RECRUITING SUPPORT FOR CLE-PIT TRAINS

by Kenneth Prendergast
CLE-PIT Project Director

Things are happening in the Cleveland-Pittsburgh Corridor. Recently, a majority of the activity has been occurring on the Pennsylvania side. In the last issue of the 6:53 I reported that New Castle, PA, had at long last broken its silence. OARP planted the seeds of support in early August. Since then support and enthusiasm for the CLE-PIT Corridor has grown beyond my expectations. OARP approached only a few local leaders. But those few local leaders have taken off and run rampant, contacting every conceivable individual and organization that might have an interest in getting the trains!

Some of the movers and shakers who are now involved include longtime Pennsylvania State Representative Thomas Fee, Pittsburgh Mayor Sophie Masloff's office, and an influential Commissioner from Allegheny County, Tom Feerster who was credited with attracting funds to construct the new Midfield Air Terminal in Pittsburgh. Lawrence County Commissioner Elizabeth Verterano is the one who deserves credit for making these contacts. Rep. Fee will meet with PennDOT's Scott Casper to see if the DOT has money in its budget to bring the passenger trains to New Castle. If not, Rep. Fee stated he will seek a budget appropriation "to cover what is needed". Meanwhile in Ohio, Mayor Patrick Ungaro of Youngstown will try to meet with Amtrak officials on his upcoming trip to Washington, DC. Also, Mayor Ungaro will try to be available to deliver testimony at upcoming hearings for Senate Joint Resolution #8 in the Ohio Senate's Committee on Highways & Transportation.

Speaking of S.J.R. #8, on September 11th I met with one of the co-sponsors of the legislation, Senator Chip Henry (R-Burton). His district includes Lordstown, a town which has been very supportive of our efforts. We met with Lordstown's Planning and Zoning Administrator, Ron Barnhart. Senator Henry is a newcomer to the Ohio Senate, so Ron and I wanted to inform him of the more detailed aspects of the CLE-PIT Corridor. Sen. Henry was told that the General Assembly could eventually be asked to vote on a budget appropriation to fund capital, and perhaps operating, costs. He was supportive of funding capital costs, especially if the on-line communities were to do their part in providing stations. On the other hand, Sen. Henry was quite apprehensive about the State paying for operating expenses. Where have we heard that before? Fortunately, the PENNSYLVANIAN extension
and the CAPITOL LIMITED reroute would be self-sustaining. But what about additional frequencies? Or the proposed 3-C Corridor trains? There's no guarantee that they would be profitable, let alone break even. What do we do?

Should OARP try to change the minds of the Ohio General Assembly, as we have tried to do for so long? Or, should we work with Amtrak to develop additional sources of revenue (mail, package express, real estate, etc.) to offset losses? It's a dilemma that must be solved if we hope to get more than one or two trains per route. The grassroots supporters between Cleveland and Pittsburgh have pushed the proposal to its current status. With their help we can push it past the obstacles awaiting us in the General Assembly. More in the next 6:53.

THREE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS TO BE DECIDED AT OARP’S ANNUAL MEETING (FALL MEETING, NOVEMBER 4)

The OARP Board, meeting on August 19th, approved placing the following three Amendments to the OARP Constitution (By-Laws) on the agenda for OARP’s Annual Meeting:

* ARTICLE V - BOARD OF DIRECTORS (revise as follows)

**Section 2 - Tenure.**

Starting in 1990 the following shall be elected in EVEN years: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer. Starting in 1991 the following shall be elected in ODD years: Board Member 216, Board Member 419, Board Member 513, Board Member 614, and Board Member At-Large. In 1989 all Officers and Board Members shall be elected. Thereafter, all terms of office shall be for two-year terms with right of re-election to a consecutive two-year term. After four consecutive years in the same office, that person shall step down, but may be duly nominated and elected to hold a different office at that time. Prior to the Annual Meeting of 1989 all offices were for one-year terms with unlimited right of re-election to that office.

