

THE SETOFF



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF NARCOA
NORTH AMERICAN RAILCAR OPERATORS ASSOCIATION
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PORT ALBERNI SUB
NARCOA AND THE SHORTLINES
NEW OPERATOR CERTIFICATE TESTING METHOD

THE SETOFF

VOLUME 30 No 3

The SETOFF is the official publication of the North American Railcar Operators Association (NARCOA) and is published bimonthly to promote safe legal operation of railroad motorcars, and to encourage fellowship and exchange of information among motorcar enthusiasts.

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**ON THE COVER: EETG
Woodings Speeder owned by Scott
McCormick crossing over the 18.1
trestle Photo by Scott McCormick**

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BOB KNIGHT



Greeting to all of you in NARCOA Land!

It is a privilege to present to you our valued members, another move forward as our NARCOA organization begins to attract recognition within the ranks of our host railroads. In the last issue of the Setoff you might have noted a letter from Mr. Reggie Howell, President and operator of the Mississippi Delta Railroad on page 11. Now read and enjoy the enclosed letter from Mr. Casey Calkins, Director of Training, Rules and Safety for the Montana Rail Link Railroad on Page 12 and 13 of this issue. Note the mention

of local community involvement and how our interaction is appreciated. They both speak loud and clear our demonstration of professionalism time after time where we operate with a high regard for safety and reliability.

Mr. Calkins' letter is a great testimony to our joining the ranks of the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association and how we, NARCOA can gain from that membership and how the ASLRRRA would benefit.

We all owe a round of appreciation for these railroad industry leaders taking this step forward for our benefit. We also should thank our members in our ranks who have come forward and built this host railroad partnership.. They represent a whole team of active excursion coordinators (EC's) found in every part of our NARCOA countryside.

I believe it is also very important to note Mr. Calkins' remark that these relationships have taken years to develop and there are so many of you whom I have not named that are building these relationships and take this process very seriously. I would hope we can continue to share this relationship building process within our Setoff publication and recognize those excursion coordinators and others of you that put so much effort into the betterment of our NARCOA organization. Please note the notice in this issue for the Hank Brown Award as it's goal is to make that recognition.

Your membership commitment counts.....

President, Bob Knight

FROM THE EDITOR

BRIAN DAVIS

Hello NARCOA!!

This issue is chockablock with important information, excursion listings, and two nice run reports from our fellow members, I hope you enjoy it.



I am trying something new this month: On page 27 there is a new picture puzzle. Look at the picture, email me your guess, and In June I will draw a winner at random. The winner will receive recognition here and a gift certificate from the company store. It should be fun.

We'll see you on the rails!

Brian Davis

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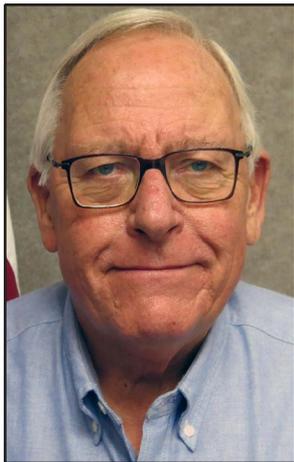
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RADIO EQUIPPED

NARCOA Radio Call Sign WPHT745
 Channel 1 - 151.625 MHz
 Channel 2 - 151.505 MHz
 Channel 3 - 158.400 MHz

AREA

ONE



KEITH L. KNOWLTON

Here it is, April 4th, a cloudy day here in Brooklyn, CT and snowing like mad. I guess we are getting some springtime payback for our warm and nearly snow free winter.

Our first NEREX run is a couple of weeks away on Cape Cod Saturday and then in Southeastern Massachusetts Sunday which should be pretty interesting, as we will be running 100 miles over 50 miles of brand new welded rail. This is track that has never had a Narcoa event on it, but thanks to the hard work of EC Gordan Wallick we will have access to it. Our lunch stop is in Attleboro Mass, at the RR station and if our timing is correct we'll get to watch the Amtrak Acella pass by on the other side of the platform at a cool 160 MPH!

As you know this is election year for all Area Directors of odd numbered areas, including this one. While I have enjoyed being AD for these two years, I am not going to run for re-election. Ross Baxter, the gentleman who was AD before me, and did a fine job, is running and obviously other names may be placed in nomination as well. Bob Knight has indicated that he would be willing to appoint me to the position that Ross now holds, Director at Large, which is a non-voting membership position on the Board.

I would enjoy this greatly, because a LOT is happening with Narcoa (all good) and I like watching and helping these things to happen. However as I turned 72 yesterday, should I not be able to attend an Annual Meeting the board would not be one vote short. I am extremely pleased and proud of the way the board members work together for the good of Narcoa. In my experience it is highly unusual to have so many volunteers work together so well and so unselfishly. The volume of emails that go back and forth between board members in a year is very large and it is great to see "we" used as often as "I" is in them.

As we are getting into swing for the excursion season, I'd like to bring up the subject of shoes worn by attendees. Here is what the Narcoa Rule Book says: 5.02 Shoes. It is highly recommended that all persons attending a NORCOA insured excursion wear closed-toe, ankle height boots with a hard sole. Sneakers, tennis shoes, and open toed footwear are not acceptable. Many affiliates, including NEREX, go beyond the words "highly recommended" and use "required". Last year I noticed quite a few folks, especially guests, on runs with shoes that did not meet these requirements which is an invitation to injury. Walking on ties and ballast isn't easy and catching your ankle on a bolt protruding from a joint bar with nothing but a sock to protect it will be a painful experience. So when you invite someone to ride with you please make sure that they have the correct protective footwear. Be safe, have fun, see you on the rails.

Keith

AREA

THREE



JEFF LEVENGOOD

Hello members of Area 3 and all of NARCOA. Winter is finally over and the motorcar season is upon us. Both Great Lakes Railcars and Ohio Valley Railcars are posting meets for this spring and summer. There are several new railroads in this year's lineup, great news as we all like new rails to ride. Great Lakes Railcars held their annual meeting April, 3rd at North Judson, IN. and Ohio Valley has theirs's posted for April 30th with a meeting and ride on the Ohio Terminal Railroad.

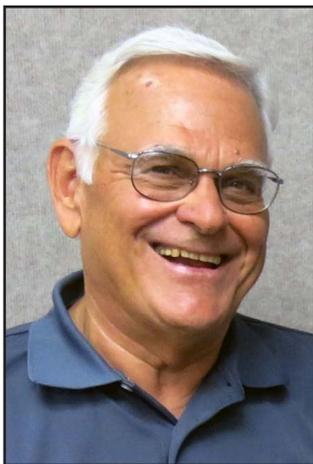
NARCOA Secretary Bob Hasting reports that there are several new members in our area and to them, welcome aboard.

Your board of Directors worked hard this winter on several issues one of which is the issue of shunting. While doing you spring checkup on your car make sure that it is insulated and will not activate crossing and railroad signal circuits. A couple of things to look for is a cotter pin that may be touching the brake shoe or worn out wooden brake blocks that allow the toggle arm to touch the brake shoe.

Let's make this another safe year for Area 3 and see you on the rails.

Jeff

AREA SIX



BOB KNIGHT

Greetings to all the great members of Area 6. Yes, motorcar season has arrived at long last here in the Midwest and I am sure many of you have been visiting the NARCOA Website (the Setoff listings, also) for the latest excursions and choosing the best one, or several, that fit your family and/or vacation schedules.

As you check over your motorcar prep for the season, you might consider purchasing a supply of the new NARCOA color three ply brochures. These make a great hand out when you get stopped by the many onlookers asking you all the normal questions starting with the first one....."What is that thing?" You can order them through the NARCOA Company Store, for a very reasonable cost. Another item you are required to have in your motorcar is a copy of the current version

#8 "Book of Rules" eff: 2/1/2016. For this season, you can carry an electronic version, a copy printed from the NARCOA Website and/or purchase a new current one from the company store. Now you have three choices to pick from to be official.

The two Area 6 affiliates, North Central Railcars and Great Lakes Railcars have both just had their annual member meetings. Many interesting items were shared in-

cluding EC, Mike Ford, who reviewed his planned excursions and gave background information about other host railroads he continues to consult with for future excursions. As you consider area 6 excursions you might consider reaching out to nearby states in our Midwest area.

If you have any questions, concerns or just need help, please call (815-786-3096) or e-mail me at railbuff@indianvalley.com, for assistance.

Let's keep it safe on the rails.....

Bob Knight

AREA SEVEN



CARL SCHNEIDER

Spring has finally arrived in Area 7 and we're planning on a safe, fun-filled ride season with several excursions already set up to keep our wheels shiny all summer long. I hope many of you can join us as we venture out on the rails. A good attendance is important so we can continue to provide these excursions every year. Please consider joining us as often as you can because much of the fun is in the socializing at these events.

The First Iowa Division held their annual membership meeting on March 19th at Bonanza in Des Moines with a record number of attendees. The meeting room was filled to capacity! This was such a successful meeting that it has al-

ready been set up for next year but with a larger meeting room to accommodate the group. An election of officers was held with all present officers being voted in for another year. The 2016 ride schedule was the main topic of conversation but increasing the NARCOA membership numbers was also discussed. This is a continuing problem as our membership ages and we need new members to keep NARCOA healthy. Everyone is encouraged to spread the good news of NARCOA to interested people who would be good for the future of the hobby.

It is again my sad duty to announce the passing of another First Iowa Division member, Lee Folkerts, who passed away on March 19th. Lee will be remembered for his smile and the bright red Canadian cab

MT-19 he rode for many years. He will be missed by all who knew him and it is my hope that he enjoys green signals forever.

