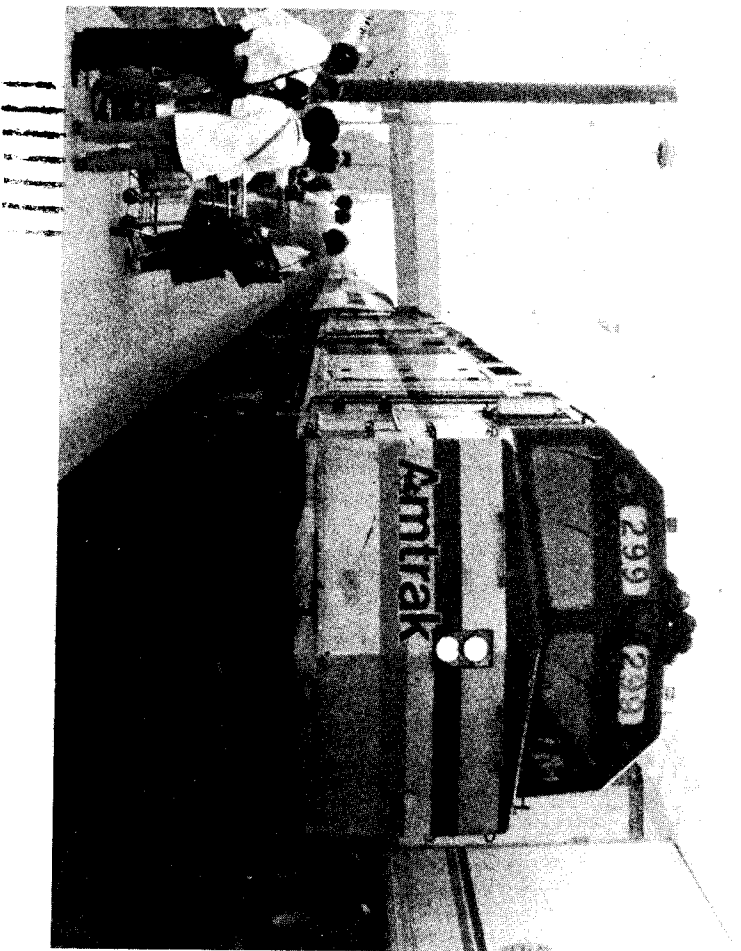
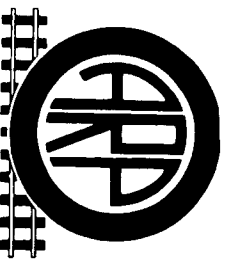


the 6:53



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COVER PHOTO: Amtrak's westbound LAKE SHORE LIMITED pulls into the Lakefront Amtrak Passenger Station at Cleveland on a very hazy morning in August of 1984. A Conrail TrailerTrain is passing by on the adjacent track. The E. 9th Street bridge is in the background.
 ---- Photo by OARP member James Prendergast

OARP OFFICE OPENS! OARP has opened a small office in the Dayton suburb of Oakwood. Essentially, this office is for OARP's Government Affairs Director Manfred Orlow's use. Our NCR-donated computer and printer are housed there and from this location Manfred works on our current Ohio 3-C Corridor Special Project. We are in Room #111 of the Far Oaks Building which is at 2801 Far Hills Avenue. Manfred is at this location most weekdays between 9:00am and 4:00pm; but if you are planning a visit it is best to call ahead first so he knows that you're coming. Our expenses include \$180 per month for rent and utilities plus \$40 per month for a business phone line. We do have a (donated) answering machine hooked up on this office number for use when Manfred is not there. The number is 513/294-0718. Please continue to send ALL MAIL to the OARP Xenia address. OARP members are encouraged to stop by our office when you are in Dayton. You'll see we're honest; this office IS small!

S. B. #65, H. B. #359, ETC.

---- by OARP's Government Affairs Director, Manfred O. Orlow

March and April have been very busy months for the OARP office in Dayton as we continue our work to gather interest and support for the pending legislation to initiate new conventional-speed passenger trains within the Ohio 3-C Transportation Corridor between Cincinnati and Cleveland.

As reported in the last issue of the 6:53, Ohio Senator H. Cooper Snyder (R-Hillsboro) and co-sponsor Senator Robert J. Boggs (D-Jefferson), chairman of the Ohio High Speed Rail Authority, have introduced S.B. #65 which calls for a general fund appropriation of \$9 million for a two-year trial project of conventional-speed passenger trains. As amended, the service could be made available by a private operator (or Amtrak) at the end of that two-year period, for an indefinite time, provided ridership warrants (as we know it will). Hearings have not yet been scheduled for S.B. #65, now waiting patiently in Sen. Ted Gray's Highways & Transportation Committee. Things could move on this within days, however; so you might wish to call the Ohio Legislative Information Hotline at 1-800-282-0253 (466-8842 in the greater COLUMBUS area) for an up-to-the-minute hearing schedule.

Our good friend Ohio Rep. Fred Deering (D-Monroeville) has once again come through for those of us who favor the incremental approach to new passenger trains for Ohio, by sponsoring new H.B. #359 which is identical at this point to the current Senate version (S.B. #65). The first co-sponsor with Rep. Deering so far is Rep. Robert Hickey (D-Dayton). No hearings have yet been scheduled for H.B. #359.

Much of our activity this Spring has been devoted to identifying and working on a one-on-one basis with additional proponents of the conventional-speed trains. We hope to get each and every one of them to testify during the bill hearings; either orally in person or by written means. Particular thanks go to Galion Chamber of Commerce Development Director Ron Myers for his work in getting support among regional planners! I hope that many of you in Ohio who read

this will consider attending the hearings at the State House. If you've never been, but would like to go, please let me know so that your appearance -- with or without testimony -- can be noted.

Just as important as verbal testimony is the written letter to the legislators and to the Governor. Now that all OARP members in Ohio have received your 1987 OARP STATE LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY it should be easy for you to locate your State Senator and your State Representative. Please send me a copy of your correspondence, if you will -- especially that of replies FROM your elected officials. This is most helpful to our work.

