

# the 6:53



Will Amtrak's CARDINAL (serving Ohio) survive the proposed Amtrak budget cuts? OARP and others gird once more in the fight to retain this passenger train service. Amtrak #214 heads a respectable CARDINAL consist at Cincinnati's River Road Station. — photo by John K. Wilson

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## **ORTA FUNCTIONS MOVE TO OHIO D.O.T.**

*story on PAGE 3*

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**March 1983**

**issue #51**

Official Publication of the  
OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS

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\* NARP Region VI Director

PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE.....  
CALL OTHERS AT REASONABLE HOURS

# ORTA

Ohio Rail  
Transportation  
Authority

Suite 3414,  
State Office Tower  
Columbus, Ohio 43215  
(614) 466-5816

ORTA MAKES ITS "LAST RUN" ON  
FEBRUARY 24TH, 1983  
RAIL TRANSPORTATION FUNCTIONS  
ARE TRANSFERRED TO OHIODOT

The often stormy seven-year tenure of Ohio's Rail Transportation Authority has ended. It came to an end with the signing of the new Ohio budget legislation by Governor Richard Celeste late in the afternoon of Thursday, February 24th. The "Budget Bill", otherwise known as H.B. 100, was passed in both legislative houses with voting right along party lines. The Democrats now hold a majority in both houses of Ohio's legislature. H.B. 100 contained a provision to abolish ORTA and at the same time create within the Ohio Department of Transportation a new Division of Rail Transportation Development. At this writing, the functions of ORTA are being transferred over to the OhioDOT. The new Division of Rail Transportation Development will be housed at the Ohio DOT Building which is located at 25 South Front Street, one block west of the Statehouse, on the corner of West Broad. Chief concern at this moment is the fate of ORTA's staff. OhioDOT is a "classified" (civil service) department and ORTA was unclassified. There was no provision in H.B. 100 to effect a staff transfer from ORTA to OhioDOT; yet there is no argument that the ORTA staff is most knowledgeable about what is going on right now with the passenger and the freight rail programs. The 21-member ORTA staff is continuing to work, on an interim basis, under OhioDOT.

Your OARP President, Tom Pulsifer, served as a member of the ORTA Board almost from the beginning. He was appointed to ORTA by then-Governor Rhodes and served over the years as Secretary, Vice-Chairman, and one year as Chairman of ORTA. With the signing of H.B. 100 into law, the ORTA Board was abolished outright. The Board held an informal meeting at 1:30pm on February 25th in Columbus since it was to have been the regularly scheduled February meeting. The Board members received a salary of \$5,000 annually. Whoever served as Chairman in a given year received \$6,000.

OARP was involved with ORTA even before ORTA held its very first meeting in February of 1976. OARP's then-President David S. Marshall and then-Secretary Tom Pulsifer journeyed to Columbus on a couple of occasions to testify before the House and Senate Committees that were at that time looking

ORTA FUNCTIONS TRANSFERRED TO OhioDOT ..... (continued)

into setting up a separate rail transportation authority apart from the department of transportation. Legislation to create ORTA passed in late 1975. Ohio became one of the few states in the U.S.A. to have a separate rail authority.

Your OARP President is still optimistic that the Celeste administration will do more for passenger and freight rail transportation than the previous administration. The end of ORTA does not mean the end of Ohio's passenger and freight rail programs. Your Association will continue to support the push for better rail passenger transportation services for Ohio through OhioDOT's new Division of Rail Transportation Development.

Knowing that expected passage of H.B. 100 would mean the transfer of the rail programs from ORTA to OhioDOT, the ORTA Board desired that the transition be smooth. Therefore the Board voted unanimously on February 11th to name ORTA's Deputy Director, Jolene Molitoris Ritchlin to succeed Robert J. Casey as ORTA's Executive Director. Casey resigned, effective February 11th, to become Executive Director of Pennsylvania's new High-Speed Rail Commission. Jolene's tenure as ORTA's Executive Director lasted thirteen days, with the abolishment of the Rail Authority on February 24th.

For once, State Rep. Art Wilkowski did not get his way! The "father" of ORTA had, in early January, introduced H.B. 6 to abolish ORTA and move rail transportation planning functions to Ohio's Department of Economic & Community Development. Following two hearings on H.B. 6 by Rep. Healy's Economic Affairs & Federal Relations Committee, Wilkowski's bill did not even make it out of Committee. The Governor's "Budget Bill" was of more legislative importance and it effected the abolishment of ORTA and transfer of the rail programs more logically to the Department of Transportation. The rail legislation within H.B. 100 was also much more liberal than that contained in Wilkowski's H.B. 6.

AT THIS WRITING A DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF OHIODOT'S NEW DIVISION OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT HAS NOT OFFICIALLY BEEN APPOINTED, WATCH THE NEXT ISSUE OF "THE 6:55" FOR DETAILS.

HOW TO CONTACT OHIODOT: DIVISION OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION  
DEVELOPMENT  
OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
25 SOUTH FRONT STREET  
COLUMBUS, OH 43215  
614 - 466 - 5816 (TEMPORARY)

##### 4 #####

AMTRAK'S "CARDINAL" ON THE ADMINISTRATIVE HIT LIST.... AGAIN  
AMTRAK PRESIDENT CLAYTOR PREDICTS THE "CARDINAL" WILL SURVIVE



Amtrak's westbound CARDINAL swings through the crossovers and onto the Chessie System's Hamilton Subdivision preparing to stop at the Hamilton, Ohio, Amtrak station. — photo by John K. Wilson

The Reagan Administration's proposed budget for Fiscal Year 1984 went to Congress on January 31st. Amtrak and mass transit funding would be cut. Highway spending would increase by 37%! Funding for airport and air traffic control projects would increase by 17%. Amtrak funding would be cut by 3% to \$676 million in FY84. The Administration wants to trim outlays for track and station improvements in Amtrak's Northeast Corridor. And, once again, the Administration wants to get rid of Amtrak's CARDINAL which runs between New York - Washington and Chicago via Cincinnati. The budget does not include funding for the CARDINAL. The Administration's budget also asks for changes in the "403-b" section so that states would have to pay 100% of the costs of the state-supported "403-b" Amtrak trains. Presently the state pays 55% the first year and 35% in succeeding years.