Stuart Remmers of York, Nebraska has stepped up to the plate to take the EC mentoring program this year and become a qualified Excursion Coordinator. Stuart, known as "Popper Boy" for his love of 2-cycle motorcars, will be assisting in running trips for the First Iowa Division as he continues his mentoring this summer. He will be a welcome addition to the EC list as he has a wealth of railroad knowledge in spite of his young age.

The First Iowa Division welcomes Mike and Sue Swarts of Boone, Iowa as our newest members. We hope they enjoy the club for many years to come as they pursue this new hobby.

Carl

AREA

ELEVEN



BILL SHERTLE

Motorcar Operators West recently became a member of the Association of Tourist Railroads and Railway Museums. In partnership with NARCOA, MOW will be present and will have exhibit space at their Spring Conference at the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden, CO on April 14-16. This is a big step forward.

Our hope is to open up discussions with railroads who have been reluctant to host excursions in the past. In attendance will be John Haverty, MOW Board Member, Chris Weaver, Area 9 Director, and Jim McKeel, NARCOA Rules Chair. Thanks go to Dave Balestreri, MOW President and to Bob Courtemanche, MOW Secretary for helping to gather materials for the presentation in Colorado. Much support has also been provided by Bob Knight, NARCOA President and Dan Page, NARCOA Membership Manager. Their Fall Conference will be held at the Georgia State Railroad Museum in Savannah, GA on November 8-12, 2016. Hopefully, our members in that part of the country can carry the momentum that will be established in Colorado. I will try to provide a follow up article for the July-August Setoff.

Bill



SAFETY MESSAGE

FRED LONNES

VIEWING SAFETY

As I sit down to write this NARCOA's operation season has started in full swing. I am about to embark on my first excursion of 2016. This causes me to do the preparation work on my vehicles, both automotive and motorcar. Having both in top shape is what it takes to be able to get "over the road" in good order.

As we know the policy for car inspection puts the owner/operator responsible for the cars condition. When going through the NARCOA Inspection check list there are several items to check and verify that they are in good order and comply with the established standards.

Several items on the check list refer to Person Protective Equipment (PPE). PPE has become a major focus of the railroad industry. Years ago railroad workers were in outfitted with "work clothes", mainly rugged denim, or such, that would keep you warm in the cold or otherwise protect you from the work environment and often dirty enough to stand up on their own. Often this clothing was such the all you could barely see was the outline of the worker at a distance.

Today things are very different. High Visibility clothing is the new normal. Why? It so that the workers can see and be seen. The use of High Visibility clothing helps protect both the wearer and those who encounter him. The same applies to participants on nearly all NARCOA excursions. This is to both protect the person wearing the PPE and, perhaps more importantly, to show our hosts that we are safety conscious.

There are other items that make up PPE while on the railroad. These include safety glasses and sturdy ankle-high footwear. Safety glasses are needed when working on your car as well as great protection from flying objects when moving. Ankle-high footwear is protection against a twisted ankle when walking along the track and right of way.

Alertness to the constantly changing conditions encountered on and along the railroad is your ticket to a safe and enjoyable excursion.

As the Roll Call Sargent on the television show *Hill Street Blues* would say -

“LET’S BE SAFE OUT THERE”

NEW TESTING SYSTEM FOR NARCOA

NARCOA President Bob Knight continues to move our association into the 21st century with several initiatives to keep our hobby viable. Key to this is maintaining our credibility with our host railroads. Bob has challenged all board members and committee chairs to find innovative ways to do this.

Operator testing and training are being reviewed in 2016 to achieve this goal. Rules Chair Jim McKeel and the NARCOA Board of Directors have updated the NARCOA Rulebook to version 8, which is done periodically in order to address emergent or changed circumstances.

This newly updated rulebook, and new federal emphasis on more frequent transportation operating testing, offer an opportunity for innovation. Our goal is to test all of our operators on the new rulebook and issue new Operator Certification numbers and Cards by November 30, 2016. To do this cost effectively and efficiently, Bob Knight has challenged us to go further, and to mirror our host railroads in their best practices.

The result is a new online operator testing process that will both evaluate and teach. Like Class One railroads, we will test our operators online and provide instant feedback on each answer. The test remains open book, but results will be available as soon as the test is completed, not weeks later. Each operator who passes the test will be able to download and print their Certificate of passing the operator rulebook certification test. Their permanent numbered Certification Card, with their test number, will be emailed to them a day or two later for printing at home.

The key advantage of this new system is that instant feedback on each answer given. Here are a few questions and answers about the new test system.

How will the new system be put in place?

The online testing process will begin 1 May 2016. By that date, all members will have received an email explaining how to access and take the test. Everyone will have until 30 November 2016 to complete the test. The same electronic testing process will be available to all new members as soon as they join NARCOA. If you are a member does not use email and a paper copy

of the test is desired, you may contact Dan Page at 714-749-7548 and get a paper copy. A how-to document will be posted on the NARCOA.org website outlining paper test request procedure, as well as an updated document explaining the new testing process for those not familiar with how to obtain an Operator Certification Test and Card.

What will the new test be like?

Like the written test it is replacing, the new online test will consist of 50 challenging and thoughtful questions of both multiple choice and true/false types, as provided by rulebook chair Jim McKeel. Test questions will be presented in random order so no two tests are alike. Multiple-choice answers are also randomized where possible. Immediate feedback is provided for both correct and incorrect answers to maximize learning.

What happens after I take the test?

After successful completion of the test, each NARCOA member will be able to download and print a certificate of successful completion listing their name, the date they took the test, their score, and an expiration date of 31 Jan 2019. After a few days, the member will receive an email with a file they can print which is their permanent certification card with their new certification number on it. If a member fails the test, they must request a new link and password.

The Membership Committee will make sure that your new Certification number and expiration date are updated in your account on NED (NARCOA Electronic Database), which is where Excursion Coordinators can check to see that you have a valid Certification number.

If you have not yet provided NARCOA with a working email address, please consider doing so now. If your email address has changed, please log into your NARCOA account via the narcoa.org website, and update your contact information, or contact the Membership Committee to help you.

So watch for your invitation in your email to take the new, automated NARCOA Operator Certification test!

Dan Page, Operator Certification Manager,
dan.h.page@gmail.com

NOMINATIONS FOR THE HANK BROWN AWARD ARE OPEN

The Hank Brown Memorial Award was created by the NARCOA Board of Directors in 2013 to honor the late Hank Brown. Hank played a key role in the founding of the excursion coordinator program, and pioneered NARCOA railroad access all over North America. The award will be presented by the NARCOA Board annually, when a suitable candidate is nominated.

Any NARCOA member may nominate an excursion coordinator for this award. The nominee must be a certified EC in good standing. Nominations should be in the form of a letter which identifies the excursion coordinator and outlines, in less than 500 words, the reasons for the nomination.

Nominations for the award should be submitted to Dan Page (dan.h.page@gmail.com) not later than 1 June.

The nomination letter should address how the EC meets each of the criteria for the award. The criteria for the award are:

- Dedication to safety – nominee leads safety awareness by personal example, conducts excursions professionally, follows rules and procedures out of concern for member's safety and the good of the hobby.
- Outstanding leadership within NARCOA – nominee leads an excursion correctly, helps with the business of operating the affiliate and NARCOA, and is a good role model to members.
- Service to NARCOA members – nominee maintains good communication with members, makes fair and impartial decisions, and is willing to help other members.
- Contribution to the growth of the rail car hobby – nominee helps mentor new members, opens new railroads for runs, recruits new members for NARCOA, and makes excursions enjoyable.

“This is wonderful way to recognize the great work of our excursion coordinators,” said NARCOA President Bob Knight. “I encourage all our members to consider nominating an EC they feel is outstanding to receive this award.”

Dan Page

LOST MEMBERSHIP CARD? NO PROBLEM!

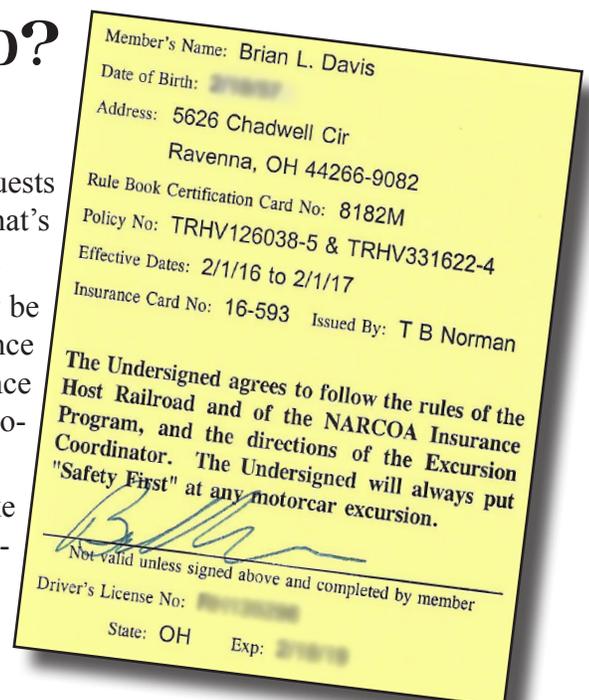
At the beginning of every excursion season, I always get a few requests for help to replace lost NARCOA membership cards. Fortunately, that's no problem -- because NARCOA does not issue membership cards.

