



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

PO Box 1, Albany, Ohio, 45710

January 2016

**Upcoming Events:**

**January 12, 2016**

Club Meeting  
7:00pm

Ohio State Highway Patrol Post  
13600 Della Drive, Athens  
Bring something for  
show and tell!

**January 16, 2016**

Winter Train Meet  
Parma, Ohio

Admission: \$6  
Operating Layouts, Buy/Sell/  
Trade, New and Old Trains,  
Parts, Supplies, All Scales

**January 16-17, 2016**

Greenberg's Great Train Show  
Columbus, Ohio

Admission: \$7  
Operating Layouts, Buy/Sell/  
Trade, New and Old Trains,  
Parts, Supplies, All Scales, Free  
Workshops and Clinics

**March 6, 2016**

Darke County Model RR Club  
Flea Market

Greenville, Ohio  
Admission: \$4  
Swap Meet, Train Show and Sale,  
All Scales

**March 19-20, 2016**

Railfest 2016 Model Train Show  
Kirkland, Ohio

Admission: \$7  
NMRA Division 5, Largest All  
Gauge Train Show in Ohio, 13  
Operating Layouts, New and  
Used, Buy/Sell/Trade, 110+  
Dealers

**April 9, 2016**

Bucyrus Model Railroad Assoc.  
Train Show & Swap Meet

Bucyrus, Ohio  
Admission: \$5  
Swap Meet, Flea Market, Model  
Train Parts, All Scales

**Train of Life**

By: D. C. Dilley

I hear the train upon the track,  
It's rolling 'round the bend,  
It's bringing one within its cars,  
The one I call my friend.

The rail yard's filled with many  
cars,

The engines want to roll,  
I look upon the schedule board,  
And watch departures scroll.

Out from the station in my seat,  
The rumble's felt down deep,  
Excitement fills me to my soul,  
There's no way I will sleep.

We chug across the chasm wide,  
The bottom we can't see,  
Then up along the mountain side,  
The eagles here fly free.

Prospectors hunting gold and  
gems,  
And hikers on the trail,  
A bridge that's filled with cars and  
trucks,  
I hope it doesn't fail.

A farm I see out on the plains,  
The lights look bright at night,  
What's that I see? Jurassic Park!  
T Rex gives quite a fright.

A now we see a petting zoo,  
With gators big and small,  
I'll stay here on my nice safe train,

Beneath my seat I'll crawl.

And now the city looms ahead,  
It lights the evening sky,  
The silos of the factories,  
Downtown is looming nigh.

The southside with its redlight  
house,  
The window opened wide,  
See the lovely naked girl,  
She's standing right inside.

The workman with his scaffold  
truck,  
Two stories in the air,  
Is looking cross the window sill,  
To watch her standing there.

Now out of town and through the  
night,  
With tunnels through the hills,  
I guess if I get any sleep,  
I'll need to take my pills.

Chug chug, toot, toot, and ding-a-  
ling,  
Click clack click clack click clack,  
These are the sounds I now  
snooze to,  
As my train brings me back.

Tomorrow I may go again,  
To see what I may see.  
To ride the endless train of life,  
Is now my destiny.

# Amtrak Offers More Bike Service on the *Crescent*

Amtrak News Release

Amtrak is expanding the availability of bike service on the *Crescent* to provide passengers with a way to travel with their bicycles. The enhanced service is now available only at staffed stations that offer checked baggage.

The Amtrak *Crescent* (Trains 19 & 20) travels daily between New York City and New Orleans, with a stop in Atlanta.

Passengers will be able to hand their bikes to an Amtrak crew member, who will then hang the bike on a rack in the baggage car. The service is only available in staffed stations in New Orleans, Meridian, Miss., Tuscaloosa, Ala., Birmingham, Ala.,

Atlanta, Greenville, S.C., Charlotte, N.C., Greensboro, N.C., Lynchburg, Va., Charlottesville, Va., Alexandria, Va., Washington, D.C., Baltimore, Wilmington, Del., Philadelphia, Newark and New York City with advance reservation only.

Passengers checking their bikes must arrive at the station 45 minutes prior to the train departure to allow time to purchase a ticket, obtain a baggage tag, and transport the bike to the baggage car. Only standard bikes will be permitted. If equipped with large seat/saddle bags, handlebar bags or panniers, the items must be removed from the bike,

consolidated, and checked or carried on the train.

