

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be our second annual "Digital Night". 12 May 2007

- **West Carrollton Civic Center**
- **Meeting time 7:00 PM**

May 2007 Meeting....

Digital Night

For the May Meeting we will be having our second "Digital Night".

Everyone should 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.

Looking Ahead

Steve Hood has once again offered to host a June "field meeting" at the location where CSX and NS tracks converge on the north side of Carlisle. It is expected that the meeting would begin on the second Saturday in the afternoon/early evening, and An additional notice and directions will be

included in the June newsletter.

Also, for advance planning, please note the Sidney Picnic will be still be held as usual, this year on JULY 14, 2007.

Rail News....

CSX Increases Track Inspections

In response to a critical Federal Railroad Administration inspection report and in the wake of the derailment in Oneida, the following steps are being taken by CSX to address track safety in New York State.

CSX is operating three rail test cars that use ultrasound technology to search for internal defects in rails on all main lines in New York State. This testing began March 14 and will conclude by the end of April.

On March 10, CSX began conducting additional weekend inspections of its track between Erie, PA., and Selkirk, N.Y., in addition to the normal twice-weekly inspections already conducted.

CSX will run track geometry cars on all CSX main lines between Erie and Bergen, N.J., via Selkirk, beginning April 2. These tests will be conducted at least three times annually.

News Source: Trains News Wire...

New Brake Technology To Be Tested

The Federal Railroad Administration has authorized Norfolk Southern and BNSF Railway to begin testing Electronically Controlled Pneumatic (ECP) Brakes. NS plans to equip 30 locomotives and 400 rapid-discharge coal cars with ECP brakes during

2007 and use the equipment in dedicated coal train service.

BNSF plans to test this technology within its intermodal fleet, focusing on international business to and from the San Pedro Bay ports. In addition, BNSF is pursuing a partnership with a major coal customer to integrate the technology into one of the longest distance coal routes in the country.

Electronically Controlled Pneumatic Brakes have the potential of reducing the amount of time it takes to stop a train by as much as 50 to 70%. ECP brakes use electronic signals to simultaneously apply and release brakes throughout the length of a freight train.

In conventional brake systems, each car brakes individually as air pressure moves in series from car to car. It takes time for a reduction in air to travel from front to back, which causes a delay in the brakes to apply at the rear of the train. This increases the time it takes to stop and causes slack in the train., which can damage cars and their contents, and in extreme cases, can cause derailments.

News Source: Trains News Wire.

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 per Calendar Year

MVR Web Site's www.qsl.net/n8qnp/mvrpage.htm

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