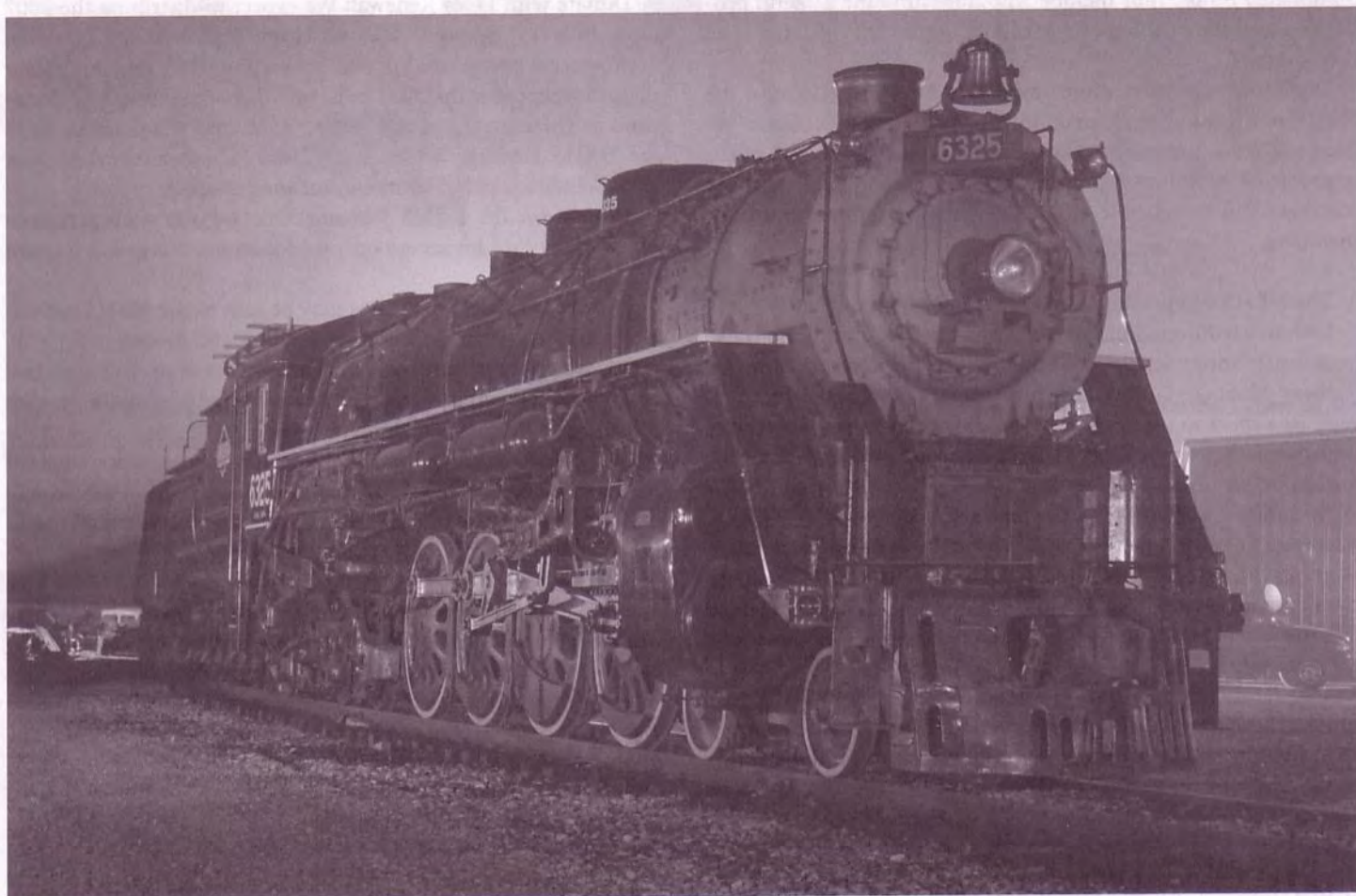




NRHS News

National Railway Bulletin

October 2006



OHIO CENTRAL ENGINE 6325 was the subject of a night photo shoot during the "Buckeye Rails 2006" national convention. The session was hosted by the Morgan Run Shops of the Ohio Central Railroad System, Inc.

Photo by Dawn Holmberg

Convention pre-registration open

Pre-registration is now open for the next NRHS convention, "Chattanooga Rails 2007." The event is scheduled for Aug. 21-25, 2007, in Chattanooga, Tenn.

The headquarters hotel will be the recently renovated Chattanooga Choo Choo Holiday Inn, located in the former Chattanooga railroad station. Room rates for the convention will be \$89 for a regular room, per night, and \$109 for a railroad car room, plus taxes.

A pre-registration form is included on page 11 of this edition of the *NRHS News*.

According to organizers, events may include steam and diesel

trips, a night photo session, and shop tours at the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum. There are plenty of non-railroad activities in Chattanooga as well, such as the Tennessee Aquarium, an Imax 3D Theater, the Creative Discovery Museum for kids, and abundant restaurants and shops.

The entire convention registration fee for those who pre-register is \$15. For members choosing not to pre-register, the convention registration fee will be \$25, payable when you register for the event.

So make your plans now to attend the 2007 convention. It's certain to be a great one.



NRHS MEMBERS ATTENDING THE BUCKEYE RAILS 2006 CONVENTION got a chance to see Ohio Central No. 33 while it was being worked on in the Morgan Run shops. *Photo by Dawn Holmberg*

Meeting convention food service demand was challenge

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Saturday was a repeat of Thursday's lunch service on a smaller scale. With fewer passengers aboard, the process went smoother.