* ARTICLE VI - OFFICERS (revise as follows)

**Section 2 - Election and Terms of Office.**

The Officers, as well as the Members of the Board of Directors of this Corporation, will be elected at the Annual Meeting. Tenure is set forth in Article V, Section 2 of this Constitution. Each officer shall hold office until his/her successor shall have been duly elected by the membership at the Annual Meeting and shall have been qualified as a member. The names of the persons who are the initial officers of this Corporation are as follows: Thomas R. Pulsifer, President; Rodger J. Sillars, Vice-President; Francine G. Planner, Treasurer; and William C. Glasser, Secretary.

* ARTICLE VII - APPOINTED POSITIONS (add new section as follows)

**Section 7 - Residency.**

Members of this Corporation holding appointed positions shall maintain primary place of residence within the State of Ohio; except that, on an individual case basis, an out-of-Ohio member may be duly appointed to serve in an appointed position should this be deemed in the overall best interest of the Corporation.

NO OARP CALENDAR FOR 1990 -- OARP's Board voted on August 19th that, due to financial constraint and the need to publish a new "Ohio Corridors -- All Aboard, Ohio!" brochure at the end of 1989 or early in 1990, OARP should not publish a color calendar for 1990. Over the years our Calendars served as useful outreach tools for us, but we never made money on them, sometimes only recouping half the costs. Your Board decided that the $1,000 or so spent on producing the Calendar should be better allocated to production of a quality Corridors brochure.
THE GREAT AMTRAK TRAIN & LOCOMOTIVE RAFFLE!

To help OARP raise funds, Amtrak will donate a "train" and a "locomotive" which OARP will raffle off at our November 4th Meeting! Amtrak will even provide track on which to run your train or to park your locomotive!

Joe Pollard and Barb Vosmik of Amtrak Sales have informed us they will donate one Amtrak model train set and one Amtrak locomotive desk set with the stated purpose that OARP conduct a raffle at our Fall Meeting to help bolster our OARP treasury.

You will want to come to this Meeting to participate in The Great Amtrak Train & Locomotive Raffle and you must be present to win when lucky tickets are drawn at the end of the day. We'll announce full details at the Meeting.

Our thanks in advance to Joe and Barb for these most generous donations to OARP for our Fall Meeting!

NATIONAL LIMITED GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN!

September 30th and October 1st this year marked the Tenth Anniversary of the demise of the NATIONAL LIMITED and the end of Amtrak service through Columbus and Dayton. At the request of several Amtrak employees who worked on the NATIONAL LIMITED, OARP assisted in organizing a "National Limited Employees Reunion" which was held September 30th at the Quality Hotel in downtown Columbus. An 11 oz. "National Limited" Mug and a cotton duck "National Limited" Tote Bag were produced for this event. These Mugs and Totebags will be available for sale at the November 4th OARP Meeting in Columbus. Both items feature an illustration of the train and complete listing of all the stations served by the NATIONAL LIMITED. OARP's Tom Pulsifer did all the graphic design work.

Mugs and Totes may be ordered from Tom. Mugs are $9.00 postpaid, or 2 for $15.50, or 4 for $25.00. Totebags are $4.50 postpaid, or 2 for $7.50, or 4 for $13.00. Please make checks for these National Limited mementos payable to "National Limited Reunion" and mail to Tom Pulsifer, 1751 Wilshire Drive, Xenia, OH 45385.

The Mugs and Totes are available on a first-come-first-served basis. These are "limited" edition items! If stock runs out you will be notified and your money will be returned.

By the way... this first-ever "National Limited Employees Reunion" went so well that the employees in attendance have decided to make it an annual affair!

CINCINNATI UNION TERMINAL / SEPTEMBER 1990!

It's now official!

OARP has been told that Amtrak will return to Cincinnati's historic Union Terminal in September of 1990! The agreements between Amtrak and the City and the Museum Center Foundation were signed on October 2nd. There are some minor matters yet to be worked out, OARP understands, but we should be learning complete details of this exciting news very soon.

SANDUSKY AMTRAK STATION MOVE GAINING SUPPORT!

