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# ALL ABOARD

The Official Newsletter of the ORHS

Summer - Fall 2011-3

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RAILROAD DAY, FALL FOLIAGE EXCURSION, OPERATION LIFESAVER TRAINS,  
ORHS ACTIVITIES & INFORMATION, RAILROAD NEWS ITEMS

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## ORHS News from Your Editor, Richard Jacobs

The summer months have been busy for the ORHS. The Orrville Union Depot Museum was open for visitors twice a month on the 2nd and 4th Saturday afternoons.



The ORHS was honored to have its former Pennsylvania Railroad 1868 depot and PRR Orrville signal tower listed on the National Register of Historic Places, as part of the Orrville Downtown Historic District.

The signal array installation next to the depot is not yet completed. The south concrete base needs the PRR signal tower finished and mounted on it. All three signal towers require wiring to activate the lights.

The main summer activity was the 31st Railroad Day (formerly Depot Days) held in Orrville on August 13. Train and track car rides were offered from 12 Noon to 4 PM. The celebration has for years been the premier ORHS summer activity. The Orrville Union Depot Museum was open for visitors to view the many railroad artifacts and displays inside. Norfolk Southern graciously staffed an Operation Lifesaver booth. Buckeye Rail Model Engineers from Galion, OH brought their miniature train for kids of all ages to ride. A railroad hand pump car and children's games completed the trackside activities. Snacks and cold soft drinks were served to our visitors by ORHS members. Other members ran the train, organized various activities, and provided a safe environment for all to enjoy. See Roger Scott's article on page 6.



The Wayne County Fair was held September 10-15. The ORHS again sponsored a booth on the Midway near the Grandstand. The 4-H Railroad Safety program posters were displayed in the 4-H building. That 4-H

program has been sponsored by the ORHS for several years to help present the railroad safety message.

The depot fence along the Norfolk Southern mainline is being painted as a Boy Scout service project. The fence was in bad need of paint. The fence posts have been cut ready for the new caps which are on order. When installed, they will help extend the life of the fence.

The Summer has gone, and a busy October 2011 for the ORHS is also history. The Fall Foliage Circle Trip was run by the ORHS and the W&LE Railway to Medina from Orrville on Saturday, October 8. The new effort offering ticket sales via our website went well. Our 358 passengers enjoyed the warm October Saturday aboard our train.



During the week of October 17, the W&LE and ORHS operated Operation Lifesaver trains on four successive days carrying students and staff from five school districts in Medina and Stark counties. See OLS report on page 4.



On Saturday, October 22 train and track car rides were operated on the W&LE Orrville secondary as part of our annual Jumpin' Pumpkin Jamboree. Visitors were able to visit our locomotive. Our concession car was open

for snacks and souvenirs. The Orrville Depot Museum was open to visit as part of the celebration.

See the article about our *Busy October* activities on Page 7.

Work on our passenger car fleet continues at the ORHS siding area in Orrville. Air conditioning work on cars #104 and #106 has been completed. ORHS member Glenn Bowman has added a new car to the passenger car fleet. Larry Marshall has his parlor car #2860 for sale. The ORHS is trying to work a plan to retain the car in our fleet. ORHS member Tommy Jaite continues to work on his former Great Northern lounge car. See Lynn Butts report "From The Siding" on page 7.

Unfortunately, the ORHS lost two long-time members lately. Nancy Carmony and Evelyn Braucher have passed away. They both were active ORHS members. They will be missed, but certainly remembered!

Welcome Aboard to the new members who have joined the ORHS. Thanks to several members and friends have made donations to the ORHS.

We are getting ready for our "Riding With Santa" trains from Orrville to Lodi, OH and return. Those trains will operate on Saturdays November 19, 26, and December 3. We will also provide our trains for the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway Santa rides. See the poster and report on our "Santa" trains and other topics throughout this issue of All Aboard, the newsletter of the ORHS.



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 501(c)(3) 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 Street. The December dinner meeting is held elsewhere. Those interested in learning about the ORHS, or joining, are certainly welcome!

WE ENCOURAGE RESIDENTS of ORRVILLE and WAYNE COUNTY, and ALL PEOPLE, to BECOME AWARE OF and INVOLVED with the ORHS.

