

# THE FLATWHEEL

The Official Monthly Publication of the Central Florida  
Railway Historical Society, Inc.



## August 2014

### August 2014 Meeting

Monday, August 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
Central Florida RR Museum  
101 S. Boyd St., Winter Garden, FL  
**Program:** The United, Verde & Pacific RR  
**By:** Phil Piet  
**Refreshments:** Ken Murdock

### September 2014 Meeting

Monday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
Central Florida RR Museum  
101 S. Boyd St., Winter Garden, FL  
**Program:** Rebuilding a Chinese QJ  
**By:** Matt Scherwin  
**Refreshments:** Jerry & Ginger Honetor

### Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc.

#### Central Florida RR Museum Host Duty Schedule — August 2014

DAY	DATE	HOURS	MUSEUM HOST
Saturday	8/2/14	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Phil Baker
Sunday	8/3/14	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Mike Kelly
Saturday	8/9/14	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Irv Lipscomb
Sunday	8/10/14	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Bill Dusenbury
Saturday	8/16/14	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Jim Benson
Sunday	8/17/14	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Gary Dettman
Saturday	8/23/14	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Dan Crusie
Sunday	8/24/14	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Richard Bazzo
Saturday	8/30/14	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Jerry Honetor
Sunday	8/31/14	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Clarence Hurt

## RIFLES, RAILS & HISTORY



Living History Encampment  
Wooton Park - Tavares, Florida  
September 26 - 28, 2014

[www.riflesrailsandhistory.com](http://www.riflesrailsandhistory.com)

Presented by Focus Magazine 321-377-8953

### August 2014 Museum Work Ses- sion And Quarterly BOD Meeting

Saturday, August 23, 2014

8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Please come out, attend the BOD  
Meeting and help with the many  
chores that need to be done!!!!

### August Birthdays

Bill Dusenbury 8/1  
Jim Benson 8/8  
Ann Cross 8/11  
Carole White 8/12  
Clayton Bishop 8/25  
Les Westlake 8/26

# This Is The Way It Was

This monthly photo column by Ken Murdock features railroad scenes of the past, a look back into railroading's history.



The ACL rebuilt Lakeland's third depot that had burned in 1918; enlarging the second floor to cover three fourths of the first floor. This heavily rebuilt facility is counted as their fourth depot. The original red brick exterior walls were reused but were modified on each end. The rebuilt facility opened in 1919. - *Dick Kerns collection*

## July 2014 Museum Report

By Ken Murdock, Museum Curator

I hardly believe that I'm writing this, but it is true! WE HAVE COMPLETED THE INVENTORY OF ALL ITEMS ON DISPLAY!!! Yes, you read it correctly! We have plugged away for two years and seven months on most Wednesdays and have finally completed the first phase of this enormous project. I want to thank Al Sharp, Irv Lipscomb, Jarrod Reynolds, Roger Wilson, Frank Millmore and Phil Piet for their contribution to this project.

I also want to add an extra big thank you to Al and Irv who have stuck with me consistently thru most of these many months to bring the project to this point. Jarrod Reynolds has stepped in for the summer to fill the void left by Al Sharp, after he migrated to North Carolina, and Jarrod has really helped to bring us to this point much sooner than expected. Without the help of all of these dedicated members, it could not have been done!! I plan to spend the next couple of months going back thru the inventory, checking and fine tuning everything.

The next phases will be to inventory items in storage and items on display at Lakeville Elementary School in Apopka. Many of our items in storage are in the Roper Building and are difficult to access due to the building being packed wall to wall with book shelving and filing cabinets for our future expansion. Al Sharp has already entered the items at Lakeville into our inventory system, based on a hand written inventory that we have on file. We now need to go to Lakeville and verify each item, place the inventory number on the item, and photograph it. We will have to coordinate this effort with Sharon Lamb and the school's principal.

Jerry Honetor continues plugging away on his inventory of the library. This is also an enormous task, but Jerry sticks with it on most Wednesdays and on Saturday workdays. Roger Wilson has also been helping Jerry, sometimes coming in on days other than Wednesdays since only one can work on the computer at a time. They have made significant progress but much remains.

