

## **Depot News from Painesville**



# THE BEPOT BISPATCH



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## Looks like Octobert is still busy.

August was filled with two events every weekend, so busy is an understatement. Two picnics, and three parades, all in one month.

A very big THANK YOU for all of our members who help with these events.

As the Collinwood 999 has been out, we have been asked to be at several other events with her.

Oct. 7, Sat. Fall Fest - City of Painesville.

Oct.18, Wed. Truck or Treat - Texas Roadhouse. 5 - 8 pm.

Nov. 17, Fri. Christmas Lighting - City of Painesville, Santa rides in the 999.

CPE presentation for Car Club on Sunday Sept. 15, 3 pm at the depot. If you missed this before, there is about 15 open spots.

**Engine Barn** updated. Our electrical work is almost complete and ready for electrical box and inspection.

The weather strips have been added to the 3 large barn doors, Thank you Rob, Eddie, West and RJ for your help.

**Trolley Move** was finial moved on September 15. It is now in its new home, see page 4 & 5.

The rest of the roof repair has been completed this month with replacing missing and broken shingles.

**Special Note**: Painesville City has ask us to bring Santa to the Christmas lighting in our Collinwood 999 Engine.

Hall of Fame plaque. At last months BOD meeting a motion was made to honor members who have served above and beyond the normal membership. By a unanimous vote, it was agreed to have a plaque made for this purpose.

I am proud to announce the first two members' being honored are Rob Romig and Paul Hach, Sr.

This will be present at our Fundraiser Dinner on Oct. 21, 2023.

Family First - Please stay Healthy

Jom Pescha, V.P.



This months Membership meeting is fOct. 10, 2023
Program: Moving our Boxcar
Next BOD meeting is Oct. 24, 2023

## **Upcoming Dates and Events**

Oct. 7-8, Berea Train Show Oct. 7, Painesville City Fall Fest

Oct. 10, Membership Meeting, Depot 6 pm

Oct 18, Truck or Treat - Texas Roadhouse 5-8 pm

Oct. 21, Depot Fundraiser Dinner

Oct. 24, BOD Meeting, Depot 6 pm

Nov. 11,Sat. NETS Train Show, Highland Hts. 10 am—3 pm Nov. 12, Sun, Toy Show, Highland Hts., 10 am—3 pm

Nov. 17, Fri, Painesville Christmas Lights, Santa on 999

Nov. 25, Sat. Hand Made Market, 9 am to 3 pm

Nov 25, Sat. TCA Model Train Show, UAW Hall

For a complete list of locate Train and Toy Shows visit www.cleveshows.com

### **Depot Dispatch**

The Depot Dispatch is an official publication of The Western Reserve Railroad Association, Painesville Railroad Museum, Painesville, Ohio. It is published approximately once a month and is posted on the on the Depot Website free of charge. An electronic version of the newsletter will be emailed to members and a hard copy will be available at the Depot upon request.. Information regarding The Depot Dispatch, Depot activities and events may be obtained by writing to 3942 E. 364th St., Willoughby, Ohio 44094 or sending an e-mail to cleveshows@att.net. The Depot Dispatch and Depot activities and special events are funded by open houses, contributions, donations and annual fundraisers. All comments and opinions are welcome. Those views expressed in The Depot Dispatch do not necessarily reflect the policies or opinions of the Western Reserve Railroad Association.





## THE WESTERN RESERVE RAILROAD ASSOCIATION

DBA

#### PAINESVILLE RAILROAD MUSEUM



# www.painesvillerailroadmuseum.org 501(c)3 Non-profit



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## Collinwood 999 Parades & Appurtenances for 2023

Weather Permitting, we will have the Collinwood 999 engine at the following Parades and appearances for 2023.

Oct. 7, Saturday, City Painesville Fall Fest 3-6 pm

Oc. 18, Truck or Treat - Texas Roadhouse 5-8 pm

Nov. 17, Friday, City Painesville Xmas Tree Lighting - Santa 6 pm

The Collinwood 999 engine was asked to be at two events this past month. One was for Hometown Heroes at Great Lake Mall and Texas Roadhouse invited us to Touch a Truck.



