

“The Second Section”
Monticello Railway Museum
P.O. Box 401
Monticello IL 61856

**MONTICELLO
RAILWAY
MUSEUM;
Where “I’ve Been
Working on the
Railroad” Becomes
a Reality**

THE SECOND SECTION

2014
MARCH - APRIL
Vol. 17 No.02

Newsletter publication of the *Monticello Railway Museum*.

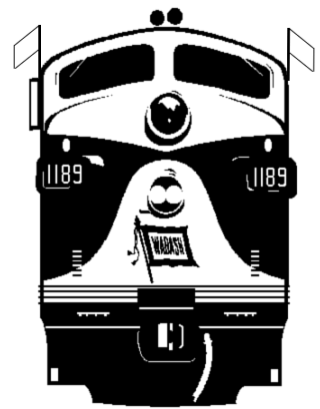
Published 4 times per year.

Send news items to the editor, Dale Jenkins, at

dalejenkins@sbcglobal.net

Internet Home Page: <http://www.mrym.org>

Museum E-Mail: info@mrym.org



MRM AT “STREAMLINERS AT SPENCER”

This spring has seen mechanical staff and other volunteers very busy getting ex-Wabash F7A 1189 and ex-Canadian National FPA-4 6789 ready for their trip to Spencer, NC, for the North Carolina Transportation Museum's "Streamliners at Spencer" event. Both units were in serious need of cleaning, both inside and out. #1189 also underwent a thorough engine room cleaning, which culminated with the priming and painting of the engine room floor, something that has needed done ever since the unit was donated by the N&W. #1189 also had a new pair of swing hanger bearing applied to the front truck, as one of our earlier inspection had revealed the right front swing hanger bearing had not been articulating as designed, which required its replacement. While we had the unit up on jacks, you might just as well to do both sides.



The exterior of both units were thoroughly washed, new number boards were applied to #6789, and the engine room of 6789 was also washed, and the sump below the main generator was cleaned out. We also removed items from both units that may have been "tempting" to others while the units were in transit. Both units also had to be uploaded into the UMLER system, so they could be moved over the general system without becoming "lost". This in and of itself

required a fair bit of research and measuring to confirm dimensions of the units before the upload. This process also required the purchase, programming, and installation of AEI tags for both units. Many thanks to both Pam and Dan Monaghan of the Rail Passenger Car Numbering Bureau for their help in this. Both units then underwent a thorough running gear inspection by MRM, NS mechanical inspectors, and at our request, the FRA. All parties were happy with what they saw, and released the locomotives for movement. Both units left Monticello on Saturday, May 10th, at about 3:30 PM, under their own power. The units ran light (no train) to Decatur, where they were parked on the Loop track at about 5:00 PM, to await the Brooklyn District crew. At this point, MRM staff removed the remaining items that would be taken to Spencer by our crews later, the stacks were covered, and the units set up to be towed the remainder of the trip. An NS locomotive would then tow the two locos to St. Louis, where NS 27, their "Exhibit Car" would be added to the consist, and they would then proceed towards North Carolina via Louisville, KY, and Knoxville, TN. Many thanks to Paul Nelson, John Sciutto, Tylene Crouch, Tim Crouch, Mark Weckel, Doug Butzow, Donna McClure, Travis Atchison, Russ Fischer, Paul Bundy, Dave Marshall, and Brian Downing for their assistance in getting these units ready to go.



PROGRESS ON THE DINER



Work on IC Diner #4112 has progressed through the winter. Generator fuel system is complete, and the exhaust system for the generator is nearly done. Interior work was the focus of most of the winter, with all the cold, snowy weather keeping work on the underbody slow. Work of late is focusing on the kitchen, and the stove specifically. It was a really greasy mess, and has taken much time to get cleaned up to a reasonably clean condition. Tylene Crouch has spent many, many hours on this stove, as well as many other parts of this car, and if not for her help, we would be much further away from completion. John Sciutto has also been instrumental in the stove project, disassembling, cleaning, repairing and repainting stove and oven doors, broiler cover parts and the stove cooking surface. One of our goals of this year's Spring Fling is to cook some steaks on the broiler in the car for the Spring Fling crew, so we're well on our way to reaching that goal, but still have a ways to go. This past winter we also sent off much of the dining room bright-work for re-plating, as all of it was badly worn with most of the plating gone. This material has returned, and is dazzling in its re-plated form! Many thanks to Electroplating of El Paso, Inc. (TX) for their fine, fine work, and very reasonable price. Little details like this will really set off the dining room. We are also currently searching for any historical material that would point us to the materials used on the original IC upholstery and drapes in this car, as we need to move that portion of the project ahead to have the car ready for Polar Express this year. Many thanks to Mark Weckel for his help with the fuel and exhaust system, and to Paul Bundy, Syl Keller and Kenny Davis for their help in the car interior and anything else that would crop up.



Ted Lemen photo

SCHOOL DAYS AT MRM

This annual event host 262 students and 72 chaperones from nine schools on May 6th. The annual educational event features a train ride, tours of the Pullman sleeper, operation of an RPO car, a telegraph demonstration and explanation of various exhibits such as a velocipede. Left: Conductor Bill Fulton boards students for a train ride into history.

THE U OF I ENGINEERING CREW



Ted Lemen photo

The University of Illinois engineering students have formed a group that comes down independently of their official class trips a couple times a year. On May 3d, they changed out 33 ties on the IT Division. The crew is identified from left to right: Paul Chieboun (MRM Member) Michael Pham, Kun "Duncan" Jing, Phil Lopez (MRM Member) Nao Nishio, Garrett Fullerton, Bill Lygiros (MRM Member/Student) Dan Rivi, Marcelo Suarez, Jesus Aguilar-Serrano, Mathew Greve, Yuto Sakakibara. (Front-center) Track Supervisor Tim Crouch and son Ethan.



VOLUNTEER!!

As a railroad needs personnel to make it operate, so does the museum. You can be a part of this organization by being a member to keep the museum functioning and viable!!

Volunteer!!!

TRAIN CREWS NEEDED

Your donation of time will help ease the burden on those who are the dedicated members and offer you the "experience of a lifetime" to indulge in this "All-American" pastime of railroading. To obtain additional information or sign up for crew call notice, contact;

**Jon Roma: Crew Caller at,
caller@mrym.org
STEAM SCHEDULE**

June 21st —22nd

July 19th—20th

August 16th—17th

September 20th- 21st

October 18th—19th

REGULAR SCHEDULED EVENTS

Throttle Time - April 26th thru November 2nd

Fathers Day Weekend—June 14-15:

Dads rides FREE when accompanied by their children!

Fireworks Special- July 3:

Ride the train from downtown Monticello to watch the Fireworks.

Railroad Days - September 20-21:

Come ride our vintage passenger and freight trains on the former Illinois Central and Illinois Terminal trackage.

The Polar Express™ - Nov. 28, 29, 30 & Dec 5, 6

Tickets on sale June 1st 12:01 AM On line only:

www.mrym.org