

the 6:53



photo/David B. Marshall

OARP PROMOTES TRAIN TRAVEL

AT UPPER VALLEY MALL

**CARDINAL'S FUTURE
APPEARS SECURE**



photo/John K. Wilson



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OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS

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 Revised May 1, 1983

OARP FILES PROTEST AGAINST DOWNGRADING OF "PANHANDLE" LINE

On February 24, 1983, Conrail filed an application with the Federal Railroad Administration for approval of proposed modification of track and signal systems between Mingo Jct. (near Steubenville) and Newark, OH, on the former PRR "Panhandle" main line linking Pittsburgh and Columbus. In brief, Conrail wants to eliminate one of the two main tracks and retire the automatic block signal system, the traffic control system and automatic cab signal system and change all interlockings to hand operated switches.

OARP has objected strongly to this application, which is filed as BS-Ap-No. 1941. OARP has requested that the application be denied for the following reasons:

- 1) The route in question is absolutely essential for proposed intercity rail passenger service in the Pittsburgh-Columbus "Corridor" in one plan presently before the Governor of the State of Ohio. Downgrading of track and signals will adversely impact this route's capability to handle future intercity rail passenger service.
- 2) Conrail's reason for the proposed changes (to "retire facilities no longer required for present operation") has been deliberately created by diverting existing through freight traffic to another more expensive and circuitous routing thereby questionably causing the downgrading of the more direct Pittsburgh-to-Columbus line.
- 3) The application does not address future rail transportation facility requirements in the Pittsburgh-to-Columbus "Corridor". We feel there needs to be a more definitive definition of "present operation" in light of preserving fixed facilities for near- and long term-future rail transportation requirements.
- 4) Observers for this organization report that Conrail has already modified track and signal systems on this route prior to any action upon BS-Ap-No. 1941!
- 5) This application is but another step in a series of moves by Conrail to downgrade or abandon viable intercity rail routes of the former Pennsylvania Railroad Company in Ohio and Indiana.

Copies of our protest were sent to Ohio's U.S. Senators and all Congressmen through whose districts the "Panhandle" passes. It was also sent to OhioDOT, the Governor's office, the Brooke-Hancock-Jefferson Metropolitan Planning Commission and to NARP. Our action made the NARP HOTLINE the weekend of April 2nd and has prompted two letters to us already from Congressman Chalmers Wylie. The closing date for protest was April 9th. We've had no response yet from the FRA other than to acknowledge receipt of our protest.

OARP member HAROLD WOLFF has arranged for the OARP display at an event in Medina on October 23rd. Area members who could help staff our exhibit table that day should contact Harold at 725-3451. OARP's new (thanks to David Marshall) backdrop and siderails for a 10' x 10' booth area are available for your use if your display opportunity has that standard trade-show space block to work with. Contact Tom Pulsifer about the backdrop and siderails.

LAKE SHORE, BROADWAY/CAPITOL SCHEDULE CHANGES MAKE SOME OARP MEMBERS HAPPY, OTHERS ANGRY -- CLEVELAND GETS SHAFTED!

Amtrak has altered schedules and reduced running times of its LAKE SHORE LIMITED and its BROADWAY LIMITED/CAPITOL LIMITED and these changes took effect April 24th. One hour and 22 minutes has been cut from the LAKE SHORE schedule, a reduction made possible by improved track conditions and tighter scheduling negotiations with Conrail. The eastbound LAKE SHORE departs Chicago at 6:20pm and arrives in New York at 1:15pm and Boston at 3:30pm. The westbound LAKE SHORE departs Boston at 5:15pm, New York at 7:30pm and arrives in Chicago at 12:51pm.

OARP MEMBERS IN NORTHERN OHIO ARE ANGRY BECAUSE THE NEW EASTBOUND LAKE SHORE DEPARTURE TIME OUT OF CLEVELAND IS 1:49AM! OARP FEELS THIS WILL DO MUCH TO DISCOURAGE RIDERSHIP TO AND FROM THIS MOST IMPORTANT ENROUTE CITY AND YOUR OARP PRESIDENT IS URGING LETTERS TO AMTRAK IN PROTEST. IT WAS BAD ENOUGH WHEN THE LAKE SHORE LEFT CLEVELAND AT 12:35AM!

We suggest you address your letters of protest to: M. L. Clark Tyler, Group Vice President - Passenger Services & Communications, Amtrak, 400 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001.

We suggest moving the entire schedule back by 1½ to 2 hours so the train would be out of Cleveland at or just prior to midnight and into New York before noon and into Boston earlier in the afternoon.

Amtrak's BROADWAY LIMITED now departs Chicago at 4:50pm and that move has made most Ohioans happy since the train is now out of Lima at 9:52pm, Crestline at 11:30pm and Canton at 1:08am. Arrival in New York is now 1:22pm making this train more useable as you can arrive earlier in east coast cities. The eastbound CAPITOL LIMITED, which is combined with the BROADWAY west of Pittsburgh, now arrives in Washington before noon! The westbound schedules of both trains have not changed very much. Total running times of the BROADWAY have been reduced by 5-7 minutes and the running times of the CAPITOL have been reduced by 20-21 minutes.

LAKE SHORE LIMITED.....			BROADWAY LIMITED/CAPITOL LIMITED....		
6:20p Lv	CHICAGO.....	Ar 12:51p	4:50p Lv	CHICAGO.....	Ar 8:53a
10:38p	BRYAN.....	10:17a	9:52p	LIMA.....	5:13a
11:43p	TOLEDO.....	9:20a	11:30p	CRESTLINE.....	3:41a
12:38a	SANDUSKY.....	8:20a	1:08a	CANTON.....	1:59a
1:13a	ELYRIA.....	7:57a	4:15a	PITTSBURGH.....	11:45p
1:49a	CLEVELAND.....	7:04a	11:45a Ar	WASHINGTON.....	Lv 3:35p
3:30p Ar	BOSTON.....	Lv 5:15p	11:32a Ar	PHILADELPHIA...	Lv 4:05p
1:15p Ar	NEW YORK.....	Lv 7:30p	1:22p Ar	NEW YORK.....	Lv 2:15p

Along with the schedule changes, Amtrak ticket office hours at some of the OHIO stations were to be modified slightly. OARP's RAIL TRAVEL GUIDE, which will be revised and reprinted early this summer, will contain the corrected ticket office hours for ALL Amtrak agency stations in Ohio. In the meantime, please CALL the station to verify the hours when the ticket/checked baggage office is open to serve you.

