
ALL ABOARD

The Official Newsletter of the ORHS

Fall 2009-4

RIDING WITH SANTA, CHRISTMAS AT THE DEPOT, CHRISTMAS DINNER MEETING, 2010 ORHS OFFICERS, OPERATION LIFESAVER, ORHS ACTIVITIES & INFORMATION, AND RAILROAD NEWS ITEMS

ORHS News from Your Editor, Richard Jacobs

Medina Loop Express

The *Medina Loop Express* fall foliage passenger excursion was operated as a five-county round trip from Orrville to Medina and return on October 10. Locomotive FLNX 484, an EMD FL9, owned by RP Flynn supported the ORHS GP-7u #471 on the trip. It led on the return leg from Spencer to Orrville after the run-around to place the power to the eastbound lead. It had been second behind the 471 from Orrville to Spencer. Many railfan photographers were at Spencer, including yours truly, to obtain photos. I had published an article about the shiny green and cream diesel in the last newsletter. It had resided in the ORHS Orrville yard for several months. It has since seen service on the Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad.

Among the First Class cars on the trip were "C&B Marshall" #3850 owned by Larry Marshall and "Paul Revere" #3125 owned by Glenn Bowman, as well as ORHS concession car #105 as usual for snacks and souvenirs.

ORHS and the Movies

The Orrville Railroad Heritage Society in the movies? It did happen, sort of! The movie "Unstoppable" starring Denzel Washington is about a runaway train, i.e. "Unstoppable." Some of the filming was done on the Wheeling property in Brewster, OH and elsewhere along railroad lines. Two coaches, #103 and #104 leased from the ORHS were used in the filming. Members Glenn Bowman and John Harding went along during the production to assist and watch over the ORHS's equipment. See John's article on page 5.

OLS trains

Operation Lifesaver trains were operated by the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway during October. School districts from Tuscarawas, Wayne and Medina counties took part. ORHS volunteers provided the train's crew, while Ohio Highway Safety patrolmen provided the safety message to the students. See Bill Engel's article on page 4.

Jumpin' Pumpkin Jamboree

Our 5th annual Jumpin' Pumpkin Jamboree was held on October 17, with activities at both the siding at McGill Street and the depot. Despite the chilly weather, it was well attended and enjoyed by all. See Roger Scott's article on page 8.

Home for the Holidays

Orrville's town-wide *Home for the Holidays* celebration was held on Friday evening November 27. The ORHS depot was open to greet the revelers and open the Christmas season.

Many of our members were working on the Wheeling's Santa trains out of Brewster. They hurried to the depot after the last run to help with the festivities.

Santa trains

Santa was very busy riding the rails this year! ORHS crewed 14 trains on four days of operation. The Wheeling ran 3 Santa trains for their employees and families from their home base in Brewster, OH on Friday, November 27. The next day ORHS ran four "Riding with Santa" trains from Orrville, our home base. The Wheeling operated three trains from Warrenton, OH on the banks of the Ohio River on Sunday, November 29. The first was for their employees, the next two trips were for a local Rotary organization. On Saturday, December 5, ORHS again operated four "Riding with Santa" trains from Orrville to Lodi, OH and return. The Lodi Railroad Museum was a partner on both 11/28 and 12/5. They sold tickets for the trains, which stopped at Lodi for loading of their passengers. See my article on the ORHS Santa trains on page 6.

Christmas at the Depot

Christmas was celebrated by the ORHS at their 1868 depot on Friday evening November 27, all day on both November 28 and December 5. The depot was trimmed for the festivities, with garlands and a tree. Christmas cookies provided by our members were available for our guests along with coffee and cocoa. A Lionel-size model train was operated by William Wolford delighted one and all. The Gift Shop was open for stocking stuffers and all kinds of railroad items.

Annual ORHS Dinner Meeting

The annual ORHS Christmas banquet and awards ceremony was held on Tuesday December 1 in the party room of Maibach Ford on Route 57 in Orrville. Members brought their own place settings and provided supporting dishes of casseroles, salads, vegetables and desserts. The meat entrée was provided. Election of Officers for 2010 was held. Membership dues for 2010 were collected. A membership form can be found on page 9 of this issue of All Aboard for those who did not update their membership. Awards were given to several members, with Roger Scott awarded as Member of the Year.

Officers for 2010

ORHS has new officers! Adrian Eskew takes over the duties of the Chairman, while John Harding is our new President. The other officers will continue their duties during 2010. Refer to the Executive Committee listing on page 2,



The ORRVILLE RAILROAD HERITAGE SOCIETY Inc. (ORHS), founded by a small group of railroad enthusiasts in 1978, promotes the preservation of our Ohio railroad heritage.