In other matters; we have participated in a recent nationwide non-profit organization protest of new and very restrictive IRS interpretations of laws pertaining to public policy debates and advocacy. This would severely restrict OARP's ability to work on issues such as the basic push for better passenger trains! Our individual letters to each member of the Ohio Congressional Delegation resulted in a complete agreement among our Washington legislators that the proposed new rules were much too strict an interpretation of "issue lobbying" by non-profit, tax-exempt organizations (such as OARP). We are told that a hearing on this subject will be scheduled in May on Capitol Hill. Fellow protestors included The Sierra Club, United Way, and The National Wildlife Federation, among others.

We are continuing to contact outside funding sources for the OARP Special Project Fund. These sources include municipalities, foundations, and civic organizations; as well as the railroad brotherhoods who have been so helpful to us in the past. If you personally have any contact with any such organizations, please let us know. My thanks to OARP's Cincinnati Area Coordinator Mike Weber for helping to personally contact various organizations in that area; also to Dayton OARP member Jack Becher for his help in this regard.

There is a new resolution of 3-C Corridor conventional-speed passenger train support being drafted for approval by the various on-line cities, by Pete Cass of The City of Columbus. This goes beyond the implementation of just the passenger trains to include various related transportation projects to complement the basic system. In addition to being more comprehensive than the first resolution which the various cities and counties passed, it will create a new awareness that the basic 3-C legislation is again pending in the Ohio General Assembly.

OARP President Tom Pulsifer and I have developed what we believe is an exciting, colorful, and very useful 3-C Corridor proposal brochure which is intended for mass distribution among the general public. It is written in lay terms to answer most frequently asked questions about modern passenger trains and about Ohio's 3-C route. These 3-C brochures include photos, a map and a proposed 3-C timetable. We'll have a large supply on hand at the May 16th meeting in Mansfield and we want everyone there to take a supply with them and distribute them to help round up added support for the passenger trains in the 3-C Corridor!

OARP members interested in helping may send for a copy of this new 3-C brochure; please include a business-letter-size #10 self-addressed stamped envelope to expedite things. If you want a quantity, PLEASE include your check with a donation towards postage. Every little bit helps! These 3-C brochures are expected to be ready for distribution by May first.

In the next issue of the 6:53, I'll comment on some of the pending Amtrak legislation and the 1988 Federal Budget negotiations.

OARP 1987 ANNUAL MEETING SATURDAY - MAY 16th HOLIDAY INN/MANSFIELD

TOLEDO'S CENTRAL UNION TERMINAL — TO BE, OR NOT TO BE?

— by Larry George

Arguments in favor of Amtrak staying at C.U.T.:

1. It is one of the newest pre-Amtrak stations in a major U.S. city. Only those in Milwaukee, Syracuse and New Orleans are newer.
2. It is centrally located.

Arguments against Amtrak remaining in C.U.T.:

1. It is a large, bi-level station where, incidentally, the trains are not visible from the ticket counter/waiting area. The station offers all services; i.e., checked baggage, package express, wheelchair lift, and servicing of dining and lounge cars. It is usually manned by a single agent at any given time. Thus, passengers cannot be properly taken care of when the agent is down on the platform at train time; and reducing services at such a heavily used stop as Toledo is unthinkable.
2. Amtrak is already paying an outrageously disproportionate share of the building's utility bills, and would have to absorb the entire amount if they were to become the building's sole tenant.
3. The building, under previous Penn Central and current Conrail ownership, has fallen into serious disrepair.
4. Safe long-term parking is no longer available nor recommended.
5. The surrounding neighborhood is in a rapid rate of decline.
6. Unless you're a regular passenger, a railfan, or over 50 years old, the station is not all that easy to find. When it opened 37 years ago it was considered to be a good location. That's no longer the case. Many young Toledoans don't even know that C.U.T. exists.

Comments:

The arguments against Amtrak's staying in C.U.T. far outweigh the arguments in favor of staying. When Amtrak returned to Toledo in 1975, the station certainly was one of America's newest, even though it was 25 years old at that time. However, with the many new facilities Amtrak has erected across the nation, C.U.T. now stands as just another dilapidated monument to a bygone era. Its central location is strictly in a geographical sense. Downtown Toledo is 9 to 5, Monday thru Friday. And that's it, with the current renaissance of that area being almost exclusively geared to the 9-to-5 segment of society. All of downtown Toledo's major retail and entertainment establishments have relocated, mostly to the growing southwest and northwest areas of the city. The only reason most of Toledo's Amtrak passengers ever come to the central city is to use the train. It would be far more convenient for them if the station were located at Byrne Road or McCord Road, among other sites.

The six negative arguments are compelling, but the most important reason for Amtrak to leave C.U.T. stems from the flux of Conrail's position on the matter. While Conrail officials officially say otherwise; most insiders agree that the company's vacating of Central Union Terminal is not a question of "if"; but "how soon". Should Conrail decide to leave, they are required to give Amtrak only 60 days notice. Sixty days is certainly not enough time to acquire land and construct a new station. Furthermore, there is no guarantee that Amtrak would be allowed to remain in C.U.T. if

Conrail lease, especially if the facility were to be sold. In all probability, Toledoans would see their Amtrak facilities moved into an "Amshack"-style temporary building (like Elyria or St. Louis) until a new station could be built. Future budgetary pressures, especially for capital funding, could cause the "Amshack" to become Toledo's permanent Amtrak station.

Toledo is by far Amtrak's busiest station in Ohio, with four daily trains and over 63,000 passengers arriving, departing, or changing trains (in FY 1986). These numbers could increase substantially with the possible re-routing of Amtrak's CAPITOL LIMITED via Cleveland and Toledo this Fall.

