

April 2010 No. 4

Meeting - Monday April 12th 7:00 PM

## Local News

### FLORIDA RAIL ADVENTURES SOLD TO MICHIGAN FIRM

Michigan-based Rail Entertainment USA has announced the purchase of Florida Rail Adventures. B. Allen Brown, president and CEO of Railmark, which owns Rail Entertainment USA, said he looks forward to operating in Florida, despite current difficult economic conditions. For further information, please refer to the Orlando Sentinel article at the following address:

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/lake/os-lk-tourist-train-sold-20100415.0.3998947.story>

### MOTORCARS VISIT WINTER GARDEN

Photographs Courtesy of Irv Lipscomb



The caravan of motor cars, bound for Tavares, departed Winter Garden Saturday morning about 8:30.



The cars are ready to roll on down the line!



Safety meeting at the motor car event



Scene in the Railroad Museum as motor car operators and guests enjoyed refreshments prior to the run.



Another shot of the cars leaving Winter Garden.

## Chapter News

### Central Florida Railroad Museum Report March 2010

*Submitted by Ken Murdock. Museum Curator*

We had another very productive museum workday on Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. We had a smaller turnout than we have been experiencing, with 6 members participating, but we really accomplished a lot. The main project for the day was to freshen up the restroom with a thorough cleaning and new paint. Al Sharp started by removing everything from the walls and caulking all of the cracks including those between the ceiling boards. Mike Ryan then moved in with his roller and brush and put on a heavy coat of latex semi-gloss. The only problem Mike had in the 4' x 4' space was staying out of his own way! Al then replaced the wire shelf, due to the vinyl coating deteriorating, and installed a new ceiling light fixture. We still need to paint the brown baseboard but we ran out of time due to visitors arriving after lunch.

Jerry Honetor was busy working on his inventory for the library using his new software. He is starting to make some good progress with that enormous project. Irv Lipscomb preformed a number of house cleaning chores including mopping the two front rooms, cleaning glass showcases and vacuuming. Allen Quinn brought his welder and worked on making a leg for the track level that we are restoring. Allen also got 2 coats of paint on the table in the caboose before visitors arrived. It looks great! I had time to work on displays, sort some photos, and do some cleaning as well. We didn't get to start the inventory Saturday due to one remaining thing that Jeff needs to do, but I feel that we should be ready to get started next month.

I stopped by the Maitland Historical Society on March 16<sup>th</sup> to check on the display items that we have loaned to them for their railroad display. They were originally loaned for 10 months and were to be returned around the end of last year. They then asked for a 3 month extension which I granted so I felt it was time to see when they would end the exhibit and return the items. Well, Andrea Cox, Executive Director, asked for an additional extension, possibly as much as another year. She said the coming of the railroad played an important part in the early growth and economy of Maitland and the railroad exhibit has been very popular. I granted her request but have asked that our agreement be updated since the one who signed it is no longer with the MHS. She agreed to my request.

### CENTRAL FLORIDA CHAPTER, NRHS Combined Board and Regular Meeting Minutes March 8, 2010

*Submitted by Mike Ryan. Secretary*

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. By Past President Phil Cross. (Bill Dusenbury's wife was very sick.)

Chapter Chaplain David Rhea led the members in prayer followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The following Board Members were present: Phil Cross, Dan Crusie, Jerry Honetor, Clarence Hurt, David Rhea, Irv Lipscomb, Ken Murdock, Chuck Ansell, and Mike Ryan.

Phil asked if there were any visitors and guests. Bethany Waricka, Frank Milmore (newest member) and Robert Feeney were present.

Regarding Recognition of Members/Friends Concerns, it was announced that Jerry Hardwich was ill with a bad viral infection that is keeping him confined to his house for the next several weeks,

#### FEBRUARY 2010 MEETING MINUTES:

Phil Cross asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February Combined Board & Regular meeting. The motion was made by David Rhea and seconded by Jerry Honetor. The motion passed unanimously.