### ORHS 2011 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN / LOCOMOTIVE & TRAIN CREW	
ADRIAN ESKEW	330-484-1101
PRESIDENT / LOCOMOTIVE & TRAIN CREW	
JOHN HARDING	330-939-4300
VICE PRESIDENT / FOOD SERVICE	
ANNA DAVIDSON	330-682-6673
SECRETARY / OPERATION LIFESAVER	
SANDY ENGEL	330-854-4466
TREASURER / EXCURSIONS	
BILL ENGEL	330-854-4466
RENOVATION / SPECIAL ACTIVITIES	
ROGER SCOTT	330-682-4372
GIFT SHOP	
BOB CUTTING	330-698-2367
MEMBERSHIP	
RENEE BENDER	330-464-3046
PASSENGER CAR ATTENDANTS	
JERRY BEACH	330-484-9815
RAIL EQUIPMENT	
LARRY MARSHALL	330-682-4311
LOCOMOTIVE & TRAIN CREW	
LYNN BUTTS	330-455-6391
RICHARD WILLIAMS	330-494-2604
SAFETY	
DEAN MARK	330-695-4251
CHAIRMAN EMERITUS	
HOWARD WADE	STUART, FL



## ALL ABOARD

### SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

OPERATION LIFESAVER PROGRAMS & TRAINS	
SANDY ENGEL	330-854-4466
BILL ENGEL	330-854-4466
RAILROAD SAFETY POSTERS	
ROY CARMONY	330-262-5555
PASSENGER EXCURSIONS TRAINMASTER	
STEVE MAGIER	330-683-2729
PUBLICATIONS and NEWSLETTER	
RICHARD JACOBS	330-682-6213

## Camcorders Still Needed by ORHS

Do you have an old 8mm-magnetic-tape camcorder that you no longer want? We are looking for a couple of these units for use on our Operation Lifesaver train. The tape transport doesn't need to work, but the camcorder should have either optical or electronic image stabilization (they are to be used on the front decks of both locomotives - a very bouncy environment) and should have NTSC-composite-video and audio output jacks. If you have anything that meets this description and wish to donate it to the ORHS, please bring it or send it to the depot.

Thanks! Dick Williams (ORHS OLS video technician).

## New ORHS Members

Welcome to the new members who have joined the ORHS recently. *Glad to have you aboard!*

- Sherri Biben of Wooster, OH
- John Bethel of Canton, OH
- Olin Brillhart of Orrville, OH
- Lance Erickson of Gilbert, Iowa
- Kathleen Keating-Brillhart of Orrville, OH
- Ray and Maggie Dellmore of Eastlake, OH
- Dixie MacLane of Doylestown, OH
- Eric Schlentner of Akron, OH
- Ken and Jan Tkach of Wakeman, OH
- Edna Mae Wade of Fredricksburg, OH

## **ORHS Library**

ORHS has a sizeable collection of railroad books in its library. Any member interested in checking out a book from our library should stop by and do that. Phone the depot at 330-683-2426 and leave a message. You will be contacted to make arrangements to come in and select your book.

We really need to find someone to go thru our library and add all the books we have received the last 5 years to our card file.

## **4-H Poster Judging Contest**

The judging of the 4-H Railroad Safety posters was held at the Orrville Depot Museum on the morning of July 23. Eight ORHS members, along with three area law enforcement personnel judged the posters entered by several Wayne County 4-H Clubs. Four 4-H clubs had winners.

## President's Peal

So yet another year has gone roaring down the tracks here at the ORHS. We all worked very hard at our two Spring excursions but found the results just a bit discouraging for sure. The important thing is that we, as a group, did not just hang our heads and give up. A god deal of thought and hard work went into getting our organization signed up with the Whistleix ticket company.

Lo and behold we have had to lease two additional cars to handle our Fall Foliage Tour to Medina. As a matter of fact we had to shut off the buffet dinner offering three days early due to seating capacity in the A.I. Root conference room. This is a great problem to have.

A lot of hard work has gone onto the new generator and A/C units on the #104 and #106 this summer. This work will keep these two units viable for our use for many years to come.

