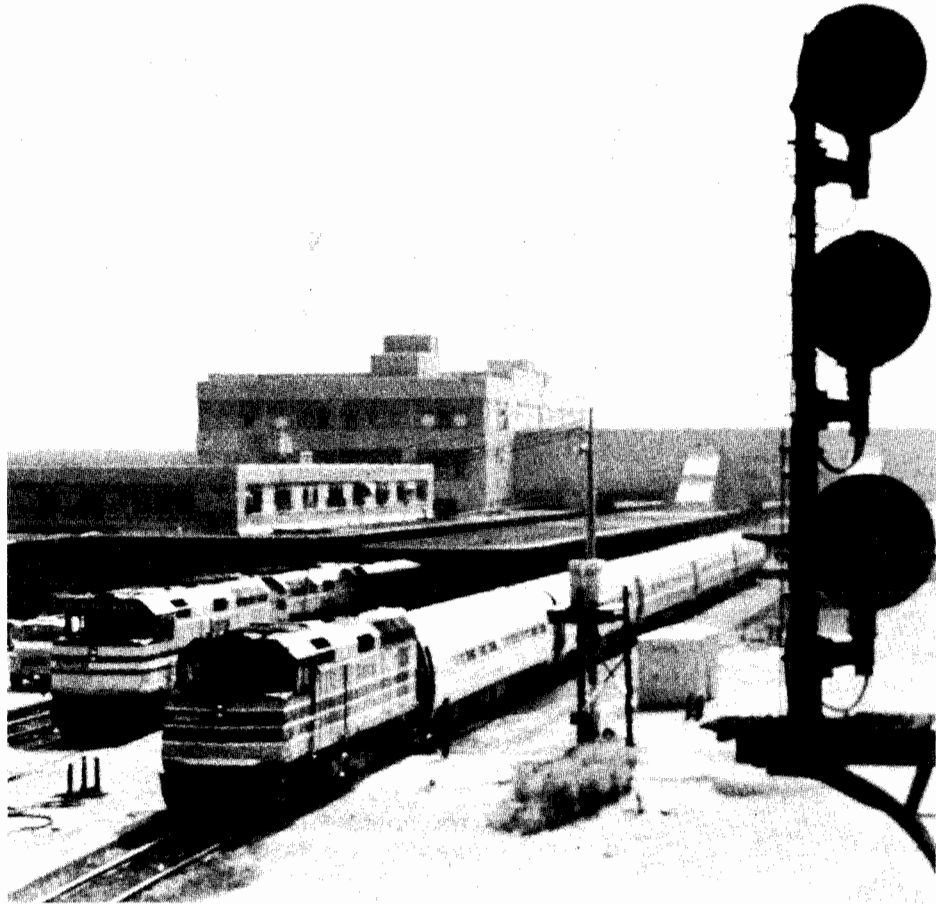


the 6:53



February 1987

Issue #71

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OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS

DIRECTORRY of the OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS

updated FEBRUARY 15, 1987

THOMAS R. PULSIFER, 1751 Wiltshire Drive, Xenia 45385 .. (W) 513-439-2355	(H) 372-9868
J. HOWARD HARDING, 489 Overwood Road, Akron 44313 ..	216-867-5507
ROBERT M. BOYCE, 1080 Lincoln Road, Columbus 43212 ..	614-486-7038
BENJAMIN L. LIBBY, 1095 Oberlin Drive, Columbus 43221 ..	614-451-1785
MARFED O. ORLOW, Box 3 - Mid City Station, Dayton 45402 (W) 513-294-0718	(H) 299-2124
Please Be Considerate; Call At Reasonable Hours	
are your local OARP contact persons:	
CLEVELAND	JAMES STEVENSON, 192 Franklin Drive, Berea 44017 ..
AKRON - CANTON	J. HOWARD HARDING, 489 Overwood Road, Akron 44313 ..
YOUNGSTOWN	JOHN D. CICCARELLI, 105 Morris Avenue, Girard 44420 ..
WARREN	G. DOUGLAS HUDSON, 3981 Greenmont Drive, S.E., Warren 44484 ..
ASHTABULA - CONNEAUT	BILL HUTCHISON, JR., 5851 South Ridge West, Ashtabula 44004 ..
ELYRIA - LORAIN	PHIL COPELAND, 110 Indiana Avenue, Elyria 44035 ..
TOLEDO	LARRY GEORGE, 3020 Lantern Drive, Oregon 43616 ..
LIMA	JOHN H. KELLER, SR., 721 Woodward Avenue, Lima 45805 ..
(419)	JOHN L. KEMPTON, 1954 East Oldgate Road, Sandusky 44870 ..
SANDUSKY	JOHN L. KEMPTON, 1954 East Oldgate Road, Sandusky 44870 ..
MANSFIELD	RICHARD A. FRY, 59 Chilton Avenue, Mansfield 44907 ..
CINCINNATI	W. MIKE WEBER, 14 Joywood Drive, Cincinnati 45218 ..
CLEMONT COUNTY	RONALD D. GARNER, 1884 Kress Road, Mount Orab 45154 ..
HAMILTON	JOHN K. WILSON, 621 Wehring Way, #1711, Cincinnati 45202 ..
(513)	ALBERT E. WOLF, 1497 Melrose Avenue, Dayton 45409 ..
SPRINGFIELD & CLARK COUNTY	DAVID B. MARSHALL, 50 Villetta Road, Springfield 45503 ..
COLUMBUS & CENTRAL OHIO	CHUCK YOUNG, 1307 Neil Avenue, Columbus 43201 ..
(614)	ALEX HEINGARTNER, 205 West Lincoln Avenue, Delaware 43015 ..
OHIO VALLEY	CRAIG COLLEY, 324 Star Route, Stout 45684 ..
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS	PASSENGER RAILNEWS HOTLINE (evening - weekend)
ROSS CAPON, Exec. Dir., 236 Massachusetts Ave., N.F., Suite 603, Washington, DC 20002 ..	202-546-1550
OHIO NARP REGION 6 DIRECTORS	BILL Glasser, 3815 Ashwood Drive, N.W., Canton 44708 ..
216-478-1003	216-867-5507
202-546-1550	202-546-1551
858-6202	858-6202
421-6654	421-6654
(614) 369-4383	(614) 369-4383
858-6202	858-6202
202-546-1550	202-546-1551
216-867-5507	216-867-5507
216-478-1003	216-478-1003
513-851-7959	513-851-7959

COVER PHOTO: Toledo. The only Amtrak station in Ohio where, twice daily, there are TWO Amtrak trains side-by-side in the terminal at one time. In this photo by Tom Pulsifer we see the New York/Boston to Chicago LAKE SHORE LIMITED on the left, the Toledo-Detroit-Chicago LAKE CITIES on the right, ready to depart Central Union Terminal on a hazy mid-summer morning. The signals at the right of this photo govern trains on the main freight line which passes just south of the station. Amtrak's future in Toledo's Central Union Terminal may be in doubt. It appears that Conrail will eventually vacate the massive facility, leaving Amtrak as sole tenant with complete responsibility for maintenance and upkeep.

