



THE YELLA BOARD

Volume 43 Number 2

MONTICELLO RAILWAY MUSEUM
Where "I've Been Working On the
Railroad" Becomes a Reality

November-
December 2010



The 401 Makes its debut at Nelson's Crossing

Photo Courtesy John Sciutto

THE CONSIST
Volume 43 No. 2

John Scuitto President
 Bill Crisp Vice President
 Rob Doyle Board Chair
 Syl Keller General Manager
 Doug Butzow Treasurer
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Observation Platform
 The Year 2010: A Landmark Year 3
The Rip Track
 The 401 Debut 4
 Equipment Update 5
 401 Builders Photo 8
The Train Order
 Railroad Days-2010 7
 Polar Express 10

Traffic Department
 Governor's Dinner 12
 State Fair 2010 13

LESS THAN CARLOAD
 The Governor's Proclamation 14
 Members Honored for Service 15
 The Track Report
 The NS Santa Safety Special

Arrivals & Departures
 Schedule of Events-2011 16

Have you been to the museum lately to see what changes have been made the past year or what new equipment has been acquired or restored? Now is the time to come on out and see *YOUR* museum!!!

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THE
OBSERVATION
PLATFORM



The Year 2010: A landmark Year

John Scuitto, President

2010 was another incredible year at the Monticello Railway Museum headlined by the return to operation of Southern #401 during Railroad Days. It was extremely rewarding seeing all of the members excited to steam running at the museum. MRM is extremely fortunate to have an operating steam locomotive and congratulations are in order for anyone that helped in anyway, with this 15+ year project.

Our "big 3" special events, headlined by Railroad Days, Ghost Train and Polar Express continue to be extremely popular and well attended. Ridership for the year was up well over 20% which is very encouraging. Planning is already underway for 2011 special events and I would encourage more volunteers to become involved. Several individuals have already come forward to volunteer at 2011 Polar Express. However, additional volunteers are always needed for Railroad Days and Ghost Train, regular weekend runs and various charter groups. After over 15-years as event Chair for Ghost Train, Donna McClure has requested she no longer be event chair. Donna has spent an enormous amount of time, effort and energy growing Ghost Train over the years. Donna has indicated she would be more than happy to transition and help anyone interested in being event chair for Ghost Train. Please see Donna McClure, Syl Keller or myself if you are interested in this event or have any questions.

The museum continues our measured growth and the 2nd car barn was completed last fall. 2011 will see electrical work, lighting switches and track installed in this wonderful addition to the museum. It is hard to imagine that when complete, we will be able to store up to 15-passenger cars indoors and prolong restoration and maintenance for future generations as well as have a new building for visitors to view our equipment.

Please consider getting involved and volunteering in 2011. The museum sustainability and growth is up to our volunteers. In addition to regular weekend train crews, train crews are often needed for week day charters. Additionally, volunteers are always needed for the ongoing behind the scenes work at the museum.

Other projects are ongoing track work, completion of IC dining car #4112, and preparing for hosting various outings at the museum. Additional buildings and lighting effects for the 2011 Polar Express "North Pole" are already underway.

The spring NRHS board meeting will be held at Monticello Railway Museum and several other events are planned for the year. More details will be announced in future editions of 2nd Section or Yella Board.

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers and hope to see you at the museum, soon.



**THE
RIP
TRACK**

By Kent McClure

On September 9, 2010, at 2:10 PM, after 15 years of dedicated work, Southern 401 came to life once again, slowly drifting out the door of the engine house, encased in a cloud of life-giving steam. This locomotive is the crown jewel of the museum collection and will serve the museum in train service on a select schedule.



John Sanner Photos



401 Debut At 2:10 PM September 9, 2010



MRM General Manager Syl Keller poses on the first train pulled with 401

Robert K. O'Daniell photo, Champaign News Gazette



Top: 401 poses at Nelson Crossing
Middle: The driving force behind the 401 restoration project: (L-R) Russ Fischer, Dave Marshall and Kent McClure.
Bottom: The "Thursday" volunteer's of Wabash Railroad experience (L-R) Pat Vogt, Kenny Davis and Charlie Inman

EQUIPMENT UPDATE



IC Diner 4112
 Was sandblasted this past Spring and much steel work was undertaken to replace much of the car floor in the hallway and inside the mid-car service door. The new air conditioning system was completed and tested, as was the heating system. There remains the completion of body work, more primer and paint, as well as completion of the interior to have it ready for Polar Express 2011.