ORHS is a non-profit historical and educational organization based in Orrville, Ohio, a town that owes its very existence and development to the railroad industry. Membership is open to the general public and those interested in preserving the railroad heritage and history of Orrville and the surrounding area.

The Orrville Railroad Heritage Society holds monthly meetings at 7:00 PM on the first Tuesday of each month at the Orrville Union Depot at 145 South Depot Street, just off West Market. The December dinner meeting is held elsewhere. Those interested in learning about the ORHS, or joining, are certainly welcome!

ORHS 2010 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN	
ADRIAN ESKEW	330-484-1101
PRESIDENT /	
JOHN HARDING	330-939-4300
VICE PRESIDENT / FOOD SERVICE	
ANNA DAVIDSON	330-682-6673
CO-SECRETARIES / MEMBERSHIP	
SANDY ENGEL	330-854-4466
JANET FULLER	330-497-7529
TREASURER / EXCURSIONS	
BILL ENGEL	330-854-4466
TICKET SALES	
RENEE BENDER	330-464-3046
SAFETY	
DEAN MARK	330-695-4251
RENOVATION / SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	
ROGER SCOTT	330-682-4372
GIFT SHOP	
BOB CUTTING	330-698-2367
DONATIONS	
LEE FITZSIMMONS	330-264-0576
PASSENGER EXCURSIONS TRAINMASTER	
STEVE MAGIER	330-683-2729
PASSENGER CAR ATTENDANTS	
JIM FULLER	330-497-7529
RAIL EQUIPMENT	
LARRY MARSHALL	330-682-4311
LOCOMOTIVE & TRAIN CREW	
LYNN BUTTS	330-455-6391
ADRIAN ESKEW	330-484-1101
JOHN HARDING	330-939-4300
RICHARD WILLIAMS	330-494-2604
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS	
HOWARD WADE	STUART, FL

WE ENCOURAGE ORRVILLE and WAYNE COUNTY RESIDENTS, and ALL PEOPLE, to BECOME AWARE OF and INVOLVED with the ORRVILLE RAILROAD HERITAGE SOCIETY.

Passenger Train Report

A summary of passengers carried on ORHS trains in 2009. The totals are for both coach and First Class passengers.

- *Museum Flyer* to Bellevue; OH for the Mad River & Nickel Plate Museum --- 237 passengers
- *Railroad Days in Orrville*; short rides on the W&LE siding, both train and track cars --- over 1200 riders
- *Medina Loop Express*; fall foliage five-county trip to Medina, OH and return --- 266 passengers
- *Jumpin' Pumpkin Jamboree*; short rides on the W&LE siding, both train and track cars --- 817 riders
- *Riding with Santa* trains; both 11/28 and 12/05 --- 2018 passengers.



The first 2010 passenger excursion will leave Orrville on Saturday, May 8, for Bellevue, OH to visit the Mad River & Nickel Plate Museum, Ohio's largest. ORHS ticket office will open on Monday, March 15, 2010. Ticket office is open on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday ONLY from Noon to 4 PM. To order tickets, call the depot at 330-683-2426.

For more information, visit the ORHS website at www.orrville-railroad.com

Reporting from the Siding

By Dick Williams

A short report from the siding! Coach #102 was used on the Santa trips. The generator and the electric heat worked quite well. The frame for the air-conditioning unit is installed and the unit itself will be put into place this spring. Work will also be done on #106's AC unit. We would like to get some rust-prevention and cleaning or painting done on locomotive #471 this summer. The siding area is gradually being cleaned up and eventually the north siding will be extended east. Denny Deeser is planning on doing some more work on the ends of the cars this spring.



For interesting railroad articles, including several of ORHS train activities, visit the blog of the Akron Railroad Club at <http://akronrrclub.wordpress.com>

From the Chairman

By Steve Magier

Winter is here and Christmas has passed around the corner! The stockings were hung in the depot, and the water has been drained from the 471. We're all settling down for a well deserved winter's nap. Spring will be here with our first trip of the year before you know it and we'll be off and running once again.

We had a very enjoyable year and a relatively successful excursion season in 2009, despite not being able to reach Pittsburgh. People are still calling or writing to find out when we will be visiting the three rivers city again. Of course we'd like to know the same thing, but there is one thing I have learned over the thirty odd years with the group; never say never. Nothing is impossible.