In short we have had a memorable year here at the ORHS. It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as your president for the past two year. Now I will step down and take some time to enjoy my retirement for a while. The only reason we have been able to accomplish what we have done is due to the work ethic and dedication of YOU the members. Thank you on behalf of myself and the other officers. I look forward to working with the new officers slate and promise to do what I can to support them in their efforts as I know the rest of the membership will.

Your humble president,  
John Harding

## Annual Dinner Meeting



Our Annual Meeting will be held Tuesday December 6, 2011 at Maibach Ford in the north end of Orville on Route 57. Please plan to pay our ORHS 2012 dues at this time, as well as elect officers for 2012.

No changes have been made to the dues structure. A change this year in the menu! The main meat dish WILL NOT be catered, so meat dishes WILL BE provided by the attendees. Barb Magier has graciously consented to coordinate the food dishes we will bring. She can be reached at 330-683-2729, early evenings only. If needed, leave her a message describing the delectable dish you will bring that night. Leave her your phone number so Barb can get back to you to suggest another choice.

We will begin to gather around 6 PM and anticipate eating at 6:30 PM. Please remember to bring our own plates and eating utensils. We will be presenting our "End of the Year 2011" awards to deserving individuals.

So let's all mark have a super camaraderie. Our especially



this date as we always evening of trackside new members are welcome!

## "Riding With Santa" Tickets Are on sale now!

Take your children for a Holiday ride with Santa on an ORHS train! ORHS will operate "Riding With Santa" trains on three Saturdays, November 19, 26, and December 3. Three trips to Lodi from Orrville will be run each day; leaving Orrville at 9 am, 11 am and 1 pm. Passengers will board the trains at 245 McGill Street in Orrville. Follow the signs to the parking lot.

### TRAINS WILL NOT LOAD AT THE DEPOT!

To purchase tickets for the "Riding With Santa" trains, simply log on to the ORHS website at [www.orrvilletrainroad.com](http://www.orrvilletrainroad.com) and follow the directions.

In addition, tickets may be ordered by telephone at **330-667-5121**; listen to the prompts. Both of these services are available 24 hours a day. Finally, tickets may be purchased at the Orrville depot on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays when the Depot is open from 12 Noon to 4 PM.

Ticket prices are \$28 for adults and \$18 for children. A limited number of First Class tickets are available at \$38 each. All ticket prices include a \$3 processing fee.

The Orrville Union Depot Museum will also be open from Noon to 6 PM on Saturdays November 19, 26 and December 3 for the Holiday Open House festivities.



The "Fall Foliage Circle Trip" speeds through Creston on its way home to Orrville on October 8th.



The model trains were fun too at Railroad Day on August 13.  
Two photos by Richard Jacobs

## Treasurer's Report

By Bill Engel

As of the Executive Committee meeting on October 25, we had \$9,171.45 less in our combined checking account, Edward Jones money market and Investment funds than we did at this time in 2010. As I reported to the members of the committee this was mainly due to the poor spring excursion ticket sales and the \$13,000 we spent for maintenance on locomotive 471.

The good news is we had 358 passengers ticketed for the "Fall Foliage Circle" trip on October 8. In fact we even leased two coaches from Midwest Railway Preservation Society in order to accommodate all the passengers who wanted to ride! Even with the added car lease expense these extra passengers provided badly needed revenue. Tickets have been on sale since July 15 for the "Riding with Santa" trips on November 19 & 26 and December 3. Sales have been slow through October 28, but we hope after Halloween people will start thinking about Christmas. Our cars have again been leased to the Dennison Depot for their "Polar Express" trips in December.

Use of WhistleTix for ticket sales, which allows our passengers to purchase tickets via the internet, has gone well. As with any new system, there have been things to learn. The tech support people at WhistleTix have been very patient with all our questions and have responded promptly when called upon. Using this service does not totally eliminate our own local ticket office. I want to thank Anna Davidson, Kristine Dietz, and Roger Scott for their help with tickets.

Although I plan to report further on our financial status in the next issue of "All Aboard", it is clear we need to find other ways to raise funds beyond operating train rides. One project for which we will need to raise funds is the purchase of Larry Marshall's car #3850. It may even be necessary for the Society to borrow money in order to accomplish this goal. We will also need several members to step forward to accept responsibility for maintaining the car when it becomes club property.