RPCX (WABASH) 1827
 RPCX 1827 is a new car to our collection. It was purchased from the Roanoke Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. The car has been in use at the North Carolina Transportation Museum at Spencer NC. This car is a Pullman built post war car, originally sheathed in stainless steel. It was built for the Boston and Maine Railroad and was one of seven sold to the Wabash for service on that railroad. The fluting was removed early in its life, due to rust under the fluting, a common problem with cars of this construction. Its Wabash number 1420, will be restored when it is painted in Wabash colors. This car was purchased due to our need for more seats for Polar Express, and to allow us more flexibility in taking cars out of service for maintenance. This car is fully self-contained, with its own generator, and working air conditioning and electric heat.

WABASH No. 6
 This car arrived this past winter and was promptly placed indoors. A power supply was put together to allow the car's electrical system to operate, making



RPCX 1827

cleaning and working inside the car possible. The car was professionally cleaned free of charge by Service Master of Champaign this past Spring. Stan Rankin has adopted this car, and has made great progress in making it a very nice display piece, which was a popular display during railroad days. In 2011, this magnificent piece of equipment will be 100 years old.



A Message from Kent McClure CMO
 My sincere thanks and appreciation for everyone who has helped make all this happen over the past year. Quite a lot of work has been done, but as always, it never ends. I want to encourage all who would like to get involved in a project to come out and jump in, as there will be much to do this winter. So please, come on out and lend a hand!!

Rock Island 2541

The coach was re-upholstered this past spring, as well as some seat frames repaired. The floor and seat frames were pressured washed, and the floor and seat frames were painted.

Right: Seats have been removed and frames are being cleaned, repaired and painted.



Interior Rock Island 2541

MILWAUKEE ROAD NW2- No. 1649

Milwaukee Road NW2- No. 1649: Has run reliable this past season. The oil leak it has been plagued with was found, and turned out to be the threads in the oil pan where the drain pipe threaded in. Paul Nelson made an extra long pipe tap, re-tapped the hole, and applied a new drain pipe. This was a difficult, dirty job, but it has finally stopped the vast majority of oil that leaked from this locomotive. Just recently however, four batteries of the eight used to start the locomotive have tested bad; will be replaced.



MILW 1649

WABASH F7-A No. 1189

Wabash 1189 spent the season out of service except for few days of use to assist with storage car movements. Paul Nelson has built and installed a “hot start” on 1189, allowing it to be kept “wet” without having to run it regularly to prevent it from freezing. These are basically large block heaters with a pump, circulating warmed coolant through the engine keeping it warm and ready to run. This will only be used in the fall through the Christmas events, it will then be drained to minimize our electrical power consumption. The 1189 has also had more of the brake slack adjusters changed to pin style adjusters.

IC 8733:

IC GP-11 No. 8733: Has been a reliable performer for the past year with a few electrical bugs.

CN 6789:

CN FPA4 No. 6789: Was in service much of the season requiring only normal maintenance .



WABASH 1189



CN 6789

**MY SAFTEY
DEPENDS ON
YOU BEING
JUST AS SAFE !**



IC 8733

THE TRAIN ORDER

ILLINOIS TERMINAL RAILROAD COMPANY

Order No. 37 Date: 9-19

To C & M Train: 285 and Train: 285 will meet at: Edwardsville

Train: 285 and Train: 203 will meet at: Edwardsville

Train: 285 and Train: 97 will meet at: Coopers

Train: _____ and Extra: _____ will meet at: _____

Extra: _____ and Extra: _____ will meet at: _____

Extra: _____ and Extra: _____ will meet at: _____

*Motor 274 and 285 run on lot and 2nd 46 Edwardsville to Exp Belt
All have fire at Edwardsville have
wired and repaired*

CONDUCTOR: Byron Keeble MOTORMAN: 285 TRAILER: 285 COMPLETE AT: PH

Form - 013 Old Form 343

RAILROAD DAYS — 2010



Above: Norfolk Southern executive units were on display with the NS exhibit car. Below: 401 at Monticello.