Amtrak, on the other hand, has requested \$807 million for FY84 and submitted its legislative report to Congress on February 15th. The Amtrak budget assumes that the CARDINAL will continue to operate, and that the "403-b" funding will continue as at present. Amtrak's President W. Graham Claytor stated he believes the CARDINAL will be able to meet the Congressionally-mandated criteria this year because the ridership on this route has been steadily picking up. Claytor also stated that no major cuts in existing service are planned and that no new routes would be added unless they can cover 100% of their operating costs. (Continued.....)

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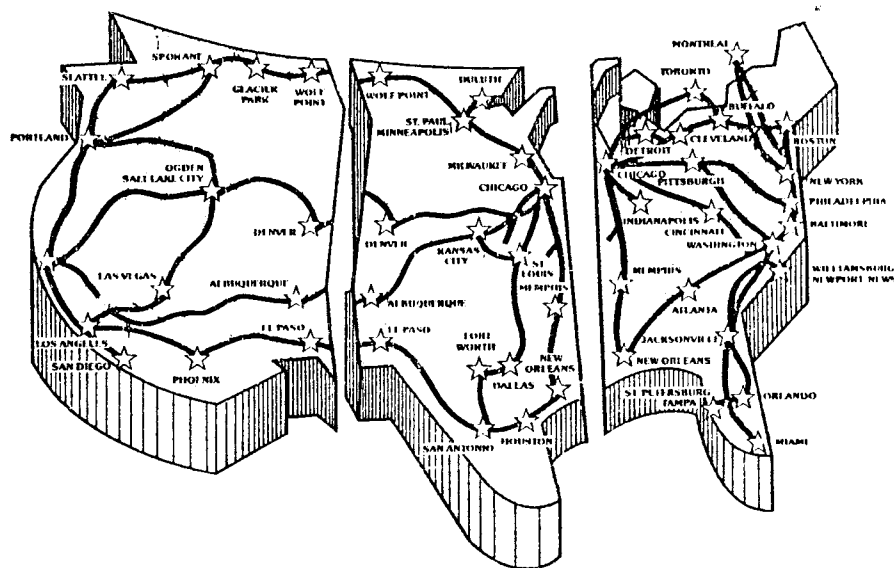
THE CARDINAL...L... (continued) The release of the Reagan budget prompted articles in the Cincinnati papers indicating the CARDINAL's demise was a sure thing. The phones at Amtrak's River Road Station were flooded with calls for days from people wondering "when the train would come off". OARP wonders how many potential passengers are still thinking the train is gone?

When Amtrak released its own budget request, the press was more positive and it is also certain that the current "All Aboard America Fares" will certainly help fill up the CARDINAL.

ARP heads from all along the CARDINAL route will meet in Cincinnati as part of the NARP REGION V/REGION VI MEETINGS on March 19-20 to plot strategy to assure CONTINUATION of this much-needed rail transportation service. NARP Director and KyARP President Don Maxwell states he has seen statistics showing that the CARDINAL ridership has indeed improved and that its cost per passenger mile is actually BELOW that of some other Amtrak trains!

For your information, the Amtrak \$807 million budget proposal includes: \$649.1 million for operations, \$155 million for capital expenditures, and \$3 million for labor protection.

AMTRAK'S SPECIAL "ALL ABOARD AMERICA" FARES ARE NOW IN EFFECT BRINGING SHARP REDUCTIONS FOR AMTRAK TRIPS TAKEN FROM NOW UNTIL MAY 30th. THE U.S.A. HAS BEEN DIVIDED INTO THREE ZONES FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING FARES. TRAVELERS MAY MAKE ANY AMTRAK ROUND-TRIP WITHIN ANY ONE OF THESE THREE ZONES FOR \$125; WITHIN TWO ADJOINING ZONES FOR \$225; AND FOR THE ENTIRE U.S.A. FOR \$299. Contact AMTRAK or your Authorized AMTRAK Travel Agent for full details!



## OHIO GOVERNOR CELESTE RESPONDS TO OARP'S PASSENGER RAIL PLAN

On January 31st, Ohio Governor Richard F. Celeste sent a response to OARP concerning our Passenger Service System Proposal which was officially released on January 21st and delivered that day to the Governor's office in the State House.

The Governor's letter was directed to OARP's Howard Harding who, along with Bill Hutchison, wrote and coordinated the preparation of our OARP Plan. The Governor asked three questions regarding our OARP Plan; one asking more details about financing our Plan, one asking OARP's perspective on the transfer of ORTA, and one seeking more input on whether the OARP Plan can work without modifications if it is not to be a precursor to high-speed rail.

Howard Harding and Bill Hutchison, with input from others, are preparing an extensive and thorough response which will be sent to Governor Celeste as soon as it is completed.

It should be noted that the Governor's response was in the form of a personal letter and the general tone of his letter seems to indicate that he is quite interested in our OARP Proposal. Governor Celeste stated, "Thank you for sending me the OARP passenger service system proposal. I appreciate the time and care that has gone into the proposal and am attracted by the phased character of the plan."

## OARP OUTREACH

We plan to participate in these upcoming opportunities to "spread the word" about OARP. Regional coordinators will "coordinate" our participation in these events. Area OARP members will be asked to help.

MARCH 19-20 CINCINNATI. Fully manned display in connection with 50th Anniversary of Cincinnati Union Terminal. (SAME WEEKEND AS THE OARP/NARP MEETING!)

MARCH 12-13 KIRTLAND (CLEVELAND AREA). Display at RailFest.

APRIL 10 SPRINGFIELD. Fully manned display at R.R. Show at Clark County Fairgrounds.

JUNE 4-5 AKRON. Fully manned display at Quaker Square Railroad Meet. At the same time the Akron Art Museum will open an exhibit by noted railroad photographer O. Winston Link who will be on hand and will participate in a "Gallery Talk" at 11am on the 4th.