A NEW BEGINNING . . .

— by Manfred Orlow, OARP Government Affairs

The new year has begun and OARP is once again in full swing (well; almost, anyway) on the legislative front. We have had a positive commitment from our previous Ohio Senate herald, H. Cooper Snyder (R-Hillsboro), that the former legislation for the 3-C Corridor conventional-speed passenger train service would be re-introduced by him into the legislative calendar.

Indeed, I am pleased to report that it has already been done, the week of February 2nd, as S.B. #65! Hastily, I might add, but done nevertheless. There was no time to gather initial co-sponsors but for one, Sen. Robert J. Boggs (D-Jefferson) who also chairs the Ohio High Speed Rail Authority, a very important ally.

The new S.B. #65 contains a General Revenue appropriation of \$9 million for the biennium for all expenses related to the initial 2-year project; an amount which, at first glance, seems adequate.

Since the introduction, OARP has made an official appeal for additional Senate co-sponsors, including the previous ones, through direct mail and phone contacts. The content of the new S.B. #65 seems identical to last year's S.B. #264, but the next few weeks will be the time for suggestions and amendment ideas from you. IF YOU WANT A COPY OF S.B. #65 AS INTRODUCED, CONTACT YOUR OHIO STATE SENATOR'S OFFICE... OR, SEND OARP A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED #10 ENVELOPE AND WE'LL MAKE A COPY FOR YOU.

In the Ohio House, we have again asked Rep. Frederick H. Deering (D-Monroeville) to be the prime sponsor. He has tentatively agreed to do so. We are momentarily expecting word from him about his final intention. And we have similarly contacted each of the previous co-sponsors to share the opportunity for new passenger rail service legislation with him.

Please note that it is entirely appropriate at this time that YOU personally ask your own Ohio Senator and Ohio Representative to co-sponsor these pieces of legislation! Explain briefly your reasons why Ohio needs conventional intercity passenger train service NOW and that you would like his/her support. Please send me copies of your correspondence, especially letters from your legislators to you. It helps us keep track of things!

Beyond that, I am continuing to build up and strengthen last Fall's "ALL ABOARD IN '87" business and city officials special interest group for the conventional speed passenger rail service. A meeting of that group is not

(continued, next page...)

planned at t writing, but I will work individually with each of the members and his/her government to adequately inform and gain support for the new pending legislation.

Of interest to many of you will be that OARP's Vice President Howard Harding has continued to talk with Amtrak officials about various aspects of the proposed 3-C Corridor service, including those of rolling stock and motive power. If you'll recall, Amtrak wrote to Ohio Department of Transportation Director Warren J. Smith last year that it (Amtrak) would be unable to operate the 3-C service even if there was adequate funding because it had no cars nor locomotives to spare for this new service.

While I cannot speak for Amtrak, nor Howard who is still exploring the possibilities for us, I can report that a possible source for modern equipment and motive power has been found -- a source which appears to satisfy both Ohio's needs and Amtrak's strict equipment criteria. There will be more to say about this new development in the next issue of the 6:53, but I can announce at least that there may be a breakthrough on the car shortage after all -- if things can be worked out.

Finally, I would like to repeat our plea from the last issue of the 6:53; that we need continuous funding to adequately operate on a statewide basis in the manner which we have chosen. If YOU have an opportunity to send along a special contribution earmarked for the 3-C Corridor Project Fund, PLEASE DO SO! We have done allright so far, but not nearly as much as we should or could.

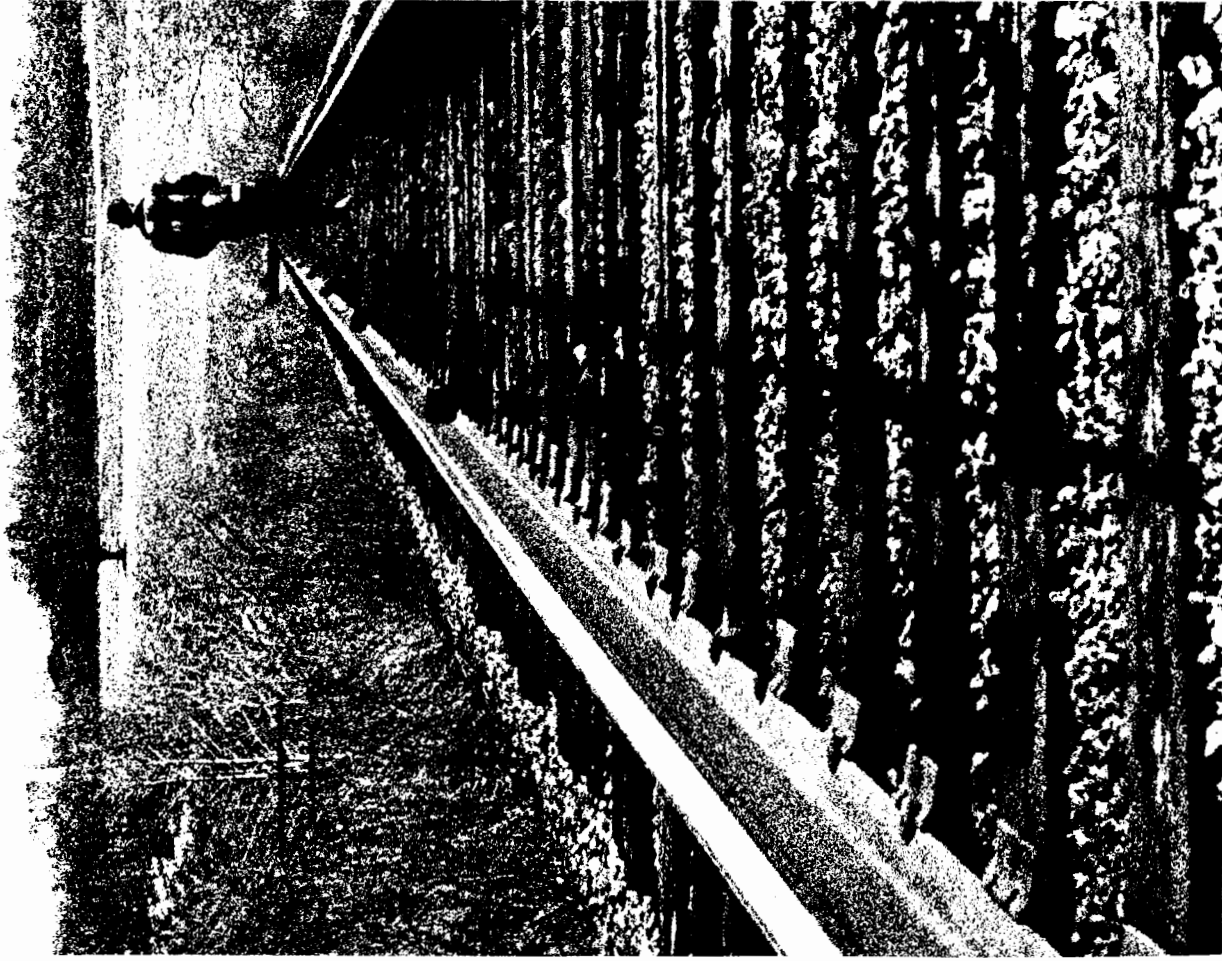
However... thanks for your past support -- both letters and funds. They are ALWAYS very much appreciated!