NARCOA does issue annual **Proof of Insurance** cards. You may be thinking of that one. This card is important. The Proof of Insurance card shows that you have purchased NARCOA Operators insurance for the current year. You must have current insurance to operate a motorcar on a NARCOA excursion.

Please read above article on Page 7 for information on how to take your renewal Operator Certification Test, and obtain your new 2017-19 Certification Card.

See you on the rails

Bob Hastings



BALLOTS COMING SOON!

FOR ODD NUMBERED AREAS ON THE NARCOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Active full members as of April 1, 2016 who reside in odd numbered Areas will receive their 2016 ballots shortly to elect their area directors for a term of two years.

Why should I vote? The NARCOA Area Directors are the guardians of the motorcar hobby. They must ensure that we continue to have opportunities to operate our rail cars at excursions. Everything they do works to that end, including safety, insurance, member and EC training, rules, member discipline, and so on.

What does an Area Director do? The board meets telephonically and via email during the year (more than monthly) to deal with NARCOA issues. Annually, they meet face to face. The overall good of NARCOA must rise above any personal agenda. Each Director must be willing to give and take as the board makes decisions. An Area Director is normally assigned to a committee, possibly as a committee chairman.

What does the Area Director do for me? Your Area Director is your conduit to the national organization. You can call or write them if you have questions or issues. They are listed on the NARCOA website.

Who is running? Positions to be elected in 2016 are:

Area 1 Incumbent: Keith Knowlton (not running); Nominee: Ross Baxter

Area 3 Incumbent: Jeff Levensgood; Unopposed

Area 5 Incumbent: Will Thompson; Unopposed

Area 7 Incumbent: Carl Schneider; Unopposed

Area 9 Incumbent: Chris Weaver; Unopposed

Area 11 Incumbent: Bill Schertle (not running); Nominee: William Pardee

Dan Page, NARCOA Elections Chairman, can be reached at dan.h.page@gmail.com

EC MENTORING UPDATE

At this time, we are happy to report that eight Operators are in the EC Mentoring program.

James Mead	Area 1
Mark Lasher	Area 1
Jim Dragstrem	Area 3
Jonathan Blair	Area 5
Christopher Ashworth	Area 5
Gordon Grennon	Area 8
Jerry Light	Area 9
Mike Phelps	Area 10
Joseph Schnyder	Area 11

Congratulations to Newly Certified E C's

Guy Howard Area 10

Carl Shellhorn Area 11

We appreciate you all taking on new responsibilities, helping to move our hobby forward.

We thank you for all your efforts.

EC Operations Committee

Bill Andrews - Chairman

Wil Krasselt

Leland Stewart

NARCOA AND THE SHORTLINES

BY: BOOMER JOHN SCHMIDT

This article is one of several that Mr. Bob Knight, NARCOA President, has commissioned me to address to the membership reporting on future initiatives. This one focuses on NARCOA's relationship to the SHORTLINE RAILROADS.

BACKGROUND - It will come as no surprise to the membership that NARCOA owes its viability to the shortline and tourist railroads of North America. In 2016 - to date, the NARCOA excursion schedule contains excursions on 79 different shortlines and tourist railroads. In the previous four years, we booked trips on another 120 separate rail operations. In other words, NARCOA has ridden at least one trip on 199 host railroads in the past five years.

The Excursion Calendar contains numerous annual or bi-annual reoccurring runs as well as a few RRs which host runs several times during a year, which are the mainstay of our hobby. However, the potential to ride is much broader. The future of our organization lies in cultivating new excursions. The challenge is how to do that. Are you aware that there are 104 tourist line operations as well as over 600 Class 3 RRs in US and Canada on which we have never booked an excursion in the past five years?

Gone are the days when a NARCOA operator could propose a motor car excursion with a minimum of planning or approval to a local RR agent and make it happen. Today we have to deal with the "liability issue" and its two close cousins - "the insurance issue" and "the legal issue"; not to mention the nebulous issue of "corporate policy" all of which defer the final approval authority to a far off and undefined decision maker. These are, however, facts of life and challenges, which must be dealt with wisely and with a coordinated plan of action.

VISIBILITY AND PROFESIONALISM - The emerging plan of action is to broaden NARCOA's visibility within the shortline RR community and to

be known as a viable and positive entity. To do this we have become an associate member of the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association. This organization held its annual member's conference at the National Harbor Convention Center at Fort Washington,



MD (a Washington DC suburb) on April 4-6, 2016. It was NARCOA's first attempt to go public within the railroad community, and we were represented by Mr. Mark North, Area 2 Representative.

The convention proved to be an eye opening and also an exciting challenge. Members of management from numerous stand-alone shortlines as well as corporate holding companies which exercise management control

and/or consulting arrangements with numerous other shortline operations were represented. There were also numerous vendors to the shortline community present - telling their story and describing their products as exhibitors.

The most encouraging factoid drawn from the event was the visit with our insurance carrier, United Shortline Insurance Services, Inc. Mark met with Ms. Julie Pettit and Mr. Lou Schillinger, who spoke highly about our Mr. Tom Norman's outstanding efforts in representing NARCOA in the insurance arena. Mark also met with Mr. Robert Capicchioni, their underwriter (i.e.: the person that assesses the risks, computes probability of exposure, and sets the rates), who, until that meeting, had limited experience with the nuances of the motorcar hobby. After speaking with Mark, the underwriter expressed positive amazement to the quality, extent, and scope of NARCOA's safety and inspection procedures, which we use on a daily basis. Ultimately, such knowledge goes directly to reducing risk potential and thereby ultimately the cost of insurance.

LESSONS LEARNED.

- Establish NARCOA's presence in the RR Shortline industry as an associate member. United Shortline Insurance representatives encouraged us to participate closely with them at the next convention - perhaps with adjoining booths.
- Be prepared to staff a booth at the next convention and distribute literature and present professional "Who we are" and "What we do" style briefings. We must focus on our professionalism - safety mindedness - training - etc.
- NARCOA board level leadership representatives attend and establish personal contacts at the executive level with RR corporate/holding company executives in order to establish first hand networking arrangements.
- Develop a NARCOA wide expertise in subjects that can provide a service to the railroad. Give them a value added reason to allow us to use their property. For example, we may consider becoming professional *Operation Lifesaver* trainers; or expanding our involvement with *Toys-For-Tots*, or becoming a legion of extra eyes for RR police/security. The possibilities are endless but must be of value.
- Find professional railroaders (not hobbyists) within our NARCOA ranks who can talk the jargon with

their immediate RR counterparts. Talk the talk as an insider. BEEN THERE - DONE THAT!

- In the same light, find attorneys and insurance professionals with-in the NARCOA ranks who can talk the issues with their RR counterparts on professional and knowledgeable bases. We must be able to fight fire with fire - so to speak.
- Most of all, we must show the RR executives why our presence, or our services, ultimately result as a valuable asset to them, as opposed to being perceived as a nuisance, expense, risk, or a bother.

BOTTOM LINE - The Railroad Shortline company is there to make a profit, and the first question (whether spoken of or perceived) to any request will be "**WHAT IS IN IT FOR ME (US)?**" We must have an immediate and positive answer to be successful. Public relations are nice, but if we can provide a service that goes directly to a positive contribution to bottom line, our requests will have a greater potential of receiving an open door.

See you on the rails.





101 International Dr.
Missoula, MT 59808
406-523-1500
www.montanarail.com

ASLRRRA
Attn: Membership
50 F Street, N.W. Suite 7020
Washington, DC 20001

Re: North American Railcar Operators Association

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing requesting your consideration to include the North American Railcar Operators Association (NARCOA) in your membership, and to act as a personal reference for their association.

I've worked for Montana Rail Link for 15 years, and in that time I've had the pleasure of interacting with members of NARCOA on many occasions. From piloting excursions to joint efforts in presentations for local communities, the members of NARCOA have time and again proven to be very safe, reliable, and conscientious.

There is a great depth of knowledge contained in the NARCOA organization that I believe would benefit all ASLRRRA membership in the aspects of rail safety, history, and preservation. There would be excellent potential to broaden educational offerings during ASLRRRA events by utilizing the vast experience within NARCOA. Also, I believe that members of NARCOA would benefit from the excellent leadership and guidance offered from the ASLRRRA in helping them maintain their excellent culture of safety, and by providing them with opportunities to interact with this great country's Class 2 & 3 railroads.

Thank you for your consideration in adding NARCOA to the membership of the ASLRRRA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Casey Calkins".

Casey Calkins
Director, Training, Rules & Safety
Montana Rail Link



North American Railcar Operators Association

Robert Knight, President

March, 28, 2016

Montana Rail Link

Director, Training, Rules & Safety

101 International Drive

Missoula, MT 59808

Dear Casey Calkins,

It was a privilege to receive your recent letter endorsing the North American Railcar Operators Association for becoming a valued member of the ASLRRRA. We are also very pleased to have you act as our personal reference to the ASLRRRA association.

We also appreciate your continued relationship with our Excursion Coordinator, Bill Taylor (Montana) and the partnership you have advocated with NARCOA and Montana Rail Link. We do look forward to building upon the talents within NARCOA, your MRL corporate culture, the communities we serve and now the ASLRRRA as a joint effort.

I trust, we might have the opportunity to meet in the near future and share our organizations future building of relationships and partnership goals. Again we appreciate all the values you bring working with our NARCOA EC, Mr. Taylor and the members he leads in our Western States area.