By the time you read this it will be 2010. One big change for me is that I will not be going into 2010 as the ORHS Chairman. I have served in that capacity for over ten years and felt that I needed a break and the organization needed someone with some fresh ideas.

Adrian Eskew will serve as Chairman and John Harding as President. I have no reservations about either of these gentlemen serving in these positions. Adrian is a veteran member with a very level head combined with years of board experience. John is a relative newcomer to the group but has demonstrated an energy level and enthusiasm that is enviable and admirable. He has jumped in with both feet and is already discussing many new ideas with key members. I have faith that the ORHS is in very good hands with these two gentlemen at the helm. They will be backed by our other veteran elected officers as well as an experienced board of directors. Please give them your total support. They will need it.

It has been quite an honor and privilege to have served as an office of the ORHS. We are a very unique organization and I am proud to be a member. I have made many close friends in this group and hope to make many more in the future.

That being said, I will explain that I am not leaving the organization. I will most certainly be around. For example, I have been asked to continue as Trainmaster which I have accepted. I will also continue to help out with our special events like the Fair and Railroad Days.

The Santa trips went very well this year. We hosted two big Wheeling and Lake Erie Railway trips as well as two of our own. The W&LE was kind enough to allow us to run two weekends this year which only added to our success. Thanks very much W&LE!

The trip on Sunday Nov. 29 to Warrenton was very interesting. The first trip was for the W&LE employees on the eastern end of the line. It was very well attended and we had fantastic weather for it; cool but clear and dry. The trip along the river is something to see. It is on a section of track that few rail fans get to experience.

We then ran two more trips on that Sunday for a local Rotary group. They sold over 600 tickets for the two trips with no outside advertising! That is obviously an untapped area with a lot of people hungry for something different. Of course the biggest problem with running trips in that area is getting our crew to the site of the trip.

The first time we ran the Ohio River trip most of our crew rode the train. We left Brewster at 3:00 or 4:00 AM to get to Warrenton by around 10:00 AM. I would not want to do it again. None of our cars is set up as a sleeper car so we had to make do as best as we could. It was interesting but not that comfortable.

Our mechanical crew stayed on the train as it traveled from Brewster to Warrenton on Saturday night. They also road the train back to Brewster after the last trip on Sunday. I took the van back to Brewster and got home by 7:00 PM. The mechanics said they got home around 3:00 AM. You can see what I mean about the duration of the trip!



Cool Fact: You may not know that we have two movie stars in our midst. Okay, maybe not stars, but certainly key "characters" in a soon to be released movie. Two of our passenger cars will appear in the movie "Unstoppable" starring Denzel Washington and Chris Pine. Their appearance was altered by the production company but sharp eyes should be able to recognize them. I believe a whole article concerning this will be included with this edition of the newsletter.

Thank You Steve,

You have guided the ORHS as Chairman for over ten years. There have been many changes in the operation of our Society during that time. Some of those were instituted by the railroads and other organizations in our operating area. You have guided us well through those changes. We are pleased that you will continue as Trainmaster on our passenger excursion trains.

Thanks for a job well done!

Thanks Wheeling!

The ORHS thanks the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway and their employees for supporting our passenger excursions and Operation Lifesaver trains during 2009.



Operation Lifesaver News

By Bill Engel

Fall 2009 was another busy season of ORHS participation with the W&LE in operating Operation Lifesaver student safety trains. On Tuesday, October 13, we picked up fourth grade students from the Cloverleaf School District at the Lodi depot. These students got to ride eastward toward Smithville before returning to Lodi. As they rode along they watched for safety violations on the TV monitors in each coach. Before the train departed an Ohio State Highway Patrol photographer posed the boys and girls alongside the train for a photograph to be used for a safety poster.

After the Lodi trip the train deadheaded to Spencer to pick up students from the Black River School District. Once again we headed east along the W&LE mainline before returning the students to Spencer.

Wednesday, October 14, found the train in Litchfield to pick up students from the Buckeye School District. This group was also carried eastward but this time we were on the ex AC&Y route to Medina. Some of the boys and girls live near the railroad and were excitedly looking out for their homes. Immediately after dropping this group off in Litchfield, the train was moved to Sharon Center. Here fourth grade students from the Highland District boarded the train for the exciting trip west across the River Styx trestle to Medina. Once again the boys and girls were asked to watch the TV monitors for safety violations.

The last Operation Lifesaver safety train of the season ran on Thursday, October 15. Tuslaw District fourth graders boarded the train at "the Brick" in Brewster. They rode toward Canton before returning to Brewster.