OARP understands that the City of Sandusky, thanks to strong urging from area Amtrak authorized travel agents dealing with complaining passengers, will take action to arrange the long-awaited move of the Amtrak station to a better environment at the east side of the city. The preferred site is at a business known as The Energy Station, located on US 6 near Remington Road, not far from the entrance to Cedar Point Park. The present Amtrak station, just off SR 4 (Hayes Avenue), is in a seriously declining neighborhood. Passengers have expressed grave concerns for their safety, especially at the time of the arrival of the eastbound LAKE SHORE LIMITED which is well after midnight. The daylight arrival of the westbound train presents less of a problem. OARP has long advised our members NOT to plan to leave their cars parked at the present Sandusky station and not to be in the station area alone, especially at night. OARP expects to have more details on the Sandusky station project in the next issue of the 6:53.

OTHER AMTRAK STATIONS IN OHIO WHERE WE ADVISE AGAINST LONG-TERM PARKING OF PASSENGERS' CARS:

Toledo (changing neighborhood; no problems with short-term parking at train time and in the daytime)

Hamilton (not the best part of town; no problem with short-term parking at train time)

OARP WOULD ADVISE AGAINST LONG-TERM PARKING OF ANY "LOADED" (with attractive accessories) OR "EXPENSIVE" CAR AT ANY AMTRAK STATION IN OHIO.

AMTRAK TIMETABLES... for Fall were originally to be issued on the 17th of September. But... the FALL TIMETABLES will now be issued effective OCTOBER 29th!

OARP does not yet have supplies of the new timetables, but we do hope to have them before the last full week of this month. Please be patient.
HARD NEWS... for a change! by OARP's 3-C Corridor Project Director Manfred Otto Orlow

As of this writing, a number of very positive happenings have occurred since the last 6:53, but details are still incomplete. These events all relate to our OARP priorities and include the 3-C Corridor, Toledo service, and the Cleveland-Pittsburgh routing.

An historic meeting took place in Washington on September 22. Members of the Midwest High Speed Rail Compact met with Amtrak officials to discuss specifics of cooperation and joint planning. Ohio's State Senator Robert Boggs, Chairman of the 3-state Compact, answered Amtrak's expressed need for a specific "request for assistance" by sending a responsive four-item letter to Graham Claytor on September 22. Specific for Ohio in this first round of study request is the extension of the PENNSYLVANIAN to Cleveland. However, other route extensions and high and low density corridors were very much a part of the September 20th meeting. Participants also included Federal Railroad Administration head Gilbert Carnichael with two colleagues; Amtrak's Jim Barber, Bill Gallagher and Cynthia Giles; plus several state officials, inclusive of Ohio's Lou Jannazo, planning chief for the Rail Division of OhioDOT.

In another letter to OARP answering our request for Amtrak testimony in support of the live Ohio Senate Resolution #8 (see the previous 6:53) the carrier writes that it will be doing a study to update the costs to operate the 3-C Corridor service, at the request of OhioDOT. The letter from Amtrak's Tim Gillespie states in part, "Until the study is completed we will not know the magnitude of the costs in which we would be expected to share with the State of Ohio. In planning for FY90, it appears that a relaxing of the stringent expansion requirements may be possible for that year. Although revenues have been increasing at a much faster rate than anticipated, the Federal Government still has to cover 23% of our costs." Gillespie is Assistant Vice-President, Government Affairs, for Amtrak.

If this is true, there may not be a need to pass the Senate Resolution, since support for Ohio funding for the route studies would not be necessary. However, details are still very sketchy.

The reader will note, however, that this is a significant turn of events, regardless of the outcome. It is the first time (to this writer's knowledge) that Amtrak has acknowledged the need to cooperate with the planning and implementation of some long-term transportation goals, other than its own. Later, Jackie Gillan, transportation specialist with Ohio's Washington Office, was able to arrange meetings with Congressman Tom Luken (D-Cincinnati) and Dennis Eckhart (D-Mentor) asking them to help the Compact obtain the needed input from Amtrak in a timely manner. Open to question at this point is one of the four items in the Compact request of September 22nd to Amtrak. That is what appears to be an off-the-wall request from Indiana to study extension of Amtrak's HOOSIER STATE train on a "daily demand" basis to Cincinnati, Anderson-Muncie, Louisville or Bloomington. We interpret this to mean that the route with the highest passenger count would get the train that day -- the other routes would get buses or vans connecting at Indianapolis. We'll try to look further into this one! BECAUSE OF ALL THE HAPPENINGS, PLEASE THINK SERIOUSLY ABOUT ATTENDING THE FALL OARP MEETING IN COLUMBUS ON NOVEMBER 4th. GET THE LATEST NEWS! GET THE FACTS!