OARP, KyARP CO-HOST JOINT NARP REGION V & VI MEETING by Don Maxwell

The Kentucky and Ohio ARPs were co-sponsors of a joint regional meeting of NARP Regions 5 & 6 in Cincinnati, March 19 and 20. Yours truly acted as Chairman. The meeting was a two-day affair primarily dealing with restoration of much-needed Midwest-Florida service lost in 1979. There were a total of 69 in attendance (OH-27, KY-9, GA-9, FL-4, IN-6, MI-5, MA-1, WV-1, TN-4, NC-2, DC-1). Several hours of discussions, group sessions and planning led to a plan calling for service to be resumed in 1986 with service as follows: One section would start in Detroit and run to Louisville via Cincinnati where it would combine with a second section from Chicago and Indianapolis. These combined sections would run as one train to Jacksonville via Nashville, Chattanooga, Atlanta and Macon. NARP Director John DeLora presented State of Florida surveys indicating point of origin statistics indicating that the proposed routes could attract many current auto travelers. KyARP VP David Hodson presented a status report on track conditions along the proposed routes. The results of this joint regional meeting will be presented at the April NARP Board Meeting in Washington.

There were two guest speakers in addition to NARP President Jack Martin. Amtrak's director of route and service planning Bill Gallagher gave an update of current events at Amtrak and indicated that outside of the proposed "auto-train" service he did not look for any other major expansion of Amtrak service until 1985 and beyond. Bruce Madinger, Director of Rail Transportation for the Indiana D.O.T. told the group that Indiana was working with Conrail in hopes of saving the "Shelbyville Line" from Indianapolis to Cincinnati and that the other proposal to use the B&O line from Hamilton to Indianapolis for the CARDINAL was not going to improve running times nor quality of service. Bill Gallagher also indicated that after two inspection trips over the B&O line, Amtrak was not interested in it either.

About half of the attendees stayed overnight for the Sunday morning sessions which concluded with a tour of remaining rail facilities at the Cincinnati Union Terminal. It was agreed that next year's NARP Region VI (OH-MI-IN) Meeting would be held in DETROIT on the 3rd weekend in March 1984.

The Ohio Association of Railroad Passengers held its Spring Meeting on March 19th just prior to the NARP Meeting in Cincinnati. The meeting was informal and informative. The members voted to approve Pres. Pulsifer's appointment of Craig Colley as Ohio Valley area Regional Coordinator, and also voted to approve OARP filing a protest to Conrail's application to downgrade tracks and signals on the "Panhandle" line between Columbus and Pittsburgh. Al Wolf gave an update report on the 10th Anniversary plans. Howard Harding gave a brief update report on OARP's Rail Plan. Our meeting adjourned as a water pipe break on the 2nd floor of the Holiday Inn inundated the lobby area!

KEY PARTICIPANTS IN THE MARCH 19-20 NARP REGIONAL MEETINGS AT CINCINNATI, OHIO

all photos: Mark Adamcik

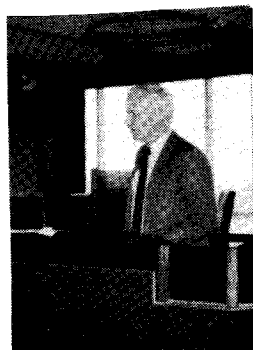


JACK MARTIN, President of the National Association of Railroad Passengers.

DON MAXWELL is the President of the Kentucky ARP.



BRUCE MADINGER is head of the Rail Division of Indiana D.O.T.



BILL GALLAGHER who is in charge of route and service planning at Amtrak.

NARP Director JOHN DeLORA was the founder of the Michigan ARP.



OARP's President TOM PULSIFER discussing various organizational concerns during the morning OARP meeting on Saturday.



OARP CONCERNED ABOUT CARDINAL'S LOSS OF WESTERN CONNECTIONS

Amtrak's CARDINAL arrives in Chicago at 5:50pm. The SOUTH-WEST LIMITED leaves Chicago for Los Angeles at 5:45pm! The EAGLE leaves Chicago for San Antonio, Phoenix and Los Angeles at 5:20pm!

Prior to April 24th, CARDINAL passengers could make the connection to the SAN FRANCISCO ZEPHYR and go on to the west via that train. Now the ZEPHYR, the CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR leaves at 2:50pm.

OARP is concerned that loss of a direct connection to the west will wreak havoc with ridership on the CARDINAL, especially west of Cincinnati.

We urge passengers to write Amtrak (See the article regarding the LAKE SHORE rescheduling) and urge that the CARDINAL and/or the SOUTHWEST LIMITED and/or EAGLE be rescheduled so that good connections can be made at Chicago. And the sooner the better!

OARP 10TH ANNIVERSARY.....

Plans for July 16th are proceeding. Columbus attorney/lobbyist Robert E. Mapes will speak to us in the morning on effective lobbying. We're finalizing arrangements with another speaker, on intermodal transportation, for a second morning session.

Of course, you will want to come and hear our featured guest speaker, PAUL H. REISTRUP, former president of Amtrak and today a noted rail passenger transportation advocate.

ALL FORMAL EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY THE 16th. THE COST WILL BE \$20.00 PER PERSON.

If you'd like to stay overnight Friday night or Saturday night at the Christopher Inn, you must make arrangements directly with them. Call toll-free 1-800-282-9349.

THE JULY 6:53 (OUT IN LATE JUNE) WILL HAVE COMPLETE DETAILS CONCERNING OARP'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION — JULY 16TH

"We've got to strike a balance between improving service and cutting costs. We're going to increase the quality of our service every year and cut costs. If we don't adopt the suggestions of our friends for improving service, it's because we've found they would not be cost effective."

