



# BLUE RIDGE DISPATCHER

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No. 10



Kurt Reisweber presents the show at the October meeting of the Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS: Norfolk Southern on Norfolk & Western, Part Two. The time period covered runs from early 1980s to the 2000s. The photo above shows an eastbound coal train with only one unit leading at Hemphill, WV, in May 2000. Even the "not quite so good photos from the past" will be a delight to view, so come on out to the meeting this month.

**Wednesday, October 12, 2016. 6:00 p.m.**  
**Charley's Restaurant. 707 Graves Mill Rd. Lynchburg, VA**



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BLUE RIDGE CHAPTER  
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
Lynchburg, Virginia



**Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS  
Minutes of Meeting – September 14, 2016**

President Rick Johnson called the meeting to order at Charley's Restaurant at 7:30 p.m. and welcomed 18 members and three guests: Dona Duval, Mary Guthrow, and Elizabeth Lipscomb. The minutes of the August meeting were approved as shown on the website. Lloyd Lipscomb agreed to take the minutes for this meeting. Treasurer John Tanner gave the treasurer's report as of date

Under Old Business and reports, Rick Johnson reported on the current condition of Norris Deyerle at Lynchburg General Hospital. He passed out a card to be sent to Norris for members and guests to sign.

John Tanner reported on this year's Rail Day, saying it was financially successful with 356 paid admissions. Barry Moorefield thanked members of the chapter for helping with good media coverage and being excellent volunteers. Further decisions on Rail Day will be made at future meetings.

Rick Johnson announced that the annual Christmas banquet will be held at the old railroad station in Altavista on Saturday, December 3.

According to the bylaws, a nominating committee is to be chosen to find candidates for next year's officers, who must be voted on in October. He added that the early timing is due to NRHS requirements, which have been changed.

Vice President Gale McKinley reported that dues for the NRHS and the Chapter for next year would be collected beginning in October. Payment may be made online or by check. She encouraged Chapter members to support the NRHS. She also recommended the Toy Train show to be held in Pulaski on October 1 between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Rick Johnson welcomed her back following her surgery.

Under Closing Business and announcements, Rick Johnson announced the next Fun Meeting on September 28. He plans to show slides of previous trips to Pennsylvania and New York State. Ed Fielding said that volunteers would be welcome for the "Fall Foliage Special" on the Buckingham Branch in October. Kurt Reisweber will present the regular October program.

Reggie Akers won the 50-50 drawing. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

The program was presented by Dale Diacont, who showed slides beginning in Cumberland, Maryland and heading north to the area around Lake Michigan and to the Algoma Central Railway between Sault-Ste.-Marie and Hearst, Ontario.

Lloyd Lipscomb, Acting Secretary

**Norris Update: Week 7  
by Peggy Deyerle**

To say that Norris is doing better than he was six weeks ago would be an understatement since he was in danger of not surviving the infection. He remains hospitalized at Virginia Baptist Hospital, fifth floor, room 35. His room phone is [434-200-4483](tel:434-200-4483). He enjoys talking and he can have visitors. We still don't know from week to week how long his recovery will be but we are pleased with his progress. One surgery to go remains ahead plus lots of physical therapy. We appreciate your keeping him in your thoughts and prayers.

***The Railcow is hanging in there!!***

**Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS 2016 Calendar of Events**  
**58<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Blue Ridge Chapter**  
**A Virginia's Rail Heritage Region Partner**  
**Compiled By Norris Deyerle**  
**Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS Chairman of Virginia's Rail Heritage Region Partners**  
**Newly updated or added events since last month printed in "Bold Italics".**

Renew your NRHS membership on [www.NRHS.com](http://www.NRHS.com) today! Good things are happening with the new and improved NRHS! Also log on to [www.NRHS.com](http://www.NRHS.com) to see what the future holds for today's railroad preservation historical society! It's alive!

Vote "Yes" for a future Amtrak stop in the Town of Bedford, Va. also serving the Smith Mountain Lake area riders. It's easy and free! Go to [www.thebedfordstation.com/petition](http://www.thebedfordstation.com/petition)

Notice: I urge our friends with the other railway historical groups and museums to take advantage of these two websites to promote your train show: <http://trc.trains.com/events.aspx> or <http://modelshopsusa.com/other/raillinks.php>. There is no cost to promote your train show on these websites. It's simple to add your event to their websites and your event approval is fast and efficient. These are websites that will help us all get the word out about our events!