A final note... My personal congratulations to the new OARP Government Affairs Director, Dan Innis of Columbus. For a number of reasons we have always had a need for a strong educational presence walking in the halls in Columbus. It has been difficult and inefficient for me to do that, from Dayton. In Dan Innis I think we have found an ideal combination of enthusiasm and seasoned judgement. Best wishes to you! I shall continue on as 3-C Corridor Project Director, and, importantly also, develop and nurture long-term funding sources for the months and years ahead. A challenge and an opportunity!

CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION -- Listed below are the candidates who have agreed to run for OARP Officer or Board Member. It was our hope that we have at least two candidates for each position. Response to the mailing by Howard Harding and the ad hoc Nominating Committee was limited, however, so we have multiple candidates only for At-Large and Area 419 Board positions. As always, nominations from the floor will be accepted at the November meeting.

CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE:

President J. Howard Harding
Vice President Bill Hutchison, Jr.
Treasurer George Bayless
Secretary Robert M. Boyce

CANDIDATES FOR BOARD MEMBER:

Area 216 Mark Carlson
Area 419 Ron Myers, Larry George.
Area 513 Albert E. Wolff
Area 614 William O'Brien
At-Large Ken Prendergast, Harold Wolff, and Larry George.

OARP ELECTIONS / NOVEMBER 4th, 1989!
OARP FALL MEETING / SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4th
TWO GUEST SPEAKERS / 89-90 ANNUAL ELECTION

AS THIS WILL BE TOM PULSIFER'S LAST MEETING AS PRESIDENT OF OARP WE ARE ANTICIPATING A LARGE ATTENDANCE. HELP OARP MAKE ADEQUATE ARRANGEMENTS FOR EVERYONE BY REGISTERING EARLY! WE THANK YOU!

OARP's FALL MEETING will be held SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4th, at the RADISSON HOTEL COLUMBUS NORTH at 4900 Sinclair Road, just north of Morse Road at the I-71 interchange north of downtown. Please register in advance using the form(s) at the bottom of this page (make photocopies of you wish), one person per form. These forms will be used in drawings for door prizes at the meeting!

The cost is $15.00 per person and will include a complete Buffet Luncheon. After NOVEMBER 1st the cost rises to $17.50 per person. You SAVE when you register in advance! Last minute registrations will be accepted, but at $17.50 per person, by calling Tom Pulsifer in Xenia, Ohio at 513/372-9868 before 9:00pm, November 3rd (Friday).

OARP Officers, Board Members & Regional Coordinators will help organize carpools to/from COLUMBUS. Call if you need, or can provide, a ride and share the expenses with your driver. Please plan to arrive at the RADISSON HOTEL COLUMBUS NORTH between 10:00-10:30am so we can go on time!

TIMETABLE for the DAY:
10:00am Registration, COFFEE & CONVERSATION, Displays Open.
10:30am OARP MEETING FOR BUSINESS including ELECTION OF OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS for 1989-1990, and consideration of proposed amendments to OARP's Constitution (By-Laws).
12:00nn RADISSON LUNCHEON BUFFET including Soup du Jour, Salads, Deli Sliced Meats & Cheeses with Assorted Breads & Rolls, Radisson Dessert Table and Beverages.
1:15pm GUEST SPEAKERS: BARBARA VOSMIK, District Manager-Sales, Amtrak (Cleveland)
                     JEROME (JERRY) PIER, Technical Consultant, ANF Industrie, the Turbo-train manufacturer.
2:45pm Station Stop / Break.
3:00pm OARP REPORTS from Directors, Chairpersons, Regional Coordinators, Members.
3:45pm RIDIN' FINE IN '89 OARP MEMBERSHIP DRIVE AWARDS! AWARD OARP MEETING DOOR PRIZES! THE GREAT AMTRAK TRAIN AND LOCOMOTIVE RAFFLE!
4:00pm "REFLECTIONS ON THE RAILS"; some last words from your "retiring" OARP President.
4:30pm Adjourn.