— Amtrak Pres. W. Graham Claytor, April 5, 1983

Amtrak's President is very COST CONSCIOUS and this will be the watchword for the future. OARP's MIKE WEBER attended a NARP-arranged conference with Mr. Claytor on April 21st and COST CONSCIOUSNESS was reiterated over and over. Amtrak is taking a hard look at manned stations serving one train daily and doing marginally at sales. Some Amtrak agencies may become unmanned stations unless revenues improve. Next system expansions (no earlier than 1984) would include St. Louis-Carbondale and Newton-Fort Worth, and the SUNSET and EAGLE might become daily trains. In three years Amtrak will probably be operating all Empire Corridor service into Penn Station and Grand Central will become a commuter-only terminal. The "Amtrak Auto-Train" is not definite at this time. The Atlantic City-Philadelphia link might come in 3 years only if the casinos stop subsidizing all the bus tours to the New Jersey resort.

AMTRAK ANNOUNCES A NEW ROUND OF DINING CAR AND FOOD SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

On April 5th Amtrak President W. Graham Claytor, Jr. announced a new round of on-board service enhancements slated to take effect in dining cars systemwide starting April 24th. The new improvements continue Amtrak's commitment to higher quality, a wider selection of menu items, more preparation of meals on board and reasonable prices. Some of the new additions to the menu include:

- * Grilled New York Strip Steak, prepared to order, garnished with mushroom caps and served with a baked potato -- a real bargain at only \$9.75.
- * The Atlantic Seafood Platter, a combination of baked filet of sole, deviled crab and butterfly shrimp for only \$6.75.
- * Chicken Kiev, a boneless breast of chicken, breaded and stuffed with herbed butter, just \$6.25.
- * And returning to the menus on Amtrak -- ICE CREAM!

There'll also be chocolate milk, chili, a vegetarian platter and pocket (pita bread) sandwiches. Breakfast aficionados should welcome the choice of fried eggs, prepared to order, as well as the traditional scrambled eggs and the addition of grilled ham to the breakfast meat selection. For those not quite as hungry, Amtrak will begin offering a single egg as well. Other morning selections include pancakes, hash browns or grits on certain trains, hot or dry cereal, a toasted English muffin and Danish. There's good news for late-risers who will be bale to order eggs, toast and hash browns at lunchtime if they wish!

Amtrak will rotate new items into its menus twice a year, in the spring and fall, when new schedules are published. Passengers this spring and summer can also look forward to the end of paper cups and bowls and styrofoam plates, as Amtrak replaces them with sturdy and attractive plastic products.

INCLUDE THE TRAIN IN YOUR UPCOMING TRAVEL PLANS
AND HELP SOMEONE ELSE EXPERIENCE THE BENEFITS OF
TRAVEL ON A MODERN PASSENGER TRAIN!

THE "CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR" IS BACK TO STAY! Amtrak's SAN FRANCISCO ZEPHYR has been renamed THE CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR and starting April 24 was to be routed between Denver and Salt Lake City/Odgen on the more scenic Moffat Tunnel Route of the D&RGW. The new CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR now leaves Chicago at 2:50pm, about four hours earlier than before. The Superliner CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR now provides daily service to the Colorado resort areas and a daylight trip through the scenic Rocky Mountains. OARP understands that the April 24th rerouting was delayed several days due to a massive mud and landslide that buried the D&RGW mainline tracks near Thistle, UT, following heavy rain.

SECOND "REAL PEOPLE" SHOW TRAIN TO VISIT OHIO CITIES MAY 22 - 23

Amtrak will operate a special train for the "Real People" TV program from Chicago to Washington via Boston starting May 22. Local media will film the train at the planned station stops, including Toledo, Sandusky and Cleveland in Ohio. A large number of spectators is expected at station platforms because of planned pre-publicity by George Schlatter Productions, producers of the popular TV show.

The "Real People" special train will leave Chicago at 7:00am on May 22nd and operate to Detroit. It will depart Detroit at 4:30pm and arrive Toledo at 6:30pm. It will depart Toledo at 6:37pm and stop at Sandusky for seven minutes, arriving there at 7:42pm. The train will arrive Cleveland at 8:59pm where the party will spend the night. Preliminary plans call for the train to be deadheaded to Pittsburgh's Conway Yard for servicing, but this is subject to change.

The special will leave Cleveland at 9:00am on Monday, May 23rd and make a 15-minute stop at Erie, enroute to Niagara Falls. Second overnight stop will be at Syracuse. Third overnight stop will be at Boston.

OARP's Region "216" and "419" Coordinators will be kept informed on this special Amtrak train. Please contact them for information updates. OARP understands that there may be additional brief stops (Elyria?) at other enroute points. We encourage OARP members who can get out to witness this special train to get out and join the crowds. You will probably get to see yourself on TV!

WELCOME ABOARD, CRAIG!

Craig Colley, 324 Star Route, Stout, OH 45684 (614) 858-6202 is our new Regional Coordinator for the OHIO VALLEY area. Craig works for the AAA World Wide Travel office in Portsmouth and arranges and escorts a lot of trips on Amtrak. Craig is also responsible for tending the South Portsmouth Amtrak station!

Craig's appointment was approved unanimously at the OARP Spring Meeting in Cincinnati on March 19th.

Ron Garner will now work with Mike Weber as our Cincinnati area regional coordinators.

We express our thanks to Jake Kroger who has assisted Mike Weber in the Cincinnati area for the past several years as co-coordinator.

AT THIS WRITING, THE OHIO D.O.T. DIVISION OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT IS STILL AT 30 EAST BROAD STREET, SUITE 3414, AND THE PHONE NUMBER IS STILL (614) 466-5816, BUT ANY MAIL SHOULD BE SENT TO:

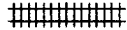
OHIO D.O.T., DIV. OF RAIL TRANS. DEVEL.
25 S. FRONT STREET
P.O. BOX 899
COLUMBUS, OH 43216

JOIN & SUPPORT YOUR OARP

COME, MEET PAUL H. REISTRUP (FORMER AMTRAK PRESIDENT) AT OARP'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION IN COLUMBUS ON JULY 16!

PRIZE WINNERS

Eight OARP members from the Cincinnati area contributed funds to make possible a "major" giveaway prize at our OARP booth at Cincinnati Union Terminal's 50th Anniversary Celebration held on March 19th and 20th. The prize was a round trip for two on the CARDINAL from Cincinnati to Washington, DC plus one night in a Washington hotel. The winner was JOSEPH SCHMIDT of Erlanger, KY. Mr. Schmidt's name was drawn from among 1,400 entries by Miss Angie Cooper of Maineville, OH, at the conclusion of the 2-day event. CUT officials estimated that over 15,000 visited the Terminal during the 50th Anniversary event.