#### TREASURER REPORT:

Treasurer David Rhea gave a report for the month of February 2010. David announced that during the month the chapter received an income of \$473 and had expenditures of \$1,363.73. The reason for the difference is that we paid for liability insurance on the building, the office and officers and directors. The balance in the account is \$6,848.22.

Phil Cross presented a bill from the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation's IT support specialist for one hour of service that came to \$75. The specialist worked with Jeff Dearmin to get Past Perfect up and running on one of the Chapter's computers. Phil asked for approval to pay the bill. The motion was made by Irv Lipscomb and seconded by Dan Crusie. The motion was passed unanimously.

#### ASSISTANT TREASURER REPORT:

Jerry Honetor had nothing to report.

#### MEMBERSHIP AND PROGRAMS REPORT:

Vice President Dan Crusie announced that the chapter has 70 members, and he is expecting a few more.

Dan reported that the trip to the Florida Railroad Museum in Parrish, Florida on February 20<sup>th</sup> was a great event.

Ken has set up a trip to Fort Pierce to see the progress on the restoration of the ex-FEC 0-8-0 steam locomotive # 253. That trip will take place on Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. Interested members will meet at Allen's Diner at noon for lunch to be followed by the yard visit.

The City of Tavares will be conducting their annual: Trains, Planes, and B-B-Que on April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. Event will be in Wooton Park by the shoreline of Lake Dora in downtown Tavares. Mike Ryan announced that the Florida Rail Adventures portion of that event will be hourly train rides with each train guaranteed to be robbed by cowboys. Rides should cost only \$5 per person.

The Bloom and Grow Spring Fever event will take place in Winter Garden April 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>.

Phil Cross reminded the Chapter that Wes Coscia has an open invitation to come to his facility. Wes has over 700 feet of track in Dade City including motorcars and a caboose. A trip there might be possible either March or April. We need to set up a date,

Motorcars will be at the Winter Garden Depot the last weekend in March. On 3/27, we will sponsor coffee orange juice and donuts instead of a full breakfast like we did last year. Irv Lipscomb will coordinate getting the breakfast materials purchased and to the museum. We will need volunteers to show up at 6:30 that morning. After the breakfast, the motorcars will leave the museum for an excursion to Tavares. Riding in the motorcars is a hit and miss situation.

#### EDUCATION REPORT:

Irv Lipscomb reported that we might set up field trips in conjunction with Sharon Lamb of Lakeview Elementary special education students to visit our museum.

Irv asked for members to host the museum on future dates. Various members volunteered.

#### MUSEUM CURATOR REPORT:

Ken Murdock reported that the next workday would be this Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup>. Several members did a show of hands to volunteer.

Ken mentioned that Past Perfect software for cataloging equipment installed on one of the Chapter's computers. The Heritage Foundation's Past Perfect software can accommodate up to five users at one time.

Ken mentioned that he did not attend the training session. Material that was sent to him was obsolete and actually had occurred in February 2009.

The specifics regarding the Canadian Trip appeared in Trains Magazine

#### SECRETARY REPORT:

Mike Ryan had no report

#### ASSISTANT SECRETARY REPORT:

Clarence Hurt had no report

#### NATIONAL DIRECTOR REPORT:

Chuck Ansell reported that the NRHS annual meeting in Duluth, Minnesota lost money. They blamed us. The coming convention next summer will be in Strasburg.

#### HISTORIAN REPORT:

Phil Cross told the group that the DVD on the T & G is almost ready to go. Captions have been done for the still shots.

The Chapter is still looking for pictures of Chapter events including work sessions. If the members have anything, please forward it to Phil Cross.

Phil gave Ken Murdock the 4 railroad reference books that the Chapter obtained from Tom Tabor at no charge to the Chapter.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

(Phil Cross reporting.)

Phil said that Mike Ryan reported back to him that Neil Bagaus did not want to serve as the host to the banquet. He also said that most members when asked about a preference for date indicated that December 4<sup>th</sup> was the choice most wanted. Phil Cross will confirm the December 4<sup>th</sup> date with the West Orange Country Club and will work with the treasurer David Rhea to provide the \$300 deposit when it is due.