Sincerely,

Robert Knight

NARCOA President

SAFETY FIRST ON THE RAILS

1212 Vale Street, Sandwich, Illinois 60548-2329 • Phone 1-815-786-3096 • railbuff@indianvalley.com

E&N RAILWAY'S PORT ALBERNI SUBDIVISION SCOTT MCCORMICK

The Port Alberni Sub is a branch line off the mainline Victoria Sub in Parksville and runs 39.0 mile to Port Alberni, British Columbia. The entire line is a very scenic rail journey! After leaving Parksville westbound, the railway travels through the areas of Errington, Coombs, Hilliers, and Whiskey Creek before passing through Little Qualicum Falls Provincial Park and the scenic ride along Cameron Lake with its many trestles. Once past the lake, the railway is cut high above MacMillan Provincial Park (Cathedral Grove) gradually rising up a grade through the pass and over the Alberni Summit. From here the line passes Summit and Loon Lakes, gradually descending for a winding ride down into the Alberni



Valley. That will pass the National Historic McLean Mill, <http://www.alberni-heritage.com/mclean-mill/welcome-mclean-steam-sawmill>.

As you continue west the Subdivision ends at the restored CPR Station in the town of Port Alberni.

In 2009 there was a proposal to offer the line as a destination for NARCOA. Volunteers were called upon and railway groups were formed to open and maintain the Port Alberni Subdivision from mile 0 to 33. These groups have offered several thousand man and woman hours devoted to the historical up keep of the line.

This winter in particular has seen much work on the line by the E&N's Division, East End Track Gang. www.facebook.com/portsubinfo/.

The ever changing conditions on a mountain railway is a constant challenge for our volunteers.

This year's snows, rain and wind storms have brought down numerous trees and a rock slide.

Several work parties have been organized and we have endeavored to keep the line open until a recent rock slide at mile 16.5 that has blocked the grade. This will require rock scaling and removal by an excavator.

Other volunteers from the Alberni Pacific Railway and the Port Sub Railroaders support and supplied hundreds of volunteer hours. If it were not for all these groups working together the line would be lost and the opportunity gone for the many members of NARCOA

Opposite, top: Alan Migneault removing a fir tree at mile 16; Opposite bottom: Mount Arrowsmith greeting us from mile 2;

This page Top: New Rock Slide at mile 16.5; Bottom: Removing trees and clearing sight lines in the Cameron Section.

All photos in this article were taken by Scott McCormick



RAILROAD PARTNERS INC. EXCURSION ON THE BORDER PACIFIC RAILROAD BY LELAND STEWART



The 7th annual run on the Border Pacific RR was sponsored by Railroad Partners and was held on the weekend of 2/20/16. As always, the weather was very mild which is why this run is always the best place to operate a motorcar in the winter. The attendance was light mainly due to the later than normal insurance availability but this did not diminish the enthusiasm.

We gathered at the main street crossing in Penitas, TX for set on. This location is less than a quarter mile from the border fence on the Rio Grande River separating the United States from Mexico. Since all of the group were experienced operators the set on went very quickly. We had a large group of spectators for our activity as there was an early voting rally, complete with south Texas

BBQ, going on in the lot next to the tracks.

After a thorough safety briefing conducted by Jesse Longoria of the Border Pacific and myself, we fired up the motorcars and proceeded west to Rio Grande City. It was a beautiful morning and the mild temps let everyone enjoy a leisurely and trouble free run through the countryside.

On the way to Rio Grande City, we stopped at the site of the long trestle that had burned last summer. This fire had put the railroad out of service for several weeks while they replaced the span with a long earthen fill and culverts. After a short break, we started out again enjoying the flora and fauna of the Rio Grande National



Opposite: Group Photo Oportunity at Rio Grande City; Above: Lined up in the yard at Rio Grande City; Both images by Leland Stewart

Wildlife Refuge through which the RR runs for many miles.

Just before entering Rio Grande City, we encountered our biggest obstacle, the US 83 highway crossing which is a high speed 4 lane road. We crossed the highway without incident and rolled through the outskirts of RGC before arriving at the rail yard where the Border Pacific trackage ends. We took the group deep into the yard, turned the cars, and backed them up to the Border Pacific locomotive for a group picture. Once the photo op was complete we moved back down to the end of the yard to the Dairy Queen for lunch.

The trip back to Penitas was just as relaxing and enjoyable as the morning leg. Many of the local residents came out to wave and take pictures as motorcars are a rarity down here. Once back at Penitas, we took a short break and again ran east into Mission to the eastern limits of the RR and then returned to the set off point. After set off, we all met later at the Cracker Barrel for an enjoyable meal and fellowship.

The next morning we again gathered at Penitas for set on and a repeat run. This time we had a little more excitement as we encountered an active Border Patrol operation along the tracks as we neared the burned out trestle. We had planned to stop at the trestle site but as we approached, I observed the activity (vehicles in the brush and helicopters overhead) and decided we could

take our break a little farther down the track. There was no issue for us and we continued on without incident.

For today's run, we decided to take our lunch at a trackside restaurant in one of the colonias near Rio Grande City. While there was somewhat of a language barrier, the food was excellent and enjoyed by all. The free roaming chickens around the parked motorcars added to the ambiance. While stopped at the restaurant, several locals walked over and looked the cars over.

After lunch we moved on to the end of the track in Rio Grande City, turned the cars and headed back to Penitas. On the way back we took a pause near a hilltop shrine so we could walk up the hill, see the shrine, and enjoy the view. Back at Penitas, we set off the cars, said our goodbyes and got an early start back home. All totaled, we ran over 120 miles over both days and had a great time enjoying the climate and culture of deep South Texas.

Many thanks to Roy Escamia, VP and General Manager, and Jesse Longoria, RoadMaster of the Border Pacific RR for being such gracious hosts to us. Also thanks go to Frank Jacobson of McAllen for helping me coordinate the event.

Adios and see you all down here next year.

JOE SPEEDER

THE PIN, THE PIN, WHERE DID IT GO?

The run was on! Joe had presented his completed inspection papers and liability release form to the EC, had set his car on the track, and it was showtime. It wasn't long before the group was underway on a spectacular Saturday trip that would be a nice leisurely run through the countryside. Everything went very well as the group travelled a little over 40 miles to the turnaround spot. There was a fantastic restaurant right near the tracks where most of the group headed after arriving and getting their cars turned in preparation for the return trip. Lunch was convivial with lively conversation among the motorcar group. A good meal was enjoyed by all.

After finishing their meal the group filtered back to their cars. They were soon underway again on the return leg of the trip. It had been a wonderful day so far with bright sunshine and a perfect temperature ranging in the 80's. The group had travelled about a quarter of the way back to the point of origin when Joe's car started to stutter and then died. Joe applied his brake enough to light his brakelight as he rolled to a stop and also stuck his flag out to warn the operator behind him. He quickly got on the radio and let the EC know that he was having a problem. Joe got out of his car and quickly started checking things over to see if he could find the problem, hoping that he would be able to get the car started again within the 5 minute "fix or get under tow" rule in effect on that run.

In the meantime, the EC had stopped the group for a short rest break while Joe checked his car over and the EC contacted the operator just ahead of Joe and gave him permission for a reverse move back to Joe's location. It soon became apparent that Joe was not going to find the problem in time so he grabbed his tow bar and hooked up to the car ahead. The group got underway again with Joe riding along in his car wondering just what had gone wrong with his car. Actually, Joe was starting to enjoy the pleasant ride and he relaxed back in his seat.

The next thing that Joe knew he was drifting to a stop while the car that had been towing him rolled on ahead. Joe applied his brake and put his flag out. The operator of the car that had been towing him soon realized what had happened and also rolled to a stop. Once again Joe got on the radio to let the EC know that they

were stopped again. It was obvious that the tow bar had come lose from Joe's car but was still attached to the tow vehicle. Joe pushed his car up behind his helper and both operators started checking to see what had gone wrong. It was then that the operator of the towing car noticed that the remaining hitch pin attaching the tow bar to his motorcar was one of the "swivel lock" hitch pins. He also noticed that the lock on the pin was not properly applied and essentially was worthless. He quickly pointed out to Joe what the problem was and just how lucky he was at that point. Joe had failed to properly latch the swivel lock on the remaining pin and there was nothing holding it in the hole on the hitch. It was apparent that Joe had also failed to properly latch the other pin and it had either worked its way up and had fallen out or was knocked out by some object on the track.

Joe quickly came to realize that had the pin attaching the tow bar to the towing vehicle had been the one that worked its way out and the tow bar had dropped down on the ties, the outcome could have been much worse. The bar would likely have caught on a tie causing Joe's car to derail and certainly causing some severe damage and possibly some potentially severe injuries. It was further pointed out to Joe that the NARCOA rulebook specifically banned those swivel lock pins just for that very reason.

Joe was pretty embarrassed that this had happened and even more embarrassed that it was, in fact, a rule violation that he had overlooked. Joe was absolutely relieved, however, that it had been the pin at the rear end of the tow bar that had come out instead of the forward pin.

At the end of the run the EC told Joe that he would have to complete a Rules Violation Report on Joe's violation of NARCOA rule 1.08 and the report would be submitted to the Chair of the Judicial Committee for their review and consideration, as per the NARCOA Judicial Policy. Joe knew that he would lose a point or two for the violation but at the same time he was extremely thankful that there had not been a major incident resulting from his use of the wrong type of pin. Although this incident should never have happened in the first place, it had been a learning experience for some and a reminder for several others, especially Joe.