OARP purchased the Amtrak Duffle Bag which was the giveaway prize at the OARP exhibit at the Promote Springfield Business Fair, held at Upper Valley Mall from April 5th-10th. Miss Linda Ballard of Dayton drew the winning ticket on April 10th and the Amtrak Duffle Bag was won by MR. JEFF STURGELL of Springfield, OH.

OARP thanks Miss Cooper and Miss Ballard for their assistance at these events.

VOTE WINNERS

The NARP REGION VI (which includes Ohio, Michigan and Indiana) REGIONAL DIRECTOR ELECTION RESULTS have been announced. Six have been chosen to serve:

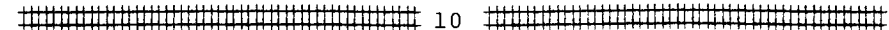
- JOHN DeLORA 89
Grosse Pointe Woods, MI
- HOWARD HARDING 82
Akron, OH
- W. MIKE WEBER 81
Cincinnati, OH
- WILLIAM C. GLASSER 75
Canton, OH
- GEORGE SCHLAEPPER 69
Livonia, MI
- NICHOLAS NOE 67
Indianapolis, IN

Other candidates were:
Dietrich Bergmann
St. Clair Shores, MI
Robert Meisner
Birmingham, MI
Ken Senerth
North Royalton, OH

We are glad to see that the State of Indiana finally has a resident NARP Director!

Your OARP President has received a copy of Amtrak Sales Offer #83-044 / Passenger Cars For Sale, issued April 18, 1983. The bid closing date is May 23, 1983. OARP will make a copy available to you for \$1.37 (\$1.00 copying charge + 37¢ 1st class postage).

OUR GRATEFUL THANKS AND APPRECIATION to all who helped make our OARP display booth at the Cincinnati Union Terminal Anniversary Celebration a success; and that includes W. Mike Weber, Edgar Kipp, Jim O'Dell, Manfred Orlow, Tom Pulsifer and a couple of members of the Cincinnati Railroad Club who also helped us out in addition to working their own booth. And... special thanks to Amtrak's Fred Frayer and Pam Dickson for providing and expediting shipment to us supplies of Amtrak timetables and rail travel literature.

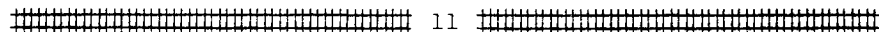


WEEK-LONG OARP DISPLAY BOOTH AT SPRINGFIELD MALL IS A SUCCESS

Sixteen OARP members and friends helped to make OARP's recent display booth at Springfield, Ohio's Upper Valley Mall a success. The opportunity was arranged for us by Joe Taylor, an OARP member who is general manager of radio station WIZE in Springfield. The event was the "Promote Springfield Business Fair" and it ran from April 5th through the 10th. Arrangements for our participation were made by Regional Coordinators David B. Marshall and Jim Saunders along with OARP Pres. Tom Pulsifer. Amtrak Regional Sales Manager Fred Frayer provided a large quantity of Amtrak timetables, tour booklets, and posters for display. Happily for OARP a week of rainy weather helped boost attendance at the Mall. There were occasions when we had three persons staffing our booth and all three were busy talking with visitors and keeping the literature holders filled with materials. The highest compliment came when the manager of the Springfield AAA World-Wide Travel office corralled Jim Saunders and demanded to know "What are you people doing out there at the Mall?" because the AAA office was being inundated with calls from persons wanting to arrange Amtrak trips! The AAA and Universal Travel are the only authorized Amtrak travel agencies serving Springfield. We'd like to offer our sincere gratitude and thanks to ALL who helped in some way, great or small, to make this Springfield booth a success, and that includes the following who helped set up, staff and take down our display booth:

David B. Marshall, Jim Saunders, John Saunders, Doug Saunders, Roger Harris, Merle Horst, Hugh Barber, Manfred Orlow, Al Wolf, Malinda Wolf, Melissa McCreary, Dave Lebold, Dave Riddle, John McCann, Tom Pulsifer and John Edminson.

Those staffing our booth didn't sit down very much; proving people ARE interested in passenger trains. OARP Pres. Tom Pulsifer and member Merle Horst of Springfield answer questions. (David B. Marshall photo)



A close-up of our booth shows the varied Amtrak, OARP and NARP literature on display; also the HO models of Amtrak train equipment currently in use. OARP member Merle Horst of Springfield and OARP Pres. Tom Pulsifer stand ready to answer visitors' questions about traveling on Amtrak.

(David B. Marshall photo)



A general view of the OARP booth during a "light moment" with OARP Coordinator Jim Saunders and OARP member John Edminson in charge. Coordinator Marshall, with sewing assistance from Coordinator Saunders' wife, constructed a very respectable backdrop and siderails for our 10' x 10' booth for under \$70.00. This can be used at future displays. With each show opportunity we find ways to improve our image... and it works to OARP's benefit.

(David B. Marshall photo)



OARP's Springfield area Regional Coordinator Jim Saunders tells visitors to our booth a bit about our organization. People were encouraged to enter the drawing for a chance to win an Amtrak Duffle Bag. A sample prize was prominently displayed in our booth. The Amtrak Duffle Bag was donated by OARP.

(David B. Marshall photo)



Dave Riddle, an OARP member from Columbus, prepares to show a visitor the system map inside the Amtrak timetable. This tactic led many visitors to realize they COULD use Amtrak as a viable travel mode. Springfield Coordinator David B. Marshall stands beside the poster we made giving details on Amtrak's "All Aboard America" fares. We exhausted EIGHT CARTONS of Amtrak timetables in this Show!

(Tom Pulsifer photo)

ADVANCE REGISTRATION FORM

FOR

OARP's TENTH ANNIVERSARY • JULY 16, 1983

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

Enclose \$20.00 per person
Make your check payable
to: O. A. R. P.