Chapter members also indicated that we not have a meeting in December. Since the chapter bylaws indicate that this meeting is mandatory, Phil advised that he will ask President Dusenbury to activate the bylaws committee to adjust dates when a slate of officer candidates and then voting for same to occur earlier prior to December.

TECHNOLOGY/WEBSITE/FLATWHEEL EDITOR REPORT:

Ken Lyons announced that Past Perfect license allows for up to five users to be working on the software at the same time, This software will be used by volunteers working in the Heritage Museum, the History Center, and the Railroad Museum.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE REPORT:

Jerry Honetor announced that the new software purchased to inventory media (books, magazines, videos, etc.) is up and running on the computer in the library. One of the reasons this process is so slow is that when he picks up a book for entry, reading the book is tempting.

WINTER GARDEN HERITAGE FOUNDATION MUSEUMS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Our museum had 551 visitors the month of February and logged in 206 volunteer hours.

The Heritage Foundation is hosting a golf tournament May 10<sup>th</sup>. It will be their major fundraiser. The Heritage will also be involved in a Music Fest next October. Also, the Foundation is working very hard to vacate the Roper Building.

Jerry Chicone inquired as to whether the Chapter would be interested in maintaining the yellow caboose parked in front of the Heritage Museum on Plant Street. Ken Murdock, Curator, agreed that we would handle minor maintenance items but would not be responsible for painting. Heritage will pay for any materials needed

FLORIDA CENTRAL RAILROAD UPDATE:

No report. Bill Dusenbury was not present.

FLORIDA RAIL ADVENTURES UPDATE:

Florida Rail Adventures President Neil Bagaus was not present. Mike Ryan reported the 8330 GP 10 engine that was sidelined would be repaired. The water in the oil was due to a gasket that needs to be replaced, not a cracked cylinder.

Mike mentioned that under the leadership of Mr. Pete Petree – VP and General Manager for Florida Central Railroad, they charging much more to rent one of their engines if Florida Rail Adventures needs to use one.

OTHER ITEMS:

Phil announced that Dr. Ross from Ohio Valley will list out discounts.

Ken told the membership that the museum's 1880 parlor car stained glass window is now back lighted and on display.

Phil said that we are trying to get several of our stored showcases loaned out so that now items stored off site can be returned to our storage room.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. The Meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm

Al Pfeifer provided refreshments.

Following the meeting Patrick Smith made a presentation about his rail camp experiences.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Ryan

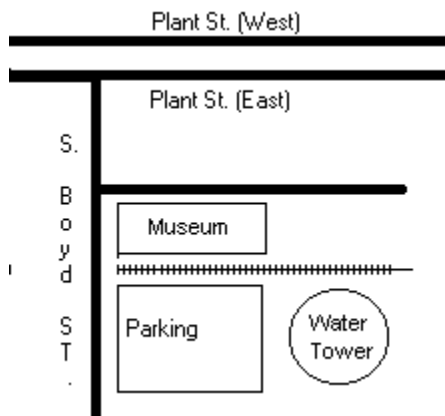
# THE FLATWHEEL

PO Box 770567  
Winter Garden, FL 34777

April 2010

**The Museum:** is located in downtown Winter Garden at 101 South Boyd Street, Winter Garden, FL 34787

It is open to visitors on **Daily 1-5 PM**, excluding holidays, or by special arrangements.



**The Central Florida Chapter** of the NRHS meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at the museum location. Guests and visitors are encouraged to attend.

Club correspondence and other materials for the club should be sent to:

CFC-NRHS  
PO Box 770567  
Winter Garden, FL 34777-0567

**Web page:** <http://www.cfcnrhs.org>

**Flatwheel:** Material for the Flatwheel (including exchange newsletters) should be sent to:

The Flatwheel  
101 South Boyd Street  
Winter Garden, FL 34787

Email: [cfcnrhs@gmail.com](mailto:cfcnrhs@gmail.com)