As we've seen, serving 300-400 people a simple box lunch on a moving train is actually a major logistical challenge. The food service volunteers learned a lot from their Tuesday experience. On the Thursday trip the food service, now out of two locations, was much better. That night, a gentleman visiting registration complimented us on the food service. He said that while the Tuesday food service was a disaster (his words), the Thursday service was

much improved. He confided that after the Tuesday trip, he tried to think of ways to improve the service, but admitted that he could not come up with any improvements and was impressed that we had. Score one for the food crew.

So next time you ride an excursion, you'll appreciate just what is involved with providing you with lunch. It doesn't just appear. Even the simplest of meals takes considerable planning and work to provide. If things may seem a bit disorganized, remember that the volunteers serving you are doing the best they can, often under less than ideal circumstances, and cut them a little slack if things aren't perfect.

Enjoy the ride – and bon appetit.

Souvenir items from Buckeye Rails convention available

If you forgot to pick up a souvenir at the "Buckeye Rails 2006" national convention this summer -- or if you're in the market for a great bargain on convention merchandise -- convention organizers still have items from the big event available for order by mail.

The list of items still available for order is included below.

Convention bag (includes pin, patch and convention book), \$10.

Convention postcards, \$1 for a set of four.

Convention-logo ball cap, \$5.

Convention handbook, \$6.

Convention patch, \$1.

Convention pin, \$2.

Convention T-shirt (organizers have some gray 100 percent cotton, and some white 50/50 shirts in sizes ranging from adult medium to 3XL...specify color and they will send what they can), \$5.

Shipping via UPS is \$6. If your order is postcards, book and/or patches only, organizers can mail those items for \$1 shipping.

Order by check or money order ONLY from:

Eileen Weber

18 Millspring Ct.

St. Peters, MO 63376-7022

Include a phone number so the organizers can call if they have problems with the T-shirt order.

25th birthday celebrated by Watauga Valley chapter

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"is a time of adjustment for the national organization. We do recognize some of the problems that we have, and we are addressing them. But we don't want them to overshadow everything else that is going on."

He noted that the Railroad Heritage Grants Program was growing, having raised over \$250,000 "for projects all over the country." The president spoke of the success of the recent "Buckeye Rails" NRHS convention, which was sponsored by the national organization rather than an individual chapter, adding that "plans are in place for another nationally sponsored convention in the future."

According to Molloy, "the doors are always open for chapters wishing to work with us on such projects as the RailCamp programs at Steamtown and Ely, Nev. We're very optimistic as we expanded the youth program and added a program for adults. Also, the *NRHS News* has been expanded in size, and it will continue to be issued as a supplement to the *NRHS Bulletin*."

Molloy also addressed problems which some railfan photographers have encountered with increased railroad security in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attack on America, saying that "the society has taken the lead in safe-guarding the rights for photographers. The railroad security people have been receptive, and and we have received good cooperation from everyone involved thus far."

The national organization, Molloy continued, has "many volunteer opportunities available for both the short term and the long term. Several volunteers now are working at various positions. We are studying how we can deliver services efficiently, and volunteers are still needed, especially in the leadership. We are at the limit of what we can do now, and we are looking at significant changes ahead."

Earlier in the day, Molloy and Jensen toured the chapter's restored rail cars in nearby Jonesborough, Tenn. The president told the chapter members that "I am familiar with both your coaches as I have seen Arizona and California, as well as Pennsylvania, through the windows of those cars."

He ended his remarks by extending congratulations to the chapter members "for what you have done in the past 25 years,

and what you will do in the next 25 years and beyond."

Convention A Success

Jensen, who served as the chairman for the recent "Buckeye Rails" national convention, said that "we found an unlikely spot for a convention in New Philadelphia, Ohio, but it worked. In the future, we will be looking for places that, on the face of it, may not sound like a good place but, with a little imagination, we can make it work. But that won't be a problem this next year as there is plenty to do and see in Chattanooga."

He praised the hard work of the Watauga Valley members, saying, "this has turned out to be one of the best chapters around. The work you have done on your rail cars is a wonderful example of what one chapter can do. With your hard work, you have cars which meet the strict Amtrak requirements and which can run anywhere in the country. That has given you the chance to make a little money which you have put back into your cars. What you are doing is a great contribution to rail preservation. In 25 more years, you'll have a whole train filled with stuff."

Molloy and Jensen presented 15 chapter members with their 25-year membership pins, and Molloy presented Tilley with a 25-year certificate for the chapter.

Chapter Director Harold Smither presented a slide show which showed many of the chapter activities, the excursions sponsored by the group, and the work which had been done to the rail cars.

The complete list of chapter officers and directors is: Mike Tilley, president; Bob Schubel, vice president; Margaret Jones, secretary; Richard Freeman, treasurer; Jim Pahr, national director; Gary Price, historian; David Denny, counsel; Mike Jackson, editor; and Jim Calhoun, Bill Hart, Nancy Jewell, Frank Roher, Harold Smither and Bob Yapple, directors.



GREG MOLLOY



TRAFFIC WAS STOPPED on the Lincoln Highway, U.S. Highway 30, for a photo run-by of the Minerva (Ohio) Scenic Railway during the Buckeye Rails 2006 convention.

photo by Dawn Holmberg