NAME: ________________________________  PHONE: ________________________________
ADDRESS: ________________________________  CITY/STATE/ZIP: ________________________________
Make your $15.00 per person check/money order payable to "OARP". Mail to OARP MEETING,
Box 653, Xenia, OH 45385. Registration deadline is November 1st. No refunds can be made after November 1st. Please register ONE person per form. After November 1 the cost for this Meeting is $17.50.

(You may use photocopies of these Registration Forms.)
Changes are coming... all around us!

Changes affecting passenger trains: Amtrak has signed a contract to return to Cincinnati Union Terminal by September of 1990. The City of Sandusky has agreed to provide funds to assist in the relocation of its Amtrak station to a better site. The Midwest High Speed Rail Compact has issued a report advocating improved conventional rail passenger service on approximately 3,000 route miles across Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Pennsylvania. State Senator Robert Boggs is proposing an amendment to Ohio's 1990-91 Capital Budget which would dedicate revenues from the State's railroad excise tax to pay for rail capital improvements, including rolling stock.

And change is also coming within OARP: At our next meeting we will be voting on revisions to our Constitution and electing new officers. The ballot will contain some new names and propose numerous changes of position. Although the titles did not change, Board Members and Officers have agreed to some significant role changes.

We have all sought the increased services, better station sites, and state rail services funding, even while we also sought to avoid the internal changes. But change is the constant of life. People change. Our personal needs change. The working environment changes. Thus our organization must change with us.

As many of us assume new leadership responsibilities, and struggle to fill some very large shoes, we need each OARP member to assume responsibility for helping us do our new jobs better. Remember that we are more likely to accomplish our goals if we focus on achieving success together, rather than on blaming individuals for the inevitable problems. So... rather than complain about changes or problems, volunteer to help resolve them. It takes at least twice as long to hear a complaint and respond as it does to accept an offer of assistance.

BAGGAGE & EXPRESS

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS: Business First published a guest editorial by STU NIC-MOLSON of Columbus regarding the virtual monopoly COTA has over mass transit in that city. RONALD BERGEN of Kent had an "if you want it you have to work for it" pro-Amtrak letter in the Cleveland Plain Dealer. DAVE PUTHOFF of Cincinnati had a pro-rail transit letter published in the Enquirer. The KEN PRENDERGAST op-ed [City Could Care More For Amtrak] in the Cleveland Plain Dealer evolved into somewhat of a dialog with a follow up letter from one Sheldon Lustig claiming Amtrak cares less about Cleveland; after which another letter from KEN was published along with a letter from JIM STEVENSON. PATTY HARDING was highlighted in the Akron Beacon Journal's "Keeping The Faith" section. THOMAS B. McOWEN, president of the Indiana & Ohio Railroad, appeared in a full-color feature article in the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette highlighting various roles the shortline railroad can play in meeting the transportation needs in Fairfield and Hocking Counties. JOHN KELLER reports he is working with the president of the Lima Chamber of Commerce in arranging a meeting of key people to attempt some action relative to the future of Amtrak in Lima. RON MYERS indirectly represented OARP on a special Conrail Economic Development Special train on September 28th from Columbus to Cleveland and return. The passenger extra reportedly covered the route from Columbus (Buckeye Yard) to Cleveland (Rockport Yard) in just 2½ hours! OARP had requested official inclusion on this trip on the 3-C Corridor route, but was denied by Conrail. Luxury American-European Express service begins on Amtrak's CAPITOL LIMITED November 15th, with initial service to run five days a week. The luxury, private sleeping, dining and club cars will carry passengers only between Washington and Chicago -- no local stops -- for a minimum one-way fare of $695 or $1,042 for double occupancy. Because of the added five cars, Amtrak MAY remove the popular Dome Car from the CAPITOL consist. Amtrak's prototype Viewliner sleeping cars are now running on the NIGHT OWL. Amtrak's fall advertising campaign has included newspaper ads in Bryan, Crestline, Sandusky and Lima. Despite Amtrak's ad spending decline of 16.5% to $24.2 million in 1988, the railroad enjoyed a banner year, with revenue increasing 17%. Revenue is up 15% so far this year, and ridership increased 9%. OARP's Board will meet in Delaware on Saturday, October 21st. LAST MINUTE NEWS! OARP has heard that the return to Cincinnati Union Terminal MAY occur EARLIER than September 1990!
JOIN and help Ohio moving on modern passenger trains! OARP is NOT another "old fashioned" 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 $15 for your first year; $20 thereafter. 