I will conclude my report with a gentle reminder that the ORHS is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law and would be welcome. We need several thousand dollars to complete the purchase of car #3850 as well as other projects such construction of the signal display at the Depot. Also, keep bringing in your aluminum cans for Bob Cutting and Roger Scott to recycle.

## Operation Lifesaver News



Fall 2011 was a busy time for OL activities. The 4H Railroad Safety Poster exhibit at the Wayne County Fair kicked events off in September. Then in October we helped the W&LE run four days of OL student safety trains during the week of October 17. First to ride, on October 18, were 138 third grade students from the Highland Local Schools. They rode from Sharon Center westward across the River Styx trestle to Medina and return. On Wednesday, October 19, 97 third graders from Black River Local Schools rode eastward from Spencer to Creston.

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Later that day 226 Cloverleaf Local Schools third graders boarded the train at the Lodi Depot for a trip eastward to beyond Creston and return. On Thursday October 20 a group of 97

Tuslaw Local Schools 4<sup>th</sup> graders rode from Brewster to east of Bolivar and return. Finally, on Friday, October 21, it took two trips to accommodate a large group of 292 Lake Local Schools fourth graders from Hartville Elementary who rode from Hartville south to the Middlebranch area and return.

With the large number of students all five ORHS passenger coaches were used on these trips. ORHS locomotive #471 was the power at one end of the train while W&LE locomotive #106 was at the opposite end. Sandy Engel thanks all ORHS members who helped in any way with these trains. Support from the Ohio Highway Patrol (Officer Hirsch) and Hartville Chief of Police Larry Dordea is also greatly appreciated.

The 2012 plans are to run OLS student safety trains following our Spring excursion. If you would like to help, please contact Sandy.

Please also remember to always

**"Look, Listen, and Live"**

when you come to railroad grade crossings or  
are near railroad property.

## Ohio Rail Tourism Association News

The Ohio Rail Tourism Association (ORTA) has scheduled their fall trustee's meeting for Saturday, November 5, hosted by the ORHS in Orrville! A major topic for discussion at this meeting is sure to be the 2012 ORTA Annual Conference. The Conference is planned for April, to be hosted by the Age of Steam Roundhouse. Watch for more details in the next "All Aboard"!

## Passenger Rail Update

Amtrak announced record rider ship for the Fiscal year that ended September 30. Just over 30 million passengers boarded Amtrak trains during the year. The number would have been higher if there had not been numerous service disruptions due to extreme weather, such as the flooding along the Missouri River near Omaha, NE.

Amtrak has also announced Federal funds have been granted to them for track and signal improvements. One such project is in central New Jersey where it is hoped a maximum speed of 160 MPH can be achieved along sections of the Northeast Corridor by 2015. Also, New York State has been granted Federal funds to add a second main track between the Schenectady and Albany-Rensselaer stations and add a track at the later station to improve train movements. This project, when completed, will help to keep the *Lake Shore Limited* on time.

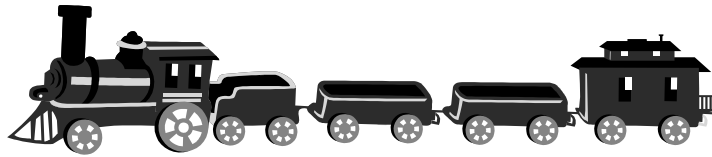
In early October the prototype Viewliner dining car made its first revenue trip in the consist of the *Lake Shore Limited*. Although the car body was built by the Budd Company way back in 1988, it will be prototype for the new dining cars to be built by CAF.

The fall 2011 Amtrak timetable takes effect on Monday, November 7. This writer is unaware of any changes affecting our Northeast Ohio Amtrak service at Cleveland and Alliance.