Ginger Honetor has continued to keep the silver polished and hosts on Wednesday afternoons to give David Rhea the day off. She and David are doing a superb job of hosting the museum. They both enjoy interacting with the visitors, explaining things and answering their questions.

We had our monthly museum workday on Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>. Many vital tasks were accomplished, including those house-keeping chores necessary to keep the museum operating seven days per week. Those who participated were Phil Cross, Allen Quinn, Jarrod Reynolds, Lloyd Brown, Jerry and Ginger Honetor and me.

Allen and Jarrod finished assembling the RR crossing signal in the caboose yard and it really looks great! When cooler weather arrives, they will work on the electrical wiring to make it operational. Lloyd and I installed wheels on another showcase in the front room. Phil took care of the housekeeping chores and worked on the Flat Wheel. Ginger cleaned the glass on the showcases. Lloyd also filled some cracks in the walls in preparation for some touch-up painting. Jerry continued with the inventory of the library. Jarrod hosted the museum in the afternoon.

Thanks to each of you who came out and made this another very successful museum workday!

In case you missed the July regular meeting, I reported that at the end of June the museum had had 4,119 visitors. If this rate continues for the remainder of the year, we will pass the 8,000 mark! These numbers are very conservative since we never get everyone to sign the guest book. This has the makings of another record year!!



Time had come to move the ACL depot out of the Central Business District due to long passenger trains blocking city streets. A site 1 mile west of town was chosen for the fifth depot, a new 1960, modern facility. It later served the Seaboard Coast Line after the 1967 merger, and Amtrak, before closing in 1998 after a new depot was completed. It was demolished in 2008. - *Brian Woodruff collection*



Lakeland's sixth and final depot opened in 1998 and has been used only by Amtrak. It is located near the Central Business District, about two blocks east of the first four depots, at a location where streets aren't block by the stopped trains. It is served by the Silver Star which stops twice each day, each way, to and from Tampa. - *Wikipedia photo*



## Upcoming Events

**August 9, 2014** — Norcross, GA — 47<sup>th</sup> Atlanta Model Train Show, North Atlanta Trade Center, 1700 Jeurgens Court, 9 AM to 4 PM. Contact: Charles Miller, 386-736-8185, [rrshows@aol.com](mailto:rrshows@aol.com). Website: <http://www.gserr.com>.

**August 11, 2014** — Winter Garden, FL — Monthly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

**August 16-17, 2014** — The Villages Railroad Historical Society presents its Summer Rail Expo Sales and Show at the Savannah Regional Recreation Center 1545 Buena Vista Blvd, The Villages, FL. Saturday August 16 (9:00AM-4:00PM) and Sunday August 17 (10:00AM-3:00PM). Over 100 tables of vendors selling in all scales. Several operating layouts. Door prizes and raffle. FREE PARKING! Admission \$5.00 (\$4.00 with coupon). Children under 10 FREE with an adult. Call 352-751-3034 or 352-205-4322 for further information or email [am-gold15@hotmail.com](mailto:am-gold15@hotmail.com).

**August 23, 2014** — Winter Garden, FL — CFRHS Board of Directors Quarterly Meeting beginning at 8:30 AM at the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

**September 8, 2014** — Winter Garden, FL — Monthly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

**September 26-28** — Tavares, FL — Rifles, Rails & History Event at Wooton Park in downtown Tavares. A living history encampment. Website: [www.riflesrailsandhistory.com](http://www.riflesrailsandhistory.com). The Orange Blossom Cannonball will also be featured during this event.

**October 4, 2014** — Deland, FL — 49<sup>th</sup> Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3150 East New York Avenue, 9 am – 4 pm. Contact: Charles Miller, 386-736-8185, [rrshows@aol.com](mailto:rrshows@aol.com). Website: <http://www.gserr.com>.