All five ORHS coaches were used on these trains along with ORHS locomotive #471 on the west end and W&LE locomotive #102 (it has an Operation Lifesaver logo painted on the long hood) on the east end.

Sandy and I sincerely thank all the many ORHS members and Wheeling employees who work so hard to make these trains a meaningful learning experience for the students. We are still in the planning phase for the spring 2010 Operation Lifesaver trains. Save the week of May 10 if you can help and let Sandy know that you are available to support this important effort.

Please remember to always "*Look, Listen, and Live*" when you come to railroad grade crossings.



Highland District students board the OLS train on 10/15/09

Treasurer's Report

By Bill Engel

The final figures for our 2009 fiscal year (which ends on December 31) are not available yet as I write this report in late December. It is safe to say, though, that we got through some tough economic times in reasonably good shape. We will finish the year with all current bills paid and no outstanding debts.

Three factors contributed to making this happen. The first was the coach lease money paid to the ORHS by the movie company shooting the film "Unstoppable". The second was the W&LE allowing us an extra Saturday to operate "Riding with Santa". Although the December 5 trains did not sell out as did the November 28 ones our ticket sales were still very strong for that day. The third was significant contribution income of over \$10,000.

Now we must look ahead to 2010. We cannot count on another movie company coach lease so we will have to find that \$16,000 of revenue from another source. The economy still seems sluggish so excursion ticket sales may not grow very much. We do have approval from the Wheeling for two Saturdays of "Riding with Santa" which will help. More good news for 2010 is that we expect to receive a significant sum of money from the estate of deceased life member Agnes Rowland. These funds will be restricted to restoration projects; they cannot be used for general operations.

This would be a good time to remind everyone that ORHS dues are on a calendar year basis so it is time to pay your 2010 dues if you have not already done so. Prompt dues payment will save us the postage required to send reminders.

Please remember that donations to the ORHS are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. We would really welcome donations toward repairing the block tower roof and also toward repairs to the air conditioning on cars 104 and 106. We would also like to move forward on installing air conditioning in car 102 now that the new generator is in place. Response to our appeal for donations in a recent issue of *All Aboard* was disappointing. Any funds received for restoration projects will augment those from the Rowland estate. If you wish to donate to a particular project, please include a note with your donation. Any donation is welcome.

Ohio Rail Tourism Association News

By Bill Engel

The Ohio Rail Tourism Association Annual Conference Committee is hard at work planning an interesting and fun event. Save the dates of April 9-11, 2010. This year the Byesville Scenic Railroad has kindly offered to be the host for what promises to be a great weekend of train riding and meeting and mingling with members of other groups like ours from around Ohio! Byesville is not very far from our part of Ohio. It would be wonderful if a large delegation from the ORHS would attend. For more information about ORTA visit their website at

www.ohiorailtourism.org.

Presidents' Peal

By John Harding

Here's hoping that you and yours enjoyed a happy, healthy, Holiday season in 2009. As the New Year unfolds, we are all looking forward to continuing the mission of the ORHS. I personally will be trying to become more involved in Operation Lifesaver as I will attend the Presenters' Training Course January 27, 2010 in Columbus. We all know how very important Operation Lifesaver is to everyone, so the Engels and I would like to encourage each and every one of you to make an effort to support this worthy endeavor. The W&LE have always been a big supporter of this educational tool, and we do thank them for their time and assistance in making this program work. Kudos also to all the members who have given so freely of their time.

For the past month or so Bill Engel and I have been diligently pursuing some minor changes and additions to our yearly Medina Loop excursion. We will have some concrete suggestions to make to the Board of Directors at the January meeting. These changes are being proposed in the hopes of stimulating new interest in our fall excursion, and we hope they will be entertaining, more on this in the future.

Now, I would like to step out of the box for a moment and take time to recognize a person I think should be recognized. No matter the time or the weather, when we get back from an excursion, we "siding rats" of the mechanical crew always hear the voice of Jerry Beach on our radio, "Rt. 57 is manned and guarded". This lets us know that even though we have spent maybe an hour or so moving cars around and getting ready to put the train to bed, somebody has patiently waited to help us where he can. Thanks Jerry from all of us. If ANYONE else has a person or persons they feel deserve a little extra "attaboy" please let me know, I will try to accommodate this as the newsletters come out. So, until we meet again, keep the rust off the rails,

Your humble President John Harding,
Feel free to contact me at Home330-939-4300



Members John Harding (left) and Mike Trout (right) assist the passenger boarding at Lodi, OH for the Santa train on 1/28/09.