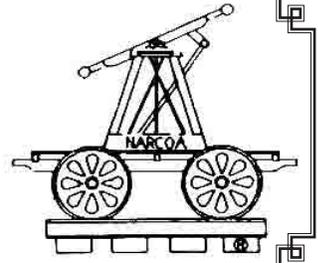
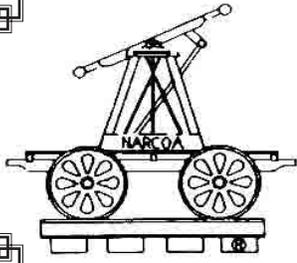
NARCOA EXCURSIONS

AS OF APRIL 26, 2016

Please submit all excursions and ads directly to

webmaster@narcoa.org

The *SETOFF* downloads directly from the website
for the most current information.



May 1 - WV/MD posted 02/29

Western Maryland Scenic RR

The annual excursion. Set-on will be at the engine house in Ridgeley, WV. We will travel to Frostburg and turn on the turntable. 34 Total miles. Set-off by 3 PM. \$40. EC Gary Shrey.

May 6 - 8 - MS posted 01/25

Mississippi Delta Railroad

Friday set on Clarksdale (Hopson Plantation) Evening run to downtown Clarksdale and back, 7 miles RT. Saturday Clarksdale to Swan Lake, 52 miles RT. Sunday Clarksdale to Lula, 46 miles RT. Mentoring by permission. Cost, \$125 per car. SERO affiliate. Contact EC Chris Thompson (251) 463-3270.

May 7 - OH posted 03/23

Toledo Train Day

Motorcar operators are invited to display and operate their motorcars. Space for 10 cars. No fee event, NARCOA insurance required. Contact Phil Linne.

May 7 - 8 - TX posted 03/04

Capitol Metro Transportation

Llano to Scobee Spur - Approx. 54 miles RT each day or McDade to Giddings - approx. 42 miles RT each day. Contact EC prior to run. This will be a cleanup ride. Fee: \$30 membership to Railroad Partners, Inc. (EC) Leland Stewart 210-863-5397

May 14 - 15 - MN posted 03/11

St. Croix Valley Railroad

The First Iowa Division is hosting a ride Rush City. Cost is \$60 per car. EC Don Schoeb 507-257-3073 (H) or 507-327-5294 (C).

May 21 - IN posted 03/10

French Lick Scenic Railway

Great Lakes Railcars 50 mile round trip from Jasper to French Lick. Fee \$70. For details contact EC Andy Sargent at 812-525-4856. Registration deadline is 5/14/2016, no exceptions.

May 21 - 22 - TX posted 03/04

Capitol Metro Transportation

Llano to Scobee Spur - Approx. 54 miles RT each day or McDade to Giddings - approx. 42 miles RT each day. Contact EC prior to run. This will be a cleanup ride. Fee: \$30 membership to Railroad Partners, Inc. (EC) Leland Stewart 210-863-5397

May 21 - 22 - NY/PA posted 04/06

Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad

Saturday, Olean, NY - Sterling Run, PA & return, approx 120 mile RT. Sunday, Olean, NY - Wellsville, NY & return, approx 76 mile RT. Fee \$175.00. 25 car limit. This is a non-mentoring excursion. NEREX EC Rob Piligian.

May 25- 31 CO posted 02/22

Denver & Rio Grande RR

South Fork. - Rocky Mountain Division event. 21 miles from South Fork to Wasson & return. Sweeps and spark arrestors required. Mentoring welcomed. Admission to workers is free, E.C. Jon Keeling with John Spiro assisting.

May 28 - 29 - CA posted 02/26

Amador Central Railroad

"Rail Fair". This is an annual non NARCOA event giving rides to the public. We need volunteers to give rides. This is our big event that helps us to maintain the AMC. EC Tom Correa

May 28 - 30 - MN / ND posted 02/22

Minnesota Northern / Dakota Northern Railroads

The First Iowa Division ride. Mileage for this ride roughly 290 miles. The first MNN ride begins at Thief River Falls, MN., the DN ride starts at Grafton, ND, and the second MNN ride will be out of Crookston, MN. Cost is \$150 per car. EC Don Schoeb 507-257-3073 (H) or 507-327-5294 (C).

May 28 - 30 - ID posted 02/11 Full. Waiting List Start-

ed
Eastern Idaho Railroad
Motorcar Operators West. Saturday -Twin Falls Branch from Burley to Twin Falls to Buhl and return to Burley, Sunday - Burley to Declo to Minidoka and return to Burley. Monday North Side Branch from Burley to Rupert to Jerome and return. 278 miles. 25 motorcar limit. Cost \$310. Dan Berg at 702-341-8617

Eastern Idaho Railroad

Motorcar Operators West. Saturday -Twin Falls Branch from Burley to Twin Falls to Buhl and return to Burley, Sunday - Burley to Declo to Minidoka and return to Burley. Monday North Side Branch from Burley to Rupert to Jerome and return. 278 miles. 25 motorcar limit. Cost \$310. Dan Berg at 702-341-8617

May 31 - Jun 2 - CO posted 03/04

Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad-3 foot Narrow Gauge

Rocky Mountain Division of NARCOA is hosting a 3 day trip between Silverton and the Animas Valley north of Durango in the spectacular San Juan Mountains. 160 miles round trip. Excursion fee is \$315. No mentoring. 20 car limit. EC Philip Walters (970) 946-3806.

Jun 3 - 5 - CO/NM posted 03/04

Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad-3 foot Narrow Gauge

Rocky Mountain Division of NARCOA is hosting a 3 day trip between Chama, NM and Antonito, CO over Cumbres Pass and along the scenic Toltec Gorge. 155 miles round trip. Excursion fee for all 3 days is \$325. No Mentoring. 20 car limit. EC Philip Walters (970) 946-3806.

Jun 3 - 5 - MI posted 01/01 Full. Waiting List Started
Great Lakes Central Railroad

Great Lakes Railcars, Inc. is hosting a motor excursion in the northwestern corner of Michigan's Lower Peninsula covering approximately 238 miles. Excursion fee is \$525 and includes 2 nights lodging & breakfast. There is a 30 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320

Jun 4 - 5 - TX posted 04/14

Blacklands Railroad

Up to 120 miles round trip between Greenville and Winfield. Mentoring by permission only. Hyrails welcome. Trip fee \$80 covers one or both days. Advance registration required. EC Myron Malone 214-882-8756 cell, evenings, EC Greg Michelin 817-247-1651.

Jun 4 - 5 - NC posted 03/27 Full. Waiting List Started
Great Smoky Mountains Railroad

Rail-B-Que/Overnight run w/ stay in Dillsboro, NC trackside hotel. 102 rt miles \$175. (does not include

hotel) Tom Falicon EC 828-488-8063

Jun 4 - 5 - TX posted 03/04

Capitol Metro Transportation

Llano to Scobee Spur - Approx. 54 miles RT each day or McDade to Giddings - approx. 42 miles RT each day. Contact EC prior to run. This will be a cleanup ride. Fee: \$30 membership to Railroad Partners, Inc. (EC) Leland Stewart 210-863-5397

Jun 4 - 5 - ID posted 03/01

Former Camas Prairie Railroad

Pacific Railcar Operators excursion out of Lewiston. Saturday will be a 144 mile RT to Riparia on the Great Northwest RR. Sunday will be a 129 mile RT to Kamiah on the Bountiful Grain & Craig Mountain RR. 30 car limit. Excursion fee is \$220. Contact is EC Will Krasselt. 208-310-1335. ECIT is Mike Phelps.

Jun 6 - 10 - QC posted 01/29

Société des chemins de fer de la Gaspésie (SCFG)

Excursion of 400 miles between Matapédia and Gaspé, Québec. Cost under \$800 CA. EC: Louis-François Garceau 418-832-1502 (Mobile 955-2466), - Need at least 25 cars.

Jun 6 - 12 - MT posted 02/15 Full. Waiting List Started
2016 Montana Tour

The excursion will cover approximately 425 miles over three subdivisions Montana Rail Link and Central Montana Rail Inc. Mail run fee check of \$535 made out to PRO to EC Bill Taylor, 917 Parkview Way, Missoula, MT 59803.

Jun 12 - OH/MI posted 03/18 Full. Waiting List Started

Ann Arbor Railroad

Great Lakes Railcars hosting a 1-day, 82 mile round trip between Toledo, OH and Ann Arbor,MI on the Ann Arbor Railroad. Excursion fee is \$135 per car and covers trip fee, insurance, gratuities, and other excursion costs. 25 car limit. EC Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320.

Jun 15 - QC posted 03/01

Québec Central Railway

Excursion from Charny to Valley-Junction and return. A run of 60 miles together, 30\$ CA Louis-François Garceau 418-832-1502 Mobile 955-2466

Jun 17 - 19 - ME posted 04/06
Central Maine & Quebec Railroad
Friday, Former Maine Central Lower Road, Brunswick
- Gardiner & return, approx 52 miles RT. Saturday,
Brunswick - Rockland. Overnight at Rockland, return
Sunday, approx 120 mile RT. WW&F museum sidetrip
Saturday. Fee for 3 day package \$385, includes over-
night accommodation in Rockland. 40 car limit. NER-
EX EC Keith Knowlton. Mentoring available Friday
only.