The "Amshack" scenario must NOT be allowed to happen in Toledo! I believe OARP should recommend that Amtrak immediately take action necessary for the construction of a new station at Toledo, regardless of whether or not Conrail stays in Central Union Terminal. I also feel that OARP should approach the Toledo City Council, the Lucas County Commissioners, The Toledo Metropolitan Area Council of Governments (TMACOG), the Toledo Area Regional Transit Authority (TARTA), and the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority to seek moral support and technical and/or financial assistance for a new Amtrak station.

This recommendation will be on the agenda for OARP's ANNUAL MEETING on May 16th. Any added input on this Toledo dilemma should be submitted prior to your OARP ANNUAL MEETING.

LAST CALL for OARP's 1987 TRAIN CALENDAR... Our handy 9" x 12" informational 1987 CALENDAR features a Mike Weber color photo of an Amtrak passenger train heading into a light nighttime fog. Atmospheric! Additionally, our 1987 CALENDAR lists all the telephone numbers used most by Amtrak passengers in Ohio. Beats all those charges for directory assistance! Just 10¢ each for OARP's 1987 CALENDAR in any quantity, plus \$1.00 for postage and handling per order. Address your request to OARP CALENDARS, P.O. BOX 653, XENIA, OH 45385. Make your check or money order payable to O.A.R.P.

"MAKE A NOTE TO TRAVEL BY TRAIN" is the motto on OARP's new woodgrained finish #2 PENCILS which were introduced at OARP's March 1987 WORKSHOP MEETING in Delaware, Ohio. These professional quality PENCILS also list Amtrak's nationwide Toll-Free Reservations & Information number plus OARP's name and mailing address. This is another useful item to help reach out to get people into OARP and to get them onto the passenger trains! Everyone who comes to our OARP ANNUAL MEETING on May 16th will get some FREE "Make A Note To Travel By Train" PENCILS! In the meantime... we'll mail you five for \$1.00 and that includes postage and handling! Just make your check or money order payable to O.A.R.P. and address your request to OARP at P.O. BOX 653, XENIA, OH 45385.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO BRING NEW MEMBERS INTO OARP?

"BUILD MEMBERSHIP" IS THRUST OF OARP MARCH 14 WORKSHOP MEETING

Though many topics were discussed during OARP's WORKSHOP MEETING in Delaware, Ohio, on Saturday, March 14th, it quickly became evident to all that one means of solving problems -- of accomplishing goals -- is that more people need to be involved and brought into our Association.

About three dozen OARP members attended this WORKSHOP MEETING, which was conducted informally, at the Holiday Inn. Amtrak's new district supervisor, Frank Stoy, attended so as to get more acquainted with OARP's leadership and activist members throughout the state.

Pres. Pulsifer opened the WORKSHOP with an informal "State Of Our Association" report, touching on many things including our financial status, membership, computerization progress, archive storage, and administrative concerns. Treasurer Ben Libby reported that he had done a recent compilation of membership records showing we have 166 delinquent members; with dues more than six months in arrears. Vice-Pres. Howard Harding suggested we all need to keep one question in mind; that is "What is OARP accomplishing?" What the active core believes OARP is accomplishing and what the average OARP member thinks we are accomplishing may be vastly different.

For the bulk of the WORKSHOP, Pres. Pulsifer asked everyone to try to focus their input -- first on goals, then on objectives, then on priorities, and finally on strategies -- as a means of keeping topics in some perspective.

Considerable time was devoted to ways of building membership in OARP. Some of the suggestions which will be followed-up on included: identify benefits of membership to specific groups; identify markets (college students, senior citizens, etc.); literature in Amtrak stations; talk-show participation; direct mailings to specific markets; general advertising in metro and statewide magazines; hold open public meetings; exhibits at fairs and shows; and establishing and cultivating good media contacts.

In addition, Howard Harding and Mike Weber spoke briefly about the upcoming NARP Regional Meeting the following weekend in Chicago and sought any input to take to present at that occasion. Howard stated that one serious problem NARP is currently having is that otherwise well-meaning individuals "run off on their own" with their facts sometimes screwed-up -- instead of contributing to the group effort to accomplish changes. The result is the officials and legislators get confused or mixed messages, instead of a clear and organized one.

Pres. Pulsifer reported this problem is not unique to NARP. He mentioned a recent and widely circulated proposal from a well-intended OARP member calling for, among other things, restoration of direct Amtrak service between Dayton and Indianapolis. This person was unaware that most of the trackage on that route was ripped up several years ago!

BULLETIN! THE SOUTH PORTSMOUTH AMTRAK STOP HAS BEEN MOVED A FEW MILES EAST TO A LOCATION ALONG US 23 & KY 7 (MAIN STREET) IN THE NEARBY VILLAGE OF SOUTH SHORE, KENTUCKY!

---- by Jim Stevenson

The combined NARP Region 6-7 Annual Meeting, held in Chicago the weekend of March 21-22, saw a good attendance of 75 or so. The Ohio contingent included Howard Harding, Dave and Donna Shreiner, Bill Glasser, Mike Weber, Mark Adamcik, Dave Buschert, Frank Stoy (Amtrak's district supervisor), and me. All the Ohioans traveled to Chicago and back by Amtrak and all reported routine, on-time trips.

On Saturday afternoon starting at 3:30, participants were given a slide presentation and a talk by an official of Illinois D.O.T., illustrating the physical improvements that have been made in recent years to Amtrak stations in Illinois, with particular emphasis on the stations served by ILLDOT 403(b) trains. Illinois is to be commended on the fine appearance of many of its rail passenger stations. This presentation was coordinated by Region 7 NARP Director W. David Randall.

Saturday evening, Jack Martin, President of NARP, spoke to the participants at a banquet held at the Midland Hotel. Jack made some brief introductory remarks and then a lengthy question-and-answer session followed.