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF...

The Reagan Administration's proposed budget for 1988 would again cut railroad and mass-transit funding while giving a 20% increase to aviation programs! All subsidies for Amtrak would be eliminated, as would discretionary grants for new transit systems. Further, the Reagan Administration has incredulously proposed the sale of Amtrak's assets, including the entire Northeast Corridor! Although the President refrained from singling out Amtrak in this year's State-Of-The-Union speech, he seems to remain convinced that all Americans will drive or fly anywhere they want to go. This year's budget faces an uncertain future in the Democratic-controlled U.S. Congress. OARP and NARP will keep an eye on things. It would STILL be a good idea if YOU would write YOUR U.S. SENATORS (2) and YOUR U.S. CONGRESSMAN/CONGRESSWOMAN and tell them you use Amtrak and want more and better rail passenger services, not less.

Your OARP President's comments regarding Ohio's Late 1986 High Speed Rail Funding Flourish brought a volatile response from Senator Boggs. Without going into lengthy detail, be assured that OARP and the Senator ARE communicating. There are some points over which we disagree. We are addressing them. It appears at this time that the high-speed funding plan is encountering problems, and concurrent bad press. This may help our cause in pushing for the conventional 3-C Corridor service to get things started as a first-step towards building a future high-speed rail transportation network for Ohio and for the rest of the U.S. as well. It can and will be done.

AFTER TEN YEARS OF TALKING AND STUDYING HIGH - SPEED PASSENGER TRAINS FOR OHIO -- --
THIS IS STILL THE ONLY WAY OHIOANS CAN TAKE THE RAILS TO COLUMBUS!



YES, VIRGIL! THERE IS AN OHIO HIGH SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY;
AND NOW THERE IS ALSO AN OHIO HIGH SPEED RAIL ASSOCIATION...

The newly organized OHIO HIGH SPEED RAIL ASSOCIATION, INC. will promote the development of high speed rail transportation in Ohio. Its new Executive Director, Timothy S. Shear (former aide to State Sen. Alan Zaleski of Elyria) met with OARP's Tom Pulsifer and Manfred Orlow in Dayton on February 2nd. The Association is currently seeking both membership and support. The trio held a good discussion about OARP's thrust towards building a future high speed rail service not by a leap, but by several achievable, reasonable steps. We will be learning more about the Association in upcoming issues of the 6:53 and at upcoming OARP meetings. Individuals interested in membership (dues start at \$10/Student & Retired, \$25/Supporting, and go up from there) should contact Tim Shear.

• Ohio High Speed Rail Association, Inc. Phone (614) 460-3677
65 East State Street, Suite 1000, Columbus, OH 43216

A February 6th Association mailing to "High Speed Rail Enthusiasts" included newsclips of recent letters-to-the-editor from three individuals recognized as members of OARP! We DO recognize the need for high speed rail in Ohio's future. And we need conventional services NOW!


Meanwhile, OHIO'S HIGH SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY has set up a temporary office on the 23rd Floor of the State Office Tower at 30 East Broad Street. Senator Boggs' former aide, Maggie Lewis is serving as Acting Administrator and her office phone number is (614) 466-2509. The Authority is moving ahead on the selection of an Executive Director, however a decision is not expected very soon. The Authority has generally met semi-weekly with the first meeting in the month being the regular public meeting, the second more of a working session for Authority committees.

B A G G A G E & E X P R E S S

Upcoming "Train Town" events of interest to OARP members in the Lima area (phone 419-224-6873 for details): Feb 22 - Mar 15 Railroad Travel exhibit at Lima Amtrak Station; Mar 01/Mar 08/Mar 15 Bus tours of Lima's significant railroad sites and buildings; Mar 06 - 28 Photo exhibit "The Train In The Urban Landscape", Alma Gallery, Memorial Hall 9a-5p Mon-Fri; Apr 05 - Jun 6 Streetcar & Interurban Travel exhibit at Lima Municipal Building.

Amtrak has recently issued a most attractive 90-page 1987 TRAVEL PLANNER full-color 8 1/2 x 11" format publication. It outlines where you can go by Amtrak, accommodations, things to do on board, Amtrak Tours & Hotel Packages and travel tips and services. Call 1-800-USA-RAIL and they should be able to arrange for a single copy to be sent to you. At this date Federal investigators are still probing the worst accident in Amtrak's history. On January 4th northbound train #94, the COLONIAL, moving at close to 100mph slammed into the rear of three Conrail freight diesels running "light" in the same direction just north of Gulpow Interlocking at Chase, MD. The 12-car COLONIAL was carrying about 500 passengers at the time. 16 were killed (including the Amtrak engineer) and 176 required treatment for injuries. The worst previous wreck for Amtrak killed 11 people on June 10, 1971 when the CITY OF NEW ORLEANS derailed near Salem, IL. NARP has observed that thus far it appears the January 4th wreck will not jeopardize Amtrak's future and may lead to safety improvements.

NEWSPAPER ADS ARE INCREASING AWARENESS, BOOSTING LOCAL REVENUES

Special Fares Available
AMTRAK PASSENGER STATION
Lima, Ohio
424 North Central Street
(419) 222-5943
— ROUND TRIP —
CHICAGO '64 FLORIDA '150
WASHINGTON, D.C. '102 WEST COAST '250
Consult Local Agent For Details 

Amtrak has recently been running these modest ads every other day in The Lima News; the major paper in Lima. In addition to conveying some basic information, these ads have reportedly increased the number of phone calls into the station and have also resulted in improved ticket sales. If it works in Lima, Ohio, it should also work elsewhere. Amtrak cannot afford to run a "secret service", yet in many communities it is virtually impossible for the public to get basic information like this. OARP commends Amtrak for running these ads!

WILL AMTRAK BE FORCED TO VACATE TOLEDO CENTRAL UNION TERMINAL?

OARP's Toledo Area Regional Coordinator LARRY GEORGE reports that, as we have suspected, Conrail has begun (in mid-January) the phased transfer of some 85 employees and its Toledo Division headquarters offices out of the Central Union Terminal. The Conrail offices are moving to a new facility on Michigan Avenue at the Southfield Freeway in Dearborn, MI. Transfer of the last Toledo-based employees and the closing of the Toledo offices is expected by August 1987. Amtrak currently has no plans to vacate the station, but is keeping a wary eye on taking over a much larger share of the operating costs as Conrail downsizes its operations there. Central Union Terminal, built by the New York Central System, was opened in September of 1950. All but two tracks through the passenger concourse area were torn up in 1972. Amtrak service was restored through Toledo in October 1975 with the advent of the LAKE SHORE LIMITED. The addition of the LAKE CITIES service took place in 1980. Toledo is Ohio's busiest Amtrak station and ranks 76th out of Amtrak's 500 stations. Because of track routings at Toledo there are few alternative sites suitable for a station location. Of course, remaining at and improving Central Union Terminal would be the best solution. But Amtrak is understandably reluctant to support such a huge facility for the amount of passenger train service it now hosts. A site at Westwood Avenue, at the former Air Line Yard near Detroit Avenue, is mentioned as a possible alternative that would serve both the Chicago line and the Detroit line. Another concern to OARP is that, frequently, only one Amtrak agent is on duty to service this bi-level station where the trains are NOT visible from the passenger waiting area. More than a few passengers, upon arriving at Central Union Terminal after the train has been announced and the agent has gone downstairs to work the baggage, have missed their train because they were not familiar with the station's layout, train procedures, or waited for the train to be announced. The Amtrak agent cannot make train announcements from the track/platform level of the depot. OARP will be staying on top of the Toledo situation and will report developments in upcoming issues of the 6:53.