Mail this to:

OARP TENTH ANNIVERSARY
P.O. BOX 653
XENIA, OH 45385

RESERVATIONS DEADLINE IS:
Tuesday, July 12, 1983

Your \$20.00 includes banquet (plus tax-tip), mementos of the occasion, and helps to defray miscellaneous expenses of the day. All events will be held at THE CHRISTOPHER INN, 300 E. BROAD ST. in COLUMBUS. Refund requests cannot be honored after July 12, 1983.

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

ADDRESS _____ YOU CAN BE ACTIVE

CITY-STATE-ZIP _____ IN THE ONGOING WORK

PHONE _____ OF YOUR OARP!

Mail this coupon with your check
to: OARP, MEMBERSHIP SERVICES, P.O. BOX 653, XENIA, OH 45385.

MAY 83

OARP LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORIES were mailed to all OARP members in OHIO in early April. If you would like an extra copy, or a small quantity, please let us know. OUT-OF-STATE members may request a copy, or copies, although this is primarily a DIRECTORY to the OHIO Legislature. For single copies, please send a self-addressed business letter size envelope with a .20 stamp affixed to expedite postage and handling. USE YOUR OARP/OHIO LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY. IT WILL HELP YOU GET TO KNOW WHO YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS ARE. IT WILL HELP YOU CONTACT THEM EASILY. ONE KEY TO SUCCESS IN HELPING INCREASE AND IMPROVE PASSENGER RAIL TRANSPORTATION IN AND THROUGH OHIO IS, AS A CONSTITUENT, TO KEEP YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS AWARE OF THE NEEDS AND BENEFITS OF PASSENGER RAIL TRANSPORTATION.



WASHINGTON-BOUND ? ? ? ?

To assist our members in contacting the members of the U.S. Congressional delegation from Ohio in Washington, we have just published a one-page DIRECTORY listing the Capitol Hill office addresses and telephone numbers, plus transportation related committee assignments of the entire Ohio delegation to Congress. On the reverse is a handy list of key Amtrak officials and the make-up of the present Amtrak Board. A self-addressed business-letter-size envelope with a 20¢ postage stamp affixed will bring you a copy.

We believe that we are the ONLY rail passenger association in the U.S. to produce both our own complete state legislative directory and guide to our state's Congressional delegation in Washington. Considerable time and expense has gone into this project -- the whole purpose of which is to make it easier for YOU to COMMUNICATE with your elected officials in Columbus and in Washington. These are the places where it all happens nowadays. USE these handy tools. COMMUNICATE with your legislators. Request extra copies from OARP [Box 653, Xenia, OH 45385] to hand out to friends and associates. All we ask is a little assist with postage costs. That's a small price for so much information!

AMTRAK SYSTEM TIMETABLES are again available from OARP for those who can't obtain them otherwise. Send a self-addressed business-letter-size envelope with 54¢ [20+17+17] postage affixed. We have "Form 7" folders showing all Amtrak trains serving Ohio for an SASE with a 20¢ stamp affixed.

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NEWS FROM AMTRAK

- * Effective April 24th, Amtrak reduced the running time of the Chicago-Texas EAGLE by 30 minutes northbound and 15 minutes southbound.
- * Amtrak's NORTH STAR (Twin Cities-Duluth) train began daily operation effective April 24th after having been on a Friday-Saturday-Sunday only schedule.
- * A reminder that Amtrak's ALL ABOARD AMERICA FARES, inviting travelers to ride on round-trip fares as low as \$125, must be purchased before May 1, 1983 and used by May 30. It is not known at this time if Amtrak will have a similar discount fare program for off-peak season travel in the fall. The ALL ABOARD AMERICA FARES did help fill the trains and encouraged many to make extended trips on Amtrak.
- * Starting April 24th the eastbound PENNSYLVANIAN began operating on an earlier-in-the-day schedule, leaving Pittsburgh at 9:45am and arriving Philadelphia at 4:44pm. The westbound PENNSYLVANIAN is on the same schedule, but with a running time 11 minutes faster.
- * April marked the start of the seventh year of the Northeast Corridor Improvement Project (NECIP). This vital \$2.5 billion project, begun in 1977 and jointly administered by Amtrak and the Federal Railroad Administration is one of the largest railroad improvement projects ever undertaken in the U.S. Significant progress has been made since NECIP's inception without major disruptions of passenger or freight rail operations. The most visible results are routine speeds of up to 110mph between New York and Washington and of up to 100mph between New York and Boston. Amtrak hopes to receive permission in 1983 to operate at speeds of up to 120mph on certain segments of the Northeast Corridor between New York and Washington.
- * Vista-Dome cars have returned to the American rails! On March 21st the first of seven newly renovated cars went into regular service on the CAPITOL LIMITED. OARP member Paul Bunting rode the first eastbound dome trip from Pittsburgh to Washington. The twenty unreserved seats in the dome section may be used by any passenger on the train. The domes were rebuilt by Amtrak personnel at the Beech Grove Shops near Indianapolis at a cost of \$450,000 per car.
- * Amtrak will solicit, through May 16, public comments on a proposal to end rail service between Tampa, Clearwater and St. Petersburg and substitute dedicated connecting bus service with cross-platform transfer at Tampa. Amtrak says the move would save \$1.6 million annually. Persons may comment by writing M. L. Clark Tyler, Group Vice President, Passenger Services & Communications, National Railroad Passenger Corp., P.O. Box 37631, Washington, DC 20013 -- or, they may call a special toll-free number set up specifically for this purpose: 1-800-368-0103.

CONRAIL SINGLE-TRACKS MORE OF OHIO'S "3-C CORRIDOR" ROUTE

OARP member Bob Wickens of Elyria contacted OARP not long ago wondering just how much of the Conrail mainline between Berea and Galion has been single-tracked. We checked the current Conrail Southern Region employees timetable and we learned that 44 of the 68 miles between Berea and Galion is now single-track under centralized traffic control (CTC). CTC controls the entire line between Berea and Columbus and except for some local restrictions the top speed for passenger trains between Berea and Worthington is 70mph and then 60mph between Worthington and Columbus. The Berea-Galion segment was formerly double-tracked. The Galion-Columbus segment was always single-tracked. Because controlled sidings and remaining double-tracked segments are fairly well-spaced, we do not feel that the recent track reduction on the Berea-Galion segment would seriously impair implementation of "some" intercity rail passenger service in the "3-C" Corridor.