Some of the points covered:

- * Amtrak for FY1988 will probably end up with just over \$600 million for operations and an undetermined amount for capital and safety improvements in the Northeast Corridor.
- * Amtrak hopes to order 20 AEM-7 electric locomotives for the NEC and 15 F40 diesels soon and hopefully have the capital money for them when they are completed.
- * Amtrak is conducting a survey of Heritage Fleet cars stored at Beech Grove with an eye to retaining those that can be head-end powered at a reasonable cost and disposing of those that are beyond economic overhaul. The State of Michigan has expressed interest in paying for some of the HEP work to free up cars elsewhere for additional Michigan service.
- * A reroute of Amtrak's CALIFORNIA ZEPHYR over the C&NW route between Chicago and Omaha looks good for the Fall of 1987.
- * Amtrak management favors a reroute of the CAPITOL LIMITED through Toledo and Cleveland to Pittsburgh. Amtrak and Conrail have already begun negotiations on payment for signal work between Cleveland and Alliance, Ohio.

At the banquet, Jack Martin had arranged for everyone present to receive a new Amtrak nationwide timetable and a copy of the new Amtrak Travel Planner booklet.

On Sunday morning the group toured the Amtrak 12th Street Coach Yard and the 16th Street Locomotive Facility. We observed operations in the Amtrak Commissary, the Coach and the Locomotive Shops, and the Control Tower overlooking the entire complex.

Following the facility tour the group assembled for a meeting at the headquarters of the 20th Century Railroad Club (in the former Soo Line Chicago Freight Terminal Building near Union Station) and discussed regional concerns to be brought before the Spring NARP Board Meeting coming up in April in Washington, DC. Among the concerns expressed and agreed upon were the following:

- * Need more run-thrus, and better scheduling of connections at the Chicago hub -- locals to long-hauls and vice versa.
- * NARP NEWS should support state ARPs; the relationships between NARP and the state ARPs need to be clarified and improved -- Local level efforts need better support from NARP.
- * Amtrak's advertising (Again!).
- * Need to take a hard line on any frequency reductions -- all trains; all routes.

Toward the end of the Sunday morning session ballots were tallied and results of the NARP regional elections were announced with Paul Arden (IN), John DeLora (MI), Bill Glasser (OH), Howard Harding (OH), Don Hurst (IN), and Mike Weber (OH) being elected NARP Regional Directors for our Region 6 for 1987-88.

Another Ohioan, OARP and NARP member Frank Griesinger (Cleveland) ran as a candidate in Region 6. Other Region 6 candidates were Alan Gebauer and Terrence Donnelly, both from Michigan.

Following this meeting the weekend came to a close as the participants scattered to board their various trains to return home. It was an exciting and eventful weekend!

OARP EXTENDS OUR CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY-ELECTED REGIONAL NARP DIRECTORS IN OUR REGION SIX!

PLANS ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY FOR OARP TO HOST NEXT YEAR'S NARP REGION SIX ANNUAL MEETING IN TOLEDO!

PHONE BOOKS WANTED!

Can you help provide the OARP "OFFICE" with current or very recent copies of the following PHONE BOOKS, especially White Pages:

- CLEVELAND
- COLUMBUS
- TOLEDO
- YOUNGSTOWN
- CANTON
- MANSFIELD
- DELAWARE
- SPRINGFIELD
- HAMILTON
- MIDDLETOWN
- CINCINNATI

These are needed to help us work on the 3-C Corridor Project.

If YOU can help just bring your book(s) to the May 16th OARP ANNUAL MEETING. Thanks to those who've already provided books (for cities not listed above).

WATCH FOR OUR AD IN THE MAY 1987 ISSUE OF "OHIO MAGAZINE" . . .

Yes! We're running an "outreach" ad in the unique Classified Section in the back of this monthly publication, under a new heading created specially for us... "Trains".

Here's what will appear:

ALL ABOARD! We want modern passenger trains serving Ohio's Cleveland - Columbus - Cincinnati Corridor now! Together, we can achieve. Write for sample newsletter. New membership \$10.00. Ohio Association of Railroad Passengers, Box 653-C, Xenia, OH 45385.

The cost is \$70. per issue and it would be good if we could run this ad in at least three consecutive issues to gain added visibility and, hopefully, new members and increased help in getting our long-sought 3-C Corridor trains.

We'd welcome your donations earmarked to help cover the costs of outreach advertising like this to make more Ohioans aware of OARP.

OARP's JOE KELLER HOSPITALIZED!

OARP has just been informed that noted Ohio railroad historian John Keller (who also serves as our Lima Area Regional Coordinator) was hospitalized April 13th in Lima. Latest word from his son is that John is feeling better, but that his heart is being continuously monitored. It is expected that John will soon be released from the hospital to return home and will have to take life easy for a good while. All of us who know John Keller well know it will be hard for him not to be getting involved with the busy schedule he has followed for years.

We encourage ALL of our OARP "family" who know John Keller to send him a cheery greeting card or perhaps a little note to let him know we're thinking of him and wishing him a complete recovery!

Address: JOHN H. KELLER, SR.
721 WOODWARD AVENUE
LIMA, OH 45805

Thanks!



The photo of the VIA RAIL CANADA "LRC" Intercity Train courtesy Bombardier.

We regret the delay in getting our OARP LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY of the Ohio General Assembly in the mail to all our OARP members residing in Ohio. You should have received your copy in the mail around April 15-20. If you did not receive a copy, kindly send us a stamped (22¢) self-addressed #10 size (business-letter size) envelope and we hustle a copy out to you.

If you can use a QUANTITY of these handy reference DIRECTORIES; again, let us know and include some stamps or a small donation to help out with postage costs. We DO have a good supply of these LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORIES on hand.

Now that you've got your OARP LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY -- USE IT -- to contact YOUR elected representatives. Inform them that YOU WILL USE THE 3-C CORRIDOR CONVENTIONAL-SPEED PASSENGER TRAINS and that YOU ARE ASKING THEM TO SUPPORT THE TWO BILLS. THAT'S SENATE BILL #65, and HOUSE BILL #359.