Home Town Heroes
Great Lakes Mall







Touch a Truck at Texas Roadhouse.



# **Horse Drawn Trolley**

Yes, the trolley has a new home at our museum. But it is older than first thought. Looks like it was made between 1860 and 1880 by the East Cleveland Railroad Co.



























A very special thanks to Paul Hach for donating this, Paul McFee for escort and Rob and RJ for coordinating the move.

Let the Restoration Being!

## PRRM 2023 Fundraiser Dinner

The Painesville Railroad Museum is your pre-sale tickets now! holding a Fundraiser at The Painesville Railroad Museum in the Painesville (NYC) Depot, 475 Railroad Street, Painesville, Sponsored in part by Texas Roadhouse. Ohio 44077 on Saturday, October 21, 2023 from 3 pm to 8 pm. Tickets are \$30.00 each pre-sale and \$35.00 at the door and include all you can eat buffet dinner and soft drink. Buffet include Salad. Make checks out to 'WRRA' Breaded Chicken, Au Gratin Potatoes, BBQ Pulled Pork, and Rigatoni & Meat Balls.

For pre-sale Tickets, contact Tom Pescha at 216-470-5780

Guest Speaker is Jennifer Boresz Engelking author of 'Hidden History of Lake County, Ohio', 'Lost Lake County, Ohio' and 'Lost Lake Erie'.

Live music will be provided by "Young and Blue".

Doors open at 3:00 pm, Dinner served at 4:00 pm.

This will give us an opportunity to show off our new Collinwood 999 Engine Barn.

Hall of Fame inductees for 2023 are Rob Romig and Paul Hach, Sr.

We will also have a great Chinese Raffle along with a 50/50 raffle. We have some outstanding Baskets for

the Chinese Raffle, including Cleveland Browns tickets (Dec. 10 vs. Jacksonville Jaguars.)

Tickets are limited, so be sure to order



# Ham Radio Day

Our First Ham Radio Day was held on September 23, 2023. We had antique radios on display, operating Ham (armature) radio display and telegraphy keys for railroad day of the past.

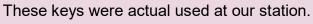














#### The Painesville Depot

### Thoughts from Railroad Day Gone By...

By Dick Gifford Part 3

Good morning America, how are ya? Say don't you know me? I'm your native son. I'm a train they call "The City of New Orleans" I'll be gone 500 miles when the day is done...

From the song "The City of New Orleans"

#### DAD'S RETIREMENT

After my dad retired on Friday November 24<sup>th</sup> before three months the NYC/ 1967. Pennsylvania merger into the Penn Central, we would go down to the depot quite frequently (once a week or so) and visit with the freight crew, the yard crew, and Willie the hobo until Penn Central pulled out of there altogether in May of 1971. That was when Amtrak started up. I was 21 years old in May 1971. That was the end of passenger trains stopping at the depot. My Dad and I were there the day Penn Central took over on Thursday February 1st 1968! I didn't want to see the New York Central Railroad go, but that was cooperate progress. Those two and 'The Nickle Plate Road' are my favorite railroads.

#### Aromas of the Railroad

I also love the smell of spent diesel fumes. Why, you ponder. Well, they remind me of F7's, E7's, E8's, RS-3's, and GP-9's. When I smell the fumes now... - I'm instantly teleported back through time and space to the Depot on a hot summer's day, facing Westward, standing on the red bricks but a few inches from a gallant braking East Bound NYC lighting stripped or cigar band E8 on track one. I can also feel the hot breeze from the prime movers and the baggage and passenger cars.

#### WHAT A WONDERFUL PLACE TO BE

Yes my friends, the New York Central -Penn Central Painesville Railroad Depot was a

bustling and busy place in the 1950's and the 1960's thru May of 1971 when I was there with my dad. Throughout the day and night there was usually a taxi or two waiting to whisk away people to their destinations. She was open 24 hours a day and 7 days a week with the traveling public constantly arriving and departing, along with the railroad workers that served them. Alive, living and breathing - not just a great stone building built in 1892 & 1893 by 'The Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad'. Sitting yet just a few feet from 4 sets of shiny silvery steel railroad tracks ever pointing East bound toward New York City New York, and West bound toward Chicago Illinois, A place you could embark from Painesville Ohio on NYC's Great Steel Fleet and ride in comfort and luxury to just about any place in the lower 48 United States of America and Canada

The Depot is now preserved thanks to "The Ohio Historical Society" that declared it an 'Ohio Historical Landmark' in 2002. Still alive, and yet ever morphing, growing into its second child-hood through all of its dedicated members. She is a truly a Jem shining in the city of Painesville Ohio U.S.A. Indeed, we all wish good luck to her. A wonderful 'Thank You' to all our current members for their unceasing hard work on the 'shining lady'!