OARP WORKSHOP MEETING

The Ohio Association of Railroad Passengers will hold a WORKSHOP MEETING from 10:30am until 3:30pm, SATURDAY, MARCH 14th, at the HOLIDAY INN in DELAWARE, OHIO. This WORKSHOP MEETING is primarily for OARP's officers, chairpersons and regional coordinators; however... it IS open to ANY interested members especially if YOU do take or can take an active role in the ongoing work of your Association. This will be a "no frills" meeting... no guest speaker, no slides, no films, no fancy luncheon, no door prizes. All participants will be encouraged to share their concerns, their ideas and suggestions. All of the participants will be doing some thinking, some planning, and some written work... for this IS a WORKSHOP MEETING. We have a basic agenda to guide us; yet we'll try to remain as flexible as we can. And... come informal if you wish. There will be no reporters or TV cameras around! Our meeting room will be set up as closely as possible to "conference" style; to make it as easy as possible for each person to hear and to be heard. Pencils and notepads will be provided for all.

AN INFORMAL DELI BUFFET LUNCHEON (Soup, Salad, Sandwiches, Dessert, Beverage) AS WELL AS COFFEE & TEA SERVICE WILL BE INCLUDED IN THE COST OF THIS WORKSHOP MEETING, WHICH IS \$9.00 PER PERSON.

How to get there: The HOLIDAY INN is located at 351 South Sandusky Street, about one mile south of downtown Delaware. From U.S. 23 north or south exit at "Sandusky Street". From I-71 exit at U.S. 36, go west to the center of Delaware and turn left (south) on Sandusky Street. You can see the Holiday Inn from U.S. 23 and U.S. 42 (limited access highways within the city) but can access the Holiday Inn only from South Sandusky Street. Watch for the sign, across from the cemetery. If you need a ride, or can provide a ride for someone else, contact your closest OARP officer or regional coordinator. See the OARP DIRECTORY on page two. Bulk supplies (OARP stationery and envelopes, membership flyers, calendars, legislative directories, 6:53's, Amtrak timetables, etc.) will be available at the conclusion of this WORKSHOP. Participants may wish to bring a suitable box or carrying bag with them to help take materials home for "field work".

As with most OARP quarterly meetings, YOU DO NEED TO SIGN-UP IN ADVANCE. Deadline for reservations for this WORKSHOP is WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11th. You may make a reservation after that date by telephone (513-372-9868) and pay on Saturday, but no requests for refunds will be honored after March 11th and any person making a telephoned reservation will be held to it unless it is cancelled by the 11th. Use the registration forms on the next page (make a photocopy if you wish) and be sure to send it in by WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11th.



REGISTRATION / DELAWARE, OHIO

Name _____ COST: \$9.00 per person
 Address _____ Make check/m.o. payable to: O.A.R.P.
 City _____
 State/ZIP _____ Mail to:
 Phone # _____ OARP MEETING
 P.O. BOX 653
 XENIA, OH 45385-0653

OARP WORKSHOP MEETING AGENDA: SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 1987

- 10:15am Meeting Room Opens, Coffeepot's Hot!
- 10:30am THE "STATE OF OUR ASSOCIATION".
- 11:00am OPEN FORUM -- general input from participants.
- 11:45am 1. FOCUS ON GOALS Goals are general. We will identify, or re-identify, what it is that OARP would like to attain.
- 12:30pm DELI BUFFET LUNCHEON
- 1:15pm 2. FOCUS ON OBJECTIVES Objectives are specific and more than one objective may be needed for each goal. We'll quantify goals and, where possible, include a deadline or other time and cost element.
- 2:00pm 3. FOCUS ON PRIORITIES We'll prioritize our objectives for 1987.
- 2:30pm 4. FOCUS ON STRATEGIES Strategies are both detailed and specific. More than one strategy may be needed for each objective. We'll develop and determine action plans that spell out how our goals and objectives can best be achieved.
- 3:15pm WRAP-UP
- 3:30pm Adjourn. Distribute bulk supplies.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU MARCH 14th! COME PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE!

OARP WORKSHOP MEETING

The Ohio Association of Railroad Passengers will hold a WORKSHOP MEETING from 10:30am until 3:30pm, SATURDAY, MARCH 14th, at the HOLIDAY INN in DELAWARE, OHIO. This WORKSHOP MEETING is primarily for OARP's officers, chairpersons and regional coordinators; however... it IS open to ANY interested members especially if YOU do take or can take an active role in the ongoing work of your Association. This will be a "no frills" meeting...no guest speaker, no slides, no films, no fancy prizes. All participants will receive a name tag and a photo. This is a chance for you to see the actual 1987 OARP CALENDAR to appreciate it!

As in the past, OARP's CALENDAR not only has the whole year before you at a glance, with major holidays highlighted; but also lists for your information and handy reference...

- AMTRAK RESERVATIONS & TRAIN INFORMATION TOLL-FREE AND LOCAL PHONE NUMBERS.
- AMTRAK'S REGIONAL SALES & MARKETING OFFICE TOLLFREE PHONE NUMBER.
- AMTRAK LOCAL STATION PHONE NUMBERS (WILL SAVE YOU MANY A CALL TO "INFORMATION").
- OHIO'S LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION TOLL-FREE PHONE NUMBER PLUS OHIODOT'S RAIL DIVISION OFFICE NUMBER.
- USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT OARP.

Our 1987 OARP FULL-COLOR CALENDAR measures 9" by 12". It is printed on quality stock. Our 1987 CALENDAR is one which we know you'll be proud to display in your home or office, as well as to hand out to friends and associates.