# “Riding With Santa”

## THE ORRVILLE RAILROAD HERITAGE SOCIETY

Will Proudly Operate Three “SANTA CLAUS TRAINS”  
 With Their HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE at the Orrville Depot  
 Saturdays, November 19, 26 and December 3, 2011



### “Riding With Santa” train tickets are available now!

The Santa Claus Trains *travel to Lodi, OH and return. Trains will leave Orrville at 9 AM, 11 AM, and 1 PM from the train crossing at 245 McGill Street. Trains WILL NOT LEAVE from the Orrville Depot!*

### SANTA TRAIN TICKETS ARE REQUIRED in Advance!

Tickets ordered are non-refundable! Prices are \$28 Adults, and \$18 Children 12 years and under. A limited number of First Class tickets are available at \$38 each. All ticket prices include a \$3 processing fee.

Contact the ORRVILLE RAILROAD HERITAGE SOCIETY (ORHS) website at [www.orrvilletrain.com](http://www.orrvilletrain.com) and click on “TICKETS” then follow instructions, or Order by phone at 330-667-5121 and listen to the prompts.



Join the ORHS at our **HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** to kick off the Christmas season from 10 AM to 6 PM. Our 1868 Depot Museum is located next to the tracks just off West Market Street in Orrville. There will be operating model trains and displayed items of railroad interest to please one and all. Cookies, popcorn, hot chocolate and other seasonal treats will be available. There is no admission charge, but donations are certainly appreciated. The Depot Gift Shop will be open for all those railroad related and other Christmas gifts.



## *2011 Railroad Day*

**By Roger Scott**

First I want to thank everyone for their help before, during, and after Railroad Day. Special thanks to those who came the weeks before the event to clean, and help set up the depot and the grounds.

This was our 31<sup>st</sup> year for some kind of railroad show. The weather was great, the rain held off until Sunday when our part of the show was over, and it wasn't too hot this year. Railroad day rides went from 11 am – 4 pm, the museum was open from 10 am – 6 pm during railroad day.

We only had a few no shows event day, most were doing something elsewhere. As it worked out, Lodi Railroad Museum had an event the same weekend, we have some members who are in both clubs, and there was a track car meet at Titusville. We still managed to have as many as thirteen track cars to help out with Railroad Day.

The 2010 Rib Burn-Off and Railroad Day fell on the 1<sup>st</sup> weekend in August making it compete with half dozen major events in Wayne and Stark Counties. This year's event was moved to the second weekend which was better, but caused us to have conflicts elsewhere. There are 800 festivals, fairs, or events in Ohio in the summer months making it hard to select a date where nothing else is going on.

For the most part this year's event went smoothly with no major problems.

My guess is next year we will have Railroad Day on Sat. Aug. 11. It is too soon to tell for sure. I'm looking forward to seeing you all in 2012.

## *Heartland and ORHS*

**By Roger Scott**

For twenty years an Orrville organization, Heartland, has worked with the Orrville school system planning events, community cooperation projects, to instill involvement and volunteerism in the students. The theme for the 2011-2012 school year is trains or railroads. The city of Orrville owes its very existence to the railroad companies, and would not be here if it were not for railroads, it is Orrville's heritage.

The Heartland people asked the ORHS to help them with a school project; this year's goal was to fill a railroad box car with personal care items for needy people. The ORHS was asked to provide a boxcar for the project. We asked our host railroad if they would help with this request and they indeed sent a boxcar up from Brewster to use as a promotional aid. It was placed at the South Main St. W&LE grade crossing for three weeks. Large banners on each side advertised the event.

On Sept. 23 citizens brought items to Abe Hoshetler's warehouse, located across the NS main line from our depot. The school students did all the hands on labor. The next day the items were taken to Salvation Army headquarters.

Many thanks to W&LE for providing the box car and Eastwood Manufacturing for allowing us the use of the reload depot and rail spur. Although they did not come close to collecting enough to fill a box car, they considered it a huge success. Thanks to any of our members who helped with this project.

## **ALL ABOARD** *Recent Donations*

**By Roger Scott**

**Howard E. Wade**, a charter founding member, recently donated a railroad station styled, wood cased, wall clock. It has been placed in our depot main meeting room. Howard also donated a Jim Beam rail related whiskey decanter, a companion coal tender to go along with the engine and caboose he donated several years ago. Now all we need is the 6 or 7 rail cars to make a complete collector's item set. Howard has been very generous to ORHS over the years.