Our Ohio Congressional delegation is also listed in our OARP LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY. YOU should also write to both U.S. Senators and to YOUR U.S. Congressman/Congresswoman to TELL THEM YOU RIDE AMTRAK AND THAT YOU'D RIDE MORE OFTEN IF THERE WERE MORE SERVICE TO AND THROUGH OHIO. ASK THEM TO SUPPORT ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR PASSENGER RAIL TRANSPORTATION.

Don't feel you have to write l--o--n--g letters. Short ones are fine. BUT WRITE!!

OARP PURSUES DIFFERENT APPROACH TO ACHIEVING 3-C CORRIDOR PASSENGER TRAINS

Amtrak's continuing cash and equipment shortage compels OARP to revise its approach to getting conventional rail passenger service expansion in Ohio. The traditional shared-expense 403(b)-type service arrangement is not now available to us. OARP has contacted Bombardier. With headquarters in the Montreal area and plants in both Canada and the U.S., Bombardier is right now the only active builder of new passenger rail cars in North America.

We have learned that Amtrak would be agreeable to operate Bombardier LRC (Light-Rapid-Comfortable) train sets in the 3-C Corridor. OARP has been provided with estimated prices for the LRCs -- also more conventional type cars -- and have been told that delivery could be made within 12-18 months of placing an order.

OARP does not know whether or not Ohio legislators will -- in sufficient numbers -- accept the idea of buying or leasing rail passenger cars of any kind! We do not know whether or not Ohio will spend enough money to operate a decent service.

Bombardier makes the LRC passenger rail cars for VIA RAIL CANADA which operates them in intercity service between Windsor/Sarnia-Toronto-Ottawa-Montreal-Quebec City. Current production models have overcome earlier operating difficulties and are considered operationally acceptable by Amtrak. And, enough cars are presently available to operate Ohio's 3-C service of two daily round-trips for a price which is remarkably competitive with earlier estimates.

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

We welcome two new Travel Agency Members of OARP; the RANDALL PARK MALL TRAVEL AGENCY, INC. ("Amtrak Al" Mladineo) and the MIAMI VALLEY AUTOMOBILE CLUB (Virginia Adams)!

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
DAYTON	THE MIAMI VALLEY AUTOMOBILE CLUB	513/224-2888
FAIRBORN	HERITAGE TRAVEL, INC.	513/879-5444
FINDLAY	McDOWELL TRAVEL AGENCY, INC.	419/422-6151
MASSILLON	MASSILLON AAA TRAVEL	216/833-1084
NORTH RANDALL	RANDALL PARK MALL TRAVEL AGENCY, INC.	216/475-TRIP
PERRYSBURG	HAYES TRAVEL AGENCY	419/874-2271
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SANDUSKY	SANDUSKY TRAVEL SERVICE, INC.	419/626-4633
TROY	MIAMI VALLEY 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. check, made payable to O.A.R.P., and mail this to OARP, P.O. BOX 653, XENIA, OH 45385. Please refer any inquiries on our "TRAM" (TRavel Agency Member) PROGRAM to OARP Pres. Tom Pulsifer. DIRECTORY listings are limited to the CITY, the BUSINESS NAME of your Agency, and the LOCAL or PRIMARY PHONE NUMBER. Limited to OHIO Travel Agencies.

OARP REPRESENTED AT OEC DAYTON REGIONAL MEETING ---- by AL WOLF

I attended the Regional Meeting of the Ohio Environmental Council in Dayton on the evening of February 10th. In addition to Steve Sedam, the Executive Director of the OEC, there were eight of us there, each representing various organizations who, like OARP, are members of the OEC.

Although the primary issues on which the OEC will concentrate its efforts for 1987-88 were already set by the OEC, attendees were asked to provide additional input or reaffirm the preselected issues. Member input supported items in the 1987-88 Plan. Specific areas targeted for action by the attendees were Great Lakes Charter (Wetlands Protection), Groundwater (Safe Drinking Water Act, Brine Disposal), Lake Erie (Toxic Substance Agreement, Acid Rain), the Wayne National Forest (Additional Federal Purchase of Forest Lands), Water Quality Act of 1987, Low-Level Radioactive Waste (Hospitals, Decommissioned Nuclear Plants), Species Impacted by Habitat Destruction, and Billboard Legislation.

I submitted Amtrak 3-C Corridor Service as a priority item, after giving a brief overview of the legislative activity to date. There was a good level of interest (and I assume support) by the attendees. I appreciated this opportunity to attend this regional OEC Meeting and represent our Association. Though attendance was small, I felt the meeting was very worthwhile. All attendees present were interested in receiving copies of the next issue of the 6:53, which I sent to them.

An informative write-up about OARP was included in OEC's ENVIRONMENTAL GALA PROGRAM BOOK, distributed at all attending the February 25th GALA held in Columbus.

ANNUAL MEETING • MAY 16

TIMETABLE FOR THE DAY:

10:00am	COFFEE & CONVERSATION
10:30am	OARP ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS
12:00nn	LUNCHEON BUFFET with SALAD BAR & DESSERT BAR
1:15pm	GUEST SPEAKERS:
	<u>FRANK STOY</u> District Supervisor Amtrak
	<u>DENNIS HALE</u> Regional Sales Manager Amtrak
	<u>TIMOTHY SHEAR</u> Executive Director Ohio High Speed Rail Association
3:15pm	MEETING WRAP-UP
4:00pm	ADJOURN

The OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS will hold its 1987 ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS for 1987-88 at the HOLIDAY INN / CONVENTION CENTER at 116 Park Avenue West in downtown MANSFIELD, OHIO.

This Meeting will be held from 10:30a until 4:00p on SATURDAY, MAY 16th.

The Meeting will include a LUNCHEON BUFFET at the cost of \$10.50 per person. This BUFFET will include two main entrees plus a salad bar and a dessert bar, in addition to choice of vegetables, breads and beverages.

We have invited THREE GUESTS to be with us this day and speak to us immediately following the Luncheon. Each speaker will have a presentation and will answer questions from the audience. All three will have vital information to share with us. YOU will want to be there to participate in all discussions.