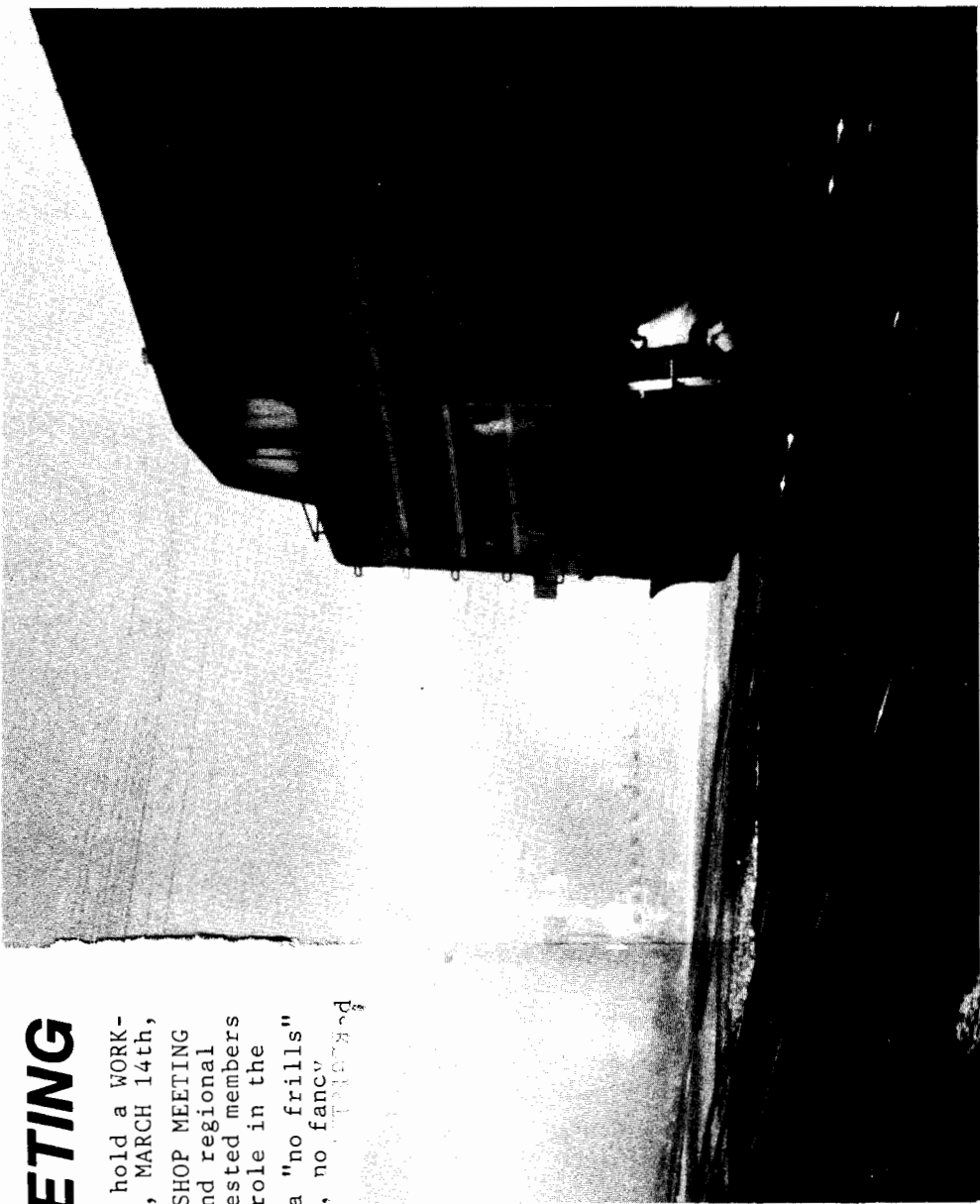
We have one OARP member who ordered 100 of them! He told us he plans to give them out, along with an OARP membership flyer, to friends at several club meetings in his community in the expectation of recruiting new members for OARP. That's a promotional idea many of you might give a try! We can very easily ship you one CALENDAR... or a hundred of them! The important thing is to help get them into circulation... make OARP visible!

Pricing for our 1987 OARP CALENDARS is the same as for previous years; 10¢ each in any quantity PLUS just \$1.00 towards postage and shipping for ANY order, ANY quantity! This means ONE calendar would be \$1.10; TEN Calendars would be just \$2.00; 100 Calendars would be \$11.00.

We price them this way to ENCOURAGE you to order several and to use them as "outreach tools".

PLEASE USE THE HANDY ORDER FORM AT THE RIGHT TO HELP SPEED YOUR CALENDARS TO YOU. WE CAN USUALLY FILL YOUR ORDER THE VERY DAY IT IS RECEIVED! ALL CALENDARS WILL BE SHIPPED BY U.S.P.S., SMALLER ORDERS BY FIRST CLASS MAIL. MAKE YOUR CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PAYABLE TO O.A.R.P. AND BE SURE TO PRINT THE REQUESTED INFORMATION.

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OARP CALENDARS
P.O. BOX 653
XENIA, OH 45385

Please send me _____ OARP 1987 CALENDARS
I'm enclosing payment at 10¢ per calendar
PLUS a minimum donation of \$1.00 to help
cover the costs of mailing the calendars.

SHIP TO: _____

Feb 87

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AMTRAK STATION PASSENGER COUNTS

Data provided by Frank Stoy
District Supervisor, Amtrak

Station	FY 1986		FY 1985		Average # Psgrs per day
	10/01/85- 9/30/86	Notes	10/01/84- 9/30/85	Average # Psgrs per day	
CLEVELAND.....	40,078		34,261	94	
ELYRIA.....	5,058		4,160	11	
SANDUSKY.....	3,465		3,143	9	
TOLEDO.....	63,097	a	51,762	142	
BRYAN.....	5,109		4,752	13	
CANTON.....	12,444		10,686	29	
CRESTLINE.....	7,371		6,062	17	
LIMA.....	13,669		12,159	33	
CATLETTSBURG.....	4,613		4,340	12	
SOUTH PORTSMOUTH.....	2,290		1,803	5	
MAYSVILLE.....	1,137		1,498	4	
CINCINNATI.....	15,369		17,919	49	
HAMILTON.....	1,390		1,476	4	

Notes: a - Passengers getting off the LAKE SHORE and onto the LAKE CITIES
(or vice versa) are counted TWICE in the Toledo count.

OARP's 1987 OHIO LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY, updated for the 117th General Assembly, will be mailed to all OHIO OARP members in March. If you need additional copies, or live out-of-Ohio and want one, please send a self-addressed, stamped #10 business-letter-size envelope with your request. Use OARP'S OHIO LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY to contact your elected representatives!

AMTRAK IS OFFERING MORE OF AMERICA FOR LESS.

With our new All Aboard America Fares you can travel throughout any one region of the country for just \$150. Two regions for \$200.



Or go coast to coast for only \$250. All fares are roundtrip and you can make two stopovers along the way. And for shorter trips, there's our \$7 Return Fare. Whenever your one-way fare is over \$60 (with no change of trains), we'll bring you home again for just \$7 more.

AAA FARES



RETURN FARE

Children under twelve always travel half price on all our special fares.

But while Amtrak has lowered prices, we're not cutting back on comfort. You'll still find wide, reclining seats. Friendly service. Delicious full-course meals in our dining cars. Or snacks in the lounge cars. And a view of America that's priceless.

To take advantage of our All Aboard America and \$7 Return Fares, make your reservations by May 15, 1987 and complete your trip by June 30, 1987.

Some restrictions apply, so call your travel agent or Amtrak at 1-800-USA-RAIL. But you'd better hurry. News about savings like these travels fast.