**Scott Imhoff** of I.C.S. Services has donated a small four wheel freight cart in dire need of restoration. If anyone is interested in tackling this project contact our office. This would be someone handy with wood working, what is left of the original cart looks like it is oak or ash wood.

Long time member, **Dennis Deeser** has donated a Nickel Plate Railroad booklet to our library, it was printed in 1944 and lists the towns and cities all along the Nickel Plate Railroad, and the products they produced and shipped. It is a very well written booklet, done in story form. It appears to be one of four in a series published for the NK: as a promotional. The NKP acquired the W&LE in the early 1950's. The booklet explains the relationship of the two railroads and the exchange points along the routes.

Robert Cutting has accepted a donation of a wood cased telephone from our newest member, **Dixie Maclane**. According to Dixie, the phone came from the N. Main St. grade crossing on the CA&C RR near Smucker's. The phone was used to call the switch block tower to get clearance for the train to proceed south into downtown & cross the PRR main line, near the depot. Dixie said her grandfather, Sam Butzer, was a PRR worker on the Lake Division.

Long time member **Dean Mark** brought a large envelope to the depot that was given to him by Linda Alexander. The envelope was full of litho photos of tourist attractions west of the Mississippi River, produced by Union Pacific Railroad as something to encourage people to travel by rail. The envelope marked and labeled Union Pacific had a post mark, but I couldn't read the date. However, some of the photos had automobiles from the mid 1950's. The envelope was mailed from Omaha 2, Nb. to Applecreek Oh; no zip codes, to a Mrs. Ruth Welty and weighed more than two pounds. It was mailed for 12 cents. My, how prices have increased over the years! This type of donation is always interesting to look at, and will be added to our library. We really need to find someone to go thru our library and add all the books we have received the last 5 years to our card file.

## *ORHS Thanks You for Your Donations!*

We are always open to donations of railroad artifacts. Please contact the depot museum at 330-683-2426.

*Remember, A Financial Donation to the ORHS is  
Income Tax Deductible!*

## News From The Siding

By Lynn Butts

### Passenger Cars

Car #104 is now finally operating with the new generator hanging on it and the wiring done. Car #106 has a new 480 transformer that will handle the power from the 104. There is a special plug on the 104 & 106 so both cars can be run off of the new generator. This will allow us to put more heaters in each car to provide better heating.

Glenn had his two cars cleaned before the October 8 trip and they really look nice. His new car went with us so it could be broke in, and it operated pretty well. I'm not sure what he has in mind for it in the future.

Tommy Jaite's car is still in the works and progress is moving ahead. There will be three of our cars receiving more heating elements, helpful for our Santa trips. All of our cars except #102 have out side 110v outlets so we can operate the camera for Operation Lifesaver from any car. Car #102 will have this outlet by next year.

The new air system is installed on cars #104 and #106 and operated well on the October 8 trip. We did well on the cost for the air installation so, we should be in great shape in the future. This should put an end to any large projects on the ORHS cars finally!!!!

### Locomotive 471 Classes

In the Spring of 2012, I will be putting on a training class that will cover the operation of our engine #471 from starting, inspection before operating, and actual running and braking. There will also be a class on radio usage, switching, road crossing procedures, and track inspection.

Anybody may attend but I would like anyone that now helps on the engine, or is serious about helping to attend. This class is meant for engineers, conductors and switchmen.

We will also be going over our book of rules and the Wheeling and Lake Erie Railway rules (Some of their rules apply to us).

The classes will be presented and discussed at our regular meetings, as well as at the Executive Committee meetings..



Visiting #471 at the Jumpin' Pumpkin Jamboree  
Photos by Richard Jacobs

## ALL ABOARD In Memory Of

The ORHS has lost two ladies, who for many years assisted the Society in its endeavors. Nancy J. Carmony and Evelyn Braucher have passed away recently. The ORHS will miss them, but also thanks them for their assistance over the years. Their bright smile will be sorely missed on our trains and at the depot.

Nancy J. Carmony was born October 24, 1950 at Meshoppen, PA. She was the wife of active ORHS member Roy Carmony. She and Roy were always hosting in ORHS car #106 on our passenger excursions and "Riding With Santa" trains.