Miles from (DT - double-track)
Cleveland (CS - controlled siding)

0.0	- CLEVELAND
12.5	- BERE A
17.4	- CP-17 (south end DT)
25.4	- GRAFTON
29.5	- LAGRANGE
36.5	- WELLINGTON
37.0	- CP-37 (north end DT)
46.9	- HILES (south end DT)
47.5	- NEW LONDON
54.9	- GREENWICH
67.2	- SHELBY
70.4	- CP-VERN (north end DT)
75.7	- CP-CREST (CRESTLINE)
80.3	- CP-BURT (GALION) (south end DT)
92.8	- CP-92 (north end CS)
93.9	- CP-93 (south end CS)
97.4	- CARDINGTON
129.0	- CP-129 (north end CS)
130.1	- CP-130 (WORTHINGTON) (south end CS)
136.8	- CP-136 (north end DT)
137.8	- GRANT (COLUMBUS)

IF YOUR LAST NAME BEGINS WITH "G, H, I, J, K OR L", THEN YOU SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED YOUR OARP MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL MATERIALS RECENTLY.

IF YOU'VE ALREADY RENEWED, THEN WE "THANK YOU"!

IF YOU HAVEN'T SENT YOUR RENEWAL IN YET, WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU VERY SOON!

CONGRATULATIONS, TERRY!

An Ohio Amtrak employee is one of five persons named winner of Amtrak's President's Achievement Award. TERRY ARD is lead ticket agent at Toledo. On his off-duty time, Terry has spent many hours in developing projects to increase ticket sales. Most notably, he organized, coordinated and escorted "baseball specials" to Detroit Tigers games, drawing approximately 350 passengers. Also named as a 1982 Honorable Mention Winner, again as part of Amtrak's 1982 Employee of the Year Program, was Ticket Clerk JEFF ASHENFELTER of Charleston, WV, who put forth considerable efforts on his own time to help promote and advertise Amtrak services.

OARP IS NOW AN ORGANIZATION MEMBER OF THE OHIO ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL!

Stephen H. Sedam, Executive Director of the Ohio Environmental Council has informed OARP that at the March 12th OEC Board meeting, OARP was duly approved as a new OEC member organization! We will cooperate with the OEC on transportation concerns. OARP's Dave Lebold has offered to serve as liaison with the OEC as he works not far from the OEC office in Columbus. OARP's Al Wolf is also a citizen member of the OEC. We feel that by joining with the OEC we can work more effectively and efficiently with other organizations on transportation concerns as they relate to our environment. This will also add a little more stature to OARP and increase our importance as a viable citizens' organization.

BLANCHETTE RESIGNS TOP FRA POSITION

Federal Railroad Administrator, Robert W. Blanchette, will resign his position May 1, 1983 and return to private law practice in Washington. He will also serve as chief executive officer of TGV-US, a new enterprise promoting the French TGV high-speed passenger rail system in the U.S. Before becoming FRA administrator in 1981, Blanchette was general counsel for the New Haven Railroad and later served as trustee and chief executive officer of the Penn Central. Blanchette said that when he joined the Reagan administration his primary goal was to get the government out of the railroad business. In two years a decade of subsidies to Conrail has ended and Amtrak has been given new management and direction and its subsidies are declining with Amtrak being operated on a more sound business basis.

OARP ANNUAL MEETING / MAY 14 / WARREN

THANKS! OARP members Dave Beck, Bob Hopper and John McCann have already stepped forward with some financial assistance as we forge ahead with plans for OARP's 10th ANNIVERSARY event on Saturday, July 16th.

We're hoping that a few other members can also help out, above and beyond... so that our 10th ANNIVERSARY will be a day to remember. If YOU can assist at this time when our OARP Treasury is low, please contact your OARP President very soon.

Cleveland's Mayor, George Voinovich, in a letter to OARP Regional Coordinator Jim Stevenson, has expressed some interest in OARP's PASSENGER SERVICE SYSTEM PLAN which Stevenson sent to the Mayor. Voinovich is known to be supportive of Amtrak and rail passenger service in general.

THANKS to the OARP member who placed a small promo ad for OARP in the first issue of "U.S. RAIL NEWS" at no cost to us. Use any opportunity you can to promote OARP and increase our visibility.

OF THE FIRST 100 TO JOIN OARP (in 1973-4), FIFTY-NINE ARE STILL WITH US! FIVE ARE KNOWN TO BE DECEASED.

The Annual Meeting of the 5-state High-Speed Rail Compact took place in Chicago, April 27-28-29. Pennsylvania's Governor Dick Thornburgh, known for his pro-rail attitude, addressed the Compact's general session. Presentations were made by, among others, General Motors, Morrison-Knudsen, Michigan State University, Northrup Industries, attorney John Heffner, and the Compact's own technical advisory committee. The Compact delegates toured the new CTA rail extension to O'Hare Airport and the RTA's Milwaukee Road commuter rail service. Due to the demise of ORTA, your OARP President is no longer a delegate to the Interstate High-Speed Rail Compact and did not attend the Chicago meeting.

RAILS DIVERSIFIED OF OHIO, INC., P.O. Box 1567, Stow, OH 44224 (216) 928-1481 or 688-9942 will sponsor two passenger train excursions June 25 and 26 from AKRON to the Cherry Festival at BELLEVUE using steam locomotive NKP #765. Cost is \$35 for adults, \$30 for seniors, and \$25 for children 15 and under. Kids under 5 are free if they ride on parent's lap. We suggest you contact RAILS DIVERSIFIED SOON if you'd like to ride these trips!

As of March 1, 1983 there were 425 NARP members listed with Ohio addresses. Of these 180 are also members of OARP. We must work to get the other 245 into our statewide voice of concerned rail transportation advocates! Into OARP!

WE'RE STILL IN NEED OF SUITABLE PHOTOS FOR BOTH THE 1984 CALENDAR (slide) AND FUTURE ISSUES OF THE 6:53 (b&w glossy prints preferred). WE CAN'T PAY YOU, BUT WE'LL GIVE YOU CREDIT FOR YOUR EFFORTS. CONTACT OARP PRES. TOM PULSIFER!