YOU can help further the cause of rail passenger transportation advocacy by 1) letting us know (well in advance, please) of exhibit/display opportunities in YOUR area, and by 2) offering to assist so that the burden doesn't fall on only one or two people. We generally find that these exhibit/display opportunities are not only a good chance to show OARP off to the public, but an excellent chance to meet with and talk with people. We're usually able to sign up some new members this way. Contact your OARP President if YOU can help out!

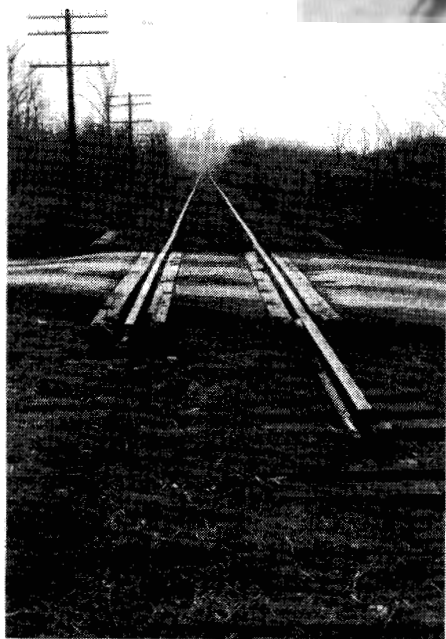
We don't like to publish depressing photos, but you have a right to the proof that we're losing more rail transportation resources. These two photos show that, in fact, more of the Conrail Dayton-Indianapolis mainline is being ripped up. This was the former Pennsylvania Railroad high-speed passenger route between Pittsburgh and St. Louis. Amtrak's NATIONAL LIMITED used this route until it was discontinued in the Fall of 1979.

(R.) Looking east at Milepost 48 which is located in Preble County, Ohio, just east of the Village of New Paris. The rail crew started here and is working eastward towards Dodson, Ohio.



(Below) Looking west at Milepost 48.

PHOTOS BY JOHN McCANN



**AMTRAK'S FY83 BUDGET APPROVED**

Two months into FY83 the House and Senate conferees finally hammered out a USDOT budget including \$700 million for Amtrak. Of this, \$650 million will go to operations. The budget includes two capital project provisions. \$5 million will go to upgrade tracks between Hyannis and Attleboro for Cape Cod Amtrak service. \$25 million is set for upgrading CINCINNATI to INDIANAPOLIS trackage provided that this line is sold by Conrail within six months. The \$700 million figure is \$35 million below what the U.S. Senate had previously approved, and \$88 million below what the U.S. House had approved. Although this budget will support existing services, very little remains for capital improvements.

CAN YOU HELP ???? WILL YOU HELP ???? This request is directed mainly to our OARP members who own businesses and to our more affluent members. Our OARP TENTH ANNIVERSARY Committee has decided that we should have a limited number of quality "advertising specialty" items which we plan to make available to everyone who attends the TENTH ANNIVERSARY celebration in Columbus on July 16th. Those who want additional items could purchase them at the July 16th event. Those who do not attend could purchase the items by mail.

So far the Committee has definitely decided upon quality lapel pins with the OARP logo. Additionally, the Committee is looking at quality coffee mugs, glass steins, good quality luggage tags, a commemorative tile, and small travel kits containing first aid items, an emergency sewing kit and a rain bonnet for the ladies. Other items may be considered. All items would have OARP personalization.

Your OARP President is working with an advertising specialty person in Dayton who has promised to try to get us the best quality at the lowest possible cost. Unfortunately, to get the best overall price on the two or three items we'd like to offer, we have to pay the whole bill "up front". Our OARP Treasury cannot afford this. We would gradually recoup some, if not all, of the costs by making the items available for purchase at the July 16th event and for some period of time following.

This is why your OARP President is asking for financial help from some of our members who would be in a position to make a donation to OARP for advertising specialty items for our TENTH ANNIVERSARY celebration. We plan to recognize those who assist in this regard both through "the 6:53" and also by special recognition on July 16th in Columbus. We roughly estimate that we will need between \$1,250 and \$1,500 for these items. Hopefully we will have as many as a dozen or two dozen donors so that the costs will be spread out.

If YOU can help, Tom Pulsifer needs to hear from you NOW so that the Committee can finalize plans for July 16th. Write him at OARP, Box 653, Xenia, OH 45385. Better yet, if you wish, call him during the day at work in Dayton (513-461-0464 he is advertising manager for Ziebart Services) or evenings at home (513-372-9868 before 9:00pm).

**A D D I T I O N A L L Y . . . .** Your OARP President is looking for one OARP member who'd be willing to donate the cost of postage to mail copies of the new OARP LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY to every OHIO OARP member. We know the cost will be \$120.00. The person who underwrites this expense will be recognized. And it will help out our treasury at a busy time. If YOU can help in this matter, contact Tom Pulsifer right away. We'd like to have these new LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORIES distributed before the end of March if at all possible.

OARP SPRING MEETING 10:00am MARCH 19, 1983  
 HOLIDAY INN / DOWNTOWN CINCINNATI, OHIO  
 I-75 at West 8th & Linn Streets Free Parking

AMTRAK ANNOUNCES PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR PROPOSED AUTO-FERRY SERVICE

On February 14th Amtrak announced the beginning of the public comment period for its proposed auto-ferry service between the Washington, DC, area and central Florida. ALL INTERESTED PARTIES ARE INVITED TO COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED SERVICE FOR A SIXTY-DAY PERIOD (Feb. 14 until Apr. 14). People may communicate their views either by mail or by phone. Those wishing to present their opinions in writing may send letters to Mr. W. S. Norman, Group Vice President -- Marketing and Business Development, P.O. Box 37631, Washington, DC 20013.

Persons wishing to call will have the opportunity to record their comments on a special toll-free number set aside specifically for this purpose: 800-368-5848. Persons in Washington, DC, may dial 393-6455. At the end of the 60 day period Amtrak will present a summary of the public comments received to Amtrak's Board of Directors for use in making a decision on the proposed service.