OARP PRESIDENT CHALLENGES ALL OARP MEMBERS TO ACTIVELY WORK TO DOUBLE -- AND IF POSSIBLE, TRIPLE -- OARP'S MEMBERSHIP BASE!

All OARP members, when they receive their membership renewal notice this year, will also read a direct challenge message from your OARP President. It states very bluntly; "We MUST expand our membership base IMMEDIATELY! Legislators do have more respect for a 1,400 or 2,100 member statewide organization than they do for our present 700. This year ALL of us MUST actively work to bring in more members to OARP."

In just the last two weeks, it appears we're off to a good start at doing just that! The first quarter renewal notices were mailed out by Ben Libby. In just two weeks we have received FIVE new individual members, TEN new "family" members, and SEVENTY individual renewals!

Pres. Pulsifer further states, "I want to help you bring new members into our OARP! Over the years, our experience has proven that PERSONAL CONTACT is the best way to help assure follow-up by a potential member. Surely you know at least one person in your community who is interested in train travel and realizes the need for modern passenger trains in Ohio's total transportation system. Maybe that person is not aware that OARP exists and would gladly join if they only knew how."

"That's where YOU come in. To help you reach out to others, I'll see that you receive whatever quantities of OARP membership flyers and current/recent issues of the 6:53 you believe you can use to build our membership in OARP. I'll even enclose a little something extra for those who enclose an extra buck or two to help out with postage costs!"

Obviously, members are encouraged to get started NOW in actively reaching out to potential new members. You don't have to wait until your own membership renewal letter arrives.

OARP's President also addressed three other areas needing immediate attention in 1987, stating...

- We MUST expand our involvement and liaison with other individuals and organizations who can help our cause in Columbus.
- We MUST communicate better with our legislators in Columbus -- as individuals AND as an organization. We have much to do.
- We MUST work towards establishing a permanent office for OARP and a paid administrator to handle both routine work and also special projects. We can no longer live out of "shoeboxes", and expect volunteers to contend with the growing mountain of paperwork that an active, vital organization requires.

These 1987 challenges and concerns will be addressed at the OARP WORKSHOP MEETING on March 14th, with thought towards the goals, objectives and strategies involved. We intend to keep all members regularly informed as to our 1987 membership challenge as we proceed through the year. If what has happened in the past two weeks -- FIFTEEN NEW MEMBERS -- can continue during the entire year, then we can say we're off to a great beginning at doubling or tripling our OARP membership base.

We extend our most sincere sympathy to the family of OARP member RALPH A. "AL" PIERCE, 64, of Kettering. Al passed away on January 27th. He will be remembered as a quiet but loyal supporter. In 1979 Al Pierce along with four other OARP members, DORANCE TAYLOR, DON CLARK, and JOHN and SANDY EDMINSON met to form what was to become a successful new organization for rail historians, the Dayton Railway Historical Society, of which Al was an active officer for many years. If you're riding Amtrak's BROADWAY LIMITED to or through Harrisburg, PA, take a look over to Track 5 and see the historic Pennsylvania Railroad GGL electric locomotive #4859 that has been restored to the original Raymond Loewy design and placed on permanent exhibit in the Harrisburg station. #4859 was the first locomotive to haul an electric train into Harrisburg in 1938. #4859, along with GGL #4887, hauled Conrail's last GGL powered freight train in November 1979.

Ohio Governor Celeste has announced the elevation of the state's travel office to division status in the Ohio Department of Development. Marilyn J. Tomasi serves as Travel Director of the Division of Travel and Tourism. Clarence D. Pawlicki is Director of Ohio Department of Development. He also serves as a member of the Ohio High Speed Rail Authority. Thanks to Richard Enty, Rail Administrator for the Greater Cleveland RTA, for sending OARP a copy of the RTA's 1987 Calendar featuring a series of fine B&W photos of vintage transit vehicles, rail and otherwise, in Cleveland.

And, speaking of Cleveland transit... OARP's archives have been enriched with the donation of two 1947 Cleveland Transit System passes, a gift from our long-time friend Jim Ullman of Meriden, CT. Two recent Amtrak "Rare Mileage" detours have been brought to OARP's attention. On December 20th the westbound LAKE SHORE LIMITED encountered a Conrail freight derailment blocking all tracks between Belt Junction and BE Tower at Berea. The LAKE SHORE was backed from Belt Junction, through the Rockport Yard, to Short Line Junction just west of the old Linndale depot. Then it headed west on the old Big Four passenger line to BE Tower and on westward. It took an extra TWO HOURS to negotiate this maneuver which added about two miles of trackage to the train's normal route distance!

A CSX freight derailment on the evening of January 22nd caught the eastbound CARDINAL at Lafayette, IN, unable to proceed on the ex-Monon line to Crawfordsville. After the Indianapolis passengers were bussed on, the train departed for Muncie via the NS (ex-NKP) thru Frankfort and Tipton; then returned to the CSX (C&O) line from Muncie, thru Richmond, to Cottage Grove, there regaining its regular route to Hamilton and Cincinnati. Recent CSX actions have served to confirm rumors OARP has been hearing -- that most of the original B&O Cumberland-Cincinnati-St. Louis mainline is redundant and large segments will be abandoned with some taken over by shortline railroads. In Ohio, the Belpre-Athens-Handen portion has been out of service for over one year. On June 30th, CSX plans to list the Chillicothe-Midland City segment for abandonment. At the end of December 1986 CSX permanently sent all through Cincinnati-St. Louis traffic over the "Short Line" to Louisville then west over the ex-I&N through Evansville to East St. Louis and posted "rusty rail" bulletins for the B&O route thru North Vernon, Washington and Seymour. Amtrak's SHENANDOAH used this B&O line east of Cincinnati. CSX has been meeting with shortline owners to try to assure preservation of freight service to shippers on some line segments. CSX may also give up the Cincinnati-Midland City-Columbus route in Ohio.

OARP member DAVE OROSZI, assisted by TOM PULSIFER, presented a slide program on "Railroads of Greene County" to a capacity audience at the Greene County Historical Society on December 8th. Mayor Henry Peresie of Crestline, OH, has informed OARP that new "Trailblazer" signs (how to get to the Amtrak station) have been requested and that the City will work with Amtrak's District Manager Brian Rosenwald in getting them installed. A recent grade crossing elimination project has resulted in some modification in routing highway traffic to the Amtrak station. OARP thanks Mayor Peresie for advising us the problem is being corrected!

The Ohio Environmental Council will hold its annual Environmental Gala February 25th at the Sheraton Columbus Plaza. The Gala provides an opportunity for OEC members and conservationists from across the state to meet and discuss environmental concerns with prominent state officials, legislators, and officials of the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources and the EPA. OARP is a member organization of the OEC. On February 10th, OARP's AL WOLF will be representing OARP at a regional OEC member organization meeting in Dayton.

Congrats to OARP member DUANE ROLLER of Lima for getting his letter "The View From Ohio" published in The New York Times on January 20th, along with two other pro-Amtrak letters (one from W. Graham Claytor, Jr.).

Erie, PA, Mayor Louis Tullio is preparing a plan to convert dilapidated Union Station into a multi-million dollar commercial, retail and transportation center; envisioning the project as a smaller-scale version of Pittsburgh's successful "Station Square."