Evelyn Braucher was almost 93 when she passed on. She was the aunt of our Vice President Anna Davidson, both members of the Wade family, who helped found the ORHS/ORHC in 1978. A tribute to her from Anna follows.

### *A Tribute to Evelyn from Anna* By Anna Davidson

Evelyn worked on concession CAR 105 alongside my Mom, Sally Wade, for many years until the rocking and rolling got to her. I would say she probably worked with us (the ORHS) for about 15 years. She routinely helped cover the booth at Depot Days, no matter the weather. She enjoyed watching the July 4th Parade with our group as we served popcorn and pop on the Market Street corner with Depot Street. If it was too nasty, she would watch from her car parked close to the road on Depot Street. She helped Roger for about 15 years serving popcorn, coffee, hot chocolate, and cookies at the Holiday Open House in the depot on Saturday, while the rest of us were on the Santa Train. She enjoyed being part of our organization and loved telling people about our efforts.

She would have been 93 had she lived until her birthday on 11/16/2011. As our minister said, during her lifetime she witnessed so many wars, tremendous technological advancements, and also setbacks, such as the loss of trolleys and passenger trains in the Wayne County Area. She often told stories of riding the streetcar from Wooster to Creston to visit her grandparents and sit with her grandfather who was ill. She was 12 when she started going alone on these trips.

Like my mother, she was a great lady and will be missed by everyone.



Boy Scout volunteers painting the ORHS Depot fence.

## Wayne County Rail to Trails

By Roger Scott

On May 14, 2011 the Wayne County trail from Rittman to Creston, thru Sterling was dedicated. The trail is nearly 6 miles long, some of our members participated with track car rides. There were many important political people there doing the honors.

Years ago I used to attend the Wayne Rails to Trails meetings, until they got so painfully slow I could hardly stand it. At that time, they were working on a trail from Holmesville to Clinton thru Orrville on the old CA&C Railroad right of way. It was to go right past our depot museum. This could be a good thing for our museum since there would be a steady flow of users on the trail. They are still working on this trail project; it was set aside when they got hot on the north trail. I don't know how long it will take to finish the one to Clinton. The Northern Wayne Co. Trail took 9 years. Three years longer than they thought. I hope it happens faster than that. I think it would behoove us if one of our members would attend the meetings to voice our wants on this project, to see that it goes past our building as originally planned. When a trail starts or ends, they designate that as the trail head, or where users park their cars, get the bicycles out and take off. Most times they will have a building with rest rooms and maybe a snack bar. A recent Daily Record news article stated they have not selected an Orrville trail head yet. Anna Davidson attended the last meeting for rails to trails.

Later this summer on the weekend of July 30, the ORHS track car people were invited back to Rittman for the Sleep Walker Festival. I didn't make it to that event; I understand not many people rode on the track cars.



County Line Trail photos by Richard Jacobs

## ALL ABOARD Our Depot Building

By Roger Scott



When we bought the depot building from Conrail, the power had been shut off for awhile. When we held our 2<sup>nd</sup> Depot Days in 1982 we were still using generators to light the depot. Then with the help of N.R.H. Electric's

owner Howard Calame, we ran conduit and wires. We only did the very minimum to get by. We put outlets and lights in the gift shop area and the room we use as our front office first. Howard and I would meet in the evening and work on it after work. Howard donated his time; it was before we had any real fund raisers, and no money.

Over the years a little was done each year; however the building is still sadly under powered. Some times when I am making coffee and forget to unplug one of the electric space heaters, we trip a breaker. This is what we live with. We have never had the funds to do things properly until we got the Rowland bequest.

Earlier this year the car service crew came to the depot to help us do something. While we were waiting, Lynn Butts asked what all the extension cords went to. I pointed out the television and VCR was run off the office outlets and the cord we use to pop corn during events ran off the same circuit as the water heater. It was the only outlet and breaker in the west side of the depot that could take the needed load for the popper. Lynn told his buddy "I think we found a project for this winter, running circuits in the depot." I asked Glenn if we could spend the Rowland money on this project, he said he couldn't see why not. So hopefully this winter we get new outlets in the depot.