Reservations are required and passengers must have a travel document (ticket) for their bikes. There is a \$20 bike service fee. Passengers can reserve their bikes by selecting “add bike” when they book their train travel on Amtrak.com, by calling 800-USA-RAIL, or by visiting any staffed ticket office.

Amtrak stations with ticketing and baggage service that currently provide boxed bike service will continue to offer this service. Standard bike policy and charges apply on trains where applicable.

## “You know you’re a Railfan if...”

[http://www.mswphoto.com/IdiotRailfan/you\\_know.html](http://www.mswphoto.com/IdiotRailfan/you_know.html)

Your scanner is tapped in to a live internet feed so that the entire world can hear what railroad activity is going on in your little stinkpot town.

## “Hobo Speak”

<http://www.hobonickels.org/terms.htm>

**Anchor** - A pick. Companion tool of the shovel or banjo.

**Anchor plate** - The metal plate which sits atop the face of a railroad tie upon which the rail is laid.

# CP Responds to NS Board's Latest Rejection

From Progressive Railroading

Norfolk Southern Corp.'s board has unanimously rejected Canadian Pacific's latest merger proposal, NS officials announced today.

The Norfolk, Va.-based Class I turned down CP's third proposal, which offered to acquire NS for \$32.86 in cash, a fixed exchange ratio of 0.451 shares in a new company that would own NS and CP, and 0.451 of a contingent value right (CVR), according to an NS press release.

In a letter to CP Chief Executive Officer E. Hunter Harrison and CP Chairman Andrew Reardon, NS Chairman, President and CEO Jim Squires and Lead Director Steven Leer said NS board rejected CP's latest offer because it "is

grossly inadequate, creates substantial regulatory risks and uncertainties that are highly unlikely to be overcome, and is not in the best interest of the company and its shareholders."

CP's third offer, pitched publicly on Dec. 16, differed from its previous offer in that it included the CVR component. In response, Squires and Leer said that NS' financial advisers believe that the CVR "would trade at a significant discount."

The letter also reiterated the NS board's contention that the proposed merger would not be approved by regulators, and called out Harrison for publicly declaring that the NS board is not "engaging or

"meeting" with him.

"There is no basis to meet until you both make a compelling offer and address the regulatory issues, which you have the ability to do by seeking a declaratory order. We also note your repeated public statements that you are not willing to increase your offer regardless of whether we were to meet," the letter stated.

CP officials said they were disappointed in the NS board's response to the revised offer, and issued the following statement:

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## Interested in Membership?

Interested in becoming a member? Join today! Membership dues are as follows:

- \$40 for a single membership for 1 year
- \$60 for a family membership for 1 year

Benefits of becoming a member:

- Voting
- Several great trips throughout the year
- Friends who share a common hobby and interests

# CP Responds to NS Board's Latest Rejection

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"CP remains confident that a CP-NS combination would secure regulatory approval as a seamless coast-to-coast single-haul service benefits shippers, the industry and the public, and would generate tremendous shareholder value.

"It is apparent that neither the executive leadership at NS nor its board of directors are willing to sit down in an open and constructive dialogue about this transformational opportunity and that the interests of the NS board are not aligned with the best interests of NS shareholders. Therefore CP will review its strategic alternatives."

## NS to consolidate coal docks in northern Ohio

Meanwhile, NS announced

yesterday that it is consolidating two of its coal docks in northern Ohio as part of an effort to reduce costs in a weak coal market. NS plans to idle its Ashtabula, Ohio, Coal Pier and shift operations to the railroad's Sandusky, Ohio, Dock.

Ashtabula will continue to operate until all coal inventories have been transloaded, which is expected to be completed by May 2016. The facility will remain idled until and if market conditions warrant reopening, company officials said in a press release.

The consolidation will eliminate 21 positions. Those employees may apply for other positions in the company, NS officials said. Earlier this month, NS furloughed 13 employees at

Ashtabula due to the weak coal market. Six employees will continue to oversee security and environmental systems at Ashtabula.

"Norfolk Southern is adapting to evolving market conditions by realizing efficiencies and optimizing our infrastructure to support long-term growth," said NS Senior Vice President of Operations Mike Wheeler.

NS has owned and operated the Ashtabula coal pier since 1999. The facility primarily serves the thermal coal market, transloading coal from Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia to Canada and U.S. destinations by ship. CSX Transportation also has rights to use the Ashtabula dock.

### 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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Want to see them in a future edition of the Ironhead Gazette?

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