"Unstoppable"

The Story of ORHS in the Movies

By John Harding

The Orrville Railroad Heritage Society in the movies? It did happen, sort of! The movie "Unstoppable" starring Denzel Washington is about a runaway train, i.e. "Unstoppable." Some of the filming was done on the Wheeling property in Brewster, OH and elsewhere along railroad lines. Coaches from the ORHS were used in the filming. Those coaches were #103 and #104. Locomotives were painted by the movie personnel in the Wheeling's car repair shed in the Brewster railroad yard. The shed was modified as a paint shop by enclosing the open sides with plastic sheeting and installing the necessary lighting, ventilation and other equipment.

In addition a certain amount of filming involving Mr. Washington was done in Brewster. The main filming took place in Olean, New York which is just over the border from Pennsylvania. Glenn Bowman and John Harding were on site in Olean to assist with the car maintenance if needed. One morning as we arrived on site in Olean, Glenn and I noticed smoke rolling out from under the #103. Upon further investigation we determined that no fires were imminent, simply testing of "special effects were being conducted. We also spent two days filming in a small Pennsylvania town of Eldred. This sit offered some very nice scenery as well as giant mosquitoes in hordes of not smaller than one million at any given moment.

To witness the constant attention to detail, and the movement of hundreds of people and the needed props and power sources was a real education. There were always sandwich trucks and beverages available at any time during the 16 or 17 hour days. The "base camp" food service area was a sight to behold every day. Leg of lamb? No problem, right here Sir! The one thing I do remember though was a rail official saying "If you EVER have the opportunity to be involved in a movie, DON'T!!!! While Glenn and I felt pretty lucky being involved with this endeavor we could see where the strict safety concerns of the railroads involved were not at all a consideration of the film crews.



The locomotives used in the movie production reside in the Warrenton railroad yard on 11/29/09. Richard Jacobs photo

Santa Trains & Christmas at the Depot By Roger Scott

Our newsletter editor has asked me to do a historical write-up about *Christmas at the Depot*. I did that just last year and do not think it is necessary to go into great detail, except to mention, we have had some sort of holiday festivities since we acquired the depot in 1982. It is right up there with our annual *Railroad Days* for counts. About 12 years ago we added Home for the Holidays to our schedule, which is held on Friday evening of Thanksgiving weekend.

Some times we get involved with the Wayne model railroad club for their "Rt. 30 Express" open houses, held the weekend before Thanksgiving. This year we were not scheduled to be open, but had more visitors than in 2008. We were decorating the depot for the holidays, so we were there when people came through.

On the Santa trains, we had more riders this year than last year, because we added a second trip day, held on Dec. 5. Unfortunately the second day did not sell out, which may have been a good thing, as the phone started ringing in the morning of trip day. There was a chain collision on I-71 South of Mansfield that held traffic back. People were calling to ask if they could ride a later train. I told them to come on; we would find a place for them. I don't know how the coach attendants took care of that, I guess it all worked out ok, as I didn't hear any complaints. I did hear lots of complaints about the coaches being cold. We had three passengers call to say they lost items on the train. According to Renee's tally board; we had 2018 riders this year, up over 875 from last year.

Many thanks to all who supplied cookies for the depot open house. The cookie station took in \$229.00 from the cookies. Thanks to Bob Cutting for supplying the fruit punch and to any and all who staffed the cookie station. Thanks also for those who helped clean and decorate the museum for the holidays.

We are already promoting 2010 Thanksgiving weekend activities and will need your help again for *Christmas at the Depot*. This is a good fund raiser for us and helps to get us into the spirit of the Christmas season.

Thanks, Roger Scott, Activities Director



The parking attendants enjoy the holiday ambiance in the ORHS 1868 depot at the 12/5 Christmas Open House. RJ

ORHS Club News Notes Submitted by Roger Scott

The Orrville Railroad Heritage Society held its annual Christmas Dinner and election of officers during their December membership meeting. The evening was called to order by CEO Steve Magier. After a prayer, led by Rev. Ron McElreath, the dinner was served banquet style, with ORHS safety officers supplying the main course. After the dinner, the election of 2010 officers was held. Adrian Eskew was elected CEO, John Harding President, Anna Davidson Vice President, William Engel Treasurer, and Janet Fuller & Sandy Engel Co-Secretaries. They will take their offices January 1st. Each committee chair was asked to give a report for 2009. A power point program was given by Glenn Bowman about the filming of a movie called "Unstoppable", starring Denzel Washington, to be released in Nov. 2010. In September, two ORHS coaches were used in the filming, in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Various members were given awards for service in 2009, to recognize their hard work for the ORHS. The announcement was made, there will be no membership meeting in January, the next membership meeting will be held Feb. 2nd at the Depot Museum, 145 Depot St. at 7:00pm. The public is invited to attend.