MANSFIELD vs. CRESTLINE / OARP has learned that a second site study by Amtrak could not identify a suitable, safe location in Mansfield for an Amtrak station. It appears that the stop will remain at nearby Crestline. CONNERSVILLE / OARP has heard nothing recently on the proposal to add a station stop on the CARDINAL route at Connersville, IN (near Richmond). Amtrak's Government Affairs people are in contact with city officials. Connersville must raise an estimated \$37,000 to make site improvements at the former B&O depot, mainly lighting and parking lot improvements. OARP understands that the success of recent Amtrak "Open House" days at Lima (1985) and Canton (1986) will help assure near-future events at other Ohio stations. We'll keep you posted!

LETTERS / We've noted recent published letters from OARP members KEN PRENDERGAST of Chagrin Falls (in the Plain Dealer), GEORGE BAYLESS of Kettering (in the Dayton Daily News & Journal-Herald), DAN INNIS of Lancaster (in the Columbus Dispatch), and CHARLES WELSH of Cincinnati (in the Enquirer), also LARRY GEORGE of Toledo (in the Blade); all dealing with the high-speed rail issue and the need to get conventional services started now. (Have we overlooked anyone? If YOU get published, do send a tearsheet or photocopy to OARP right away. Thanks!) Rail Travel

News recently published letters from OARP's HOWARD HARDING (on the Ohio High-Speed Funding legislation) and BILL SNORIELAND (on rerouting the CAPITOL LIMITED via Cleveland).

Amtrak carried some 20.3 million passengers between October 1, 1985 and September 30, 1986. Passenger miles for the period totaled over 5 billion, a 5.4% increase over FY1985. Revenues totaled \$861.4 million in FY1986, up 4.3%, while expenses dropped 2.3%. Amtrak also reported a revenue-to-expense ratio of about 0.62% -- its best ever -- compared to 0.58% in FY1985. Good records were set in FY1986!

For your information, here are the current lowest Amtrak round-trip fares from Ohio area stations to Chicago. These fares will be valid for March 21-22. Please consult your local Amtrak agent, your authorized Amtrak travel agent, or call the toll-free number (1-800-USA-RAIL) for information on family fares, and to make your train reservations. The code in parentheses is the fare quoted. Note that AAA7 (\$7 Return Fare) tickets cannot be sold on the train! You must purchase AAA7 tickets from an Amtrak station agent or from an Amtrak travel agency!

BRYAN	\$70 (OWF + OWF)	CANTON	\$77 (AAA7)
CATLETTSBURG	\$79 (AAAT)	CINCINNATI	\$67 (AX45)
CLEVELAND	\$71 (AAAT)	CRESTLINE	\$77 (AAA7)
ELYRIA	\$71 (AAAT)	ERIE	\$77 (AAA7)
FORT WAYNE	\$45 (AW45)	HAMILTON	\$67 (AX45)
INDIANAPOLIS	\$51 (AW45)	LIMA	\$64 (AW45)
MAYSVILLE	\$70 (AAAT)	PITTSBURGH	\$87 (AAA7)
SANDUSKY	\$71 (AAAT)	SOUTH PORTSMOUTH ...	\$75 (AAA7)
TOLEDO	\$71 (AAAT)		

Edminson at Lima for patiently verifying each of these fares which OARP obtained from the Amtrak Tariff found in The Official Guide to which OARP subscribes.

PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE AUTHORIZED AMTRAK TRAVEL AGENTS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS

AKRON	CHIMA TRAVEL BUREAU, INC.	216-867-4770
CANAL FULTON	MASSILLON AAA TRAVEL	216-854-6616
CINCINNATI	AMES TRAVEL SERVICE	513-651-1700
CLEVELAND	/ROUND THE WORLD TRAVEL AGENCY	216-432-2235
COLUMBUS	THE OHIO AUTOMOBILE CLUB	614-431-7823
COLUMBUS	THE TRAVEL MARKET, INC.	614-885-7597
FAIRBORN	HERITAGE TRAVEL, INC.	513-879-5444
FINDLAY	MCDOWELL TRAVEL AGENCY, INC.	419-422-6151
MASSILLON	MASSILLON AAA TRAVEL	216-833-1084
PERRYSBURG	HAYES TRAVEL AGENCY	419-874-2271
PIQUA	MIAMI COUNTY AUTO CLUB	513-773-3753
ST. MARYS	VIP TRAVEL SERVICES, INC.	419-394-7428
SANDUSKY	SANDUSKY TRAVEL SERVICE, INC.	419-626-4633
TROY	MIAMI COUNTY AUTO CLUB	513-339-0112
WEST CHESTER	WEST CHESTER TRAVEL, INC.	513-777-6770

Authorized AMTRAK travel agents who wish to join OARP and be listed in this DIRECTORY should send a \$25.00 check, made payable to the OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS, and mail this to OARP, P.O. BOX 653, XENIA, OH 45385. Please refer any inquiries on OARP's "TRAM" (TRAM Agency Member) PROGRAM to OARP Pres. Tom Pulsifer (at the same address) or call 513-439-2355 (days) or 513-372-9868 (evenings/weekends). These DIRECTORY listings are limited to the CITY, the BUSINESS NAME of your Agency, and your LOCAL PHONE NUMBER. Limited to OHIO Travel Agencies.

NARP REGIONAL MEETING

Regions 6 and 7 of the National Association of Railroad Passengers will be holding a Joint Annual Meeting this year -- on Saturday and Sunday, March 21 & 22, in Chicago. Ohio, Michigan and Indiana comprise NARP Region 6. NARP members and all others interested are invited to attend this meeting which will feature:

- * A dinner meeting Saturday evening (the 21st) with NARP President John Martin as featured guest speaker. Held at the Midland Hotel.
- * A tour of Amtrak's Chicago Maintenance Facility on Sunday morning, with chartered bus shuttle to and from the Midland Hotel.
- * Additional NARP business sessions mid-day Sunday and possibly Saturday afternoon.

All those who register will receive additional detailed information. You must make your own travel arrangements. You must also make your own hotel reservations. Your NARP registration fee of \$28.00 per person will cover the dinner, bus service for the Amtrak Coach Yard Tour, and incidental expenses incurred in arranging this joint meeting.

The Midland Hotel is located at 172 West Adams, within easy walking distance of Chicago's Union Station. They have established a special rate for this NARP Meeting, but you must say you want the "special NARP meeting rate" in order to get it! Rates: Single or Double (twin beds upon request) occupancy is \$58.36 per night, tax included. This special NARP meeting rate is also available for the 20th and the 22nd. You must guarantee your reservation with your credit card, or with a check for \$58.36 per room. Check-in time is 3:00pm! Check-out time is 1:00pm. The Midland Hotel has a toll-free number to assist you; 1-800-621-2360. Locally, their number in Chicago is 312-332-1200. Reservation deadline for rooms at the Midland Hotel is March 1st.

Please use this form for registration for the NARP MEETING...

