

**Next Meeting:**

**5 January, 2006**

- **Slides by members. 14 January, 2006.**
- **West Carrollton Civic Center. West Carrollton, Ohio**
- **Meeting time, 7:30 PM.**

## *Looking Ahead...*

For the April Meeting we will be having our first ever "Digital Night". The evening will begin with a few digital shows that were given at Summerail. One will be by Chris Haines on modern railfanning across the USA. Next will be a short program that was a tribute to Summerail created by Ron Flanary.

Following these shows, we will have open time for members to show their digital images or shows. There should be plenty of time for anyone who wants to bring something to show. Members can bring digital images for a short talkie program, a sound show compiled in something like Photodex ProShow, or a short DVD movie that they made. We do not want to resort to any commercially made DVDs.

The talkies should be under 50 images (either digital images or scanned slides or prints), with the sound shows or movies being kept to 20 minutes or shorter.

We will be providing the projector and the laptop used to show the images. Files should be brought on CD, DVD or USB Memory stick. Photos right from the camera or scanner can often be very large, so it is a good idea to convert the files to Jpgs and resize them to around 1024 x 768 for optimal viewing. If you are unsure how to accomplish this, need some help, or have other questions relating to Digital Night, please contact Chris Haines at [chris@westernohiorails.com](mailto:chris@westernohiorails.com).

## *New Shortline Begin Operation In Indiana And Illinois*

A shortline began operating on December 30, 2005, in southern Indiana and Illinois. The Evansville Western Railway will be operated by the Paducah & Louisville Railway. The Line is 124 miles in length and stretches from Howell Yard in Evansville to Okawville, Illinois. P&L won a bidding contest to purchase the line from CSX Transportation. Headquarters for the operation will be in Mount Vernon, Indiana. The Line from Evansville to Okawville was originally a part of the Louisville and Nashville's St. Louis line. Industries in Mount Vernon include a coal terminal at the Southwind Maritime Center, GE Plastics, ADM, and Growmark Refinery. It is anticipated the demand for high-sulphur coal from southern Illinois, and southwestern Indiana will increase, providing additional traffic for the line.

In mid-November, Canadian Pacific Railway sold 92 miles of track in Indiana to the Indiana Railroad. The 92-mile stretch of track is from

Bedford to a point near Terre Haute, with trackage rights over CSX into Louisville and Chicago. CP obtained the trackage when they acquired the Milwaukee Road. (From *The KCRYer*, Lexington, Ky)

## *Whistle Stop Restaurant & Monon Museum*

Monon, Indiana, is the intersection of the New Albany and Salem (1847) and the Indianapolis, Delphi & Chicago (1878) Railroads. The two later merged to become "The Monon Route", Indiana's beloved "Hoosier Line." The Monon was known nationwide for fine passenger and dining service until 1967. It was also one of the first first-class railroads to completely dieselize in 1947. On July 30, 1971, the Monon merged with the Louisville & Nashville, which later merged with CSX, and both line still run through the town of Monon.

Earlier this year, Dale Ward, retired owner of a large stone quarry north of Monon, opened

“The Monon Connection” museum, holding about 5,500 square feet of railroadiana, the largest such collection in the U.S. Attached is the “Whistle Stop” Restaurant, serving breakfast, lunch and dinner (Tue.—Thu., 7AM—8PM: Fri.—Sat. 7AM—9PM: Sunday, 11AM—7PM: closed Monday.)

The Monon Connection museum (1-mile north of downtown) is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10AM—7PM, and closed on Monday. Admission is free for age 6 and under, \$3.00 for ages 7 through 13, and \$6.00 for age 14 and up. Phone: 219-253-4100.

You’ll be thrilled by this collection, including nearly 300 lanterns, 37 brass locomotive bells, four G-scale trains running through the dining room, thousands of pieces of china, glass and silver, dozens of pocket watches, and absolutely everything else connected with the rail road business. It’s all in excellent condition and beautifully displayed!

On display, thus far: A heavy wrecking crane, four G-scale trains operating on double tracks through the dining room, a Wabash modern caboose, and a full size authentic reproduction of a rural Illinois Central station. NOTE: Photography is NOT allowed in the museum. (20th Century RR Club *Fast Mail*)



**Monon BL-2 at Louisville, KY June 1976**  
**Photo by Aubrey “ACE” Flock**

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**  
**MVR Web Site [www.trainweb.org/mvr](http://www.trainweb.org/mvr)**

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