Oh, by the way, there was a fire in Jerry's Tavern, just ½ block from the depot that burned two stores bad enough that they had to close. It is thought to have been started by overloaded power circuits, that maybe resulted in half million dollars of damages.

## Agnes Rowland Bequest

By Roger Scott

Over a year ago we received a letter from a Florida attorney stating the ORHS was named in the will of a deceased woman. Mrs. Rowland was a life member of the ORHS and had been getting our newsletter for over 25 years. No one could really remember her, so I called around town to former active members who remembered she was a member who came thru the Bellevue Railroad club when we did joint events, and worked as a car attendant on our mid 1980's steam trains.

The ORHS did indeed get a bequest from the estate for renovations only, not a huge amount of money, but every bit helps. A committee has been set up and determined the monies would be split up some for the depot, some for engine 471, and some for coaches.

**Remember!** The ORHS is always in need of funds and will accept cash donations. We are a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and you can take a tax write off on cash gifts to us.



## A Busy October!

The Orrville Railroad Heritage Society (ORHS) has had a busy October, 2011. The Fall Foliage Circle Trip passenger excursion to Medina was run on Saturday October 8. The train left Orrville and traveled through five Ohio counties on its way to Medina and return. The new ORHS effort of offering ticket sales via our website went well. 358 passengers enjoyed the train ride on a sunny October day. A large number of those passengers ate at the chicken buffet held at the A.I. Root Company in Medina. The Candle Shop at the company also hosted many visitors. Other passengers visited the West Liberty Commons nearby for eats and shopping.



ORHS and the Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway have been actively engaged in the Operation Lifesaver program for several years. OPERATION

LIFESAVER (OLS) is a non-profit, nationwide public information and education program dedicated to reducing crashes, injuries and fatalities at intersections where roadways meet railways and along railroad rights-of-way. It is an active program in the United States and Canada, embraced and promoted by the railroads themselves through advertisements and special trains.

## ALL ABOARD

ORHS members who are certified Operation Lifesaver presenters conduct classroom sessions at the invitation of several northeastern Ohio schools, followed by a 45 minute long train ride so the children can obtain an actual view of the track route and grade crossings. This is accomplished with view cameras mounted on the locomotive, with displays on TV monitors in the coaches of the train. The views are augmented by commentary from ORHS and W&LE personnel onboard.

During the week of October 17, 2011 the W&LE & ORHS carried 850 school students, plus teachers, support staff, and bus drivers on four days of OLS trains. Five school districts in Medina and Stark Counties participated in the program.

On Saturday, October 22, ORHS conducted its Jumpin' Pumpkin Jamboree on the tracks from McGill Street crossing in Orrville. Train rides were run west about a mile on the former Wheeling & Lake Erie mainline, now an Orrville siding. The trains ran every hour, with track car rides conducted between the runs. Visitors were able to visit the locomotive, and stop in the ORHS concession car parked nearby for snacks, cold pop and souvenirs. It was a fun October afternoon, indeed!



## Membership Renewal for Year 2012

**Renew your membership now!** --- Complete the form below, particularly the date and any address changes. Being an active member maintains your eligibility to work on our excursion trains and other events. Being up to date keeps you current on our membership list for all mailings.

### YEAR 2012 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**



New members keep us going! We need new people to help further the heritage and history of the railroads of Orrville and elsewhere, a task undertaken by the Orrville Railroad Heritage Society (ORHS). The revenues from our excursions help do that. Our members staff those excursions, and also help with maintaining our passenger cars. They also help at events at our 1868 former Pennsylvania Railroad depot. ORHS has plenty of opportunities for those wishing to enjoy the fellowship with good people with similar railroad interests. Perhaps you pal around with another couple in other social ways. Why not bring them into the ORHS and increase your social time with them and us. We have fun doing what we do best, operate fun-filled passenger train excursions and depot events!



The ORHS former Pennsylvania Railroad 1868 Depot Museum and Tower are honored to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places, as part of the Orrville Downtown Historic District.

	FIRST CLASS	
<i>"Riding W "Holiday O</i>	149 South Depot Street Orrville, Ohio 44667-0011	<i>th Santa" trains pen House" at the depot</i>

2011-3

Founded in 1978