The HOLIDAY INN is not hard to reach.

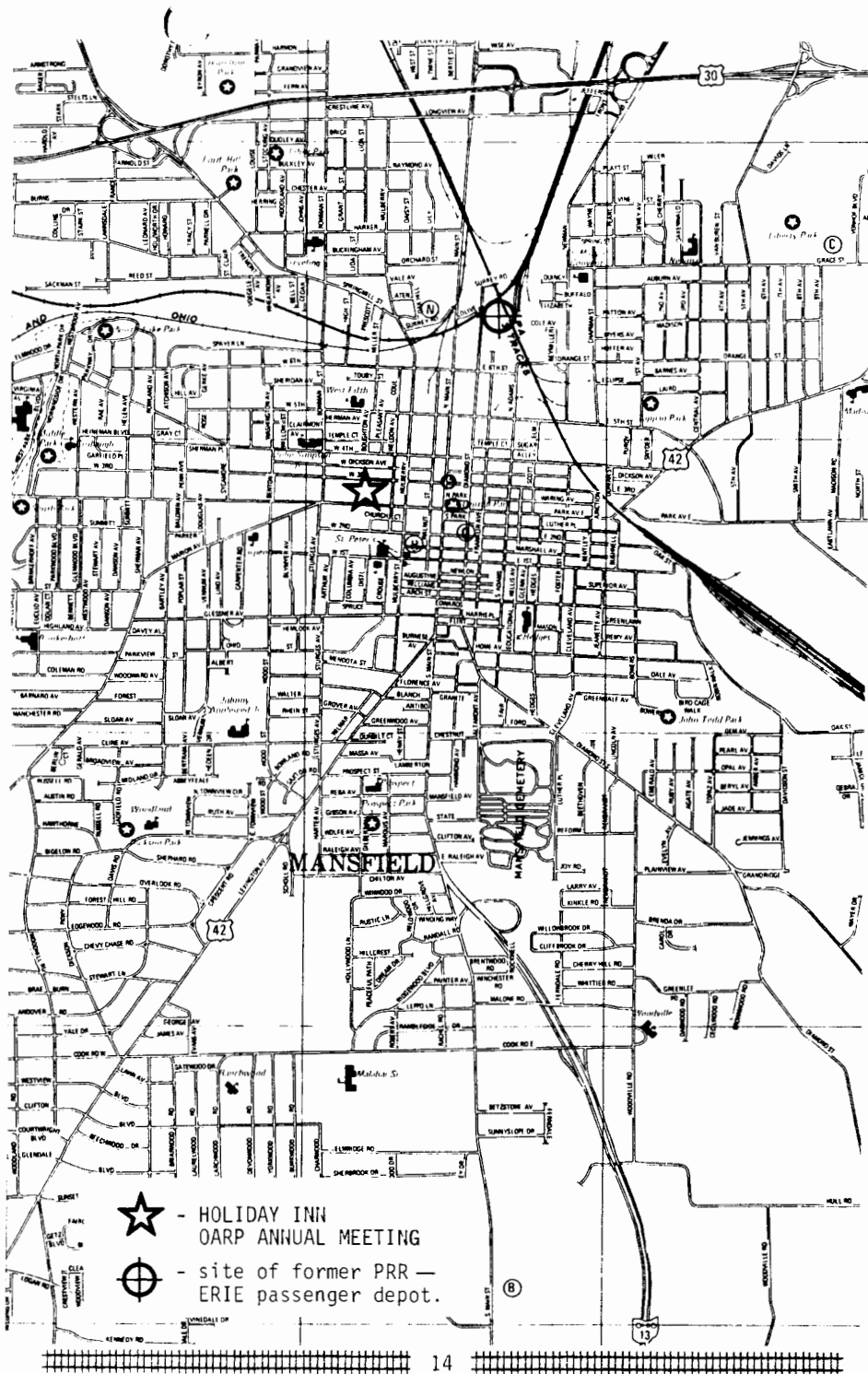
It is just west of Ohio SR 13 and US 42 on Park Avenue West. A Mansfield map, with the Holiday Inn starred, appears elsewhere in this issue.

In the morning session, and in the afternoon wrap-up session, we will take care of OARP business (and include a report from the recent NARP regional meeting and the April director's meeting in Washington). You will elect OARP officers for the next year. Those who serve OARP do so without pay; and there IS work involved AND it takes a degree of dedication, ability and follow-through. There are both times of elation and frustration. This organization would not be where it stands today without the dedicated efforts of a sizeable core of activists whose work is endorsed and supported in various ways by ALL of our fine members! OARP's Annual Meeting is YOUR opportunity to step up to the challenge -- to step forward to take an active role in the ongoing work of your Association; or to have an active voice in determining the future direction for OARP. Our annual election of OARP's leadership is not a matter to be taken lightly.

As with most of OARP's meetings, we have quite a few nice DOOR PRIZES to give away; and we'll have a good supply of Amtrak timetables, Travel Planners, and other materials for everyone.

As we are anticipating a larger-than-average number to attend this particular meeting IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU REGISTER IN ADVANCE SO THAT BOTH OARP AND THE NICE FOLKS AT THE HOLIDAY INN CAN ACCOMODATE YOU IN COMFORT; WITH SEATING SET UP FOR THE NUMBER OF GUESTS WE EXPECT!

Please observe the May 13th cutoff date if at all possible; though we will accept telephoned reservations through the 15th. PLAN NOW TO BE WITH US IN MANSFIELD ON SATURDAY, MAY 16th. WE KNOW THIS OARP MEETING WILL BE GREAT!



☆ - HOLIDAY INN
 OARP ANNUAL MEETING
 ⊕ - site of former PRR —
 ERIE passenger depot.

PLEASE REGISTER NOW... for OARP's ANNUAL MEETING in MANSFIELD on SATURDAY, MAY 16th. You may use photocopies of these forms if you don't want to cut up your 6:53.