Group tours to visit the Orrville Union Depot Museum can be arranged by contacting Roger Scott at 330-683-2426.

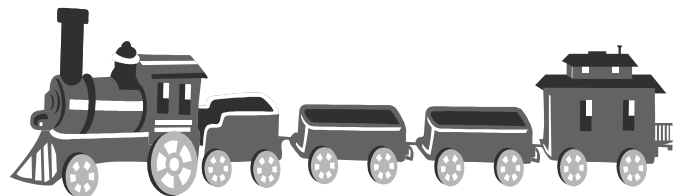
ORHS Monthly Meetings

The ORHS holds its board meetings of the Executive Committee on the last Tuesday of the month and the general membership meetings on the first Tuesday of the month. Meeting time is 7:00pm, at the depot. At times the meetings are moved or cancelled due to holidays or bad weather. We try to notify well in advance if this is going to happen. Bad weather cancellations are announced on Wooster radio

The front office has received word that some of our members are disappointed when no one calls them to help with activities. We circulate sign-up sheets at meetings, so our leaders will know who wants to work. We have over 200 members, and cannot call everyone, members must contact us.

Our excursion trains require attendance at safety meetings, both spring and fall. We all know those meetings are long and boring, but necessary. It behooves us all as members who are interested in participating in events to attend our safety meetings. We have never had a claim filed against us, and to date, have an exemplary record on safety, due to our continuing safety awareness.

Roger Scott



“Riding With Santa”

On the ORHS Santa Trains

By Richard Jacobs

The Orrville Railroad Heritage Society sponsored “Riding With Santa” trains on two successive Saturdays, November 28 and December 5. Trains left Orrville at 10 am, Noon, 2 and 4 pm. They traveled westward from Orrville to Lodi, Ohio and returned. The Lodi Railroad Museum was a partner, with members and their families boarding the train at Lodi for the trip to Orrville and return. A coach was set aside for those passengers. All passengers were required to purchase tickets in-advance from either the Orrville or Lodi ticket agents. Passengers who made late orders picked up their tickets at the train site before boarding. The weather cooperated, with no precipitation at boarding times.

The coaches were decorated with Christmas trimmings providing a holiday atmosphere. ORHS car attendants assisted and entertained the passengers throughout the trip. Member Dean Mark portrayed Santa assisted by his wife Deb and elf Charity Myers. Mr. and Mrs. G.J. Levy of the W&LE portraying Santa Claus and Misses Claus were also onboard to greet the young folks, and delight their parents. There were carolers roving throughout the train. The young folks and their parents joined in the singing!

The trains consisted of several coaches from the Orrville Railroad Heritage Society and two private cars, owned by ORHS members. The private cars were, Larry Marshall’s “C&B Marshall” #3850 and Glenn Bowman’s “Paul Revere” #3125. ORHS concession car #105 was also in the train providing snacks and souvenirs. “I Rode The Santa Train” shirts for the youngsters were popular souvenirs of the trip.

ORHS locomotive #471 led the train westbound, while W&LE locomotive #3068 led the train eastbound on November 28. W&LE #104 provided the eastbound power on December 5. ORHS members staffed the trains, which were operated by Wheeling crews.

The “Riding With Santa” trains extended a wish for a Merry Christmas season from the ORHS to passengers and their children. All aboard, including the crews seemed to have the Christmas spirit!

The ORHS held its “Christmas at the Depot” open house both Saturdays at their 1868 former Pennsylvania Union Depot in Orrville. Christmas trimmings with lots of cookies and hot chocolate created a festive atmosphere. An O-Gauge train layout operated by William Wolford delighted the onlookers. The station gift shop was busy; as the visitors picked up a few stocking stuffers and various railroad items.

“Happy New Year”



ORHS #471 leads the "Riding With Santa train from the branch onto the W&LE mainline at Orrville Junction on 12/5/09.
Richard Jacobs's three photos



ORHS Car attendants Jim and Janet Fuller pass out Christmas bags to the children assisted by elf Charity Myers on 12/5/09.



ORHS member Dean Mark as Santa is the center of attention on the ORHS "Riding With Santa" train on 12/05/09.

New ORHS Members

Welcome to the new members who have joined the ORHS in 2009. Glad to have you aboard!

