County Railroads will be presented by Chad Harpole. Parking will be available.

November – A discussion about Southern Lights and a program on locomotive and car maintenance prior to operating at the show.

December – No meeting. Happy Holidays—See you at Southern Lights.

(Continued on Page 3)

SWAP MEET AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September Meeting of the Bluegrass Railroad Club will be our Semi-Annual Swap Meet. The meet is open to all Club members. An invitation has been extended to members of Division 10, NMRA to participate. The meet will begin at 7:30pm, Friday, September 8, 2023, at the Meadowthorpe Presbyterian Church. Doors will open at 7:00pm for table holders. A limited number of tables will be available, so to ensure that there is a table available for you, please e-mail Shelby Jett. The Swap Meet will take the place of our regular program. The tables are free, and the Club assumes no responsibility. Each table holder collects his/her money and is responsible for their own sales tax. There will be a short business meeting at approximately 8:15pm. Zoom coverage of the Swap Meet and business meeting will begin around 8:00pm. For those members who are unfamiliar with the Club's Swap Meets: Club members and Division 10 members are able to set up a table with railroad items that they are interested in selling or swapping with other individuals at the [meet](#). It is suggested that all items be priced, Remember, Railroad items only.

CSX Unveils L&N Heritage Unit



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Secretary	Wes Ross	859-293-0807
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2023-2024 Club Directors

Larry Mitchell	(2024)	859-358-2002
Kevin Ellis	(2024)	859-469-3866
Kelly Chapman	(2025)	859-753-5590
Larry Smith	(2025)	502-839-8672
Joshua Johnson	(2026)	859-539-8211
Jessica Johnson	(2026)	859-753-6899

***Bluegrass Railroad Club
August Meeting
August 11, 2023***

The Bluegrass Railroad Club was called to order by President Tony Gutteridge at 7:31pm on August 11, 2023. There were 5 members attending on Zoom and 16 members, in attendance, including 3 visitors, at the Meadowthorpe Presbyterian Church.

Ron Fleming made a motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting. David Lindemuth seconded the motion. The reason for the approval of the June minutes was that there was no Club meeting in July. The motion was unanimously approved. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Shelby Jett.. The report appears in this issue of the *Railroader*. The motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Wes Ross and seconded by John Stokes. The motion passed.

David Lindemuth reported that the Railroading Merit Badge training session went well during our Summer Show. A total of 36 scouts completed all of the requirements. The Club expressed appreciation to David for his hard work in setting up the event.

James Chapman reported that the October meeting would be held at the Georgetown-Scott County Museum (the Old Post Office) at 229 East Main St., in downtown Georgetown. The museum is hosting an exhibit entitled: "The Railroads of Scott County" now through January, 2024. Chad Harpole will provide the program at the meeting. Delbert Wilson indicated that he was planning on setting up a Christmas layout at the museum during the season. He indicated that he would need the help of other Club members.

Delbert reported that Carillon Park in Dayton will be hosting a Concours d'Elegance on Sunday, September 17, 2023. He said
(Continued on Page 3)

**September Club Meeting
Meadowthorpe Presbyterian Church
356 Hillsboro Ave.
Attend In-Person or via Zoom**

The September meeting for members and guests is scheduled for Friday, September 11 at 7:30 pm. in the Fellowship Hall, Meadowthorpe Presbyterian Church. Members can attend from their home online by using the following Zoom Address as the general Club Meeting link: You may also join by phone as listed below:

PLEASE NOTE; Zoom coverage will not begin until approximately 8:00pm because the Swap Meet will precede the program at 8:15pm.