Jun 18 - OH posted 03/31
Youngstown & Southeastern RR
Ohio Valley Railcars excursion from Rogers to North
Lima and return. Approximately 26 miles round trip
with two trips planed. Excursion fee \$65. EC Jeff Lev-
engood 330 343-3407

Jun 18 - 19 - TX posted 03/04
Capitol Metro Transportation
Llano to Scobee Spur - Approx. 54 miles RT each day
or McDade to Giddings - approx. 42 miles RT each
day. Contact EC prior to run. This will be a cleanup
ride. Fee: \$30 membership to Railroad Partners, Inc.
(EC) Leland Stewart 210-863-5397

Jun 18 - 19 - PA posted 02/15
Delaware Lackawanna RR
Join MAMA as we ride the DL, the Carbondale and
time permitting, the Laurel Trolley line. Cost is \$250,
and rides should cover approx. 150 miles. EC Craig W.
Hartman

Jun 18 - OR posted 03/24
Albany & Eastern Railroad
Pacific Railcar Operators. Run will be from set-on at
Lebanon round trip to Sweet Home on former Ore-
gon Electric track, Approximately 28 miles. \$120/car.
EC Bill Bain 541-961-0600.

Jun 19 - OR posted 03/24
Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad
Pacific Railcar Operators. Run will be from set-on at
Garibaldi to the former Naval Air Station Tillamook,
then back through Garibaldi to Salmonberry and the
end of track and return to Garibaldi. Approximately
100 miles. \$160/car. EC Bill Bain, 541-961-0600.

Jun 18 - 27- BC & WA posted 03/01
Vancouver Island, Canada & Washington State Tour

Motorcar Operators West invites you to join us on five
mountain railroads all with high scenic value on Van-
couver Island and in Washington state. We will cover
435 miles and spend a free day in Victoria. Fee \$999.
EC Dave Balestreri.

Jun 22 - 23 - CO posted 03/07
Leadville, Colorado and Southern Railroad
Colorado Tour, Leadville, 1st segment of Colorado
Tour, Rocky Mountain Division, 40 miles over two
days. Cost \$70. EC Jerry Geiger

Jun 24 - 26 AL/MS posted 01/26 Full. Waiting List
Started
Alabama Southern Railroad
Set on Friday. Saturday - Tuscaloosa, AL to Columbus,
MS - approx 100 miles RT. Sunday - Tuscaloosa, AL to
Brookwood, AL - approx 30 miles RT. Cost \$150, 22
car limit. Mentoring by permission. EC Chris Thomp-
son (251) 463-3270. EC's in training Jonathan Blair /
Chris Ashworth. SERO Affiliate.

Jun 24 - CO posted 02/22
Denver & Rio Grande RR
South Fork Co. In conjunction with excursions held on
the L,C&S at Leadville, and LaVeta to Alamosa, the
Rocky Mountain Division will host 2 runs on June 24
on 21 miles of track between South Fork and Was-
son. Cost \$115. Spark arrestors and sweeps required.
Mentoring welcomed. Jon Keeling EC, John Spiro
assisting.

Jun 25 - 27 - CO posted 02/22
San Luis & Rio Grande and San Luis Central Rail-
roads
Rocky Mountain Division Colorado event, based out
of Alamosa in the San Luis Valley. Mileage over two
railroads is 220. Cost \$250 for the two days of opera-
tion. EC Richard Reiff, 4364 Blueflax Dr., Pueblo, CO
81001. 719-543-7023. 25 car limit. Two other railroad
events in this area by RMD to be posted soon.

Jun 25 - CA posted 02/26
Amador Central Railroad
Free "Thank you Run" for RRCHS Members. EC Tom
Correa

Jun 25 - 26 posted 02/05
West Virginia Central Railroad
Appalachian Rail Excursions LLC , Two day excur-

sion from Elkins to Spruce/Big Cut on Saturday then Elkins to Tygart JCT on Sunday. Aprox 170 Rt miles experienced operators and permanently installed radios required.

Fee \$170 / 35 car limit, Details [HERE](#). or John Gonder

Jun 30 - Jul 3 OR posted 02/22

Coos Bay Rail Link

PRO Excursion , Coos Bay. 235 RT miles. Vaughn to Coos Bay. Coos Bay to Coquille. Two overnights in Coos Bay. Return to Vaughn. 30 car limit. \$430 per car includes Friday night dinners. No hy rails. No smoking/electronic cigarettes. EC Bill Andrews 191 Azalea Drive Grants Pass OR 97526. 541-295-5631.

Jul 2 - 3 MN posted 01/26

St Croix Valley Railroad

Saturday from Rush City to Harris for dinner, 15 miles. Sunday, Rush City to North Branch, then Hinckley and return, 70 miles. One or both days \$60. 25 car limit. North Central Railcars, Ltd. EC David Otte 920-246-2103

Jul 5 - MN posted 01/01

North Shore Scenic Railway

North Central Railcars, Ltd. is hosting a “Rail and Sail” motor car excursion. The trip will cover approximately 52 miles and includes a 1-3/4 hour Duluth Harbor Tour. The excursion fee is \$135 and includes the Harbor Tour and lunch for 2. 25 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320

Jul 7 - ND posted 01/01

Northern Plains Railroad

North Central Railcars, Ltd. excursion between Fordville and Munich. Participants will travel approximately 120 miles. Excursion fee is \$150 and includes lunch for 2 in Munich. 25 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320

Jul 9 - 11 - NY posted 04/11 Full. Waiting List Started

Adirondack Scenic Railroad

Saturday - Monday, overnight Sunday, approx 244 RT miles. 30 car limit. NEREX EC Keith Knowlton. Three day package fee \$428. Sunday night accomodation included. 30 car limit.

Jul 10 - MB posted 01/01

Keewatin Railway

North Central Railcars, Ltd. excursion between Sher-

ritt Jct. and Pukatawagan. Participants will travel approximately 198 miles. Excursion fee is \$125 (USD or CDN) . There is a 25 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320

Jul 12 - SK posted 01/01

Torch River Rail

North Central Railcars, Ltd. excursion between Choiceland and Nipawin. We will run the route twice for a total of 104 miles, including a 1,907' long trestle. Excursion fee is \$125 (US or CDN). 25 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320

Jul 13 - SK posted 01/01

Northern Lights Rail

North Central Railcars, Ltd. 70 mile round trip between Birch Hills and Melfort on Northern Lights Rail. This is Saskatchewan's newest shortline railroad. Excursion fee of \$60 (USD or CDN) cover the excursion fee, gratuities, and other miscellaneous excursion expenses. 25 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford(317) 839-9320

Jul 14 - 15 - SK posted 01/01

Big Sky Rail

North Central Railcars, Ltd. excursion between Macrorie and Eatonia. Participants will cover approximately 240 miles. Excursion fee of \$450 (USD) or \$500 (CD) also includes bus transportation and overnight lodging in Kindersley. 25 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320

Jul 18 - 19 - SK posted 01/01

Great Sandhills Railway

North Central Railcars, Ltd. trip between Cantuar and Burstall. Participants will travel approximately 260 miles. Excursion fee is \$400 (USD) or \$450 (CD) and includes lunch for 2, bus transportation and overnight accommodations in Medicine Hat, AB. 25 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320

Jul 20 - QC posted 03/01

Québec Central Railway

Excursion from Charny to Valley-Junction and return. A run of 60 miles together, 30\$ CA Louis-François Garceau 418-832-1502 Mobile 955-2466

Jul 22 - 24 - IA posted 02/22

Appanoose County Railroad

The First Iowa Division ride in Centerville. Cost \$40

per car. Mileage 65 miles and we will have abbreviated rides on Friday night and Sunday morning. EC Frosty Farrell. Contact Carl Schneider (515-967-5181 (H) or 515-494-4401 (C).

Jul 23 - 24 - PA posted 03/05

North Shore and Shamokin Valley Railroads – Annual Central PA Weekend

Central PA Excursions will host a an 86 mile ride over the North Shore Railroad on Saturday, and 50 miles on the Shamokin Valley Railroad on Sunday. The Central PA Chapter of the NRHS will be our hosts at a picnic at the White Deer Station Saturday night. Registration fee - \$95. Larry Maynard (570) 337-3979

Jul 30 - 31 - PA posted 03/27

Western New York & Pennsylvania Railroad Ohio Valley Railcars presents “Meadville Summer”. Set on Friday night. Saturday: Meadville to Corry, then return, about 90 miles. Motorcars remain on the track overnight. Sunday: Meadville to Oil City and return; 70 miles. \$145 per car. 30 car limit. EC Brian Davis.

Aug 5 - 7 - IA posted 02/22

Appanoose County Railroad First Iowa Division rides

around to make money for the VFW in Centerville. Free for those giving rides to the public. Rides on Friday night and Sunday morning. VFW insurance Saturday, NARCOA insurance Friday and Sunday. EC Frosty Farrell. Contact Carl Schneider (515-967-5181 (H) or 515-494-4401 (C).