**October 4, 2014** — St. Marys, GA — "Motor Cars and Steam" event at the St. Mary's RR. The motor car event is sponsored by NARCOA. The Gramling Locomotive Company's #126 Saddletank Locomotive will power the St. Mary's RR Tourist Trains round trip between St. Marys, GA and Kingsland, GA. Contact the St. Marys RR at 912-200-5235 or [www.stmarysrailroad.com](http://www.stmarysrailroad.com) for further information.

**October 5, 11 and 12, 2014** — St. Marys, GA — The Gramling Locomotive Company's #126 Saddletank Locomotive will power the St. Mary's RR Tourist Trains round trip between St. Marys, GA and Kingsland, GA. Contact the St. Marys RR at 912-200-5235 or [www.stmarysrailroad.com](http://www.stmarysrailroad.com) for further information.

**October 13, 2014** — Winter Garden, FL — Monthly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

**November 10, 2014** — Winter Garden, FL — Monthly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

**December 6, 2014** — Clermont, FL — Annual Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at the 801 City Grille, beginning with a social hour at 6 PM.

**December 20-21, 2014** — Tampa, FL — 12<sup>th</sup> Tampa Train Show & Sale, Florida State Fairgrounds Special Events Center, 9 AM to 5 PM Saturday, 10 AM to 4 PM Sunday. Contact: Charles Miller, 386-736-8185, [rrshows@aol.com](mailto:rrshows@aol.com). Website: <http://www.gserr.com>.

Thanks to Society Member Irv Lipscomb for providing the following two photographs. of the newly-restored crossing signal donated by Gayle Chady in memory of her husband John Chady.



Thanks to Society Supporter Bill Delmar and Society member Roger Wilson for passing along the following story.

## NRHS Braces for Big Changes Amid Financial Woes, Declining Membership

By Justin Franz

Published: July 10, 2014

PHILADELPHIA – One of the largest railroad enthusiast groups in the world must brace for “fundamental change” or face extinction, according to its president. This week, a five-person committee tasked with reinventing the National Railway Historical Society in less than three months convened near Philadelphia for the first time since being formed earlier this summer.

NRHS President Greg Molloy tells Trains News Wire that it is too early to know what changes will be made to the organization in the coming weeks and months, but notes something must be done before it's too late.

“The business model we have is not practical for the modern era,” Molloy says. “Changes have to be made.”

The initiative to reinvent the 80-year-old nonprofit comes as its membership dwindles and its financial coffers continue to shrink. In 2013, the NRHS had 11,573 members, a 7.2 percent drop from the previous year and nearly half the number of members it had in 1994, when the group reached an all-time high of 21,842. Meanwhile, the group lost \$72,000 in 2013 and more than three times as much in 2012.

The number of chapters also continues to ebb and flow. In 2013, according to the June 2014 NRHS News, the organization added two new chapters in Kentucky and Tennessee. However, four other chapters either disbanded or disassociated from the NRHS. In the same issue of NRHS News, the organization states it “has at most a year to reinvent itself.”

The beginning of that reinvention arrived this week, when the NRHS announced the formation of a New Business Model Committee, headed up by five members of the board of directors: Molloy, Wes Weis, Bob Ernst, Jeff Smith, and Steve Barry. Molloy says the committee has two months to come up with a new vision and business model for the organization that will be presented to the full board of directors for an up or down vote no later than Sept. 15. Meanwhile, a second committee, made up of the president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and general counsel, will reevaluate the NRHS's finances to ensure that it “stays afloat” for the next few months, according to Molloy.

Molloy insists that it is far too early to know what type of changes would be made to the organization and he was hesitant to speculate what the new business committee would do, noting that the other four members will be making most of the decisions. However, he says it is possible that the NRHS will move away from being a “social” organization and focus more on supporting railroad preservation projects. In a press release issued Wednesday, the organization said it intends to continue its Railway Heritage Grants program, the RailCamp summer program for young enthusiasts, and its annual “Most-At-Risk” list of endangered railroad landmarks. The organization also plans to continue to produce its two publications, NRHS News and the Bulletin, but the frequency and format may change in the future. It also says that the 2015 NRHS convention, being held in Rutland, Vt., will go on as planned.

