



IRONHEAD GAZETTE

A Publication of the Railroad Model and Historical Society of Southeastern Ohio, Inc.

PO Box 1, Albany, Ohio, 45710

January 2014

Upcoming Events:

January 4, 2014

Snow Shoe Train Show

Parma, Ohio

Admission: \$6

Train Show/Sale, Railroad

Memorabilia

January 4-5, 2014

World's Greatest Hobby on
Tour

Cleveland, Ohio

Admission: Saturday \$11

Sunday \$10

Train Show/Sale, Operating

Layouts, Workshops/Clinics

January 14, 2014

Club Meeting

7:00pm

Ohio State Highway Patrol Post

13600 Della Drive, Athens

January 19, 2014

All Trains Swap Meet

Dayton, Ohio

Admission: \$5

Train Show/Sale, Railroad

Memorabilia, Swap Meet

January 19, 2014

Norwalk & Western RR Train

Show and Swap Meet

Vermilion, Ohio

Admission: \$4

Train Show/Sale, Model Railroad

Supplies, Railroad Memorabilia,

Swap Meet

February 8-9, 2014

KVRA Model Train Show

Charleston, West Virginia

Admission: \$3

Operating Layouts, Vendors

March 8, 2014

Spring Train Meet

Parma, Ohio

Admission: \$6

Train Show/Sale, Railroad

Memorabilia, Operating Layouts

The Best Compliment of Them All

By Kirk DePeel

Over the years I've received many comments about our show. Most had been directed at a particular layout or scene in general. And for this show there were also a number of comments that I can recall. However, there was one compliment that still sticks in my mind and most likely always will whenever I think of Railfair. I happened to be working on the raffle layout Friday evening getting the train running and buildings in place when a middle age lady strolled by. While those with a love for trains come in all colors and gender, she didn't appear to be such a person. But there was a curiosity on her face and a bit of wonderment in her eyes as to what was going on. I said hi, and told her about our show that weekend. She replied that her kids loved trains and she would be sure to bring them back to see them. Then she

said something that stuck in my mind the rest of the show.

"Thank you for doing this," she smiled before heading off. It was the tone that tipped me off. This comment wasn't directed at me; it was meant for our organization as a whole. For years we have been providing free entertainment and bringing joy to people of all ages. But this was the first time I had ever heard someone thank our club for the show instead of an individual. Here was someone who not only appreciated what we did as a group for our community but let us know. Those five words changed my weekend. I suddenly had new vigor to get the work done and face the weekend. I heard many nice things that weekend, but this was by far the most meaningful comment of them all.

Railroad News From Around The Country

AmtrakConnect Wi-fi coming to Midwest Corridors

AmtrakConnect cellular-based Wi-Fi service is arriving soon on Amtrak trains in the Midwest, with eight corridors offering this free amenity to Amtrak passengers by early February of 2014. Collectively, these routes carried nearly 3.3 million passengers in the last year (Amtrak FY2013, Oct. 2012-Sept. 2013). Amtrak is now installing the equipment on railcars under contracts with the states of Illinois, Michigan, Missouri and Wisconsin.

A specific completion date will be announced next month. Passengers on these Amtrak Chicago Hub Service trains will start seeing the availability of the service as the railcars are deployed.

“Free Wi-Fi service on Amtrak trains, combined with our ongoing high-speed rail improvements, means passengers will get to their destinations more quickly, comfortably and enjoyably,” said Illinois Governor Pat Quinn.

“Wi-Fi is an important additional amenity for passengers on

Michigan and other Midwest corridor services. Michigan looks forward to travelers enjoying Wi-Fi and other service improvements as we continue to implement our Accelerated Rail program,” said Tim Hoeffner, Rail Director, Michigan Department of Transportation “We are excited to partner with Amtrak and our sister state DOTs on Wi-Fi service as we look for more and creative ways to make train travel a more attractive option in Michigan and throughout the Midwest.”

“We are eager to start providing the free Wi-Fi service to our *Hiawatha* passengers through this partnership,” said Mark Gottlieb, Secretary, Wisconsin Department of Transportation. “This is part of our commitment to improving the passenger rail travel experience between Milwaukee and Chicago, especially for daily business commuters.”

AmtrakConnect capitalizes on multiple cellular providers to provide the best mobile experience possible, taking advantage of 4G technologies where available.

“We are continually looking to improve customer satisfaction, and this service is yet one more way to

do so, while also delivering the speeds and connectivity required to maintain a competitive position among transportation providers,” said Matt Hardison, Amtrak Chief Marketing and Sales Officer.

Hardison explained that AmtrakConnect is provided at no cost to passengers and has proven very popular – as evidenced by the fact that it routinely supports between 30 and 50 percent of passengers on a given train. As the demand for on-board Wi-Fi continues to grow, and in order to ensure the best experience for everyone, data-intensive activities, such as streaming video and music, and large file downloads that can slow everyone down, will be restricted. Doing so helps ensure that high-volume data users onboard the trains do not degrade the experience for others.

About 75 percent of Amtrak passengers nationwide already Enjoy the Journey® with free AmtrakConnect Wi-Fi. The addition of Chicago Hub Services will increase the coverage percentage to approximately 85 percent.

(Amtrak Press Release)

Our Mission

To Teach...

Those who want to know more.

To Educate...

Those who want to learn the history.

To Promote...

The hobby with enthusiasm.

And to share and enjoy the pleasure of all that is Railroading.



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Have stories, articles, or pictures?

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All Aboard!