REGISTRATION FOR OARP ANNUAL MEETING / MAY 16, 1987

Mail to: OARP ANNUAL MEETING Please enclose \$10.50 per person.
 P.O. BOX 653
 XENIA, OH 45385 Make your check or money order
 payable to: O.A.R.P.

Please Register By MAY 13th! No Refunds After MAY 13th!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

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Please Register By MAY 13th! No Refunds After MAY 13th!

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER _____

INFORMATION FOR YOU... We strongly urge EVERYONE to register in advance for this OARP ANNUAL MEETING! Both we and the Holiday Inn can accommodate you better if we know in advance that you're coming. You MAY make a phone reservation (as late as Friday evening May 15th) with Tom Pulsifer at 513/372-9868, and pay when you get to the Meeting on Saturday. Note carefully that anyone making a telephoned reservation will be held to it unless it is cancelled by May 13th. We cannot make any refunds after May 13th. The Registration Forms will also be used for the drawings for DOOR PRIZES! Please register just one person per form. Make extra copies if you need to.

IF YOU NEED A RIDE; OR CAN PROVIDE A RIDE FOR SOMEONE ELSE, just contact your closest OARP officer or regional coordinator. Consult the handy OARP DIRECTORY on page two of this 6:53. Coming by Amtrak? By advance arrangement we'll have someone meet you at the depot when you arrive. Just let us know. We'll get you to Mansfield and back again!

The Columbus Dispatch reports that Custom Coach of Columbus is building a \$500,000 custom tour bus for CBS Football Commentator John Madden who is giving up riding Amtrak in favor of the "added convenience" of his new bus. Madden, who does not fly, has gained national recognition in recent years for his travels on Amtrak trains.

Penn State's award-winning railroad history conference will be held again this year on June 18-19-20-21 at the Altoona Campus of Penn State. THE AMERICAN RAILROAD CONFERENCE focuses on technology, operations and culture. OARP member KEVIN GREGOIRE attended last year and pronounced it excellent! This year's revised and expanded program provides unique perspectives on rail operations in the heart of the Alleghenies; including tours of rail sites in the Altoona and Cumberland areas. The per person cost of \$325 includes conference materials, meals and rooms at Penn State/Altoona Campus. Please CALL 814/946-4321, extension 59 for information; or WRITE: Railroad Conference, PSU/Altoona Campus, 111 Smith Building, Altoona, PA 16601-3760.

OARP's BILL HUTCHISON wrote a feature article on Amtrak's Chicago - St. Louis Corridor for Rail Travel News. It was published in the March 1, 1987 issue of RTN. It shows that, with a little creative scheduling, vast improvements can be made with Amtrak connections at the Chicago Union Station "Hub".

The JOHNNY CASH FREEDOM TRAIN, originating in Memphis May 30th and terminating in Baltimore June 14th (all via CSX rail lines) will be in Cincinnati on June 7th. There will be a patriotic rally and concert in the ten cities announced as stops for the special passenger train. Two CSX "F" diesels will head the train. Watch for details in the local press.

We're always pleased when our OARP "alumni" become active in other ARPs. OARP's DALE MENCHHOFER moved last year from Oberlin to Seattle, WA, and has been elected as a Director of the Washington ARP. Dale served for a short time as our Lorain-Elyria Area Coordinator for OARP.

CityGuide, a companion publication of Columbus Monthly, DOES mention the nearest Amtrak station which is 75 miles distant at Crestline!

The February 1987 issue of Ohio Business editorialized prominently in favor of 3-C Corridor conventional-speed passenger trains before committing billions to the high speed trains.

"Operation Lifesaver" activity in Ohio recently included a "from the cab" excursion in Lima. During the 3½ mile trip, which has 14 grade crossings, several motorists drove around lowered gates. This was captured on film and shown on the WLIO-TV weekend news. Christine Ely is Ohio's Operation Lifesaver coordinator. Office phone is 614/445-4174.

Amtrak's CARDINAL and CAPITOL LIMITED, operating in part over tracks of the C&O and B&O (Chessie System/CSX) have been speeded up as these railroads have signed incentive-pay contracts with Amtrak and have agreed to tighter schedules. Timesavings; 30 minutes out of the CARDINAL's schedule and 25 minutes off the CAPITOL schedule.

Amtrak announced new One-Way ALL ABOARD FARES effective March 23rd; \$59/1 region, \$79/2 regions, \$99/3 regions. These new Special AAA fares allow no stopovers and are not good for First Class nor Metroliner Service nor AUTO-TRAIN. Passengers have to use tickets within 45 days of purchase. The regular ALL ABOARD fares will rise to \$159, \$239 and \$299 after June 30th. Contact Amtrak at 1-800-USA-RAIL (or your travel agent) for complete fare details.

Town & Country Taxi of Akron advertises "special rates to Cleveland or Canton Amtrak stations". Contact Town & Country at 216/929-7212 in Akron.

The OHIO HIGH SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY office has moved! OHSRA is now at 16 E. BROAD STREET, SUITE #824, COLUMBUS 43215. The phone number: 614/466-2509. Maggie Lewis continues as OHSRA's executive administrator. Senator Robert J. Boggs chairs OHSRA.

OARP thanks members BOB & JANICE WICKENS for the generous donation of three cartons full of railroad studies, reports and periodicals for the OARP "archives"! And... speaking of the "archives"; we are grateful to Charles M. Lewis, Vice-President of Lewis & Michael of Dayton, for allowing OARP to store boxed records and materials for an indefinite period at their Woodman Drive warehouse facility. Transfer of the boxes from various locations to the Lewis & Michael facility will be accomplished soon by several greater Dayton area OARP members. We will have access to our materials at any time during their regular business hours. We will not be storing anything known to have a high or impossible replacement value.

The 4th International Convention on High Speed Rail will be held at Bally's MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas on May 19-20-21. Keynote speakers include the FRA's JOHN RILEY, U.S.D.O.T. Secretary ELIZABETH H. DOLE, RICHARD I. KILROY of BRAC, former Amtrak President PAUL REISTRUP, and HERBERT KLEIN of Copley Newspapers.