“We want to move in a direction that does more to support rail preservation,” Molloy says. “Railroad preservation often happens in small corners and there are few centralized voices to support it.”

Molloy says one of the reasons the NRHS may move away from being a social club is that fewer and fewer people, especially younger people, are interested in joining such an organization in the internet age, especially when the membership base is predominantly older.

“There was a time when you needed to join a local club because if you wanted to know what was going on at your local railroad you needed the club's newsletter to find out,” he says. “Now you can find out on the Internet.”

Molloy says the past few years have seen some changes to the organization and its structure, most notably the board of directors. In previous years, the board of directors had one representative from every chapter and at times had as many as 180 members. Today, the board of directors has 25 members.

Molloy has been involved with the NRHS for more than 30 years and has been president since 1994. He is up for reelection this year and, for the first time ever, is facing a challenge from Al Weber of the St. Louis Chapter. Ballots in the bi-annual election are due Aug. 1 and the results will be announced two weeks after.

**Editor's Note:** *Al Weber has been a member of the CFRHS for a number of years.*



At Englewood Union Station on the South Side of Chicago, Pennsylvania Railroad T1 4-4-4 -4 5514 and M1 4-8-2 6975 bracket the observation car of the *Trail Blazer*, which is just pulling out for New York on a July 1947 afternoon. Thanks to Society Member Roger Wilson for this *Milton B. Nafus* photo.

**Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc.**  
**Combined Board & Regular Meeting Agenda**  
Central Florida RR Museum  
July 14, 2014  
7:00 PM

Call to Order – Bill Dusenbury – 7:00 PM– Board members present were Bill Dusenbury, Jerry Honetor, Irv Lipscomb, David Rhea, Phil Piet, Ken Murdock and Phil Cross.

Meeting Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance – David Rhea

Recognition of Visitors – Bill Dusenbury - No visitors.

Recognition of Members/Friends Concerns – Bill Dusenbury — No concerns reported.

Approval of the June 9, 2014 Combined Board & Regular Meeting Minutes – Bill Dusenbury

- Motion by Irv Lipscomb, 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Rhea. Carried unanimously.

June 2014 Treasurer's Report – David Rhea and Frank Milmore – The Society is solvent.

Vice President of Membership & Programs Report – Jerry Honetor

- Membership Report — Membership Renewal for 2014 – 57 members have renewed and we have 3 new members – Total is 60. Seven (7) members still have not renewed for 2014. The Committee is still working on them to renew.
- Society Events and Field Trips for 2014:
  - \* Field trip to the new CSX intermodal facility in Winter Haven is in the planning stages for this fall.
  - \* Field trip to SunRail (Sanford Maintenance Facility) is in the planning stages.
  - \* Field Trip to the RR Museum at Plant City and the new train watching platform. Frank Milmore is the coordinator.

Museum Curator Report – Ken Murdock

- June 2014 CFRR Museum Report – 386 visitors for June; and 4,119 visitors for 2014 to date. 318.25 volunteer hours donated by the membership during June; and 1,893.25 hours donated for 2014 to date.
- The Next Museum Work Session: Scheduled for July 26, 2014
- Recent Acquisitions & Donations — Books donated by Cary Poole

President's Report – Bill Dusenbury

- **Winter Garden Heritage Foundation Board of Directors Activities**
  - \* The Foundation continues with their Capital Campaign Program. History Center construction is progressing a little ahead of schedule. Currently scheduled to be complete and ready for occupancy in December 2014.
  - \* The Music Fest Committee is at work lining up everything for the 2014 Music Fest (October 10-12, 2014). Plans include The Orange Blossom Cannonball all 3 days.
- **CFRHS Facebook Page Update** — The page is being updated as time permits.

Items from the Board of Directors

- Phil Cross – Heritage Foundation 2015 Music Fest – need time donated.
- Irv Lipscomb – Remodel of the back building: Grant \$\$ needed to investigate opportunities & locate sources. Clarence volunteered to *help* write a proposal. Irv will contact Kay Cappleman with the Heritage Foundation for assistance.