**OCTOBER 2016**

10-12-16: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Regular Monthly Meeting – Kurt Reisweber Presentation

**NOVEMBER 2016**

11-06-16: {Sunday} 39th. Annual Gaithersburg Railroad – Steamship – Transportation Artifact Show and Sale and it's 11th. Annual Gaithersburg

Model Train Show and Sale, Montgomery County Fairgrounds, Gaithersburg, MD. Info: [www.gserr.com](http://www.gserr.com)

11-09-16: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Regular Monthly Meeting – Wayland Moore Presentation

11-23-16: {Wednesday} ALERT! NO BRC, NRHS "FUN MEETING" DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

**DECEMBER 2016**

12-03-16: {Saturday} BRC, NRHS Annual Christmas Banquet, Prior reservations required, social hour starts at 6:00 pm. with no alcoholic beverages, Buffet meal following. Slide or PowerPoint railroading presentation rounds out the evening. Former Southern Railway Station, the current Altavista Area Chamber of Commerce, 414 Washington Street, Altavista, Va. 24517 Directions: [www.altavistachamber.org/directions](http://www.altavistachamber.org/directions)

**12-14-16: {Wednesday} BRC, NRHS Regular Monthly Meeting – Presenter Needed**

12-17-16: {Saturday} BRC, NRHS Kemper Street Station Holiday Gathering

**Blue Ridge Chapter, NRHS Website:** [www.blueridgenrhs.org](http://www.blueridgenrhs.org)

Rails to Trails: High Bridge Trail State Park: <http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state-parks/hig.shtml>

<http://www.virginia.org/Listings/OutdoorsAndSports/HighBridgeTrailStatePark/>

<https://sites.google.com/site/friendsofhighbridgetrail/>

Historical USGS Topographical Maps: A great research tool for locating abandoned railroad lines, etc.

<http://nationalmap.gov/historical/>

Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation – Free Official State of Virginia Railroad Map, Write: 600 East Main Street, Richmond, Va. 23219

Phone: 804-786-4440 Website: [www.drpt.virginia.gov](http://www.drpt.virginia.gov)

Rail Cam Suggested Viewing by Lee Hawkins: [www.railserve.com](http://www.railserve.com) has been on my suggested list for some time but BRC member Lee Hawkins noticed that a new location has been added. Log on to <http://www.railserve.com/RailCams/> You will see the Thomasville, NC rail cam located in downtown Thomasville, NC right on the Southern {NS} mainline.

**Model Railroading:** High Bridge Railroad Club, Farmville, Va. Info: [www.sites.google.com/site/hbrclub](http://www.sites.google.com/site/hbrclub)

**Modern Day Railroading:** Norfolk Southern and CSX Locomotives – The Diesel Shop, NS and CSX Loco rosters with professional quality photographs. The NS site includes NS Heritage locomotives. <http://www.thedieselshop.us/NS.HTML> &

<http://www.thedieselshop.us/CSX.HTML>

**"Fallen Flag" railroads of local interest:** NEWEST ADDITION: Nelson & Albemarle Railway Historical Society, [www.nelson-albemarle-railway.org](http://www.nelson-albemarle-railway.org) Franklin & Pittsylvania Railroad, The old "fast and perfect" railroad that ran between Gretna and Rocky Mount, Va.:

<http://www.fandprrailroad.org>

Locomotive Search Tool And Railroad Photos Link: [www.railbaron.rrpicturearchives.net](http://www.railbaron.rrpicturearchives.net)

Railroad Related Events Information: Visit: [www.varailheritage.org](http://www.varailheritage.org), [www.vmt.org](http://www.vmt.org), [www.linkmuseum.org](http://www.linkmuseum.org), [www.nctrans.org](http://www.nctrans.org),

[www.RoanokeNRHS.org](http://www.RoanokeNRHS.org), <http://nrhsvirginia.blogspot.com>, [www.dcnrhs.org](http://www.dcnrhs.org), [www.odcnrhs.org](http://www.odcnrhs.org), [www.nwhs.org](http://www.nwhs.org), [www.cohs.org](http://www.cohs.org),

[www.csxthsociety.org](http://www.csxthsociety.org), [www.thecrhs.org](http://www.thecrhs.org), [www.theruralretreatdepot.com](http://www.theruralretreatdepot.com), [www.srha.org](http://www.srha.org), [www.rfandp.org](http://www.rfandp.org), [www.vatraincollectors.com](http://www.vatraincollectors.com),

[www.traincollectors.org](http://www.traincollectors.org), [www.railroadcollectors.org](http://www.railroadcollectors.org), [www.nhvry.org](http://www.nhvry.org), [www.norfolksouthernhs.org](http://www.norfolksouthernhs.org), [www.RailServe.com](http://www.RailServe.com),