Aug 6 - 7 WV posted 03/10

South Branch Valley Railroad 30th Anniversary running of the SBV. 102 RT miles. Saturday, Romney to Petersburg and return, Dinner on the train Sat. Eve. Sunday, Romney to Greenspring and return. \$95per/car. EC John Gonder Appalachian Rail Excursions LLC or 724-244-7538

Aug 13 - PA posted 03/05

Nittany & Bald Eagle Railroad Central PA Excursions will host a ride from Bellefonte to either Tyrone or Mill Hall and return if the main line is available. If not, we will ride the Bellefonte Secondary. The exact itinerary will be set by the railroad that day due to train traffic. Lots of welded rail. Registration fee - \$60. Larry Maynard (570) 337-3979

Aug 14 - PA posted 03/05

Lycoming Valley Railroad Central PA Excursions will host a ride on the 50 miles RT of the Lycoming Valley Railroad from Williamsport, PA to Jersey Shore, PA and back and from Williamsport to Montgomery, PA and back. Registration fee - \$60.00. Larry Maynard (570) 337-3979

Aug 18 - 21 - OR posted 03/14

Coos Bay Railink PRO Excursion, 3 day 235 miles round trip Vaughn to Coquille and back. 30 car limit. \$430 per car includes Friday night welcome dinner. No hyrails. No smoking/ electronic cigarettes. EC Guy Howard, 94991 Toftdahl Lane, Junction City, OR 541-998-5280

Aug 19 - 21 - IN/MI posted 01/01

Indiana Northeastern Railroad Great Lakes Railcars, Inc. is hosting excursion between Ashley, IN and Coldwater, MI. The trip will cover approximately 150 miles. Excursion fee is \$275 and includes overnight lodging in Coldwater, MI. There is a 35 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320

Aug 20 - IA posted 02/12

Iowa Northern Railroad The First Iowa Division ride from Manly to north of Cedar Falls. Mileage about 130 miles for the day. Cost \$60 per car. EC Carl Schneider, 1302 6th Ave SE, Altoona, IA 50009-2002 515-967-5181 (H) or 515-494-4401 (C)

Aug 24 - 25 - ON posted 01/01 Full... Waiting List Started

Huron Central Railway Great Lakes Railcars is hosting motor car excursion over a portion of the Huron Central Railway (ex-CP Webbwood Sub). Total miles will be approximately 282. Excursion fee is \$400 (USD) or \$450 (CDN) and includes overnight accommodations in Espanola, ON. 25 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320

Aug 28 - Sep 2 - ON posted 01/01 Full... Waiting List Started

Ontario Northland Railway Great Lakes Railcars, Inc. is hosting a trip in beautiful northern Ontario between North Bay and Hearst. Total miles will be approximately 734. Excursion fee

of \$1,900 (USD) or \$2,100 (CDN) includes 5 nights lodging, breakfasts, lunches, and more. There is a 25 car limit. EC is Michael P. Ford (317) 839-9320

Aug 28 - CO posted 03/18
Georgetown Loop Railroad (narrow gauge)
Rocky Mountain Division run out of Silver Plume. Three round trips of about 8 miles each are planned. Set on early Saturday afternoon and take a ride on the GTL Beer Tasting Dinner train (extra cost option). Cost \$60. EC Richard Reiff, 4364 Blueflax Dr., Pueblo, CO 81001. 719-543-7023.

Aug 30 - Sep 1- CO posted 03/04
Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad-3 foot Narrow Gauge
Rocky Mountain Division of NARCOA is hosting a 3 day trip between Silverton and the Animas Valley north of Durango in the spectacular San Juan Mountains. 160 miles round trip. Excursion fee is \$315. No mentoring. 20 car limit. EC Philip Walters (970) 946-3806.

Sep 2 - 5 - CO/NM posted 03/17
Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad-3 foot Narrow Gauge
Rocky Mountain Division of NARCOA is hosting a 3 day trip between Chama, NM and Antonito, CO over Cumbres Pass and along the scenic Toltec Gorge. 180 miles round trip. Excursion fee is \$360. No Mentoring. 20 car limit. EC Philip Walters (970) 946-3806.

Sep 3 - 4 - SD posted 02/17
DMV&W Railroad
The First Iowa Division ride out of Britton. Total mileage about 200 miles. Cost \$80. EC Dave Voeltz 605-224-2964 (H) or 605-280-5551 (C)

Sep 5 - SD posted 02/17
Sisseton & Milbank Railroad
The First Iowa Division ride out of Milbank, SD. Mileage for this ride is 70 miles. Cost is \$40 per car. EC Dave Voeltz 605-224-2964 (H) or 605-280-5551 (C)

Sep 10 - CA posted 02/26
Amador Central Railroad
"End of Summer" NARCOA Run. 40 miles total. \$45.00 run fee. EC Tom Correa

Sep 16 - 19 - CO posted 03/07
Leadville, Colorado and Southern Railroad
Fall Color Special, Leadville, Rocky Mountain Division, 80 miles over three days. Cost \$100. three days/\$55 one day. EC Jerry Geiger

Oct 1 - 2 - AL posted 03/15
Autauga Northern Railroad
Saturday set on and run Prattville to Maplesville (75 RTM) Sunday Prattville to Billingsley (50 RTM) Cost \$150 per car - 22-car limit. Mentoring by permission. SERO affiliate. EC Chris Thompson 251-463-3270, EC's in training, Jonathan Blair & Chris Ashworth

Oct 1 - 2 - TX posted 04/14
Blacklands Railroad
Up to 120 miles round trip between Greenville and Winfield. In conjunction with the Cotton Belt Regional Railroad Symposium at Texas A&M University - Commerce, TX. Mentoring by permission only. Hyrails welcome. Trip fee \$80 covers one or both days. Advance registration required. EC Myron Malone 214-882-8756 cell, evenings, EC Greg Michelin 817-247-1651.

Oct 7 - 9 - SD posted 02/17
Black Hills Central RR
The First Iowa Division ride at Hill City, SD. Cost \$80 per car. Mileage is 18 miles per round trip and we'll ride the line several times. EC Dave Voeltz 605-224-2964 (H) or 605-280-5551 (C) Details [HERE](#).

Oct 8 - PA posted 03/05
The Stourbridge Line
Central PA Excursions will host a 48 mile RT ride from Honesdale to Lackawaxen and back. Registration fee - \$60.00. Larry Maynard (570) 337-3979

Oct 15 - CA posted 02/26
Amador Central Railroad
"History Run". This is a non NARCOA run. We need volunteers to give rides. EC Tom Correa

Oct 15 - 16 WV posted 02/05
West Virginia Central Railroad
Fall Festival of Leaves, Elkins to Spruce and the Big Cut on Saturday, cars remain on track overnight then Elkins to Tygart Junction on Sunday. Aprox. 170 RT miles. \$170 p/car 35 car limit. Vests and hard soled over the ankle shoes. Permanently attached radio re-

quired. No portables. EC John Gonder

Oct 15 - MO posted 02/22

Columbia Terminal (COLT) Railroad

The First Iowa Division ride in Columbia. Mileage for this ride 37 and we'll ride this twice. Cost \$50 per car. EC Frosty Farrell. Contact Carl Schneider (515-967-5181 (H) or 515-494-4401 (C).

Oct 16 - MO posted 02/22

Ft. Leonard Wood Army Base Railroad

The First Iowa Division ride in St. Rober. Mileage for this ride 40 and we'll ride this twice. Cost \$40 per car. ECFrosty Farrell. Contact Carl Schneider (515-967-5181 (H) or 515-494-4401 (C).

Oct 16 - 19 - AZ posted 04/01 Closed No Waiting List
Grand Canyon Railway

Motorcar Operators West 126-mile round trip tour explores the railway, the Grand Canyon National Park's South Rim and its attractions. Excursion Fee \$770 includes railroad, two nights Kachina Lodge, National Park fees. Questions, please email or call EC Dan Berg 702-341-8617

Nov 5 - IA posted 02/12

Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad

The First Iowa Division ride from Boone to Wolf. 11 miles RT . Three trips during the day and a night run. Cost \$30 per car plus membership in the Iowa Railroad Historical Society (\$25) which is a railroad requirement. EC Carl Schneider, 1302 6th Ave SE, Altoona, IA 50009-2002 515-967-5181 (H) or 515-494-4401 (C)

Nov 5 - 6 - GA posted 01/25

The Hartwell Railroad

220 RT Miles RT each day out of Bowersville, Ga. Our 3 year on the HRT. \$155. All attendees must wear a reflectorized safety vest/shirt. EC and affiliate Bobby Moreman.

Nov 19 - PA posted 03/27

Southwest Pennsylvania Railroad

New Stanton PA. Toys For Tots Run. Appalachian Rail Excursions LLC. Come ride and bring joy to needy children. 58 mile ride collecting toys along the way. Decorate your car for Christmas! Freshly redone RR. Great track. Part of fee is a new unwrapped toy. John Gonder

Dec 3 - CA posted 02/26

Amador Central Railroad

"Christmas Toy Run" and Annual Meeting. 40 miles total. \$25 run fee if you bring a toy/toys for the kids in Amador County, \$45 if you don't. Annual membership meeting during lunch break. EC Tom Correa

Dec 3 - PA posted 03/05

North Shore Railroad – Annual Toys for Tots Ride
Central PA Excursions will host an 86 mile ride RT from Northumberland to Berwick and return. As part of the fee for this ride, please bring at least one new, unwrapped toy with you for either a boy or a girl. There will be prizes for the best Christmas theme decorated motorcars. Larry Maynard (570) 337-3979

Dec 4 - PA posted 03/05

Union County Industrial Railroad

Central PA Excursions will host a 30 miles RT ride from New Columbia to Winfield and back. Registration fee - \$35. Larry Maynard (570) 337-3979

Dec 31 - Jan 1 - TX posted 04/14

Blacklands Railroad

Up to 120 miles round trip between Greenville and Winfield. Mentoring by permission only. Hyrails welcome. Trip fee \$80 covers one or both days. Advance registration required. In case of inclement weather, run may be canceled. Advance registration required. EC Myron Malone 214-882-8756 cell, evenings, EC Greg Michelin 817-247-1651.

Excursions Held On A Regular Basis

Feb 1, 2016 - Jan 31, 2017 - PA

Northern Central Railroad

Excursions on the Northern Central Railroad from New Freedom, Pa to York, Pa on various dates. E.C. Dean L. Grote call 717-637-7647 or e-mail for details.