The Amtrak auto-ferry service would begin in late 1983 and would combine modern passenger coaches, sleeping cars, food service cars, and auto carriers in one train. It would operate on an overnight schedule three times a week during off-peak periods and daily during the peak seasons. Each train would accommodate approximately 530 passengers along with 200 automobiles. A start-up date, schedules, fares, on-board services and terminal locations will be announced if Amtrak decides to operate the proposed service.

Amtrak management projects the auto-ferry will serve approximately 140,000 persons a year and will increase substantially the potential population served by Amtrak. It is expected to have a positive impact upon traveler safety and assist in reducing fuel consumption. The service is unlikely to require utilization of land which is not currently dedicated to rail purposes. Amtrak expects the auto-ferry to make a profit, thus reducing the need for federal operating grants for other Amtrak services.

Amtrak's Board of Directors approved the resolution authorizing the corporation to proceed with auto-ferry service between Washington and Florida at their January 1983 Board Meeting. The public comment period is one of several steps Amtrak must take prior to implementing the new service.

We are most pleased to report that our own DOUG HUDSON is recuperating nicely at home following double-bypass surgery at the Cleveland Clinic early in February.

Doug is our Youngstown-Warren Area Regional Coordinator and recently retired as registrar at Kent State University's Trumbull Campus in Warren.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to OARP member ERNEST CAGLE and his family of Columbus on the recent death of Mr. Cagle's wife early in February.

INCLUDE THE TRAIN IN YOUR FAMILY'S 1983 VACATION TRAVEL PLANS

Pages 11 - 14 comprise the NARP REGION VI BALLOT and may easily be removed from this publication. Ballot preparation coordinated by Howard Harding.

WILLIAM GLASSER. (Incumbent) Resident of Canton, Ohio. Secretary and member of OARP. Has lobbied in Washington, D.C. Worked to get a new station for Canton, Ohio, conducted letter writing campaigns and urged people to support Amtrak. Believes NARP must support a national Amtrak network with no further reductions, urge more state participation in the 403(b) program, and press for the continuation of capital funding for new equipment.

HOWARD HARDING. (Incumbent) Resident of Akron, Ohio. Member of NARP, MARP, OreARP, SRHS, OARP. Serving as OARP Regional Coordinator; NARP Committee member on Equipment, Route Study, Resolutions; chairman of NARP Nominating Committee. Member of Sierra Club National Transportation Committee. Believes NARP must continue to grow, must work with Amtrak to improve equipment utilization, expand service, make all trains daily. Cooperation must not become co-option; NARP must remain independent of Amtrak while supporting its progress.

ROBERT MEISNER. Resident of Birmingham, Michigan. Member of MARP. Attorney. Columnist for Detroit News on real estate. Member of Michigan Railroad Club. Rail passenger service advocate. Believes rail passenger service must be expanded and improved throughout the region.

NICHOLAS NOE. Former NARP director. Charter member IndARP; member of MARP, OARP, KARP. ICC registered practitioner, Assoc. member of American Society of Traffic & Transportation. Believes NARP should work to restore service via Shelbyville line; press "Emerging Corridors" concept, especially Cincinnati-Indianapolis-Chicago; work to restore east-west service across central Indiana and Ohio; re-establish midwest-Florida service; operate the CARDINAL daily.

GEORGE SCHLAEPFER. (Incumbent) Resident of Livonia, Michigan. Member of MARP and former newsletter editor. President of Michigan Rail Club and former tour director. Believes Amtrak must further improve its reliability, develop new sources of revenue such as increased postal, express and real estate revenues.

National Association of Railroad Passengers  
REGION VI

INDIANA OHIO MICHIGAN

OFFICIAL NARP REGION VI BALLOT

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS

1. SEPARATE BALLOT SHEET FROM YOUR NEWSLETTER & READ BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ABOUT EACH CANDIDATE.
2. VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN SIX CANDIDATES BY MARKING THE BOX BESIDE EACH NAME.
3. FOLD BALLOT AND PLACE IN AN ENVELOPE.
4. IN THE UPPER LEFT CORNER OF THE FRONT, SIGN THE ENVELOPE AND PUT YOUR NARP MAILING ADDRESS SO WE CAN VERIFY THAT ONLY NARP MEMBERS ARE VOTING. ENVELOPES AND BALLOTS WILL BE SEPARATED BEFORE THE VOTES ARE TALLIED.

5. MAIL YOUR BALLOT TO:  
 NARP REGION VI BALLOTS  
 P.O. BOX 653  
 XENIA, OHIO 45385-0653

6. PLEASE DO NOT ENCLOSE ANYTHING ELSE WITH YOUR BALLOT

ALL REGION VI BALLOTING FOR NARP DIRECTORS WILL BE HANDLED BY MAIL THIS YEAR. BALLOTS WILL BE COUNTED AND THE RESULTS ANNOUNCED ON 19 MARCH AT THE REGION VI & V JOINT MEETING IN CINCINNATI.

ALL BALLOTS MUST BE RECEIVED IN XENIA BY 18 MARCH TO BE COUNTED.

NO CAMPAIGNING OR VOTING WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE CINCINNATI MEETING.

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CANDIDATES: VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN SIX (6):

- |                                     |                   |                                     |                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | DIETRICH BERGMANN | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | NICHOLAS NOE      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | JOHN DELORA       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | GEORGE SCHLAEPFER |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | WILLIAM GLASSER   | <input type="checkbox"/>            | KEN SENERTH       |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | HOWARD HARDING    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | MIKE WEBER        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | ROBERT MEISNER    |                                     |                   |

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CANDIDATES:

DIETRICH BERGMANN. Resident of St. Clair Shores, Michigan. Vice chairman of MARP. NARP member. Ph. D. in Engineering from Stanford University. President of Railway Systems Engineering Corp. Member American Railway Engineering Association, American Society of Civil Engineers. Believes we must aggressively pursue U.S. development of intercity and commuter passenger rail service, and of domestic supply industry for railway equipment and design.