Recent Donations

Howard E. Wade, one of our founding members, has donated a large cast, painted, montage of railroad trains. This item was made to be sold to a rail fan. It will be hung in our main meeting room for all to see. He told me it was in his office at city hall, when he was mayor of Orrville.

Howard also gave our museum two collector James Beam whiskey decanters, one a locomotive, and one a caboose. When I asked him where the coal tender was, he said it was a separate item; he only had the two out of the series. He said he would look on e-bay to see how many were in the series. It is interesting to see how companies will try to capitalize on rail fans, to produce items to sell to them.

Howard also gave us a large framed, printed roster of CA&C railroad locomotive firemen & engineers, from 1883 to 1927. This is an interesting item; from time to time an 80 or 90 year old will tour our museum doing a genealogy study, and say, "My grandfather worked on the railroad in the early 1900's, do you have any records of that?" Our depot building was owned by many railroads over the years. To the best of my knowledge, none of them saved any of their former employee's paper records. The depot office records were pretty well gone by the time we got the building. I don't think the railroad companies made any special efforts to archive paper records. We are always open to donations of local railroad artifacts.

The **Orrville Public Library** has donated 56 hard cover, railroad related, books to the ORHS. The Orrville Public Library maintains a rather large collection of railroad books that can be checked out. In the donated books, there are two copies of a book published in 1978, written by an Orrville man, titled "The Brasspounder," by Donald Sanders. The brasspounder was a railroad term for a telegraph operator. Donald worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad for 50 years, and finished out his career as a switch block tower operator in 1965, from the Orrville tower. He wrote the book about himself, starting as a very young man.

When I joined the railroad club, "The Brasspounder" was very much in demand and the library had a waiting list for the book. My guess is over the last 30 years anyone who might be interested in this type of railroad book has died. At one time Howard E. Wade talked about getting permission from the Sanders family to do a reprint of the book, I don't know if it would be an item worthy of selling in today's market. The years Don Saunders worked for the railroad were "the romantic years" before the number crunchers took over and all the big mergers took place; when railroad workers were proud of their jobs & strived to do the best they could.

Perhaps we can take any duplicate books we have, and sell them thru our gift shop. The lady at the public library said as far as she was concerned, they are our books, to do with as we please.

We plan to add these books to our library. Many of our members probably don't know that we have two large book cases filled with books our members they can check out, read and return. Several years ago, Mike & Donna Trout catalogued these books, and set up a card file index system.

They even donated a barrister's type book case. Since then, we have continued to receive railroad books for the ORHS library. We need another glass front bookcase. Jake donated the one we have several years ago. At this time, the books are in the office; members are invited to stop in the office, to look at this collection. It would be nice if one of our members could find the time to add these titles to our index file.

Richard Jacobs donated several buildings and cars for the ORHS model train layout used at the Christmas Open House.

My Thoughts on 2009 Jumpin' Pumpkin Day By Roger Scott

This year was our 5th annual Jumpin' Pumpkin Day; this celebration was started 5 years ago by Main Street Orrville. We were asked to help them, and indeed they did a really good job the 1st 3 years. Last year they bailed out on the project just three weeks before the event day, saying they could not get the volunteers to do the job. At the end of 2008, I, with high hopes, let them pick the 2009 date, thinking that between December '08 and October '09 they would find the help they needed. After the first of this year, I went to them to see how things were going. They said they didn't want to continue with Jumpin' Pumpkin Day, but wanted to move on to other things.

Some members of our club had already held discussions on moving JPJ to later in October 2010, making it on the 23rd. This will be the first year we will be able to make our own plans. We are doing this in hope of getting more help with track cars and drivers, I understand they have really big rally's the third weekend in October and can't help us.

This year the weather was also against us. It was cold and windy for mid October; however it never did rain, a plus for us.

Many thanks to Richard and Margo Hull, Jason Worchester & Paul Weitzel, and the track car drivers and others who spent most of the afternoon in the cold. Special thanks to Dean Mark and John Harding for lining up the track cars and drivers. Thanks also to our newest members, Mike & Dwayne Miller, for doing traffic control since we did not set up street barricades as we usually do.

We moved concessions & pumpkin decorating into concession car 105, and even picked up some souvenir sales. The pumpkin decorating did not work well! I think it would have worked better if we could have done it out doors, where the kids could see them, but it was too cold! I think we should revisit this next year, take a chance on the weather, and buy fewer pumpkins.