OARP Pres. Tom Pulsifer was a guest on "THE TALK OF CLEVELAND" on WERE-AM radio the morning of February 19th. Bob Fuller hosts this popular local radio show.

A number of OARP members heard John Chancellor's commentary on the NBC NIGHTLY NEWS on March 10th. It was a very strong statement for more funding for the railroads. He said, among other things, that the state of the trains in a society reflects its concern for its people. It was a very good, well-reasoned argument for the trains.

The last remaining rail and ties have recently been removed from the Hilliard-Union City portion of the former double-tracked Conrail (PRR) Columbus-Logansport-Chicago mainline. Once a major freight route, this line occasionally handled a rerouted Amtrak NATIONAL LIMITED when the "Dayton Side" was out of service. The last passenger train to operate over the "Bradford Line" was an Amtrak-operated Ft. Leonard Wood troop train during the Christmas-New Years of 1981. OARP member DAVE OROSZI's fine photo work is represented in an excellent recently published book about the PRR in Bradford, Ohio. Titled Bradford, The Railroad Town, this hardback book by Scott Trostel is available from CamTech Publishing, P.O. Box 341, Fletcher, OH 45326-0341 for \$24.72 which includes postage and sales tax.

Thanks to OARP member JIM HOWELL for the recent Easter Greeting card! We also take this opportunity, admittedly belatedly, to thank all those who sent Christmas Cards to OARP, many with a railroad motif!

OARP member RUDY SCHWABE of Berea has asked us to remind others that, when planning a train trip to Chicago via Amtrak's LAKE SHORE LIMITED, you might consider detouring at South Bend and riding America's last intercity interurban, The South Shore Line, to the Windy City. Both Amtrak and the South Shore share the South Bend rail passenger station. Connections are reasonably good, especially on weekends with additional South Shore service all the way out to South Bend. To get a South Shore timetable, call the METRA information number in Chicago; 312/836-7000.

The March 29th issue of The Magazine (Sunday magazine of the Dayton Daily News/Journal Herald) had a positive locally-written feature article by Don Reynolds and Bob Batz on the February 12-13 Amtrak "Wheel of Fortune" Miami to Washington special.

Please register TODAY for OARP's ANNUAL MEETING in MANSFIELD on MAY 16th!



**Letraset
was invented on a train.**

**John Dankworth
composes music on trains.**

**Peter Barkworth
reads scripts on a train.**

**This advertisement
was conceived on a train.**

**The only thing
ever created in cars is a jam.**

 **InterCity**

LOOKING AHEAD . . .

OARP is planning to hold our 1987 MIDSUMMER MEETING in BELLEVUE, OHIO at the MAD RIVER & NKP RAILROAD MUSEUM. Details are not yet set, but we're working towards a Saturday in mid-July. The next issue of the 6:53 will have complete details for you.

Several of the Mad River & NKP Railroad Society folks are also loyal OARP members. Their Museum (which is well worth a visit on any summer weekend) contains a good collection of passenger equipment and passenger railroadiana; including "Silver Dome" which was the very first Vista Dome car ever built!

Your OARP President is working with Bob Dick and Bill Fuehring and the others at Bellevue on plans for this day.

LOOKING FURTHER AHEAD...

OARP has been informed that Amtrak has tentative plans for an OPEN HOUSE at the CLEVELAND AMTRAK STATION sometime this Fall. It has been suggested by several of your fellow members that we try to schedule OARP's FALL MEETING in CLEVELAND to coincide with this event.

Recent OPEN HOUSE events at LIMA (1985) and at CANTON (1986) proved popular and were well-attended by the general public. OARP provided and staffed a display table at both OPEN HOUSES and will also plan to participate at the CLEVELAND event.

Again; watch upcoming issues of your 6:53 for details.

ARE YOUR OARP DUES PAID-
UP TO DATE? WE DEPEND
ON YOUR GOOD SUPPORT!

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 on-going 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

- SEND ME _____ OARP "MAKE A NOTE TO TRAVEL BY TRAIN" PENCILS @ 5 / \$1.00 postpaid. *NEW ITEM!*
- SEND ME _____ OARP (logo) 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 (logo) 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*
- SEND ME _____ OARP MEMBERSHIP FLYERS *HOWEVER, OARP would appreciate stamps, a self-addressed stamped envelope, or a donation to help OARP defray postage expenses.*
- 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. *Please indicate QUANTITY wanted for any item(s).*
- SEND ME _____ OARP WALLET-SIZE CARDS LISTING AMTRAK INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS PHONE NUMBERS. *YOUR DONATIONS TO OARP WILL HELP US DO MORE FOR BETTER PASSENGER TRAIN SERVICES FOR OHIO!*
- SEND ME _____ AMTRAK EAST-MIDWEST TIMETABLE
- SEND ME _____ AMTRAK NATIONWIDE TIMETABLE (Please send a self-addressed business letter size #10 envelope with 73¢ postage [22+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: SAT., MAY 16, 1987

OARP ANNUAL MEETING & ELECTION OF OFFICERS

10:30am - 4:00pm MANSFIELD, OHIO

HOLIDAY INN / CONVENTION CENTER \$10.50

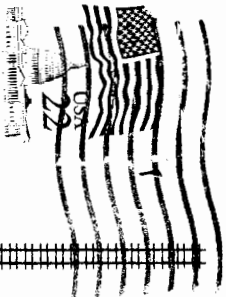
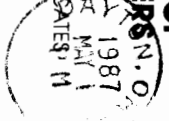
GUESTS: Frank Stoy & Dennis Hale / Amtrak
Tim Shear / Ohio High Speed Rail Assn.

Luncheon Buffet with Salad & Dessert Bars!



MIDSUMMER MEETING - BELLEVUE, OHIO - mid-JULY

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



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3720 STONE ROAD, #2
ASHTABULA, OH 44004