



THE FIREBOX

JUNE 2026

JUNE Club Meeting

Place: Carillon Brewing Company

Third Wednesday, JUNE 17

Last chance to discuss activities to get ready for Rail Fest, June 27th & 28th.

A reminder: We have arranged with the Carillon Brewing Co. to hold our monthly meetings in a side room at the brewery. We have the room from 6 to 9 PM with meeting start still at 7PM. Come early and have dinner or snacks beforehand. You can bring your food into the meeting if you're not done by meeting start.

Heritage Festival run May 24th

The editor was traveling and not at the run. Understand that the weather didn't cooperate, with off and on rain shortening the run.

NMRA Special run, June 6

The NMRA held their regional convention in Dayton this year and asked if we could open the railroad for them on Sat June 6. The weather was beautiful that day and we enjoyed a good run. Engine 7695 with a matching train of orange, silver and black cars was a hit with visitors. Bob Schwenke ran his 0-6-0 live steamer as well. There were not a lot of riders as this was not on our public schedule, but the leisurely pace allowed time for questions and discussion with our visitors. We got feedback from the folks at the NMRA convention that they greatly appreciated our running for them. All in all, club members and riders had a fun day.

RIDING CAR REFURBISHMENT

Work on the two blue riding cars at Yoder's shop is almost complete. The car bodies have been degreased, cleaned and painted. Larry W has updated the electric wiring in the cars. The 4 trucks needed have been disassembled, degreased, cleaned, painted and reassembled. The couplers have been cleaned and painted. All that remains is final assembly and testing. The two cars will be back in service for Rail Fest, giving us the complete 5 car blue train.

2026 Rail Fest Is Coming Soon

Calling all members. Make plans now to be at this year's Rail Fest, June 27 & 28. Only 1 1/2 weeks away. Set up will be June 26. Don't forget the Saturday evening picnic. A big crew means we can run multiple trains and have time for members to tour the show and graze the food vendors.

Boy 4014 coming back to OHIO

If you missed 4014s stop in Fostoria June 6th, don't despair. 4014 will be back in Fostoria on the westbound return trip, Tuesday July 14. Engine and train will be on display from 9am to 3PM at the Fostoria Automotive Distribution Center, 3101 North Township Road 47. No access to the engine cab or railcars.

If you decide to go, be prepared for a big crowd and the challenge of finding parking. (crowd on June 6th was estimated at 6000-7000 people) Admission is free and no ticket is required. UP advises visitors to remember Safety First. UP

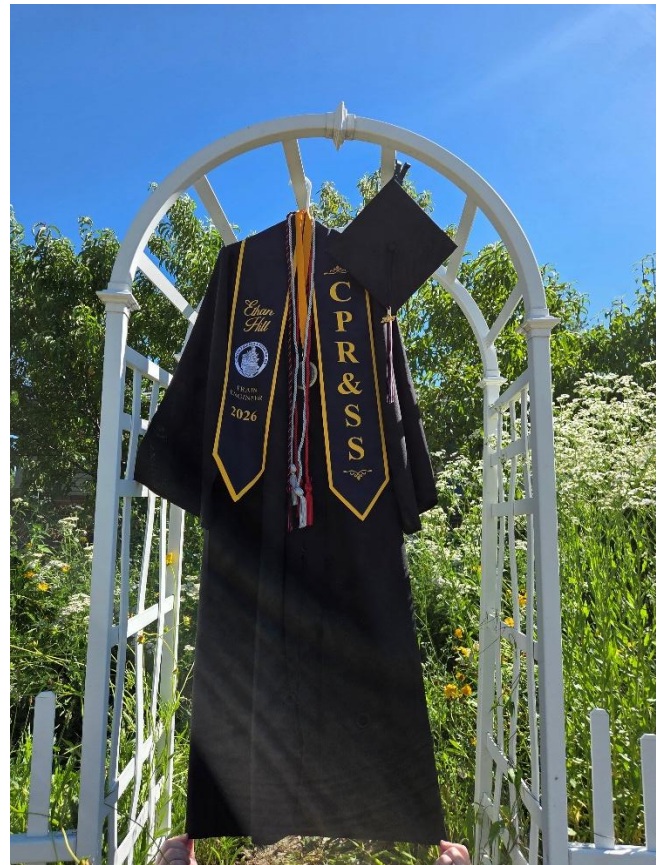
asks you to stay 25 ft from the engine and train. 4014 will be displayed in an active, working rail environment. Stay alert to your surroundings and be aware that surfaces may be uneven. 4014 has been drawing big crowds, you may have to wait in line. Port a John's will be available on site. No public access outside of the display hours. For the full eastern tour schedule, google UP.com. and hit the light blue "Big Boy No. 4014 Schedule" button on the opening page.