# **ALLILLL ABOARD !!!**FOREVER A RAILROADER',

Dick Gifford

About The Author:

# Walter Dickinson Gifford Gr.

Some of my life's history (and future), GOD willing:

\*Played piano from birth...

\*Played clarinet in school from the 5th grade thru the 12th grade in the concert bands, Lincoln grade school Willoughby, Willoughby Junior High, Willoughby South High School. "GO REBELS!"

- \*A Mason: (life member Painesville, Ohio Temple Lodge #28 Free and Accepted Masons) joined at age 21
- \* Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite (life memberCleveland Ohio) joined a age 21
- \* Al Sirat Grotto, M.O.V.P.E.R. (life member Cleveland Ohio) joined at age 21
- \* A Shriner: (life member AL Koran Cleveland, Ohio, affiliated with 'Shriners Hospitals for Children') joined at age 21 I Played Clarinet in the Cleveland Al Koran Shrine and Al Sirat Grotto bands with my Dad from around 1965 (he played flute and piccolo although not both at the same time) through the years until June 1987 when my Dad died.
- \*А U.S. Army Veteran: \*Basic Training at age 21 in 1972 Fort Polk Louisiana. (My uncle John Bihari was at the same fort for his basic training during WW2). \*Advanced Individual Training (Commo - 36K20) in 1973 Fort Polk Louisiana. I Fell 30 feet off the top of a telephone pole and lived - with no broken bones, but crunched my spine down an inch and a half from a height of 5 foot 7 & a half inch-6 es 5 foot inches. \*Radio Repair School in Bad Tolz, Bavaria, West Germany \*Served in Wertheim, Baden Wurttemburg, West Germany at Peden Barracks (The Hill), 105

clicks (kilometers) southeast of Frankfurt - a

field artillery and short range (3000 mile) nuclear missile base in the Cold War in 1973 and 1974. I was in communications and radio repair. \*Spent a great deal of time in Grafenwohr, Bavaria, West Germany on maneuvers honing our military skills in 1973 & 1974. A lot of times on maneuvers in 'Graf' I would man the telephone switchboard from the bed of my ¾ ton truck. The switchboard room enclosure fit right into bed of the truck. I also had an army jeep assigned to me.

\*Served in Aschaffenburg, Bavaria, West Germany at a major nuclear missile base just 40 clicks southeast of Frankfurt in \*Spent many, many,,, MANY hours at the local Gasthof's (Inn's) in Wertheim Deutschland drinking (a solder must keep hydrated!) Lutz Bier (Best Bier in the World!) brewed at the local brewery and eating the wunderbar German food. Wiener schnitzel and German potato salad along with a green salad with a crisp cold liter of Lutz bier on draft was my favorite meal. Yes, drinking with my buddies and the local frauleins. We were encouraged to be friendly and associate with the Germans as part of our German American relations. Yes, it was an order from the Army High Command. Also NEVER, NEVER ever to mention the name 'Adolf Hitler', or the term 'Nazi" out in public or on the base because we shared Peden Barracks with the German Army.

\*Significant achievements in my lifetime: I have flown in 3 World War Two B17G heavy bombers. Aluminum Overcast — 44-85740, Sentimental Journey — 44-83514, and Yankee Lady — 45-85829. Also have talked extensively with Robert Morgan, WW2 pilot of the B17F Memphis Bell — 41-24485, that bombed Germany's factory's. I was able to talk with two of the famed Tuskegee Airmen of World War 2. And of course driving a New York Central F7 lighting striper at the depot on the switch tracks when I was 14 years old in the summer of 1965.