[www.gsmr.com](http://www.gsmr.com), [www.trains.com](http://www.trains.com), [www.TrainFinder.com](http://www.TrainFinder.com), [www.gserr.com](http://www.gserr.com), [www.wghshow.com](http://www.wghshow.com), [www.drpt.virginia.gov](http://www.drpt.virginia.gov),

[www.crewrailroadmuseum.org](http://www.crewrailroadmuseum.org)

Norfolk Southern/TVRM Steam Excursion Website: <http://www.21stcenturysteam.com> OR <http://www.tvrail.com/pages/21st-century-steam>

Steam Train Events in the United States and Canada: [www.diary.svsfilm.com](http://www.diary.svsfilm.com)

Steam Locomotive Locations: [www.steamlocomotive.com](http://www.steamlocomotive.com)

Railroad Historical Information and Related Photos: [www.hawkinsrails.net](http://www.hawkinsrails.net)

Railroad Photos: [www.railsinvirginia.com](http://www.railsinvirginia.com), [www.railfirephotography.com](http://www.railfirephotography.com)

Key Lock & Lantern Railroad History and Preservation Organization, [www.klnl.org](http://www.klnl.org)

Railroadiana Collectors Association, Inc. {RCAI}, [www.railroadcollectors.org](http://www.railroadcollectors.org)

Danville & Western Ry. Website: Railway operated in Southwestern Virginia between Danville and Stuart. <http://southern-railway.railfan.net/dw/>

Trains & Travel International: [www.traintrips.biz](http://www.traintrips.biz)

Additional links to other NRHS Chapters, Railroad Historical Societies and Museums available at [www.blueridgenrhs.org](http://www.blueridgenrhs.org) Keep track of

Amtrak trains: <http://asm.transitdocs.com> Virginia Museum Of Transportation Rail Cam: <http://www.nwhs.org/cam/vmt>

Roanoke, Va. Rail Cam: <http://www.roanokerrailcam.com> {New 2016 Updated Address}



## SIGHTINGS



Sep. 22 - Amtrak engine 136 needed a little attention to repair a broken suspension spring. Cranemasters was called in to do the lifting of the unit on site in Lynchburg. (Rick-II Johnson)



Sep. 27 - CSXT geometry train westbound at the Reusens Dam crossing. Normally 6025 is doing the honors solo on these trains. Looks like it needed some help today. Note the odd buffer car behind the engines. (G. Harper)



Oct. 5 - Amtrak's veterans' unit, P42 #42, trailed on the southbound Crescent Oct. 5. (G. Harper)

## Amtrak Service Restorations Underway following Hurricane Matthew's Landfall Service resumptions in Virginia, North Carolina and Florida

Amtrak is restoring some of the service in the southeast following the severe weather impact of Hurricane Matthew along the Atlantic Coast, with thanks to host railroads CSX, Norfolk Southern and the Central Florida Commuter Rail Commission.

The following service plan will be in effect on Monday, Oct. 10, and Tuesday, Oct. 11:

In Virginia, service to Norfolk is restored with the arrival of Train 125 on Monday, Oct. 10. Service is expected in both directions on Tuesday.

In North Carolina, the Carolinian (Trains 79 & 80) will operate only between New York City and Richmond and between Charlotte and Raleigh, with no service between Raleigh and Richmond.

Piedmont service between Raleigh and Charlotte will not operate

In Florida, the Silver Star (Trains 91 & 92), will operate only between Miami and Winter Park. Otherwise, the Silver Star is canceled between Winter Park and New York City, as is the Silver Meteor (Trains 97 & 98) between New York City and Miami and the Auto Train (Trains 52 & 53) between Lorton, Va., and Sanford, Fla.



Unlike many rail lines to our east, NS's Piedmont corridor remained unscathed for the most part. While all service into Florida was cancelled and some service into North Carolina had to be curtailed, Amtrak 19 and 20 operated without much trouble save for a lengthy flood warning order south of Lynchburg Saturday night., October 8.

The outer fringes of Hurricane Matthew overspread the area Saturday morning bringing with it a little bit of rain. (Your Editor received about 1.3") Caught under the weather Saturday morning was the Lynchburg Regional train, Train 156, powered this particular day by Amtrak's Phase I heritage locomotive 156. (G. Harper)

A right sizeable crowd boarded the train this morning. In fact, it was a very busy week in general as many of the colleges in the area were having their fall break. Approximately 250 passengers boarded the two northbound trains at Lynchburg on October 6. About 330 in all detrained from the two trains October 9.



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