JOHN DELORA. (Incumbent) Resident of Grosse Pointe Shores, MI. Founding member of MARP. Former chairman & secretary of MARP. NARP member. Established Michigan Passenger Foundation (MPF), led drive to obtain Michigan 403(b) trains, and promoted rail passenger service in Lansing and Washington, D.C. Believes we must rid NARP of its railfan image, properly market rail passenger service and strive for better Amtrak service throughout the region.

KEN SENERTH, Resident of North Royalton, Ohio. NARP member. Former Northeast Corridor commuter. Editor of medical publications. Strong advocate of major improvements in intercity and commuter rail services. Frequent rail traveler for business and pleasure trips. Believes rail passenger service should be expanded across Ohio and the nation.

MIKE WEBER, (Incumbent) Resident of Cincinnati, Ohio. OARP Regional Coordinator. Supporter of Cincinnati Union Terminal restoration. Believes NARP should work to secure adequate capital funding to permit service expansion as outlined in Sheck's AMTRAK 90; have Congress identify major rail passenger routes and protect them from dismantling; get "jobs bill" money for rail transit and intercity rail improvements; reroute Cardinal via Indianapolis; establish Cleveland-Columbus-Cincinnati service by 1984; double NARP membership; continue "Getting There" magazine.

## AMTRAK RESPONDS TO THE PHONE BOOK LISTING SURPRISES ----

In our last issue of "the 6:53" we reported on a 33% rate of error based on research your OARP President conducted on a random selection of west central Ohio area telephone directories as to if and how Amtrak is listed therein. We have had a response from Amtrak's William Norman, Group Vice President for Marketing and Business Development:

"Dear Mr. Pulsifer: Thank you for your letter concerning discrepancies in Amtrak's telephone listings in the Ohio area. I greatly appreciate your taking the time to review this matter as well as to bring it to my attention.

"As a result of your letter, I have initiated a review of all telephone listings, nationwide, to ensure that local listings are correct and current. In addition, we are updating our review of toll-free listings to ensure that major or metropolitan areas are properly covered. Our preliminary findings indicate, however, that our on-line white page listings are generally current with some problems in off-line localities. Our yellow page listings are, generally, very good. I am certain you recognize that the correction of discrepancies is dependent upon local telephone directory publication schedules; however, I will ensure that appropriate emphasis is given to correcting where required!

"Again my thanks for your continuing interest and support of Amtrak."

OARP's research turned up such things as listings showing old Columbus Union Depot and Dayton Union Station three years after Amtrak service was discontinued through those cities; a correct "800" number listing in tiny Germantown, Ohio, but no listing at all in huge Columbus, Ohio; and no listing at all in Richmond, Indiana, despite the fact the Amtrak's CARDINAL presently stops there thrice weekly.

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## SUMMER RAILTOUR TO VANCOUVER

OARP's own Howard and Patty Harding will escort a rail-

tour from Cleveland to Vancouver, BC, and return, June 8 - 24, 1983. Sponsored by the Denominational Affairs Committee of the Akron Unitarian-Universalist Church, this trip is primarily for delegates to the UUA General Assembly in Vancouver, however this trip is open to non-delegates. Cost per person, twin basis, is \$659.00. The tour schedule permits non-delegates one week of sightseeing in British Columbia. The return rail trip will include a full two day stopover at Glacier National Park. Tour arrangements are being made by the Akron Auto Club which is a member of our OARP "TRAM" travel agency membership program. Tour coordinator Howard Harding will send you a complete brochure on this railtour with full details. Please contact him by writing him at 489 Overwood Road, Akron, OH 44313, or by calling him at home (216-867-5507) between 6:00-10:00pm. Reservation deadline for this railtour is May 2nd.



## PLANS PROCEEDING FOR OARP'S TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

The second meeting of the 10th Anniversary Committee was held February 12th at Denny's Restaurant in Springfield. A number of items were discussed which we hope will make this affair one which will be long remembered by our members. In addition to Mr. Paul H. Reistrup, former president of Amtrak, we hope to have a speaker for one of the planned workshop sessions who is a lobbyist for the Sierra Club in Ohio. We're also trying to arrange for another workshop speaker who, as director of the regional transit authority in one of Ohio's largest cities, will address intermodal transportation. We hope to honor OARP charter members and are still working on plans for this. A buffet banquet for Saturday noon was decided to be the type meal which would please most members. Mementos for the event were discussed and we agreed to pursue high quality items which would be attractive and usable to our members. Jim

Saunders mentioned that it would be nice if we had some attractive table decorations which could be given away as door prizes. Jim is willing to proceed with this idea, but he will need some help. Anyone with talents or ideas in this direction should contact Jim in Springfield (see pg. 2 OARP DIRECTORY). We also discussed the idea of a hospitality hour to be held following Saturday's events, possibly from 4:00-6:00pm. This could be hosted by a business firm. Anyone who could help pursue this idea should contact Al Wolf or Tom Pulsifer. We hope to keep the cost for the entire day (SATURDAY, JULY 16th) to \$20.00. This would include the buffet banquet. More details will be forthcoming in the next issue of "the 6:53".

— Al Wolf

OARP would like to send copies of our RAIL PASSENGER PLAN FOR OHIO to transportation editors in newspapers and transportation committee people in chambers of commerce and regional transportation authorities in the cities included in our RAIL PLAN. We need names and addresses of these people so the copies get to the person who can best use it. You should direct this information to HOWARD HARDING, 489 OVERWOOD ROAD, AKRON, OH 44313. Howard is coordinating distribution of our PLAN, not only to prevent duplication of efforts, but to make sure all bases are covered. We thank Howard for his most valued assistance.

OARP MEMBERS WHO ARE ALSO NARP MEMBERS AND WHO CANNOT ATTEND THE CINCINNATI MEETING ON MARCH 19-20 AND WHO HAVE CONCERNS TO BE BROUGHT UP AT THE NARP DIRECTOR'S MEETING IN WASHINGTON ON APRIL 22-23 SHOULD CONTACT THEIR CLOSEST NARP REGIONAL DIRECTOR NO LATER THAN APRIL 20th. CONSULT THE OARP DIRECTORY PAGE FOR ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS.