#### My Retirement

\* Now in retirement since February 1st 2019 some things to do - practice piano (re-learn all the songs I forgot over the decades of my life). work on my 2.16 acre homestead in Angel Valley in Stone Creek Ohio overlooking my grandparents farm. I christened my home "The Little House on the Hill" copied or ripped off if you will from the TV show "The Little House on the Prairie". Play with my trains (HO & one to one scales i.e. Painesville Depot, Cuyahoga Valley RR rides, Dennison Depot train rides, Amtrak etc.), play with my 1964 Chevy Impala "Ronnie". play with my 1924 Model T Ford Runabout "Miss Lizzie", play with my 1947 Co-op E3 tractor "Bessie", re-learn the German language, relearn the hammered dulcimer, re-learn (learn mostly) the guitar (both acoustic & electric Fender Stratocaster), learn to play the American Indian flute, go to shows i.e. Train, antique Car, antique Tractor, WW2 airplanes, and American Indian Pow Wows. And very important - continue saving money for my "bucket list".

# The Bucket List things to do before I die

\*"Bucket List"... needs mucho dinero (U.S. dollars that is) in order to execute the following...

i.e.

- 1. Travel to Germany. Visit my 'German home town' of Wertheim at least twice, probably three times. Also visit Wurzburg, Kitzingen, Grafenwohr. Munich, Berchtesgaden, Oberammergau, Bad Stuttgart Tolz. Neushwanstein castle, and The Black Forrest. If at all possible, see 'The Passion Play' (performed once every ten years by the residents of Oberammergau since 1634). The play is about Jesus Christ's resurrection. 2. Ride Amtrak train out west and back - two northern routes.
- 3. Ride Amtrak train out west and back two southern routes.
- 4. Take more rides in B-17's, and possibly a B25.

- 5. Take a one tank trip to the Wild Turkey distillery Lawrenceburg Kentucky. in 6. Take a one tank trip to the Wright Patterson Force Museum in Dayton Ohio. 7. Travel to England. Tour London to see Abbey Road Studios, and Liverpool to see Beatle places. 8. Tour Hungary - visit my Grandpa's home town of Perecse Hungary and Grandma's home town of Viszlo Hungary if possible.
- 9. Take a riverboat cruise down the Mississippi river. Dedicated to the late blue grass musician John Hartford for getting me interested through his songs in riverboats and the rivers of our midwest, i.e. the Ohio, Illinois, Missouri, and Mississippi Rivers. Go fishing, & go hunting, 10. i.e. ducks, geese, wild turkey, pheasant, ruffed grouse, bob white quail, and woodcock. 11. I'd love to take a tour of Jerusalem and the Holy Land, but that part of the world is just too dangerous a region to be in at this point in time. My cousin Dale Arvey has taken the trip. 12. Take a one tank trip to Memphis Tennessee to Elvis Presley's home of Graceland. 13. Take a few cruises on the schooner 'American Eagle' out of Rockland Maine.

#### Dedication date: Tuesday, May 30th, 2023

This journal is dedicated to the inspirations in my life: My parents and family and all my wonderful friends.

Also, special merit also goes out to two other fine human beings that have touched my lifetime: Mr. Jimmy Russel, the master distiller at the 'Wild Turkey' distillery in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky. Also Mr. Frederick William, the Braumeister at the 'Spessart Specht Brauerie' in Kreuzwertheim, Bavaria, Germany. Without these two people influencing my life, of which I've never met buy the way, things would certainly have been 'and would be to this very day' a lot less enjoyable.

The Great Berea Train Show is just around the corner, this coming weekend. This is a very good fundraiser for us. The Museum will have a total of 6 tables, plus the ones on top of the 8 foot tables.

This will also provide us a chance to talk about our post summer events, Collinwood 999 engine, Engine Barn, new Sidewalks, and of course, our new trolley!.

Rob will be starting set-up at the show on Saturday morning, 7 am.

This is a TWO day show, and help will be need for tear down on Sunday at 4 pm.



### Painesville City Fall Fest

Painesville City has ask if we could the Collinwood 999 engine to Painesville Fall Fest. RJ and Dan will break away from the Berea Train Show to take the 999 to this event. It is great to support our City events.