Congratulations to Ethan Hill

When you see Ethan, former Junior member and now regular member and certified engineer, extend a hearty congratulations on his graduation from high school. Note in the picture below the honors cables he earned and especially the CPR&SS stole he wore for the occasion. **WAY TO GO ETHAN!!!**



If you don't know what a graduation stole is, check out the CPR&SS banner he's wearing.



T-shirts/Hoodies Available

The last order has arrived and items are ready to be paid for and picked up. See Mike Desch if you have something on order.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

March 31 is the annual membership renewal date. But if you missed it, your welcome to pay dues at any time. Give or mail to Bob Schwenke:

4227 Alleghany Trail, Jamestown, OH 45335.

MEMBERSHIP Data base

Norb Schertzer is working on a project to build a comprehensive club member information base. Some of the information is already on hand, but to make sure its up to date drop Norb an email and include the following;

- Address
- email address
- cell phone number
- home phone number

- preferred communication type (email, text msg, phone, other)
- Special Skills: welder, machinist, electronics, computer tech, writing, carpenter, plumber, etc.

Items for sale

2-4-0+0-4-2 Garret type

Long time club member and locomotive builder John Baker is selling his 2-4-0+0-4-2 Garret type steam locomotive. It has run at our track in years past, but John has reached the point in life that he can no longer run it. Some details about the engine:

Length: 7ft + (under 8ft)

Gauge: 7 1/2"

Fuel: propane fired

Assembled weight: 650 Lbs.

Southern valve gear. One lever controlling fwd & rev. to both sets of cylinders.

Single axle propane trailer car

Accessories include: winch & frame to lift units,

- storage dolly 10ft long, 30" high
- Prints and sketches of components & assembly

Also for sale a 2009 Town & Country Van w/ carry board to transport locomotive. (if wanted) 179000miles, new tires, runs OK.

Price is negotiable. For more information contact John at 513-543-1946



0-4-0 Grasshopper



Built using measurements taken from the "John Quincy Adams" Grasshopper housed in the Dicke Bldg. Started locally by the club's 1st President John Stibravy. John was transferred to New Jersey by the Air Force and sold the project to a member of the New Jersey Live Steamers. It was finished there and built to run on New Jersey clubs 7 1/4 " gauge track. Includes engine as pictured plus engineer's car, propane tank and misc parts. Also available (if wanted) is the carry board built to bring the equipment to Dayton from New Jersey. To run on our track, the wheels must be regauged from 7 1/4" to 7 1/2". Engine is in process of conversion from coal/wood to propane fired but this was not finished.

Price: \$4000

For more information text or phone (leave voice mail) Bob Schwenke at 937-572-3411

From the Archives

Short on pictures this month, so I searched in the archives for some earlier views from around the track:



Building the steaming bay area late 1980s.



North side of original track layout Picture taken standing by iron bridge looking southwest. Glacial moraine is to the left out of picture. Present switch tower location: ■



New track layout in progress after completion of the Dicke Bldg. Note track in the grove doesn't exist yet.



Wooden trestle on the original 1200 ft track



Same location today