The 2010 Railroad days was held on September 18th-19th on the museum grounds and was one with many featured operations. The attendance by the general public was exceptional with the unveiling of the 401 locomotive.

The Norfolk Southern Exhibit Car was open to the public which also contained a "locomotive simulator" to test your skills at running a locomotive. Also, Wabash No. 6 Office Car was open for inspection by the public. In addition to motorcar rides and the caboose hop.

Other features was Chris Camp "The Whip Guy" presenting a demonstration of whip handling. A display of horns and antique tractors and pedal cars for children were also available.



John Sanner Photo



Above: Monticello Chris Corrie welcomes attendees to the dedication of the Southern 401. Far Left: IC 8733 was assigned to train service to Monticello until the Saturday noon dedication at which time Southern 401 took over the passenger train duties. Right: Radio personality Orv Graham of WHOW 95.9 Clinton, promotes Railroad Days and Ghost Train on the air.



SEPTEMBER 9, 2010



THE RESTORATION

**From Left to Right: Brian Downing Doug Butzow Dave Marshall John Sciutto
Russ Fischer Ken Kane Donna McClure Dave Huffman**

**Not Present: Bruce Backus Ron Berkman Tim Crouch Ray Drendel Calli Fischer
Russ Kuster Ed Painter Jim Roach Thomas Scott Sr. Jeff Tillman**

MONTICELLO RAILWAY MUSEUM



CREW

Photo Courtesy John Sanner

Matt Jones Tim Jacobs Brian Higgins Kenny Davis Paul Bundy Kent McClure
Ron Vierrege Mark Weckel Syl Keller Tyler Bundy Ted Lemen Gavin Steele
Charlie Inman Don Jardine Bruce Jarrett Matt Jones Paul Jones Jack Kelly



THE POLAR EXPRESS

JOHN SANNER PHOTOS



Above:Not a creature was stirring,not even a mouse...at the Monticello Depot Christmas night..

Below: It takes a full crew to man the Polar Express, which included a hobo and a young conductor.

Once again, the Polar Express rolled out of the Monticello Depot destined to the North Pole with small noses pressed against the window in search of the bearded elf with the magic of Christmas and the silver bell. On November 26th -27th and December 3d-4th, a total of 3,500 passengers experienced excitement of dancers, chefs serving hot chocolate, a bum transverse from car to car and the arrival of Santa Claus.



Above: Hobo Dave Slade “bums” a passenger for a treat while performing a bit of magic.

Below Left: To assist Santa is the crew of dancers, Chefs and waiters to make it happen!

Below: At the North Pole (Nelson Crossing) a new Toy Shop has been placed in service.





Polar Express Is Ready To Load



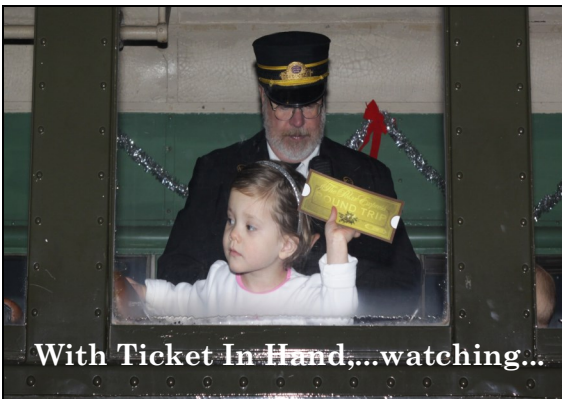
The Chef Serves Hot Chocolate



Dance...Dance...Dance...



Passengers Wait In The Depot



With Ticket In Hand,...watching...



Santa Boards at North Pole



Passengers Board The Polar Express



The Conductor Throws Off Cookies to Local Residents



THE TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT

Judy Jenkins; Traffic Manager

Above Right: MRM Conductor Dale Jenkins and MRM Marketing & Sales Coordinator Judy Jenkins stand at the entrance into the Illinois Governor’s Mansion, Springfield.

Right: Posing on the MRM Sheffield No.1 Hand Pump Car (left) United States Secretary of Transportation Ray LaHood (formerly of Peoria, Illinois) and (right) Illinois Transportation Secretary Gary Hannig.