North East Train Society (NETS) Presents Model Train Show in memory of Bob Orlando on Saturday, November 11, 2023

Open to the Public 10 am to 3:00 pm.

#### Returning to:

Highland Heights Community Center 5827 Highland Road Highland Hts. Ohio 44143

Now that Fall is here, it's time to get out your trains and get ready for Christmas or add to your train layout.

Come and see operating layout in O gauge, HO scale, and N scale.

New and Old Trains to Buy, Sell or Trade.

Parts, Repair Manuals, Price Guides, Books, Model Building Supplies, Kits and much more.

This is an All Gauge show.

Food and Drinks available for a small donation.

Admission: \$5.00 adults, children under 12 free when accompanied by an adult.

**Proceeds** to help the restoration and preservation of the historic Painesville Depot and bring her back to its glory days of the NYC, Painesville Railroad Museum, a 501c3 Non-profit, NETS, and Orlando family.

For addition information, Contact:

#### Jim Wendorf

11381 Labrador Lane Concord, Ohio 44077



440-357-8890

wendorf@cvelimited.com

www.northeasttrainsociety.com

New dealers welcome!

# Antique & Collectible Old Toy Show November 12, 2023

Come and **Buy – Sell – Trade** New and Antique Toys

This show will also include Diecast cars and trucks.

See a large selection of Press Steel – Tin & Cast Toys & Models – Mechanical Toys – Erector and Mechanical Robots – Planes – Banks – Star Wars – Star Trek - Farm Toys – Dolls and much more.

This is a great place for the *model railroader* to pick up diecast cars and accessories for his layout.

See the large selection of New and Antique Diecast cars, planes and other models from Hot Wheels – Matchbox – Corgi – Brooklin - Yat-Ming - First Gear – Ertl – Franklin Mint - Hot Wheels – Dinky – Tooties & much more.

And Ladies, let's not forget the Dolls.

Sunday, November 6, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

#### **Held at NEW LOCATION:**

Highland Heights Community Center,

5827 Highland Road,

Highland Hts. Ohio 44143

Admission: Adults \$6.00 each,

Children \$2.00 (6-12)



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Proceeds to benefit the Painesville Railroad Museum, a 501c3 Non-profit.

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www.neocollectibletoys.com/

cleveshows@att.net

216-470-5780 ask for Tom

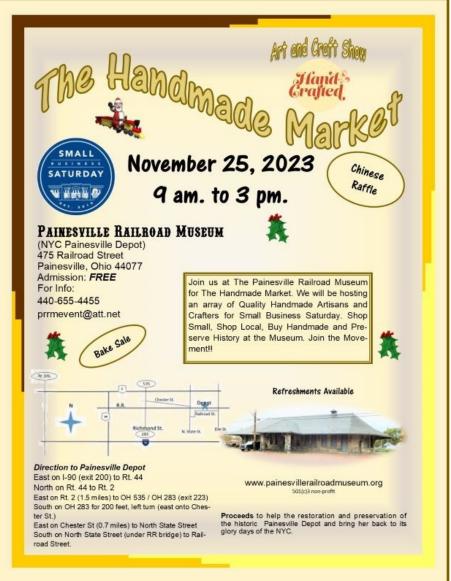
Join us at The Historic Painesville Rail-road Museum (aka NYC Painesville Depot) on Saturday, November 25th, 2023, from 9 am – 3 pm for The Handmade Market. We will be hosting an array of Quality Handmade Artisans and Crafters for this special Art and Craft Show on Small Business Saturday.

Be sure to visit our bake sale. Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Ho-Bo Beans will be available for a small donation.

And don't forget our Chinese Auction.

Shop Small, Shop Local, Buy Handmade and Preserve History at the Museum. Join the Movement!!

Admission is FREE, Donation accepted and appreciated .



#### Christmas Dinner - December 9, 2023

Our annual Christmas Dinner is just around the corner. December 9, 2023.

Please make plans on attending our dinner and celebrate the great successful full year we had this year.

A special thanks to Paul Hach for donating this dinner to the museum.