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

Available once again... thanks to Mike Weber...

SEND OARP "LET'S GET OHIO MOVING ON PASSENGER TRAINS" BUMPER STICKER (vinyl) ea. 1.00

SPECIAL / for a limited time; 3 for 2.00

SEND OARP (logo) METAL LAPEL PINS ea. 3.50

SEND OARP (logo) WINDOW DECALS PRICE NOW REDUCED! ea. .25

SEND OARP LEGISLATIVE DIRECTORY (1989)

SEND OARP MEMBERSHIP FLYERS

SEND SAMPLE COPIES of "the 6:53"

SEND OARP RAIL TRIP REPORT FORMS

SEND AMTRAK EAST-MIDWEST TIMETABLE

Send OARP WALLET-CARDS listing Amtrak's toll-free train information and reservations phone numbers.

No charge for items where no price is shown. However OARP would appreciate stamps, a self-addressed stamped envelope, or a donation to help defray postage expenses. Please indicate QUANTITY you want for any item(s).

AMTRAK NATIONWIDE TIMETABLE: Please send a self-addressed business-letter size #10 envelope with 85¢ postage (25+20+20+20) affixed for this item to expedite handling. We are not always able to offer these timetables in quantities at all times. We appreciate your understanding this. Amtrak will mail you single copies FREE if you call 1-800-USA-RAIL.

YOUR DONATIONS TO OARP WILL HELP US MOVE FOR BETTER PASSENGER TRAIN SERVICES FOR OHIO!

Send your donations to OARP MEMBERSHIP SERVICES, P.O. Box 653, KENIA, OH 45386

Coordinated mailing list:
Coot, Baggs, etc.

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National Association of Railroad Passengers/NARP PASSENGER RAILNEWS HOTLINE (evening-weekend) 202/546-1551

236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 603, Washington, DC 20002 Ross Capon, Exec. Director 202/546-1550

OHIO NARP: Region & Directors: Howard Harding (see above), Mike Weber (see above), and Bill Glasser, 3815 Ashwood Drive, N.W., Canton 44704

OARP'S DAYTON OFFICE (M. Orlow) is generally open weekdays 9am-5pm for your convenience

OARP is located at 830 West Lincoln Avenue, Dayton 45401

This location is equipped with an answering machine should you wish to leave a message for OARP.

Updated: October 1, 1989

If you want for any item(s).

Your donations to OARP will help us move for better passenger train services for Ohio!
"the 6:53" is the official bi-monthly publication of THE OHIO ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS, INC., a 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 through membership dues and by extra donations of time, talents and dollars by our members and friends. JOIN OARP NOW and HELP OARP FIGHT FOR THE RAIL TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE! Annual dues are $15 (min.) for NEW members and $20 (min.) for all renewals. Look for the handy membership application/materials order form printed in this issue. — ALL ABOARD!

UPCOMING OARP MEETINGS:

OARP FALL MEETING / ANNUAL MEETING
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4th, 1989
RADISSON HOTEL COLUMBUS NORTH
I-71 at Morse Road Exit — in COLUMBUS

Guest Speakers: BARB VOGEL/Amtrak Sales
and JEROME PIER/ANF Industries
The Turbotrain Manufacturer

Full details, registration forms inside!

Deadline for DECEMBER issue: 11-25-89