\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ We hate to bring up the topic of \$\$\$\$, but your OARP treasury IS at an all time low (we are caught up on bills) and we think that because there's no current "Help Save Amtrak" crisis, members are not only just forgetting to renew (49 gray 2nd notice cards went out for the 1st quarter) and the number of extra donations has dropped. Our expenses continue; and we'll continue to work hard for all of us, if you'll let us. May we hear from you soon?

OARP's RAIL PASSENGER SERVICE SYSTEM PLAN is now into its THIRD edition, thanks to the unprecedented demand! Thanks to the "plug" in a recent NARP NEWS, requests have poured in from afar, including the prestigious Arthur D. Little Co. in Massachusetts and the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment!

YOU CAN STILL ORDER A COPY FOR \$2.00. IF YOU'D LIKE TO HELP US OUT WITH POSTAGE, SEND \$2.71. That's for a full report. If you'd like one of the report summaries, just send a self-addressed business letter size envelope with 20¢ postage affixed to Howard Harding, 489 Overwood Rd., Akron, OH 44313.

OARP has responded to Governor Celeste's questions about our Rail Passenger Plan and we are now awaiting further word from the Governor's office.

All of us in OARP can be proud of our OARP Passenger Rail Plan!

QUORUM? It wasn't planned that way, but on the morning of March 24th, eight OARP members found themselves at Cincinnati's River Road Amtrak Station... at train time, of course! Tom Pulsifer, Manfred Orlow, David B. Marshall and Jim Saunders were there to pick up boxes of materials for the Springfield Mall Show from Fred Frayer. Ed Kipp boarded the CARDINAL for a trip to Colorado. Mike Weber showed up to see how the train was doing. Craig Colley rode the CARDINAL in from South Portsmouth. And former OARP Secretary Mike Fugate rode the CARDINAL in from Washington, stopping off on his way back to Arizona.

CONFERENCE! Upon learning that Gov. Celeste was planning a May 1983 conference in Cleveland involving six Great Lake States' governors and including the topics of economic development and regional transportation, OARP has contacted the Governor's office to urge that the conference include a discussion on intercity rail passenger service in the region.

MORE MAINLINE ABANDONMENTS It came as no real surprise when OARP learned March 18th that Conrail will file to abandon that portion of the former PRR Columbus-to-Chicago mainline between Hilliards (near Columbus) all the way to Meekers (near Union City). This line goes through Urbana and Piqua and was sometimes used as a detour route for Amtrak's NATIONAL LIMITED when the Dayton-Richmond line was out of service. Again; it's a former Pennsylvania Railroad property that'd getting axed, and the thru traffic over the line in question has been deliberately diverted to other more circuitous routings over lines with lesser capacities to absorb traffic increases if and when the general economy increases. There is legally nothing we can do to even protest, thanks to Congress that set up the legislation which allows Conrail to "set up" most any abandonment they can maneuver. According to newspaper articles from on-line cities, apparently few on-line shippers would be inconvenienced. Piqua and Urbana have alternative rail service. What should be looked into, however, is the fact that federal funds have been used since 1976 to substantially upgrade tracks and signals on this line.

OARP suspects (but has no proof at this time) that the abandonment may lead to take-over of this line by one of the western railroads as a direct access to modern Buckeye Yard. As we understand it, under the Conrail legislation a line must be abandoned before it can be acquired by another operator. We will stay on top of developments on this line.

"END-POINT" MENTALITY SURFACES AGAIN With the rerouting of Amtrak's ZEPHYR service over the scenic D&RGW route between Denver and Salt Lake City/Ogden, it leaves the Denver-Cheyenne-Laramie-Ogden route with, almost overnight, no passenger train service. The Intermountain ARP is upset. Without much advance warning, Amtrak service is eliminated to seven cities in Colorado and Wyoming. Those who live between "end-points" should be advised that Section 404(c)(5)(B) of the Rail Passenger Service Act provides that the Criteria on Procedures shall not apply to the rerouting of service between "major population centers" on existing Amtrak routes!

OARP Regional Coordinator JOHN KELLER was featured in a portion of an article in the December 6, 1982 edition of THE NEW YORKER Magazine. He is curator of railroad exhibits for the Allen Co. Historical Society.

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BULLETIN: ADDED INFORMATION ON OARP'S ANNUAL MEETING

***** Bill Hutchison has informed us that Ohio Sen. ROBERT BOGGS and State Rep. ROSS BOGGS plan to attend our May 14th Meeting in Warren. Sen. Boggs is interested in legislative action to make possible the long-awaited PENNSYLVANIAN extension into Ohio. Doug Hudson informs us that several Warren area civic officials also plan to attend that day. Added to the program, OARP member HAROLD WOLFF will share with his his 20-minute presentation on the rail trip through Mexico's Copper Canyon.

In the business part of our meeting we will bring you up to date on OARP's filing for tax-exempt status and we may have to pass a simple resolution on what happens if OARP is ever dissolved; this to satisfy IRS requirements.

NEW AMTRAK STATION FOR HUNTINGTON, WV

A new \$300,000 Amtrak station will be built in Huntington, WV, adjacent to the present station which the Chessie System plans to use for regional offices. The new Amtrak depot will be built and paid for by Chessie. It is slated for completion by this Fall. The new station entrance will be at 8th Avenue and 11th Street. There will be improved parking for patrons at the new station. The new station building will be similar in design and style to the Amtrak station in Cincinnati and the one in Catlettsburg (Tri-State Station).

FLASH! On April 21 Amtrak's President Graham Claytor promised to, "within two weeks", carefully study costs involved in moving Amtrak in to Cincinnati Union Terminal!

CARDINAL'S FUTURE NOW APPEARS SAFE

Don't bother to dig out the HELP SAVE THE CARDINAL signs! We have assurance now that the CARDINAL service IS safe -- that the train WILL continue to operate, but that it will likely remain on its tri-weekly schedule for the foreseeable future. Ridership on the CARDINAL is very close to meeting the criteria stipulated by the Federal government for continuing to fund various Amtrak routes nationwide, according to the office of U.S. Senator Robert C. Byrd (D-WV) who, along with senators from other states that the CARDINAL serves, waged a strong battle to reinstate this train in 1982 after it been discontinued in the Fall of 1981. OARP also has word of assurance from the office of U.S. Secretary of Transportation, Elizabeth Dole, that the CARDINAL "apparently is meeting the criteria necessary to keep the train running" and that the Reagan Administration would cease its efforts to have the train service discontinued at the end of September 1983.