Even though the weather was bad, the attendance was up over last year. I think people who come to JPJ train rides are now looking forward to it each year. Money wise, we did better than last year. It is beginning to turn into a good fund raiser. The train & track car rides went well, with full or nearly full trains all afternoon. The ironic thing was, the next day the weather turned around, as October always does. By Monday, it was sunny and 70 degrees, as was most of the rest of the week.

Basically, everything went well; many thanks to all who helped. Hope to see you next year, on October 23.
Roger

**MEMORIAL STATION PLATFORM LIGHTS
FUNDED AS GIFTS
By Howard Wade**

Even with security lighting installed under the roof overhang of the Orrville Union Depot, it would be nice to dress up the area around the ORHS property by installing station platform lighting. I have noticed the type of lamps that light the entrance to the Smucker Store on State Route 57. Most of them are similar to the normal station platform lamps that were used around railroad depots.

Several weeks ago, I contacted someone at Smucker's about who made those lamps. I got the information forthwith and wanted to share some of my thoughts in how we may be able to acquire similar lamps to be installed as part of the wrought iron security fence along the east west rail lines.

The company in question is Lumec and their Domus-Small series seem to fit the bill. It would have to be determined by a lighting expert as to how far apart these platform lamps should be installed as part of the fence line. The design has the upper part of the lamp (see the diagram) in a "bishops' crook" with the lamp on the depot side of the pole. The lighting would be energy saving and probably either low or high pressure sodium. The electrical line would be run under the brick work and each lamp would have a light sensor that would automatically turn on the lamps at dusk and off when it gets light in the morning.

I have asked Roger Scott to contact Howard Calame at NRH Electric to see if he can acquire the lamps from the manufacture and suggest the best way to install them as part of the antique style wrought iron fence.

Funding could be considered by members of the ORHS who might want to under right the purchase and installation of one or more lamps as a memorial to a family member or friend who loved railroading. As one of the original founders of the Orrville Railroad Heritage Society, I would certainly give serious consideration to funding one or more of the lamps in memory of my late Grandfather, Howard H. Wade who served 50 yrs on the C.A. & C. and for whom our coach #102 is named. I would also honor my late father, Earl "Butch" Wade who was a locomotive engineer on the PRR and Penn Central from 1942-1975.

My late mother, Pauline Wade, was very active in the ORHS and loved handling the credit card sales of many of the tickets for our important excursions. She worked closely with the late George Herman, who manned the ORHS ticket office religiously while he lived.

Note: The site for the station platform lights is www.lumec.com/pdf/series/Domus-Small-series.pdf.

From that site, it should be possible to extract the platform lamp design to add to the article. (See lamp design below)



Domus Series

The Domus Series is one of the most versatile luminaires offered by Lumec. This classic shape was one of the first in a line of innovative Lumec designs. Encompassing most of the exclusive Lumec innovations, the Domus can fit into any environment; be it the main street of a small Alaskan village or the downtown of a high-tech center. Combined with today's efficient optics, Domus embodies the tradition of excellence in Lumec products.

Characteristics

- > Constructed from top-quality materials, the Domus Series maintains excellent performance in even the most demanding environment.
- > Smartleaf™ optical systems (IP46) virtually eliminate Luminaire Dirt Depreciation (LDD)
- > Tool-free access to lamp and electrical components for ease of maintenance.
- > SHA and SSA optical chambers reduce glare by using a unique combination of reflectors and internal prism refractors.
- > SCB optical chamber offers exceptional performance and cutoff with a combination of a hydro-formed aluminum reflector and a tempered glass lens.
- > Dark-sky friendly 5G optics provide full cutoff in five distributions.



Did You Forget to Renew Your Membership for Year 2010?

A short reminder to all our members --- **Renew your membership now!** --- Complete the form below, particularly the date and any address changes. Being a paid-up member is your ticket to participate on the ORHS trains.

YEAR 2010 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Regular Membership \$15.00 Family \$25.00 Senior \$10.00 Student \$7.50

Date _____ Name _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email Address _____

**Bring to the next ORHS meeting, or to the depot on a Saturday, or mail with check to
ORHS Membership, PO Box 11, Orrville, OH 44667
Make checks out to ORHS, DO NOT Mail Cash**



ORHS passengers enjoy the ride on the October 10 "Medina Loop Express" while chatting with car attendant Dick Hull.
Barbara Cornell photo



ORRVILLE RAILROAD HERITAGE SOCIETY, INC.
Post Office Box 11
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Orrville, Ohio 44667-0011

09/4

"Jumpin' Pumpkin Jamboree"
"Riding with Santa"
New Officers

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