Dinner With The Governor

Participants in the State Fair Governor’s Tent promoting rail-roading in Illinois were invited to attend a dinner held at the Governor’s Mansion, Springfield, the Monticello Railway Museum was represented by (left to right) ; Dale Jenkins: Conductor, Judy Jenkins: Marketing & Sales Coordinator, John Downing: Ticket Agent/Throttle Time Coordinator, Doug Butzow: Treasurer, Illinois Governor: Pat Quinn, Faye Keller, Syl Keller: General Manager and Bill Crisp: Engineer.



By invitation of the Governor of Illinois, MRM was one of the participants of the “Illinois: Rail Capital of America” in the Governor's Tent at the Illinois State Fair, August 13-22, 2010. The Sheffield No. 1 hand Pump Car was the centerpiece display of the tent. On the evening of August 18th, MRM members were invited to the Governor’s Mansion to attend an appreciation dinner and have the opportunity to meet the governor and staff.

Left: The Sheffield hand Pump Car was in the center of the tent. In the background is the MRM display which used a 37” screen TV to display a continuous loop video program of MRM events.

Left Center: Entrance into the Governor’s Tent.

Left Bottom: The operating crossing flashers gained immediate attention on entrance into the tent.

Bottom: Governor Quinn poses with MRM members.



On September 16, 2010, Public Broadcasting Television Station WSEC/PBS/Springfield, Illinois filmed a documentary about MRM. Mark McDonald, host of *Illinois Stories* was given a guided tour of the property by member Larry Smith, highlighting the “Nautilus” and Southern 401. Next, Host McDonald boarded IC 8733. for a ride over the line to Monticello, with MRM Engineer Judy Jenkins at the throttle. For the return trip, filming was made of the interior of Wabash Car No. 6, with the MRM Conductor explaining the various features of the office car. To view this 25 minute documentary, log onto; <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3LV24Cc6CDw>



(L C L*)

LESS THAN CARLOAD



THE GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION

With the dedication of Southern 401, The Office of Governor; State of Illinois presented the museum with a proclamation honoring the restoration of the steam locomotive. The proclamation was presented on behalf of Governor Pat Quinn by Donna Dalton, Director of Citizen Action and read as follows:

**State of Illinois
Executive Department
PROCLAMATION**

*WHEREAS, historically, the rail industry has served as the lifeblood of rural America as well as one of the largest private employers in the United States, and Illinois is proud of its distinguished history as a center of American railway travel; and
WHEREAS, we recognize that the industrial and economic development of our State was largely due to our railway infrastructure, and it has allowed both our citizens and freight to move cross-country more quickly and efficiently than ever before; and*

*WHEREAS, Illinois was among the first to adopt and benefit from railway travel, and looks forward to continuing this legacy with our adoption of the innovative and economical high-speed rail; and
WHEREAS, we are grateful for the presence of the volunteer-run Monticello Railway Museum, which was founded in 1966 and is among the premiere railway museums in our nation; and*

WHEREAS, Monticello Railway Museum's dedicated volunteers help to preserve and document Illinois' locomotive history by restoring historic trains, maintaining over one hundred pieces of railroad equipment, and offering train rides to the public;

*WHEREAS, on September 18th and 19th, the Monticello Railway Museum will host its annual Railroad Days celebration. On this weekend, visitors will be able to ride vintage passenger and freight trains on former Illinois Central and Illinois Terminal tracks; and
WHEREAS, the Monticello Railway Museum will showcase its new 401 Southern Steam Locomotive, which was originally built in 1907 and was recently restored by museum volunteers, taking fifteen years to complete with donations totaling over \$400,000; and*

THEREFORE, I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 18th, 2010 as MONTICELLO RAILWAY MUSEUM DAY and encourage all citizens to recognize the work of the Museum in educating the public and preserving Illinois' treasured railway history.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed. Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield, this EIGHTEENTH day of SEPTEMBER, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and TEN, and of the State of Illinois the one hundred and NINETY-SECOND

Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 18th, 2010 as MONTICELLO RAILWAY MUSEUM DAY and encourage all citizens to recognize the work of the Museum in educating the public and preserving Illinois' treasured railway history..

