



MRHS MAINLINE

The Official Newsletter of the
Muskegon Railroad Historical Society
Volume 20, Issue 12: December 2005



Further Reminisces of Roy Ashley

Submitted by Kent McFaden
Continued from the October 2005
MRHS Mainline

One winter, to call on a customer in southern Louisiana, I left Chicago on the Illinois Central for New Orleans where I would change to the Southern Pacific. There should have been plenty of time to make the change in New Orleans, but early in the trip the I.C. began running late. The conductor said that not having time to change in the city, he would let me off at the junction some 12 miles out of New Orleans where the Southern Pacific would pick me up. Oh yes, it would be alright as they frequently did that. So I got off. The junction consisted of a roofed platform out in the middle of no where. It was about 9:00 at night, and when the lights of the receding train left me in total darkness, with the sound of frogs croaking all around, I began to question the wisdom of having left the train. Anyway, I figured the platform was high enough that alligators could not climb up it, and that it was warm enough that I could spend the night there if necessary. Lights of the approaching S.P. train were a welcome sight and I stood well within the range of its headlights so that the engineer would be sure to see me.

2006 Board of Directors Slate of Nominations to appear on Ballot

President:

Thomas Anderson

Vice President:

Kent McFaden
Chuck Tompkins

Treasurer:

Andy Busard

Secretary:

Jason Bach

Thomas Van Bruggen

At Large Director

Jim Beal

Jim Funnell

Robert Jackson

Jamie Morrison

One time on the S.P. out of New Orleans, I had told the porter to wake me in time to get off at Lake Charles where I had to change cars. About daylight I was aroused by an excited porter, that he had forgotten (he was probably asleep) and that the train was at the water tank, about a mile from the depot. I managed to get my trousers, shoes and socks on before having to tumble out at the station. I completed my dressing in the station, much to the amusement of the waiting passengers.

To Be Continued...

December Meeting Program

**Pere Marquette/C&O Car
Ferries: A Video Presentation**
Video Footage by Doug Goodhue

Board of Directors Election

**Tuesday, December 6, 2005
7:00 PM
Don't Miss It!**

Member News and Donations to the Club

Over the past month, numerous donations have been made to the club. Art Million donated on C&O Superpower Steam Locomotives, Jamie Morrison donated the 2004 Walther's N&Z Catalog and a MRHS Display Board that he created and used at the Holland train show for publicizing the MRHS, and John Rothwell donated a log book of the SS Grand Rapids from 1965.

A very big THANK YOU goes to Jamie Morrison who worked very hard to represent the MRHS at the Holland Show. Jamie put together a wonderful display board and brought articles to show off the MRHS.



MUSKEGON RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

561 W. Western Ave. – PO BOX 765
Muskegon MI, 49443

2006 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL APPLICATION

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

Modeling Interests

- N HO O S
 Z LARGE SCALES
 STATIC DISPLAY
 MODULAR
 OTHER

Historical Interests

- PRESERVATION
 PROTO
 OPERATIONS
 COMPANIES
 ROUTES
 OTHER

INDIVIDUAL (\$20 YEARLY)

FAMILY – SPOUSE AND CHILDREN UNDER 18 (\$30 YEARLY)

SPOUSES NAME: _____

CHILD _____ AGE _____ CHILD _____ AGE _____

CHILD _____ AGE _____ CHILD _____ AGE _____

THE MRHS ENCOURAGES THE PRESERVATION OF PROTOTYPE RAILROAD EQUIPMENT & STRUCTURES FOR THEIR HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, PROVIDES A PLACE FOR MEMBERS TO CONSTRUCT A RAILROAD MUSEUM AND MODEL RAILROAD LAYOUTS, AND



Prez Sez

By President Thomas Anderson

It doesn't seem possible but my second year of being your president is drawing to a close! May all of us only remember the good times!

The December General Membership Meeting is our time to elect new leadership for the upcoming year, and I hope you will have more of a choice this time for most of the positions. Please attend and cast your vote. As Woody Allen says, "the world is run by those who show up," as told to me by Robert Jackson. The slate of those running is listed elsewhere in this newsletter. This is the time for you to participate in the future of this great organization! Thank you to the nominating committee.

If you have not been running the layouts lately, they are; "O: running OK, to running fine;" "HO: running OK, & still trying to learn DCC, to good; "N", functioning fine, to e'N'gines last, (Steve B. method of saying he puts the consist on first because he knows his engines will always run).