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81043378428?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81043378428?pwd=Z2R3a2hXNlcvN3MxZDdsSFloV1RiQT09)
[pwd=Z2R3a2hXNlcvN3MxZDdsSFloV1RiQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81043378428?pwd=Z2R3a2hXNlcvN3MxZDdsSFloV1RiQT09)**

Meeting ID: 810 4337 8428

Passcode: 873302

Dial by your location +1 301 715 8592 US

Railroad Shows In The Area

Now to February 2024—Railroads of Scott County Exhibit. Georgetown-Scott County Museum, 229 East Main St., Georgetown, KY. 10:00 am-4:00pm, Wednesdays through Saturdays. For more information: www.southworthgrowth.com

September 9 & 10, 2023—Ravenna Railroad Festival, 499 Kirkland Ave., Ravenna, KY, For more information: www.railroadfestival.com

September 10, 2023—All Trains Swap Meet, Dayton Event Center, Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Dayton, OH. 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. For more information: larryzeller682@gmail.com

October 14 & 15, 2023—Cincinnati Model Railroad Train & Trade Show. Lakota West High School, 8940 Union Center, Blvd., West Chester, OH. For more information: www.cincy-div7.org

November 4 & 5, 2023—47th Dayton Train Show. Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Dayton, OH For more information: nmra.div3@gmail.com

November 11, 2023—33rd Train Show & Sale, Division 8, NMRA. Holy Family Parrish Saffin Center, 3838 Popular Level Rd., Louisville, KY. 10:00am-3:00pm. For more information: <http://div8-mcr-nmra.org>

December 9, 2023—73rd Annual Buckeye Railroad Artifacts and Model Train Show and Sale. Lausche Building, Ohio Expo Center, Columbus, OH. 9:00am-4:00pm

December 10, 2023—Springfield Train Show. Clark / County Fairgrounds, Springfield, OH. 10:00am-3:00pm. For more information: larryzeller682@gmail.com



Treasurer's Report

Monthly Transactions
7/28/2023 through 8/28/2023

	INCOME	
Dues		<u>\$30.00</u>
	TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$30.00</u>
	EXPENSES	
Railroader Newsletter		-\$11.30
Web Bgrrc.org		-\$183.41
Meeting Room Rental		-\$30.00
American Mini Storage		<u>-\$95.00</u>
	TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>-\$296.53</u>
	OVERALL TOTAL	<u>-\$266.53</u>

Bluegrass Railroad Club Meeting (Continued from page 2)

that this might be a good time to ride their new narrow-gauge locomotive and ride the 1/8 scale railroad, operated by the Carillon Park Rail & Steam Society. (Editor's Note: The new steam-type locomotive is currently out of service due to mechanical problems, Please check web site for further details. www.daytonhistory.org)

Ryan Chugg reported that the Ravenna Railroad Festival would be held in Ravenna, KY, on September 9 and 10, 2023, and that the Kentucky Steam Heritage Corp. would offer steam train rides. He also announced that the 3rd Annual Whistle Blow would be held on October 7, 2023, in Ravenna. The event is free to attend; but there is a \$25.00 charge for each whistle brought to the event. Kevin Ellis announced two up-coming model railroad shows in Morehead and Bowling Green, KY.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm on the motion of David Lindemuth and the second by Delbert Wilson. All agreed.

The program followed on the Hiwassee Loop of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad in Tennessee, presented by Larry Smith with comments from Franklin Miller.

Respectfully submitted,

Wesley F. Ross Secretary

Bluegrass Railroad Club Board of Directors Minutes (Continued from page 1)

Josh Johnson indicated that he had already moved one of the trailers to the new parking lot. He will be moving the second trailer in the near future. Josh also wanted the Board and members, both, to be aware of the current trailer situation. The present two trailers do not currently hold all of the layout materials that the Club owns. Josh is opposed to purchasing a third trailer because of the difficulty in getting drivers to pull the trailers to events, rather, he is suggesting that the Club consider selling the smaller and older trailer for a second large trailer. No decision has been made, and input from members is needed.

Josh said that our current contract with Zoom was expiring. It was the census of the Board that Zoom was necessary and a motion to pay \$158.89, plus tax, was approved, on the motion of Josh, and the second by Larry Smith.

The meeting was adjourned around 8:03pm on the motion of Shelby Jett and the second by Josh Johnson..

