

“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

2008
MAY/JUNE
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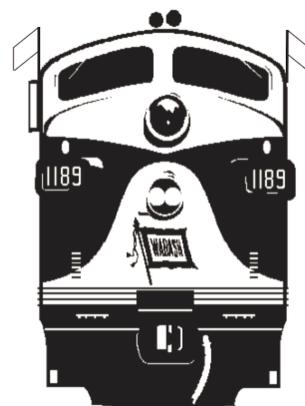
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28th ANNUAL SCHOOL DAYS

“Allllaaabbbboooooorrrrrddd!!.....That familiar call will once again announce the beginning of another operating season at the museum with the Annual School Days and Charter Runs. The museum will be host to groups of school children with train operations, tours of displays and just a fun day of railroading. However, ***YOUR*** help is requested. To accommodate the crowds of little tykes, the call goes out for train crews, car attendants, gift shop personnel, tour guides, and traffic control in the parking lot. Have a free day and would like to become involved? Check the below listed scheduled starting times and come join the fun!!

THE SCHEDULE

	(School)
May 6- Monday	9:00 AM
May 14- Wednesday	9:00 AM
May 20- Tuesday	9:30 AM
May 22- Thursday	9:30 AM
May 23- Friday	9:30 AM

Area schools and tour groups are offered a special discount group rate to ride a special train which is operated on the Illinois Central Division mainline. This provides many students with their first experience riding a train and rekindles fond memories for the senior passenger. In addition, the groups are led on a narrated tour of the display car and connecting static display pieces of equipment and the gift shop is also open. This event not only takes quite a bit of preparation, but also personnel to conduct the execution of the presentation. To participate in this annual event, contact Syl Keller at (309) 376-3361 or on arrival to on the grounds: request your assignment.



Membership Secretary Kay Goodling GIFT SHOP HELP REQUESTED

“Welcome to the Monticello Railway Museum, how many adults and children?”... a familiar phrase repeated several times on Sundays by the familiar voice of Kay Goodling. However after several years of dedicated service, Kay has requested to relinquish her role as Sunday Ticket Agent. The call now goes out to the members of this organization to help fill this vital position on Sundays. If you can offer to work a Sunday a month or a month of Sundays, please contact either John Downing (217) 762-9357 or Syl Keller (309) 876-3361 for additional information on training for ticket/gift shop sales and scheduling dates.



A THANK YOU FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

I want to thank everyone for the support you have shown when we sent a letter requesting financial support. If anyone has not responded but has planned or wanted to, but just haven't gotten around to it; remember Uncle Sam will soon be sending you stimulus money. What better way to stimulate activities of the museum than sharing this windfall. With warm regards and a hearty thank you, Syl Keller, Treasurer

Send **Tax Deductible** contributions to;
Monticello Railway Museum
POB 401
Monticello, Illinois 61856-0401

MRM ABOUT TO SPRING THE FLING

As we *roll* into the upcoming 2008 Spring operating season, The Annual **SPRING FLING** of painting/sandblasting of equipment is scheduled Monday May 5th through Friday May 16th with the weekend on either end of this schedule for set-up and tear-down time. Planned equipment to be worked;

Rock Island Coach 2541

The workhorse of our passenger fleet will receive a new coat of paint and of course re-lettered.

Illinois Central Passenger-Baggage Combine 892

Work continues on the body and window restoration

Illinois Central Lounge Car "GULFPORT"

Will be sandblasted and primer coat of paint applied.

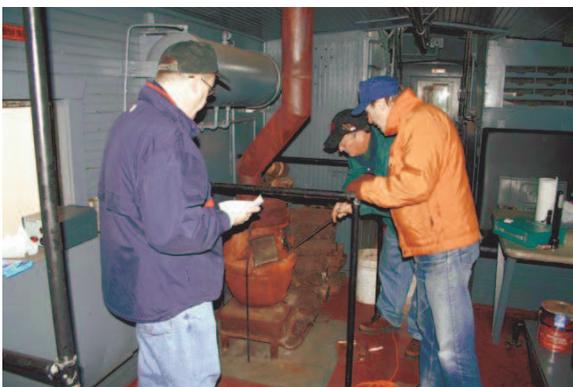
Illinois Central Steel Boxcar 41390

Will apply a second topcoat and detail painting

Republic Steel Steam Locomotive 191

Cosmetic coat of paint

This is a never-ending process that requires, time, material, finances and man-power. Simultaneously, there are several projects underway that you may want to consider getting involved with. If you are a skilled craftsman or just an ordinary handyman, your help would be greatly appreciated. Just stop by the Machine Shop, Engine House, Locomotive Shop, or Car Shop to inquire how to utilize your unique talents or contact Bruce Backus or Kent McClure at info@mrm.org for additional details..



Members of the Wabash Historical Society recently held their annual maintenance and cleaning of the two Wabash cabooses. Caboose 2824, which ownership was recently transferred to this group, had the lower level windows rebuilt and caboose 2834 received a general cleaning. Recently, MRM Board Chairman John D. Sciutto has become the new owner of the GM&O Caboose 2954, commonly referred to as the "Barbie Caboose" due to the red-faded to pink color.



DISPLAY CAR REPRESENTATIVES REQUESTED

With the pending 2008 operating season about to commence, display car representatives are requested. Do you enjoy talking with the public, young and old, have a passion for railroading that you would enjoy sharing through the museum's displays? Here is an opportunity to help the museum and promote the public interest in railroading by being at the Exhibit Car from 10A to 4 PM Saturday and Noon to 4 PM Sunday



The Monticello Railway Museum has been recognized by PACA (Preservation and Conservation Association) of Champaign. In early April we received a letter from PACA informing us that the Museum was selected to receive a 2008 Special Heritage Award. The letter states that the award is "in recognition of all the hard work the group has expended in rehabilitating both rolling railroad stock and also historic transportation buildings." It goes on to say that our work "serves as an example to the local community of the value of preserving our cultural and historic environment." The Museum was nominated by Lucia Wilkin of the Piatt County Historical Society. PACA's annual meeting was held on Sunday, April 20 in the theater at Lincoln Hall on the University of Illinois campus. Donna McClure attended and accepted the award on behalf of the Museum.



On Saturday April 14th, a museum section gang worked to extend the former Illinois Terminal mainline southward (near the new crew building) approximately 100 feet. This will provide additional space for car storage. Despite the cold wet day, the dedicated "gang" once again demonstrated that volunteering can be fun and accomplished in adverse weather conditions.

In preparation for the 2008 operating season, the Maintenance of Way Department has been patrolling the main line by raising low joints, clearing flange ways at crossings, checking gauge in the curves and marking some items for follow up work. Work had been completed on "The Hill" with the replacement of the rail anchors which further secures the rail from "creeping" when throttle or braking action is applied. Track Superintendent Tom Hatchard also notes that the recent Illinois Indoor Clean Air Act does not apply to the maintenance of way workplace, so those who smoke can still continue to do so; just like it was done in the "Golden days of Railroading".

The Maintenance of Way Motorcar shed at White Heath has received a "touch of class" with the compliments of Mark Barnett with the mounting of an Illinois Terminal style sign "Harpers Shed". Rick Harper, Superintendent of Transportation is the recipient of this namesake sign.

**REMEMBER;
A MINUTE FOR SAFETY IS BETTER
THAN A MONTH FOR REPAIRS**