

Next Meeting:

- **Program: Slides by members 9 December, 2006.**
- **West Carrollton Civic Center. West Carrollton, Ohio**
- **Meeting time, 7:30 PM.**

December Program....

The program this month will be slides by members.

Participants are asked to bring material to show in maximum 80-slide groups (1 standard carousel or 2 developer boxes).

Please plan on a lesser number of slides if significant narration will be included with the scenes.

This will allow more people to show. Of course, please feel free to bring extra material as a contingency.

Remember, effort spent down-selecting the slides will improve your presentation quality and make the group enjoy and appreciate your material all the more!

January Program

Tentative schedule for January is a show by Rich Behrendt. Watch the newsletter for more details once we get the schedule confirmed.

CSX

The I-70 CSX overpass replacement is wrapping up; the temporary bridge has been removed, and finishing touches made to the new bridge.

The flagmaster staffing the site during work hours for the past 18 months was to complete that assignment by the end of November.

It remains to be seen when painting of the bridge will be completed.

BNSF, CSX Corp ink deal to speed East-West delivery

Two railroad giants have linked up to offer direct freight service between the fast-growing Southeast and California's ocean ports.

Fort Worth-based Burlington Northern Santa

Fe Corp. (NYSE:BNI - News) and CSX Corp. have signed an agreement to run a dedicated corridor across the country, a sign of an emerging system replacing the old network of battles within the transit industry.

"What we are seeing is a whole new transportation system," said Gil Carmichael, senior chairman in the Intermodal Transportation Institute at the University of Denver. Carmichael served as the federal railroad administrator from 1989 to 1993.

The agreement builds a seamless link for intermodal shippers with the cooperating rail lines. An intermodal system moves freight with different types of transportation, from ocean carrier and railroad to truck. Products are packed into standardized containers that move more efficiently.

The new arrangement is expected to save

up to 24 hours in shipping. The company expects to get freight across the country in six days, said BNSF spokesman Patrick Hiatte.

The companies are expanding an existing five-year-old deal to keep up with changes in the industry, even though the old contract does not expire until next year. The companies announced the agreement on Oct. 12.

Both companies believe the route will see future growth and improve reliability for customers. "We're putting a premium on this corridor," said Garrick Francis, spokesman for CSX.

The new agreement allows two intermodal trains daily to travel between the West Coast and Atlanta on the rail line, with the option to increase the number. Also, the agreement allows BNSF to open an Atlanta-area facility. The previous agreement did not allow the companies consistent travel on each other's tracks.

BNSF Railway Co., BNSF's transportation arm, is one of the country's largest freight operators. The corporation had sales of \$13 billion in 2005. It owns 32,000 miles of track in 28 states and two Canadian provinces.

CSX Transportation is a subsidiary of CSX Corp., which took in \$8.6 billion in revenue in 2005 with net income of \$1.5 billion. The company (NYSE:CSX - News), in Jacksonville, Fla., is the largest rail network in the eastern United States, with some 21,000 miles of tracks in 23 states.

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That's the news for this month.

Remember that dues are due. Please send your check to my address below or see me at one of the meetings.

The Miami Valley Railfans is a loosely knit group of railfans that meet to discuss, exchange views and show slides and movies about railroads, We meet between the months of November and July, usually the second Saturday, at The West Carrollton Civic Center. Anyone interested is surely welcome!

Dues are \$10.00 per Calendar Year
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