The train display that was previously on display at Hackley Park is being repaired by our members in hopes of having it working and on display across the street at the depot for this Christmas season. The display was originally purchased by the MRHS & the Heritage Association. We had a GREAT display at the Holland train show exploiting our organization and had people come up to us from Muskegon not knowing a train club existed here. Thanks to Jamie Morrison for setting it up and to those who worked it. Calvin College also did a video shoot including an interview and taking shots of the many pictures of our club!

The program for November was a presentation by Jim Funnell on "The C&O in the greater Muskegon Area." The time era was the late 60's and early 70's and had great shots of engines and trains which brought back good memories for all of us there. Thanks, Jim!

A "Points for Profit" program was presented to your board and will be discussed at the December meeting for membership input. It consists of collecting receipts for participating businesses that can be turned into cash

once a year. This program can be an income generating program for the MRHS without risk or cost.

A meeting of the Division 4 of the North Central Region will be December 3rd at 9:30 AM at the Public Library in Comstock Park with a presentation by the Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society.

Now is the time to remember to bring your checkbook or cash as our 2006 dues become payable this month. Let's take the burden off our treasurer and all pay this month. Use the renewal form from this newsletter and make sure you are paid up and information is correct.

Our open houses are scheduled for December 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, & 18th. The hours are from 12 to 4 pm each day. Please consider coming up to run trains to show off to the public what we are! A sign up schedule will be at the membership meeting. Use these times to have fun and get away from those 'honey do' jobs.

The Polar Express is now running at the Frederick. Meijer Gardens through Christmas and the Polar Express movie is now playing at the Imax Grand Rapids thru January.

This organization means different things to different members but we are all interested in TRAINS.

I wish all of you and yours a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! Happy Holidays! And I do hope to see each at our next meeting so I can personally pass on my wishes!

Happy Holidays from your Prez, Tom

MRHS Mainline Request for Submissions

While the December MRHS Mainline is always packed full of news and information as we wrap up another year, pass along important information about the upcoming year, and take some space to distribute the Membership Renewal Form, other months often have space available for articles. Please submit any railroading information or articles to your secretary for inclusion in future MRHS Mainline Newsletters.

Bylaws and Policies Committee Update

The Bylaws and Policies Committee continues to work diligently to develop a new set of bylaws and policies for the MRHS. The bylaws are mostly finished, and over 16 policies are under development. If you have opinions on the way the MRHS is governed, let your voice be heard and talk with a committee member.

Calendar of Events

- Saturday, December 3, 2005
MRHS Open House 12-4 pm
- Sunday, December 4, 2005
MRHS Open House 12-4 pm
- Tuesday, December 6, 2005
MRHS General Membership Meeting
MRHS Elections
- Saturday, December 10, 2005
MRHS Open House 12-4 pm
- Sunday, December 11, 2005
MRHS Open House 12-4 pm
West Mich. RR Club Show
UAW Local 730,
3852 Buchanan SW
- Tuesday, December 13, 2005
MRHS Bylaws Committee 7:00 pm
- Saturday, December 17, 2005
MRHS Open House 12-4 pm
- Sunday, December 18, 2005
MRHS Open House 12-4 pm
- Tuesday, December 20, 2005
MRHS Board Meeting 7:00 pm
- Friday and Saturday, Dec 30-31 2005
Toy and Hobby Show at
Novi Expo Center
(96 and Beck Rd, Novi)
- Tuesday, January 2, 2006
MRHS General Membership Meeting
- Saturday, January 7, 2006
Riverbend Annual Train Show
New Location 5625 Burlingame
Grand Rapids
- Tuesday, January 16, 2006
MRHS Board Meeting 7:00 pm

Local Train Rides and Events

MRHS Holiday Open Houses
December 3, 4, 9, 10, 16 & 17
12 PM to 4 PM

Coopersville & Marnie
Santa Train
December 3, 10, 17, 24
Check out

www.coopersvilleandmarnie.org
for more details.

Steam Railroad Institute
North Pole Express
December 3-4, 10-11, 17-18

Meijer Gardens
Polar Express Display
Now through January 8, 2006

The Polar Express Movie
In Huge IMAX Format
Now through the holidays.
Check out
<http://www.celebrationcinema.com>
for more information.

MRHS Officers

- President: Tom Anderson H: 744-9782
W: 773-6411
- V. Pres: Chuck Tompkins 728-4328
- Treasurer: Andy Busard 755-6298
- Secretary: Thomas Van Bruggen 767-8177
- Director: Jim Beal 722-2599
- Director: Kent McFaden 726-2606
- Director: Jim Funnell 744-1979

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Muskegon Railroad
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Edited by
Thomas Van Bruggen, MRHS Secretary
561 W. Western Ave
P.O. Box 765
Muskegon, MI 49443-0765
(231) 726-3657