Respectfully submitted,

Wesley F. Ross, Secretary

CSX Santa Train To Run

KINGSPORT, Tenn. — The CSX Santa Train will return for its 81st year on Nov. 18, the railroad announced today in [a video on the Santa Train Facebook Page](#). “The Santa Train is an integral part of CSX history, and we are proud to be a part of this long standing tradition,” CEO Joe Hinricks said in the video. The train returned last year after a two-year hiatus because of the COVID-19 pandemic — and after the railroad had originally announced it would not operate because of staffing and supply chain problems

It will once again operate on a 110-mile route from Shelby, Ky., to Kingsport, Tenn., with 13 stops en route. “I had the privilege of riding last year’s Santa Train and was able to see firsthand how beloved this tradition is by CSX employees, community members and volunteers alike, and we are looking forward to another year of serving the Appalachian area,” Hinricks said in [an article in the Kingsport Times News](#). The event is sponsored by Appalachian Power, Food City, the Kingsport Chamber, and Soles4Souls. “None of this would be possible without the Santa Train partners and community, and we are grateful for their unwavering support,” CSX Vice President of Corporate Communications Bryan Tucker told *the Times News*. “This is truly a passion project for Team Santa Train, and we’ve been hard at work creating an unforgettable experience for those along the tracks this November.”

A JUNE 2023 VISIT TO TTI

Charles H. Bogart

In June 2023 Mary Ann and I visited TTI's Paris Kentucky Rail Yard. TTI is now owned by the Midwest & Bluegrass Railroad. TTI presently offers rail to truck transfer service, lease of freight car storage track, and bulk warehousing. Part of its Paris Yard is leased to a freight car RIP service. TTI still has six ex CSXT GE B36-7 locomotives on its roster, four runners and two used to provide spare parts. Below are some photos of TTI's locomotives.



TTI 5902 a General Electric B36-7. The locomotive was obtained from CSXT. Previously she served on the Seaboard System Railroad

She is in the final TTI paint scheme.

TTI 5819 is another General Electric B36-7. This locomotive was also obtained from CSXT. Previously, the locomotive served on the Seaboard System Railroad.





TTI 5827 is a General Electric B36-7, that was obtained from CSXT. Previously the locomotive served on the Seaboard System Railroad. She was obtained by SBD through the merger with the Seaboard Coast Line, where she was No. 1797. The locomotive appears in an earlier TTI paint scheme

The photos show TTI 5812 and TTI 5808, both General Electric B36-7 locomotives. They were purchased from CSXT for use as a spare part source. Both are former Seaboard System Locomotives. The photos show clear remnants of CSX paint.



More TransKentucky Transportation Railroad

The TTI office car, now painted in blue, still sits in the Paris Yard. The car was completely modified from a former Southern Railroad caboose.



TTI 5911 is another General Electric B36-7. The locomotive was obtained from CSXT. It was originally used on the Seaboard System Railroad



The Paris Yard, showing the sand tower still proudly bearing the "TTI" logo



STEAM NEWS

By John Biehn

Steam in New Mexico...On August 26, Santa Fe steam locomotive No. 2926 will leave its home on Eighth Street in Albuquerque, travel a short distance and make an appearance adjacent to the Tractor Brewing Company on Fourth Street. The 4-8-4 traveled down the street back in May, showing off for the first time then, the restoration work that took decades to complete. The steam engine, built in 1944 by Baldwin was restored by the New Mexico Steam Locomotive & Railroad Historical Society, after being purchased from the city for \$1 in 1999. Before that, the train languished in Coronado Park for more than forty years. "These trips are helping us prepare for longer and more exciting future excursions on the rails. Events like this allow us an opportunity to show the public what we've accomplished," said John Roberts, President of New Mexico Heritage Rail, in a statement. The steam locomotive will be available for public viewing from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

(Thanks to Elizabeth Tucker, Albuquerque Journal, via Ken Borg)