BARELY ONE MONTH AFTER WE RELEASED OUR PASSENGER RAIL TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR OHIO, WE RAN OUT OF COPIES! AND A WAITING LIST WAS GROWING!

BUT WE'VE HAD OUR PROPOSAL REPRINTED NOW AND WE'RE READY TO FILL YOUR REQUEST.

WE'LL SEND YOU A COPY OF OARP'S PASSENGER RAIL TRANSPORTATION PLAN FOR OHIO IN RETURN FOR A \$2.00 DONATION TO OARP.

KINDLY MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO O.A.R.P. AND ADDRESS YOUR REQUEST FOR OUR PLAN TO:

O.A.R.P.

P.O. BOX 653

XENIA, OH 45385

### OTHER MATERIALS TO SEND FOR . . . .

- \* OARP 1983 CALENDAR featuring color photo of the BROADWAY/CAPITOL at Lima. 9"x12" size features whole year at a glance. 1/\$12/\$2 3/\$3 4/\$4 5/\$5 10/\$6 15/\$7 20/\$8 25/\$9 30/\$10 40/\$11 50/\$12 60/\$13 75/\$14 100/\$15.
- \* AMTRAK NATIONWIDE TIMETABLE (form A). No charge. But we ask you to send us a self-addressed business letter size envelope with 54¢ postage affixed (20+17+17). THESE ARE STILL IN SHORT SUPPLY. We regret we cannot fill requests for quantities.
- \* AMTRAK EAST-MIDWEST TIMETABLE (form 7) shows ALL trains serving OHIO. Same arrangements as above, but just 20¢ postage will do nicely. We can presently provide small quantities of these if requested.
- \* OARP BUMPER STICKER "LET'S GET OHIO MOVING ON PASSENGER TRAINS" with white lettering on bold dark blue vinyl. \$1.00. If you want more, after the first one, they're 50¢ each additional.
- \* OARP PICTURE POST CARDS (full-color) are just 10¢ each in any quantity. Specify photo desired: #1 the CARDINAL on Okeana Trestle, #2 the LAKE SHORE and LAKE CITIES side by side in Toledo depot.
- \* OARP RAIL TRIP REPORT FORMS are used by our members to report on their rail trips. Send us a self-addressed business letter size envelope with a 20¢ stamp and we'll send you four forms. Add a 17¢ stamp for eight forms.
- \* OARP RAIL TRAVEL GUIDE TO OHIO & NEIGHBORING STATES includes our handy how-to-find-the-Amtrak-station maps plus useful information. Just send a 20¢ stamp for a copy.
- \* OARP BROCHURES and BACK ISSUES OF "the 6:53" for you to distribute locally and perhaps win us some new members! No charge. On larger quantities we'll appreciate a donation to help out our postage fund.

O.A.R.P.

P.O. BOX 653

XENIA, OH 45385

## 1983 RAILCRUISES SCHEDULED

The RAILWAY EXPOSITION COMPANY, Inc. (P.O. Box 3366, Cincinnati, OH 45201) has just announced their RAILCRUISE schedule for 1983. All trips originate and terminate in Cincinnati and utilize Railway Expo's private railway passenger cars.

May 12-15 TULIP FESTIVAL/Holland, Michigan via CHICAGO.

May 14-21 NEW ORLEANS "CIRCLE" TRIP.

June 3-6 WASHINGTON WEEKEND.

June 13-26 DENVER-SAN FRANCISCO-SEATTLE "CIRCLE" TRIP.

July 1-7 WASHINGTON WEEK.

Please write to Railway Expo for complete information on their RAILCRUISES. OARP thanks Tom McOwen for passing on this information to us.

OARP's OHIO LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY INCLUDING OHIO'S CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION WILL BE MAILED TO ALL OHIO OARP MEMBERS AS SOON AS WE RECEIVE THE DIRECTORIES FROM THE COLUMBUS PRINTER.

Our sincere sympathy to OARP member MARY PITON of Columbus upon the recent death of her husband, Phillip Piton. Phil Piton served from 1963-1971 as President of the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues.

Your OARP President and Membership Chairwoman have been working cooperatively with OARP member Ed Reiling to get all the bugs out of our computerized mailing / membership lists. Your patience and understanding is appreciated and we regret any inconvenience caused.

## SAN FRANCISCO ZEPHYR REROUTE?

Amtrak is looking very strongly at rerouting its SAN FRANCISCO ZEPHYR over the scenic and popular D&RGW line between Denver and Salt Lake City/Ogden, possibly as early as the late April timetable change although no official announcement has yet been made.

Amtrak ran a 14-car Superliner train as a "test" run over this route on February 7 and 8 in place of the regular RIO GRANDE ZEPHYR. The D&RGW route is expected to lead to greatly increased ridership, especially to and from the Colorado resort areas which would be directly served by the daily train.

"YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE" is the title of a new guidebook just published by the State of New York Department of Transportation to assist passengers traveling on Amtrak's New York City - Niagara Falls "Empire Corridor". The 32-page publication includes useful information and travel tips including a guide to intermodal connections. A free copy may be obtained by writing RAIL GUIDE, NYS DOT, State Campus, Albany, NY 12232.

OARP member PAUL LAUREL of Toledo placed third in the recent AMTRAK/CENTURY CONTEST sponsored by the 20th Century Railroad Club of Chicago. Paul traveled 17,248 miles by rail in 1982. Top place went to Ken Wilk of Hammond, IN, who rode 22,112 miles by rail in 1982.

OARP understands that Amtrak food service menus will undergo added IMPROVEMENTS in late April, systemwide. Recent Amtrak travelers have commented on the improvement already made in quality of on-board food services.

## OARP's TENTH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION — JULY 16, 1983 AT THE CHRISTOPHER INN, 300 E. BROAD STREET, COLUMBUS, OHIO

\*\*\*\*\* PLAN NOW TO ATTEND \*\*\*\*\*

BANQUET with GUEST SPEAKER PAUL H. REISTRUP, noted transportation consultant and former president of Amtrak.