REGISTRATION FOR NARP REGIONS 6 & 7 JOINT ANNUAL MEETING, MARCH 1987

Mail to: James G. Otto
213 West 31st Street
Minneapolis, MN 55408
(612) 823-1654 before 10pm EST James G. Otto

NARP REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MARCH 1st, 1987!

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

For additional forms, please photocopy this page. OARP

IMPORTANT! DO NOT SEND NARP MEETING REGISTRATIONS TO OARP'S XENIA ADDRESS AND PLEASE OBSERVE THE MARCH 1st DEADLINES FOR BOTH REGISTRATION FOR THE NARP MEETING AND HOTEL RESERVATIONS AT THE MIDLAND HOTEL!

A NOTE ABOUT THE "MARCH MEETINGS"...

There are TWO events of interest to OARP and NARP members in the month of March; and they are scheduled just one week apart. Some OARP members are participating in both events. OARP will hold a WORKSHOP MEETING which will essentially be a concentrated planning session for the future course of OARP. This will be on SATURDAY, MARCH 14th. Full details appear elsewhere in this issue of the 6:53.

The NARP Region 6 Annual Meeting will be held the following SATURDAY, MARCH 21st (and SUNDAY, MARCH 22nd) as a joint NARP meeting with Region 7 (IL-WI-MN-ND) in Chicago. Full details on this event also appear elsewhere in this issue. Note that registration for each meeting is handled separately. Be sure to use the correct form for the meeting(s) you plan to attend and be sure to observe the announced deadlines and conditions carefully to avoid confusion. Please note also that OARP is NOT planning to hold any sort of OARP meeting in Chicago as part of the NARP event. We do, however, encourage interested OARP members to attend this two-day joint NARP regional meeting in Chicago. If you have questions/concerns about either March meeting, please contact these individuals:

OARP WORKSHOP MEETING:

Tom Pulsifer 513-372-9868

(Work #) 513-439-2355

Alex Heingartner 614-369-4383

NARP JOINT ANNUAL MEETING:

Howard Harding 216-867-5507

Bill Glasser 216-478-1003

Mike Weber 513-851-7959

A NOTE ABOUT OARP MAILINGS...

This message may not reach those members for whom it is intended; yet, it may assist others to assure continuous and timely receipt of the 6:53 and other OARP mailings. When the Postal Service returns mail to OARP stamped "Addressee Unknown At This Address" or "No Forwarding Address" or some such purple-linked message we have no choice but to delete that member from the computerized mailing list. Once in a while the USPS does this in error and, after several months, OARP gets a pointed letter from that person wondering if we're still functioning! We've also noticed that mailing snafus tend to affect those OARP members who move fairly frequently. If your address does change, PLEASE HELP OARP HELP YOU by letting us know at the time you move (not 8 or 10 months later). Not all future OARP mailings will be sent by first class mail (which is forwarded automatically). Also, it helps us if you notify OARP of any change of address by using the USPS postcard form provided for that purpose. Also, if you receive a damaged issue of the 6:53, or an incomplete issue, please let OARP know right away. We'll replace it. OARP does not admit perfection. Once in a while a mailing foul-up IS our fault. We DO try hard to get things to be right, but please bear with us if a mistake is made. Again, please let us know what is wrong, and we will work to make it right. We will soon have direct administration of our mailing lists; making additions, deletions and corrections on our computer on a more frequent basis than at present. Until then, please bear with us. But it's still YOUR responsibility to let OARP know your whereabouts, or about a mail problem.

JOIN

and help get Ohio moving on modern passenger trains! OARP is 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 we are moving forward together for better rail transportation for Ohio. We invite YOU to get on board! A new membership in OARP is just \$10 for your first year; \$15 thereafter.

CHECK HERE [] if you can be active in the ongoing work of your OARP!

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/ZIP _____

Phone _____

Mail this entire page with your check/money order made payable to "OARP" to: OARP MEMBERSHIP SERVICES, P.O. BOX 653, XENIA, OH 45385

A D D I T I O N A L L Y . . .

SEND ME _____ OARP (1090) METAL LAPEL PINS @ \$3.50 ea., postpaid.

SEND ME _____ OARP MAGNETS with Amtrak logo, train, "800" number imprinted @ 4/\$1.00, postpaid. HANDY NEW ITEM! 2" x 2".

SEND ME _____ OARP (1090) WINDOW DECALS @ 50¢ ea., postpaid.

SEND ME _____ OARP "LET'S GET OHIO MOVING ON PASSENGER TRAINS" white on blue BUMPER STICKERS @ \$1.00 ea., postpaid.

SEND ME _____ OARP 1987 CALENDARS @ 10¢ ea. in any quantity PLUS a minimum \$1.00 donation to help cover calendar mailing costs.

SEND ME _____ OARP OHIO LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY No charge for these items HOWEVER, OARP would appreciate stamps, a self-addressed stamped envelope, or a donation to help OARP defray postage expenses.

SEND ME _____ OARP MEMBERSHIP FLYERS

SEND ME _____ SAMPLE COPIES OF "the 6:53"

SEND ME _____ OARP RAIL TRIP REPORT FORMS

SEND ME _____ OARP WASHINGTON GUIDE TO THE OHIO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION & OFFICIALS OF AMTRAK.

SEND ME _____ OARP WALLET-SIZE CARDS LISTING AMTRAK INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS PHONE NUMBERS.

SEND ME _____ AMTRAK EAST-MIDWEST TIMETABLE

SEND ME _____ AMTRAK NATIONWIDE TIMETABLE (Please send a self-addressed business letter size #10 envelope with 73¢ postage [2+17+17] affixed for this item to expedite handling. We are not always able to offer these timetables in quantities at all times. OARP appreciates your understanding.)

Note: Amtrak (1-800-USA-RAIL) will mail you single copies free.

"the 6:53" is the official bi-monthly publication of the OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS, an incorporated, not-for-profit educational 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 and friends. JOIN OARP NOW and HELP US FIGHT FOR THE RAIL TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE! Annual dues are \$10 (min.) for NEW MEMBERS and \$15 (min.) for all renewals. Look for the handy membership application / materials order form printed in this issue. ALL ABOARD!

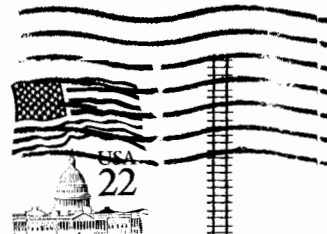
NEXT MEETING: OARP WORKSHOP MEETING
 SAT., MARCH 14, 1987
 HOLIDAY INN DELAWARE, OHIO
 10:30am — 3:30pm DELI BUFFET

also... NARP ANNUAL REGIONAL MEETING
 REGIONS 6 & 7 JOINT MEETING
 SAT. & SUN., MARCH 21 & 22, 1987
 MIDLAND HOTEL CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

Details on BOTH meetings in this issue!



OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS
 P.O. BOX 653
 XENIA, OHIO 45385-0653
 RAIL TRANSPORTATION ADVOCATES



FIRST CLASS MAIL

BILL HUTCHISON, JR.
 5851 SOUTH RIDGE WEST
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