CPKC Final Spike Steam Tour...Canadian Pacific Kansas City on April 14, 2024, will mark the first anniversary of its creation with the launch of its Final Spike Steam Tour. The 2816 "Empress" steam locomotive, hauling a CPKC business train, will depart Calgary, Alberta and travel through the U.S. and into Mexico. No. 2816, a 4-6-4 "Hudson" -type steam locomotive, was built in 1930 by Montreal Locomotive Works. It served as a roving steam-powered ambassador for Canadian Pacific throughout Canada and the U.S. before being placed in storage in 2012. Recently, the locomotive's boiler/firebox/cab assembly was reunited with its pilot truck, drivers and trailing truck, and the unit completed a stationary steam test. CPKC said the 2816 has been undergoing main line testing and continues to undergo preparations for next year's long distance tour. The locomotive is being equipped with Positive Train Control. CPKC President and CEO Keith Creel said, "On April 14, 2023, we drove a ceremonial Final Spike completing that continental connection. We look forward to proudly celebrating that historic railway moment with a special tour starring the 2816, honoring our history and looking forward to an exciting future with opportunities for our railroaders, customers and communities." (Thanks to William Vantuono, Railway Age, via Ken Storey)

Future Canadian Steam...From its inception in 1986, the Southern Ontario Locomotive Restoration Society has had, at its cornerstone, the preservation, restoration and operation of heritage Canadian steam locomotives.

On behalf of the SOLRS board of directors, Mr. Bob Fallowfield, General Manager of the Waterloo Central Railway announced plans to purchase and acquire former Canadian Pacific No. 1238, a G5 class "Pacific"-type steam locomotive, built by the Montreal Locomotive Works in 1946. The society has signed a purchase agreement with the seller, Vintage Locomotive Society, the operators of the Prairie Dog Central Railway in Winnipeg. The society is excited to acquire this unique piece of Canadian railway history and see it fully restored and operational in Canada. Locomotive 1238 is in solid condition and although in need of some time and money to put it back in service, it is well within the society's experience and expertise to return it to steam.

The group will embark on a fundraising campaign with an initial goal of \$150,000 by Christmas. The society is already hard at work behind the scenes and has at least one private party willing to match. What funds that are raised up to \$150,000. Page 2... The Waterloo Central Railway is a heritage railway offering historic passenger train rides between Northfield Drive in Waterloo and the town of Elmira. Waterloo, Ontario is located about one hour northwest of Hamilton. If you would like to help with a donation, please go to waterloocentralrailway.com/equipment/cpr1238/ (Thanks to Bob Fallowfield, Waterloo Central Railway, via Ken Borg)

Steam in Virginia...The Virginia Museum of Transportation and Virginia Scenic Railway have announced that the Class J 4-8-4 No. 611 will run weekend excursions this fall on the Virginia Scenic Railway. The steam powered Shenandoah Valley Limited will offer twice daily trips during peak fall foliage in October and November, departing from Goshen, Virginia. Trains will operate through the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests into the Shenandoah Valley. A pair of diesels will join the 611 for a return trip to Goshen so it looks like each trip will be pulled by steam and returned by diesel. Trips will operate October 6-8, 13-15, 20-22, 27-29. In November, the train will operate November 3-5. Departure times each day are at 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. The sleek and powerful Class J locomotives, designed and built in Roanoke by the Norfolk and

Western Railway, were widely hailed as the finest steam passenger locomotive in the world. The 611, built in 1950, is the sole surviving member of fourteen Class J locomotives produced and is now owned and operated by the Virginia Museum of Transportation as a traveling exhibit. Tickets will be available for purchase in mid-August via Virginia Scenic website at virginiascenicrailway.com. Seating options will include Coach, Premium coach, First Class and Dome Class. (Thanks to Wes Ross and Alex Mayes)

(Continued on Page 8)

Steam News (Continued from Page 7)

Steam in Washington State...The iconic Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad is set to resume train operations with a limited excursion schedule in September and October. After a hiatus since 2019, the historic steam engine "Polson 70" will proudly pull two vintage passenger cars, an open-air car, and a specially outfitted baggage car serving as a concession and gift shop. The Polson No. 70 is a 2-8-2 "Mikado"-type steam locomotive built by the Baldwin Locomotive Works in 1922.