MORNING WORKSHOP SESSIONS on EFFECTIVE LOBBYING, INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION, other topics planned.

DOOR PRIZES! AMTRAK IS DONATING \$100.00 WORTH OF PRIZES!

SPECIAL MEMENTOS FOR ALL WHO ATTEND. HOSPITALITY HOUR.

While our plans are for all events to take place on the 16th we have arranged with the CHRISTOPHER INN for a special rate for those wishing to stay over the night of the 15th and/or 16th. The CHRISTOPHER is holding a block of rooms for OARP and the special rates are \$35.00 for one and \$39.00 for two with one double bed. Rates for king-size beds are \$39.00 for one or two persons. State and local taxes are additional.

OARP does not handle room reservations. You must contact the CHRISTOPHER INN directly. The toll-free number is 1-800-282-9349. Or you may write them at 300 East Broad Street, Columbus, OH 43215. To get the special rate you must mention that you are attending the OARP 10th ANNIVERSARY event on July 16th. We do encourage you to make your reservations early.

Two active OARP members have proposed that OARP join the Ohio Environmental Council, headquartered in Columbus. Your OARP President is presently looking into this. The OEC represents its members and the public interest in environmental issues of statewide concern, including the areas of energy, air quality and transportation. Since its inception in 1969, the OEC has been working to provide a unifying influence for Ohioans concerned about our environmental resources and natural heritage. With a focus on concerns unique to the state of Ohio and its residents, the OEC has maintained its commitment to preserving a balance between economic stability and environmental progress. OEC acts as a clearing house for environmental information and a coordinating body for environmentally-minded citizens and organizations. The OEC has over 60 member organizations in addition to hundreds of individual members. OEC is entirely privately funded. Membership in the OEC would cost OARP \$30 annually. An initial response from Stephen H. Sedam, Executive Director of the OEC, indicated a strong interest on their part in learning more about OARP. Organizational memberships must be approved by the OEC Board of Directors.

YOU CAN KEEP OARP STRONG — RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP PROMPTLY

SPRING MEETING of the OHIO ASSOCIATION of RAILROAD PASSENGERS

10:00am • SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1983

HOLIDAY INN/DOWNTOWN

I-75 at WEST 8th & LINN STS.

CINCINNATI, OHIO

FREE PARKING

Our OARP SPRING MEETING will be an informal one. There is one firm item of business; that of approving OARP Pres. Pulsifer's recommendation that CRAIG

COLLEY, of near Portsmouth, be appointed as OHIO VALLEY REGIONAL COORDINATOR and that RON GARNER, of Mt. Orab, be shifted in "territory" to work with MIKE WEBER. According to OARP's by-laws, such appointments must be ratified by the membership at one of our regular meetings. There will be an update on plans for the Tenth Anniversary event in Columbus in July. We will also discuss plans for the OARP ANNUAL MEETING in May (the 14th is the tentative date and the tentative location is Warren, Ohio). Other items relevant to OARP and Ohio may be brought before our Spring Meeting. MEETING INCLUDES LUNCHEON/\$15.00 PER PERSON COST.

THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF CINCINNATI UNION TERMINAL IS BEING CELEBRATED ON THE SAME WEEKEND AS OUR OARP AND NARP REGION V & VI MEETINGS, MARCH 19 & 20! SPECIAL DISPLAYS AND SOME SPECIAL EVENTS AT C.U.T. ARE BEING PLANNED AND THOSE WHO ATTEND THE OARP/NARP MEETINGS WILL RECEIVE FULL DETAILS.

OARP HAS BEEN INVITED TO HAVE A SMALL DISPLAY AT C.U.T. AS PART OF THIS OBSERVANCE. MIKE WEBER IS WORKING ON LOGISTICS AND SOME OARP MEMBERS WILL BE ASKED TO TAKE TURNS STAFFING OUR EXHIBIT.

OARP UNDERSTANDS THAT THE RAILWAY EXPOSITION COMPANY, INC. IS ATTEMPTING TO WORK OUT "SHUTTLE TRAIN" EXCURSIONS THAT WEEKEND BETWEEN C.U.T. AND COVINGTON, KY, AND RETURN TO GIVE VISITORS TO THE TERMINAL A TRAIN RIDE AT A MODEST COST.

HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MARCH 19 & 20 NARP MEETING....

The HOLIDAY INN/DOWNTOWN is holding a block of rooms for persons attending the NARP MEETINGS and wishing to stay overnight. YOU MUST MAKE ROOM ARRANGEMENTS YOURSELF. IT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE \$15.00 COST FOR THE MEETING & LUNCHEON BANQUET ON SATURDAY. Be sure to tell the Holiday Inn that you are attending the NARP REGIONAL MEETING so they give you the special rate of \$36.00 single and \$40 double.

ALL OARP/NARP MEETINGS WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE HOLIDAY INN.

CALL THE HOLIDAY INN / DOWNTOWN DIRECTLY at 513-241-8660

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND THE OARP SPRING MEETING AND THE NARP REGION VI ANNUAL MEETING IN CINCINNATI, MARCH 19th and 20th!!

##### 20 #####

NARP REGION VI ANNUAL MEETING

in conjunction with NARP REGION V

SATURDAY • MARCH 19th

SUNDAY • MARCH 20th

at the HOLIDAY INN/DOWNTOWN

I-75 at W. 8th & LINN Sts.

CINCINNATI, OHIO

free parking

COST: \$15.00  
per person

includes LUNCHEON

BANQUET at

noon on

Saturday

#####

AGENDA for BOTH DAYS:

SATURDAY/MARCH 19

10:00am-11:30am OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS  
SPRING MEETING

12:00nn-1:30pm BANQUET LUNCHEON with KEYNOTE SPEAKERS  
COST: \$15.00 PAYABLE IN ADVANCE (use the handy registration form on page 23)  
TOPIC: MIDWEST TO FLORIDA RAIL PASSENGER SERVICE -- WE NEED IT BAD!

