



BLUE RIDGE DISPATCHER

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Los Angeles Union Station

The February program will be presented by Gale McKinley who will show slides taken on her October/November 2018 cross-country Amtrak trip that she took with her father, Richard A. Claytor. The trip began in Washington DC with travel to Los Angeles via New Orleans on the Crescent and Sunset Limited. The return trip was on the Southwest Chief to Chicago concluding on the Cardinal back to DC. Photographs will include scenery, historic buildings, and various railroad related subjects encountered on the journey.

Wednesday, February 12, 2020. 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 - January 8, 2020**

President Rick Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:28 pm at Charley's Restaurant and welcomed 22 members and guests Dona Duval, Lydia Dixon and Mary Guthrow. Rick announced that chapter member Gordon Watkins passed away December 24th and a memorial service, attended by a number of members, was held at Westminster-Canterbury, where he lived. Tom Ledford reported on his recent visit with member Norris Deyerle and how well he seemed to be getting along after surgery. Minutes of the December meeting were distributed in the newsletter and approved as sent. John Tanner, the former Treasurer then reported. Newly elected treasurer, Skip Hansberry, should be handling chapter finances by the February meeting.

Under old business, Rick reported that 25 attended the annual Christmas banquet in Altavista and he thanked Rick Dash-2 for his banquet program and congratulated him for receiving his 25-year NRHS membership pin at the banquet. Rick stated monthly programs are still needed for 2020. \$13.00 local BRC membership dues are due, as well as \$50 National dues. The letter of support for the C&OHS receiving a NRHS grant for the restoration of C&O business car "Chessie 29" was submitted to Tom Dixon.

Under new business Rick reminded members of the important meeting on January 15 to plan Lynchburg Railroad Day for 2020. Meeting will be held at Charley's at 7:30pm. Cliff Clements made a brief announcement concerning Erie 400, which was former C&O business car number 2, recently donated to the C&OHS.

Vice President Gale McKinley was not present, National Representative Bob Leslie had no report, Newsletter Editor Garland Harper, although not present, was thanked for another excellent newsletter and Webmaster Tim Witt reported that the webpage was now working great. Rick announced that Gale McKinley would be providing the program for our February 12th meeting. The 50/50 was won by a restaurant employee. Meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

Tom Dixon provided a wonderful "Tour of the C&O in Virginia" for the evening's entertainment.

Thomas G. Ledford, acting Secretary

LYNCHBURG RAILROAD DAY 2020

The Blue Ridge Chapter will again hold our annual Lynchburg Railroad Day on Saturday, August 8th this year...thanks to ten BRC members and guest, which met for a special meeting at Charley's Restaurant on January 15th and formed the BRC's Lynchburg Railroad Day Committee. Planning for our annual 2020 event has begun and we look for it to bigger and better than ever! If you did not attend the meeting, but would still like to be on the committee, please plan to attend the next LRD meeting when announced. Thanks! -Rick

MEMBER NEWS

We're happy to report that Earl Guthrow is, in his own words, back to his old self with no more symptoms of the intestinal obstruction discovered during a routine check-up a few weeks ago. Earl reports he had a final follow-up visit with the surgeons at UVa and they were pleased with his recovery. Sympathy is extended to Editor Garland and wife Peggy following the unexpected death of Peggy's mother on January 11. Editor Garland's article about the construction of Southern Ry's "cut-off" around Lynchburg, which was first published in the October 2012 issue of Lynch's Ferry magazine, appeared in the latest issue of the NRHS Bulletin. Editor Garland thanks Chapter member Bob Leslie for his diligent work in getting the article included in The Bulletin.

**2020 George Washington Train Show
February 15 – 16, 2020**

Presented By:
THE CHESAPEAKE & OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY
cohhs.org

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH 10AM - 4PM
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16th 12PM - 4PM

THE TRAIN SHOW WILL BE HELD AT THE CLIFTON FORGE ARMORY 724
COMMERCIAL AVE.,
AND AT THE C&O RAILWAY HERITAGE CENTER
705 EAST MAIN ST. CLIFTON FORGE, VA 24422

ADMISSION: \$5.00 per person and includes admission to
the C&O Railway Heritage Center/Museum

The George Washington Train Show will be a fun filled weekend.
The show will include model layouts, model train vendors,
railroad memorabilia, a visit to the museum, food and so much more!

In the news...

CP derailment prompts Canada to order train slowdown

Canada's Transport Minister Marc Garneau late last week ordered a 30-day speed limit for trains hauling dangerous goods including crude oil. The order took effect Feb. 7.

Garneau issued the order after a second freight train in two months carrying crude oil derailed in Saskatchewan.

Read the entire article at:

[CP derailment prompts Canada to order train slowdown](#)

Progressiverailroading.com

Lawmakers seek Amtrak policy review after wheelchair users were quoted \$25,000 ticket price

U.S. Senators Tammy Duckworth and Richard Durbin and U.S. Rep. Jesus Garcia are calling on Amtrak to review its policies on disability accessibility after two passengers who use wheelchairs were initially told they'd have to pay \$25,000 to arrange for accommodations for their group to travel from Chicago to Bloomington-Normal, Illinois.

Read the entire article at:

[Lawmakers seek Amtrak policy review after wheelchair users were quoted \\$25,000 ticket price](#)

Progressiverailroading.com

Five men sue driver of trash truck struck by Amtrak train in 2018

Two years after a train carrying a Republican congressional delegation collided with a trash truck, five more passengers have filed lawsuits targeting the driver, trash company and train conductor.

Read the entire article at:

[Five men sue driver of trash truck struck by Amtrak train in 2018](#)

dailyprogress.com



Amtrak Offers Trips for Two with Its Buy One Get One Free Valentine's Day Sale



Amtrak again this year wants to show customers how much they're loved with its Valentine's Day Buy One Get One Free Sale. Starting Thursday, Feb. 13, through Monday, Feb. 17, 2020. Customers can buy one ticket and get the second one free for travel between March 9 and August 30, 2020, with no blackout dates.

The sale is available at Amtrak.com, and all prices will be automatically discounted from the standard fare price. This offer is valid for travel on all reserved service. This offer is not valid on unreserved service, including the Pennsylvanian, Keystone Service, Capitol Corridor, Hiawatha Service, Pacific Surfliner and 7000-8999 Thruways. Not valid on Auto-Train. Fares are one way (adult) and no additional discounts apply. Adults must travel together and be booked in the same reservation. Valid for coach seats only; no upgrades allowed. Once travel had begun no changes to the itinerary can be made. This offer if not combinable with any other discount offer. Availability is limited. Sale prices are not available at all times and on all trains. This offer is also subject to any restrictions, blackouts and refund rules that apply to the type of fare purchased. A 25 percent cancellation fee may apply. Please refer to discount code V214 when reserving space.

Attention, CSX fans... Chapter member Ed Fielding provides this list of CSX CM44AC locomotive numbers that have been rebuilt and renumbered from AC44C6Ms.

New - Old	7007 - 173	7204 - 223	7212 - 264
7000 - 46	7008 - 164	7205 - 230	7213 - 205
7001 - 58	7009 - 149	7206 - 243	7214 - 256
7002 - 33	7010 - 125	7207 - 250	7215 - 306
7003 - 53	7200 - 202	7208 - 227	7216 - 359
7004 - 25	7201 - 207	7209 - 219	7217 - 251
7005 - 14	7202 - 208	7210 - 375	7218 - 240
7006 - 122	7203 - 215	7211 - 289	

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