Amtrak President Claytor has stated that ridership projections for 1983 would be at least as high as 1982 and that the FY84 budget does contain enough money to continue to operate the CARDINAL.

OARP is concerned, however, that the CARDINAL does not connect any longer with ANY of the west coast trains at Chicago. This will hurt ridership.

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ANNOUNCING: OARP's ANNUAL MEETING — SAT., MAY 14, 1983

AT THE EXECUTIVE INN (ON US 422) IN WARREN, OHIO, FROM 11:30AM - 4:00PM

- * OARP ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 1983-1984
- * FOCUS ON THE "PENNSYLVANIAN" EXTENSION TO CLEVELAND
- * "TRESPASS", A FILM ABOUT SAFETY AROUND RAILROAD PROPERTY

AGENDA: 11:30am REGISTRATION, DISPLAYS in meeting room
 12:00nn LUNCHEON in dining room
 1:15pm FOCUS ON THE "PENNSYLVANIAN" EXTENSION
 2:15pm Break
 2:30pm FILM: "TRESPASS"
 3:00pm OARP ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS
 4:00pm Adjourn

COST: \$9.00 PER PERSON IN ADVANCE (USE FORMS ON NEXT PAGE)
 (\$10.00 AT THE DOOR IF YOU ARE NOT PRE-REGISTERED!!)

THE EXECUTIVE INN of WARREN, OHIO is located at 4322 Youngstown Road which is U.S. 422. OARP members wishing to make overnight reservations may call the Inn at 216-369-3601 and their single rate is \$24.50 plus tax. The Inn is located on "The Strip" east of downtown Warren (see map on next page).

LUNCHEON MENU (subject to adjustment) will include Soup du Jour, 4 oz. Swiss Steak, Potatoes, Green Beans, Assorted Breads & Rolls, Coffee-Tea-Milk and Sherbet for dessert.

RESERVATION DEADLINE IS MAY 11TH. WE WILL BE UNABLE TO HONOR REQUESTS FOR REFUNDS. AFTER MAY 11TH, The meeting room and the dining room 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, then AT LEAST HAVE THE COURTESY TO CALL DOUG HUDSON 216-856-2557 a day or two prior to the OARP Meeting and let him know you will come so he can make adequate arrangements with the Inn. The cost for the meeting and luncheon will be \$10.00 if you did not pre-register by either mail or by phone.

OARP OFFICERS AND REGIONAL COORDINATORS throughout Ohio will serve as "CARPOOL COORDINATORS" for this Meeting. If you need transportation and will share the costs thereof, or if you can help provide room for others, please contact your nearest OARP Officer or Regional Coordinator. See Page Two.

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND YOUR ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL MEETING . . .
 WE'LL SEE YOU IN WARREN, OHIO, ON SATURDAY, MAY 14TH, 1983!

REGISTRATION FORM *****

NAME _____ EnCLOSE \$9.00 per person, making checks payable to: O.A.R.P.
 ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE _____ MAIL TO: OARP ANNUAL MEETING
 c/o DOUG HUDSON
 OARP/WARREN/MAY 14, 1983 3981 GREENMONT DR., SE
 Reservation Deadline is May 11th! WARREN, OH 44484

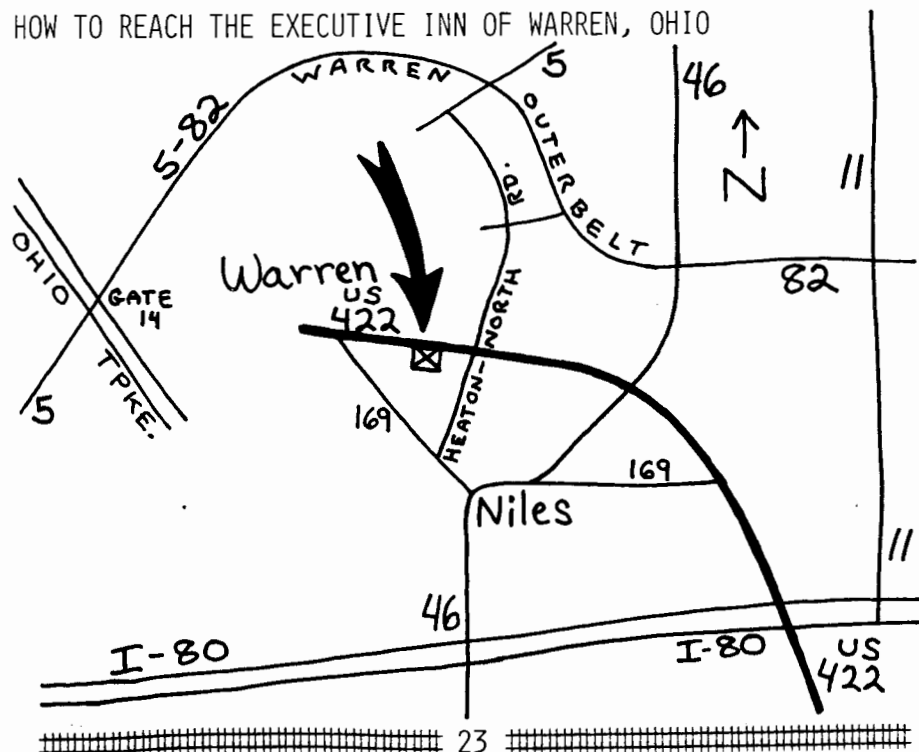
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HOW TO REACH THE EXECUTIVE INN OF WARREN, OHIO



"the 6:53" is the official bi-monthly (Jan-Mar-May-Jul-Sep-Nov) publication of the OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS, a not-for-profit organization of some 700+ concerned citizens working on a volunteer basis to PROMOTE TRAVEL BY TRAIN AND TO HELP WORK FOR IMPROVED AND EXPANDED RAIL PASSENGER SERVICES IN AND THROUGH OHIO. The work of OARP is supported solely through membership dues and by extra donations of time, talents and dollars by our members. JOIN OARP TODAY in the fight for better trains! Annual dues are \$5 (min.) and NEW members and \$10 (min.) for membership renewals. Use handy membership coupon printed in this issue.



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