Feb 1, 2016 - Jan 31, 2017 - PA

Stewartstown Railroad

Excursions on the Stewartstown Railroad from New Freedom, Pa to Stewartstown, Pa on various dates. Northern Central Railcar Association E.C. Dean L. Grote call 717-637-7647 or e-mail for details.

Feb 1, 2016 - Jan 31, 2017 - GA

Heart Of Georgia–West Railroad

Southeast Railcar Operators, Inc. will be having NARCOA Motor Car runs and work days on the HOG West Railroad from Richland, Ga. to Omaha, Ga. on various dates. Contact Will Thompson E.C. 229-723-8231 Home or 229-359-5701 Cell Or Larry Crowe, E.C., Home 229-776-5882, Cell 229-326-3736.

Feb 1, 2016 - Jan 31, 2017 - GA

Cater Parrott Railnet

SERO will be having motorcar car runs on the Cater Parrott Rail net from Valdosta to Willacoochee and from Madison to Newborn on various dates contact EC's Will Thompson EC Home 229-723-8231 or Cell 229-359-5701 or Frank Ahouse 229-886-4707

Jan 1, 2015 through Feb 1, 2016 - TX

Capitol Metro Transportation

Railroad Partners, Inc. will host NARCOA motorcar runs from Llano, TX to Scobee Spur, TX – Approx. 54 miles RT. or McDade, TX to near Giddings, TX – ap-

prox 23 miles RT on various dates. (EC)Leland Stewart 210-863-5397

Feb 1, 2015 through Feb 1, 2016 - MS

Mississippi Delta Railroad

SERO will be having NARCOA motorcar runs and work days on various dates on the Mississippi Delta RR between Swan Lake, Clarksdale and Lula Mississippi. Contact E.C. Chris Thompson, phone (251) 463-3270.

Feb 1, 2016 through Dec 31, 2016 - CA

Amador Central Railroad

RRCHS will be having NARCOA Motor Car Runs open to all licensed motorcar operators and Work Parties from Ione to Martell on various dates throughout the year for members. Please contact EC Tom Correa for information and times/dates on the work parties and runs.

THE MAY JUNE SETOFF PHOTO CONTEST

This issue's puzzle photo (to the right) was taken this spring by Jamie Haislip in Colebrookdale PA.

Can you identify what in this picture makes it very unique? Email your guess to SETOFF@neo.rr.com to enter!

On June 15, 2016 I will draw a winner from all of the correct answers. The winner will receive a gift certificate from the Company Store, and will be recognized in the next issue.

Good Luck!

- Editor

(Jaime Haislip is not eligible!)



SUPPLIERS

If you are a supplier of motorcar parts and wish to be included here, please contact the Editor. No endorsement is made of the products, services, or vendors. All listings are for members' consideration only, and are at the discretion of the Editor.

Carey Boney, Careyboney@embarqmail.com or Carey Boney, 1605 Powers RD. , Wallace, NC 28466 phone 910-285-7489. Engine parts for RQ,QBA,ROB,ODB, ROC and parts for F-4,C-5,F-6 and C-8 carburetors. Frame and some body parts.

Brown Railroad Equipment / Dan Brown, www.brownrr.com. 4 Amersham Court, Glen Carbon, IL 62034. (618) 288-6698. The entire remaining Fairmont factory inventory of motorcar parts was bought by Brown when Fairmont stopped making motorcars in the early 1990's. Web site has NOS inventory look up by part number. Over 200 cars for sale. Se habla espanol.

Texas Track Car is offering reproduction Fairmont water hopper condensers in the two common sizes. These American-made units replicate OEM and are brand new construction. Prices are \$325 for the smaller RO/OD unit and \$350 for the larger QB/RQ/RK unit. \$250 will reserve a unit with the balance due prior to shipping. Jeff Ford (806) 236-3673 We're taking reservations for a production run through April 31st.

Railroad Motor Car Resource Library / Doug Cummins, doug@rrstuff.net 1146 W. 27th St. Independence, MO 64052-3222. Library of rail motorcar manuals, performance sheets, parts lists, maintenance instructions.

H & H Mfg. CO. hhimaparts@aol.com (707) 887-7181 Full service machine shop and manufacturer of after-market Fairmont parts. Large supply of new and used Fairmont and Onan parts including transmissions, engines, brake and drive sprockets. Frame and aluminum door and side panels. Assorted rail motorcar project cars for sale.

Fredericksburg Shops, fredshops@earthlink.net or www.fredericksburgshops.com or 209 Creamery Rd., Fredericksburg, Ohio 44627, phone: 330-465-0713 2PM-6PM Eastern time. Newly manufactured motor car parts and accessories. Many original producers identified, and their parts are again for sale. Shop also does car repair. Formerly Les King & Company.

Model T coils for 2-cycle cars Improved design Model T ignition coils for all Fairmont 2-cycle motorcar applications. These coils are built inside of a sealed plastic weatherproof case with the proper wiring clips to match the timer clips. These are top quality USA made and will work on either 6 or 12-volt applications. No ballast resistor is required. \$110.00 each. Please add \$10.00 for shipping via priority mail. Randy Rundle, Fifth Avenue Antique Auto Part, 415 Court Street, Clay Center, KS 67432. phone 785-632-3450. fifthaveinternetgarage.com

L&S Speeder Repair and Restoration heatmor@itctel.com 17504 438th Ave., Henry, SD 57243 phone (605)532-3470. Custom motorcar trailers - will build to your specifications.

Dave Myers at: dave@redspeeder.com or 928-380-7056 MT-19 Temporary Axle splint. Fairmont transmission sprockets, and special sprockets of interest when re-powering a car with non Onan engines.

Tom Phair tom@phairs.net phone (925) 820-4159 Complete line of the David Clark Company Intercom systems and railroad type Motorola Radios; new double chain sprocket kits, large inventory of NOS Fairmont parts. Some motorcars for sale.

Fairmont OEM seats. These are the original seats manufactured for Fairmont U.S. cars Black, folding tubular frame with walnut Naugahyde and dual density foam. The most comfortable seat you will ever find. \$199.95 plus USPS shipping. Also available are seat backs, (\$84.95) and seat cushions (@\$99.95) and seat frames (@\$117.00.) Call Clinton Andrews (313) 822-2000 or ClintonAndrews@comcast.net. Note: Because of manufacturer's price increases, this is the last batch at this price

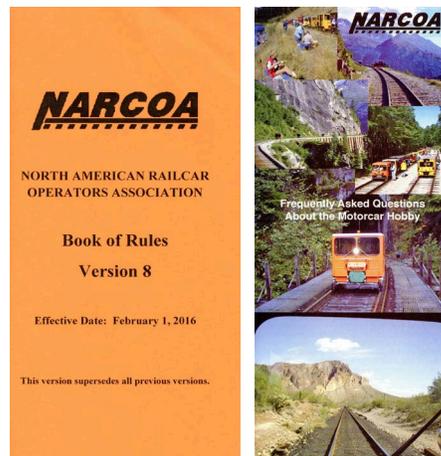
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NARCOA COMPANY STORE

NARCOA has combined everything into a one stop shopping location for all your NARCOA gear. To place an order please contact **Dan Page** 6432 Mukai Ct. Huntington Beach CA 92647-6160 (714) 847-5906 dan.h.page@gmail.com

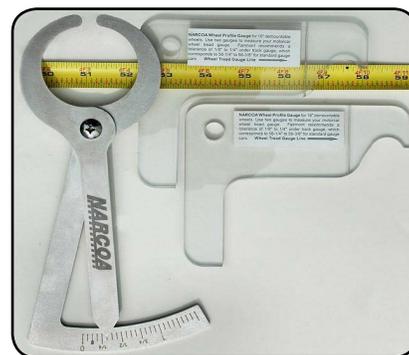
NARCOA Publications available (price includes postage):

- Printed NARCOA Rule Book Version 8: \$5 each
- New NARCOA FAQ color brochure: 12 for \$5



NARCOA Safety Vest - \$15.00 + S/H each in sizes M, L, XL, 2XL, and 3XL.

Reproduction Fairmont Data Plates - These plates fit on the engine cover. They are correct for late 1930's to late 1960's cars. M9 M14 M19 S2 ST2 A3 A5 59C - maybe others. \$6.00 per plate except Membership plate which is \$3.00 + S/H.



Wheel Inspection Tools - Use the clear plastic wheel profile to determine if the wheel is flat, thin in the flange area, or has wear between the flange and the flat section of the tread. Use the wheel profile as your first step in diagnosing "hunting" on the rails. Use two of the clear plastic wheel profiles to determine track gauge. The stainless steel caliper is necessary to determine if you have the required 1/8" minimum wheel thickness.

One plastic wheel profile is \$11 + S/H. Two plastic profiles are \$17 + S/H. Stainless steel wheel calipers with laser printing are \$30 each including+ S/H.

One plastic profile and one stainless steel wheel caliper go for \$35+ S/H.

NARCOA Lanterns Trainman's lantern features a bright LED lamp along with a conventional bulb. A standard 6-volt lantern battery is required (not included). The body is green plastic with the NARCOA name, motorcar logo, and "Safety First" imprinted. The lamps are an effective tool for night signaling and make great presentation items for our railroad hosts. \$39.00 + S/H



Lantern Options:

- add \$5.50 to each lantern purchased if you would like a D cell x 4 battery adapter which eliminates the need to use the 6 volt lantern battery. There is no additional shipping cost for these adapters when purchased with a lantern.
- Got an old lantern and want to upgrade with a new LED head? You can order just a new LED head for \$20 + S/H.