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed. Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield this eighteenth day of September, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and ten, and of the State of Illinois the one hundred and ninety-second

Pat Quinn



WHEREAS, historically, the rail industry has served as the lifeblood of rural America as well as one of the largest private employers in the United States, and Illinois is proud of its distinguished history as a center of American railway travel; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that the industrial and economic development of our State was largely due to our railway infrastructure, and it has allowed both our citizens and freight to move cross-country more quickly and efficiently than ever before; and

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Donna Dalton
SECRETARY OF STATE

Pat Quinn
GOVERNOR

THE GHOST TRAIN

The MRM Ghost Train ran once again on October 22nd, 23d, 24th, 29th and 30th, with over 4,000 riders. This year a crypt with a mechanical operated ghoul and flying monster monkeys were added to the bottoms; site of the haunted displays. A pyrotechnic display was used to enhance effects in the bottoms. This editor apologizes for having misplaced the Halloween photos and were not available for publication.

MEMBERS HONORED FOR SERVICE

At the Annual Meeting held on November 21, 21010, at Monticello, MRM members Dave Marshall and Ted Leman were honored for the efforts to acquire and restore Southern 401. They were presented with the original train orders issued to 401 to operate over MRM main line trackage.



(Left) Dave Marshall (Right) Ted Leman



Left: Aboard IC Coach 2512, a first occurs when an employee, on bent knee offers his fiancée an engagement ring and asked her to marry him. She said,.. “YES”!!



Right: With winds gusting to 30 MPH and temps hovering around 20 above, the NS Santa Safety Express awaits boarding at Decatur.

Left Bottom: MRM Member Kent McClure kept the steam equipment functioning as Donna “Jingles” McClure assisted Santa Claus.

THE TRACK REPORT

The 2010 track season could be well described in the words of Garrison Keillor’s “week in his hometown” as quiet. However, there was a derailment involving storage cars on the Monticello wye in August due to spread track gauge due to heat expansion of the outside rail of the curve.

.Approximately 125 used ties have been placed in service on the IC-IT Mains, Display Track lead, Display Tracks 1 and 2, Camp Creek Yard and Monticello Wye.

On September 11th, MRM hosted the U of I Engineering Class, offering students hands on experience in replacing ties, raising track, correcting cross level, changing angle bars and dressing track. Work to correct defects on Camp Creek Bridge will be performed over the winter months. The near future will see track construction from the IT Main at Nelson to our new car building.

Tom Hatchard, Track Superintendent.

THE NS SANTA SAFETY EXPRESS

On December 11th and 12th, MRM would once again provide equipment to operate the employee’s Norfolk Southern Santa Safety Express. The train, consisting of Wabash 1189-F-7A, IC Business Car No. 7, coaches (ex Wabash) 1827, IC 2910, 2612, RI 2521, combine IC 892, Steam Car CN 15421 and CN 6789- FPA-4, was operated between Decatur and Illiopolis. The train, manned by NS Safety Crew and MRM members, was for the benefit of NS employees families and retirees, providing a train ride and a visit from Santa.



MONTICELLO
RAILWAY MUSEUM
P O BOX 401
MONTICELLO, ILLINOIS 61856

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE MONTICELLO RAILWAY MUSEUM



ARRIVALS
&
DEPARTURES

NEW EVENT
TRAINS PLANES & AUTOMOBILES
Saturday—May 21st
Train Rides Hot Air Balloon Ra-
dio Control Aircraft Ford
“T”-Birds Model “A” and “T”s

- [Throw Mamma On The Train](#) - May: Mom rides FREE when accompanied by their children.
- [Fathers Day Weekend](#)—June: Dads rides FREE when accompanied by their children!
- [Fireworks Special](#) - July: Ride the train from downtown Monticello to watch the Fireworks.
- [Railroad Days](#) - September: Come ride our vintage passenger and freight trains on the former Illinois Central and Illinois Terminal trackage.
- [Ghost Train](#) - October: ALL ages can enjoy a train ride through Camp Creek Hollow with a stop at Cemetery Road... but only the BRAVE should check out our Haunted Boxcar!
- [The Polar Express™](#) - November and December: Read along with the story as the train makes its round-trip journey to the North Pole.
- [Lunch on the Train With Santa](#) - December: A train ride and lunch with Santa!!