



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

PO Box 1, Albany, Ohio, 45710

September 2013

Upcoming Events:

September 10, 2013

Club Meeting
7:00pm
Herlihy Moving & Storage
1000 Columbia Road, Albany

September 15, 2013

All Trains Flea Market
10am - 3pm
Greenville, Ohio
Admission: \$4
Buy/Sell/Trade Model Trains,
Railroad Antiques.

September 21-22, 2013

Chapmanville Model Train Show
Sat. 10am - 6pm
Sun. 1pm - 6pm
Chapmanville, WV
Admission: Free
Buy/Sell/Trade Model Trains,
Operating Layouts

September 28, 2013

12th Annual Fostoria Rail Festival
10am - 4pm
Fostoria, Ohio
Admission: \$3
Model/Toy Train, Photo Contest,
Rail Fan Items, Seminars, Tours

September 29, 2013

Firelands Model Train and Toy Show
10am - 4pm
Sandusky, Ohio
Admission: \$5
Model Trains, Toys, Collectables

October 5, 2013

The Laurels of Athens
10am - 4pm
Athens, Ohio
Admission: FREE
Operating Layouts

December 14-15, 2013

Railfair 2013
Sat. 9am - 9pm
Sun. 10am - 5pm
The Market on State,
Athens, Ohio
Admission: FREE
Operating Layouts, Raffle

Travel Tips for the Railfan and Not So Much

By: Giles Kennedy, Editor in Chief/Founder of the Ohio Railroader

Even though summer is winding down; railfan and model rail travel is far from winding down.

This is usually the start of major traveling railroading show season as well as some rail attractions having major events.

Here are some basic tips to keep you rolling.

Automotive Maintenance

Be sure to have a sound running vehicle. There is nothing worse than a breakdown en route to Cass, Altoona or your favorite rail spot.

Make sure tires are in good shape, oil change and fluids are in good order. Whether it is an Olds Alero or a Dodge Ram 1500; make sure everything is in running order before venturing out. Worse case stitch; rent a car. Better be reliable than not at all.

After that is all said in done; full tanks and Gas Buddy go a long way. Better to get the best price on gas. If you have traveled to other places with reward cards.....cash those points in. It will help.

General Prep for the Trek

Condense your gear. If you are going to download pics when you get home; only take the gear you need. A basic daytrip or 2-3 day trip pack should be your camera (digital, preferred); battery charger or batteries, notepads, latest rail mags (for those slow times), shop towels or clean towels to keep photo gear clean and dry.

You might also consider doing a small (for yourself) or medium (if with family or fellow railnuts) cooler of bottled water, sodas (and/or) juices, snacks, etc. Saving you money in the long run can pay off. If you wind up near an eatery next to your favorite spot; you will actually have the cash to eat there.

Traveling with Railfans

Whether they are modelers ding prototype research or seasoned train chasers; it can

be a harried experience. If you are the chief driver; allow folks on your trip to pick some of the travel music.

Whether you like Iron Maiden or not; or your gang digs bluegrass and you hate it..be an asphalt host. Change out music from time to time to be that gracious hauler. All else fails; pack extra headphones for folks to use.

Prior to your trip; have folks pitch in for gas money. Make an agreement on who pays for what prior to departure. There is nothing worse than railfans disagreeing during a trip and derail the trip entirely. Maybe breaking down; but that would be a dead heart tie.

Traveling with Family

Some railfan wives are history buffs and come along for the ride graciously. Others not so much.

Most areas do have shopping and antique districts for the wives/better halves to explore. Planning ahead is key. If you are with wife and kids; that is a totally different ball game.

Plan ahead, plan ahead, plan ahead.

As in the cases of Spencer, N.C. and Elkins, W.Va.; I planned ahead to allow Tanya (my loving and patient wife) to explore the Rail and Trail Shop and downtown Elkins prior to departure.

Same in Spencer, we actually discovered the local hobby shop as well as a mom and pop diner to eat.

So, be flexible so you and the family can enjoy time together and apart exploring.

A TripTik or similar map will go a long way!

Planning your route to and from will eliminate detours. If an AAA member; go on their TripTik section and plan your route. If not, MapQuest, Google Maps, and other resources are handy.

Railroad News From Around The Country

Columbus, Ohio Wants In On The Midwest Rail Renaissance

Columbus, Ohio, population 800,000, is among the biggest U.S. cities without passenger rail. But its time may have finally come.

A college town and state capital, Columbus has bucked the trend of urban decline in Ohio and built a strong economy on insurance and retail. The culture here has been famously resistant to rail plans, but it's a young city that's becoming more and more progressive. Columbus has seen major growth in its core urban neighborhoods in recent years.

Now city leaders are throwing their support behind a new plan to create a rail link from Columbus to Chicago via Fort Wayne, Indiana. A study by the Northeast Indiana Passenger Rail Association makes it seem like a pretty sweet deal. The group estimates that the cost of linking the three cities on existing freight

rail lines would be about \$1.3 billion — about one-tenth the price of connecting the two cities by highway. The group estimates the trains could travel between 110 and 130 miles per hour, completing the 355 mile trip in under four hours, making it competitive with flying and driving. The project, they estimate, would generate \$1.70 for every \$1 invested and would create up to 26,800 permanent jobs.



As for where the money would come from, that's an open question. But some rail advocates are optimistic that the proposal has strong enough market potential that at least part of it could be privately funded. NIPRA estimates the system could draw

\$116 million in fares in the year 2020. And if population growth continues as projected, annual fare revenue could rise to \$190 million by 2040.

Vince Papsidero, Columbus's planning administrator, told the Columbus Dispatch: "This actually could be profitable."

That said, this is still a far-away dream. The city of Columbus backed the initial study with \$20,000. Proponents are trying to raise \$2 million for an engineering study. After that, they'd need \$10 million from the feds for an environmental impact study.

Plus, the state of Ohio is broke, and the governor hates trains.

Ken Prendergast at All Aboard Ohio points out that other states that rejected federal rail money — Florida and Wisconsin — are now pursuing expansion of their systems. Will Columbus's interest in passenger rail be enough to bring new rail service to Ohio too? (DC.streetsblog.org)

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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