1:30pm-4:30pm DISCUSSION OF PROBLEMS AND POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF MIDWEST TO FLORIDA RAIL PASSENGER SERVICES  
DISCUSSION CHAIRMAN: JACK MARTIN, President of the National Association of RR Passengers  
DISCUSSION LEADERS:  
DON MAXWELL, NARP Director, Region V  
JOHN DeLORA, NARP Director, Region VI  
JAMES LARSON, Amtrak  
WILLIAM GALLAGHER, Amtrak

Additionally, BRUCE HEARD (Amtrak), Tennessee Congressmen ALBERT GORE, JR. and WILLIAM BONER, and Kentucky Senator WENDEL FORD have been invited to participate.

4:30pm-5:00pm DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL RAIL PASSENGER SERVICES FOR THE 1984 NEW ORLEANS WORLDS FAIR.

5:00pm-5:30pm ANNOUNCEMENT OF NARP REGION V & VI ELECTIONS (All balloting is to be by MAIL this year!)

5:30pm ADJOURNMENT OF SATURDAY NARP SESSIONS

6:00pm HAPPY HALF HOUR

6:30pm-7:45pm DINNER (optional / extra charge of \$10.00 per person / advance reservations necessary)  
DISCUSSION OF STATE CONCERNS RELATED TO IMPLEMENTATION OF MIDWEST TO FLORIDA SERVICE.

8:00pm-9:30pm NARP COMMITTEE PLANNING SESSIONS  
Route Selection & Schedules  
Equipment Needs & Service Implementation  
Political Action Required to Produce Service

C O N T I N U E D . . .

##### 21 #####

AGENDA for MARCH 19 & 20 (continued)

SUNDAY/MARCH 20

8:30am-9:45am NARP REGION V MEETING

8:30am-9:45am NARP REGION VI MEETING

10:00am-12:00nn COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION OF REPORTS

12:00nn-1:00pm SUMMATION AND DRAFT PLAN OUTLINE FOR REPORT TO NARP APRIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING IN WASHINGTON, DC

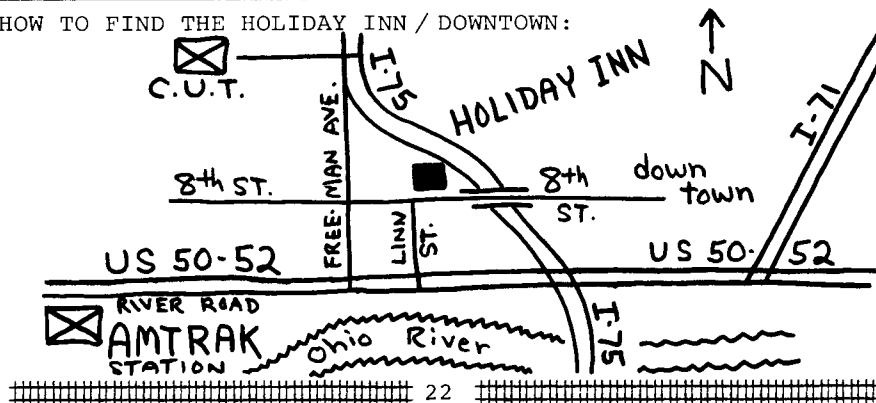
Sunday afternoon - TOURS OF CINCINNATI UNION TERMINAL (details will be announced at meetings)

PERSONS ARRIVING (SATURDAY) AND DEPARTING (SUNDAY) ON AM-TRAK'S CARDINAL will be picked up at and taken back to the Amtrak Station by PRE-ARRANGEMENT with MIKE WEBER. Let him know! Call 513-851-7959 or write him at 14 Joywood Drive, Cincinnati 43218.

INFORMATION for you: ALL meeting arrangements are being made by Don Maxwell and Mike Weber. Meetings costs are \$15.00 for ALL PARTICIPANTS and this includes the Saturday noon LUNCHEON BANQUET. The Saturday evening DINNER is optional, but reservations must be made in advance. The cost is \$10.00 per person. ALL OTHER MEALS AND LODGING COSTS ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INDIVIDUAL.

IMPORTANT! Meeting rooms will be set up based on the number of persons who are pre-registered. It is unfair to those who have pre-registered to show up completely unannounced and thereby cause crowded conditions because not enough seats were set up, etc. If you are a "last-minute" person, AT LEAST have the courtesy to CALL MIKE WEBER a couple of days prior to the Meetings and let him know that you will come. Thank you for your consideration.

HOW TO FIND THE HOLIDAY INN / DOWNTOWN:



REGISTRATION FORM

FOR THE CINCINNATI OARP/NARP MEETINGS

mail to: W. MIKE WEBER 14 JOYWOOD DRIVE CINCINNATI, OH 45218 I AM ENCLOSING \$15.00 (per person) for the SATURDAY MEETINGS and the SATURDAY NOON BANQUET.

???? call 513-851-7959 I am enclosing an EXTRA \$10.00 (per person) for the SATURDAY EVENING DINNER (optional) All meals on SUNDAY are on your own.

DEADLINE: MARCH 16th Requests for refunds will NOT be honored after March 16th!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check/m.o. payable to: O.A.R.P. Mar 83

JOIN OARP

JOIN OARP TODAY and help get Ohio moving on passenger trains! We are NOT another railfan club. We are rail transportation advocates! OARP is the statewide voice of concerned citizens working together to help achieve better rail passenger services. We're over 700 strong and moving forward together for better trains in the 1980's. GET ON BOARD! A NEW MEMBERSHIP IN OARP IS STILL JUST \$5.00 for your first year; \$10.00 thereafter. Please allow 4-6 weeks for your membership to be processed. NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CHECK HERE  IF YOU CAN BE ACTIVE IN THE ONGOING WORK OF YOUR OARP! ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY-STATE-ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ Mail this coupon with your check PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ to: OARP, MEMBERSHIP SERVICES, P.O. BOX 653, XENIA, OH 45385. MAR 83