Tonight's Program: **The Dora Doodlebug by Neil Bagaus**

Tonight's Refreshments Provided By: **Laura Ansell**

Meeting Adjournment – Motion by Jerry Honetor, 2<sup>nd</sup> by David Rhea. Motion carried unanimously.

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**Thanks to Society Member Clarence Hurt for the following story.**

**The Train Ride of Life**

At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believe they will always travel on our side. However, at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone.

As time goes by, other people will board the train; and they will be significant i.e. our siblings, friends, children, and even the love of your life. Many will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go so unnoticed that we don't realize they vacated their seats.

This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells. Success consists of having a good relationship with all passengers requiring that we give the best of ourselves. **(Continued on Page 6)**



(Continued from Page 5)

The mystery to everyone is: We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.

I wish you a joyful journey on the train of life. Reap success and give lots of love. More importantly, thank God for the journey.

Lastly, **I want to thank you** for being one of the passengers on my train.

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An environmentalist would probably say something like "Massive Air Pollution" in regards to the photo at left.

A railfan's comment would probably be "Awesome Steam Photo."

Thanks to Society Member Irv Lipscomb for sending in this great steam photo.

## CFRHS Membership Statistics

Society Members	34
Society Century Members	10
Ward Britt	
Phil Cross	
Ann Cross	
Bill Dusenbury	
Chuck Hanus	
Andy Healy	
Jerry Honetor	
Frank Milmore	
Ken Murdock	
Jim Shoemaker	
Society Friends	8
Society Family Members	14
Society Student Members	0
<b>Total Members</b>	<b>66</b>

## August 2014 Museum Work Session

**Saturday, August 23, 2014**

**8:30 AM to 3:30 PM**

**Please come out and help  
with the many chores that  
need to be done!!!!**

**The Flatwheel** is the official monthly publication of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society. Opinions and views expressed in this publication are those of the editor and contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the members, officers or directors of the Society.

Material for the Flatwheel (including exchange newsletters) should be sent to the editor via e-mail at:

[editor@cfrhs.org](mailto:editor@cfrhs.org).

**Please Note:** Material from The Flatwheel may be reprinted in other publications provided credit is given as to the source.

**The Central Florida Railroad Museum** is located at 101 South Boyd Street, Winter Garden, FL, 34787 (downtown Winter Garden, immediately north of the water tower).

The Museum is open daily from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM (excluding selected holidays) or by special arrangements. Large groups are encouraged to contact the Museum at 407-656-0559 to arrange for their tour in advance.

The Central Florida Railroad Museum is operated under a cooperative agreement between the City of Winter Garden, the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation and the Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc..

**The Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc.** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at the **Central Florida Railroad Museum**. The Museum is located at 101 South Boyd Street in downtown Winter Garden immediately north of the water tower. Guests and visitors are welcome and encouraged to attend.

All correspondence and other materials for the Society should be mailed to:

Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc.

PO Box 770567

Winter Garden, FL 34777-0567

Or e-mailed to the Society at: [info@cfrhs.org](mailto:info@cfrhs.org)

Web page: [www.cfrhs.org](http://www.cfrhs.org)

**Mission:** The mission of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc. is: Promoting railway heritage and preservation and educating members and the public about rail transportation, its history and impact, with a focus on Central Florida.

**Purpose:** The purpose for which this Society is formed and the business or objects to be carried on and promoted by it are mainly historical, educational and not-for-profit. The more particular objects are:

- Preserve the historical materials of rail transportation of all kinds and issue publications relative to the subject.
- Acquire by donation, purchase, lease or otherwise, real or personal property, and to maintain, sell, lease, deed or otherwise manage in a manner appropriate for the Central Florida Railroad Museum and the above mentioned purposes.
- Plan and run a series of programs and events for Society members' education and participation.
- Work and support the activities of the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation. Assist in any and all group projects which benefit the goals and activities of the Society and the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation.

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