These long awaited excursions mark the first ones under the new ownership of Western Forest Industries Museum, a local nonprofit organization that assumed control of the railroad in August, 2022. With a storied history that dates back to 1980, Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad has played a vital role in the economic prosperity of southern Pierce County as well as in preserving the region's rich local history. Having served over 1.6 million passengers, the railroad is now poised to embark on a new journey under WFIM's vision. The scenic train rides will depart from the Elbe Depot and travel through forested landscape for a twelve mile one hour and fifteen minute round trip. Departure times are 11:00 a.m., 1:15 p.m., 3:30 p.m. Dates: September: 1-3, 9-10, 17, 23-24. October: 1, 7-8, 15, 21-22, 29 For the full schedule including the Whiskey Tasting Trains, go to mtrainierrailroad.com (Thanks to Tom Schultz)

Cumbres & Toltec Locomotive 492 Update...The 492 was moved from its isolated storage track at Chama, New Mexico, onto an active track this week by C&TS track crews. This locomotive was selected to return to service based on some preliminary ultrasonic inspections on the boiler shell, and D&RGW documentation provided by the Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad that shows that the locomotive received a new boiler in 1948. No. 492 operated until 1966. Over the past 53 years while on the C&TS, many parts were removed. When the asbestos abatement was performed many years ago, many more parts were removed and stowed for a future cosmetic or operational restoration. The locomotive appears to be in good condition. Last year, C&TS began the long process of ordering parts to return the 492 to service. On August 9th, new eccentric rods for the valve gear were received. Over the next year, the railroad will receive a new set of main rods, side rods and valve gear components. C&TS is now in the process of sourcing all the required appliances such as air compressors, injectors, electric generator, and mechanical and hydrostatic lubricators. C&TS has been in discussions with three vendors to install flexible staybolts to replace many of the rigid stays in the boiler. The current plan is to use the 497's tender behind the 492. The locomotive will then need the 1,472 day inspection, and a full running gear overhaul to include the aforementioned new rods and valve gear. A new smokebox is also needed. Once the wheels are removed, the railroad will determine if the tires and driver boxes need replaced. The lead truck needs a complete rebuild including a new axle and wheel set. The current plan is to return No. 492 to service as a coal burning locomotive. Locomotive 492 is a K-37 class 2-8-2 built for the D&RGW by Baldwin in 1902. It was mostly used in freight service on the D&RGW narrow gauge system but sometimes used on the Chili Line between Antonito, Colorado and Santa Fe, New Mexico. In 1970, locomotive 492 was sold to the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railway that operates between Chama, New Mexico and Antonito, Colorado. It is one of four Class K-37 locomotives currently owned by C&TS. The others being: Nos 494, 495 and 497. (Thanks to Farol Henkle and Tom Schultz)

Steam Locomotive Preservation...Recently, the Decay Devils preservationist group cosmetically restored the historical Elgin, Joliet & Eastern Railway No. 765 that has long stood sentry in Gateway Park in downtown Gary, Indiana. The Decay Devils name is a play on daredevils that have a penchant for exploring decaying buildings. The group and volunteers held a recent cleanup of the park and had a re-dedication ceremony for the 2- 8-2 steam locomotive. "Normally every year we kick off in the spring with a cleanup in Gary but the timing didn't work this year and that put us behind," said Decay Devils president Tyrell Anderson. "This is our first major event of the year." The group spruced up the historic locomotive, which was built by the Baldwin Locomotive Works in Philadelphia in 1929, and hauled freight throughout the region. After the E,J&E switched to diesels, U.S. Steel stepped in to give No. 765 a second life. It dispatched the locomotive to northern Minnesota's Iron Range where it hauled iron ore and taconite bound for Gary Works and other steel mills. Locomotive 765 was installed at Gateway Park but had gotten decrepit. The Decay Devils obtained a \$60,000 grant from Legacy Foundation's U.S. Steel/City of Gary Indiana Charitable Fund and the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation that helped fund the cleanup. The group removed rust from the train and fabricated new metal to replace parts that had rusted out. They also replaced the floor in the cab that had rusted through. The locomotive was repainted and renumbered. "That train project was a monster project," Anderson said. "We're highlighting the history of it, why it's significant to the region and how it got to the region. We also cut down some overgrown trees so people can see it when driving past. It's can't go anywhere but physically it looks nicer. We are encouraging people to stop in the park and see it for what it is," he said. (Thanks to Joseph Pete, The Times, via Tom Schultz)