



# Talk Among Friends

July-August-September 2016

## Putting Tracks On the Branches Abingdon Branch Fall 2016

by Dean Taylor

Hello everyone. The N&WHS is pleased to announce the fall bike ride. Again, we will be going to the Abingdon Branch, but this year we will be ride from Abingdon VA to Damascus VA. Our 17 mile ride will include many stops along the way as a guide tells stories of this part of the world-famous Creeper trail. The date for this ride is September 17, 2016, and we will be using The Bike Station in Damascus as our outfitters.

We will depart Damascus at 9am SHARP! Riders will be transported to the head of the Creeper trail in Abingdon and then enjoy a pleasant ride back to Damascus. Along the way, we will get to see famous bridges and scenery that the branch is known for. The Bike Station is at 504 E 3rd street in Damascus Va. Please be there to will meet at 8:30 so we can get loaded up and leave promptly at 9 am. Last year we had a lot of fun doing this and we hope to see everyone there for a fun and instructional time.

The Creeper trail is not a difficult ride, and as noted, we will be stopping frequently.

**Cost for the fall ride**

**Shuttle with a bike rental**

**\$30.00**

**Shuttle only (bring your own bike)**

**\$20.00**

**Get your tickets at the  
NWSH Commissary**

## Archives Reports

by Dave Stephenson

**Report No. 224**

**Work Session: Feb 11-14, 2016**

Attending: Jim Blackstock, Ron Davis, Landon Gregory, Gordon Hamilton, Larry Hill, Chris and Harold Hunley, Roger Link, Eddie Mooneyham, Cecil Price, Charlie Schlotthober, Ben Shank, Joe Shaw, Steve Smith, John Swann, Dean Taylor.

We had 16 attendees at the work session this month. Work session hours are 8:00am-4:00pm Thurs-Sat and Sunday (starting 12:30 pm).

There is a card table by the front door for incoming donations. They will be processed from there to the work areas.

Be sure to fill out a donation form when accepting materials. The form is on the web site at

<http://www.nwhs.org/archives/DonationForm.pdf>

This month's archives report was written using contributions from many of the volunteers.

### Specific Research Requests

The reporting of completed requests reflects the previous 12 months instead of work-session-to-work-session:

February 2015	4
March	7
April	9
May	13
June	7
July	9
August	3
September	7
October	14
November	5 (estimated)
December 2015	6 (estimated)
January 2016	7 (estimated)

*Total - 91*

Ron Davis, Roger Link, Joe Shaw and Dave Stephenson worked on research requests.

### Database Entry

Fred Boettner - C31 caboose slides from Robert G. Bowers collection.

Joe Shaw - diesel wiring diagrams, Wabash "Flag" logo,

NKP locomotive striping and numbering diagrams, electrification drawings Vivian to Farm, ballast charts, maps of Mingo Railway Co., U30B schematics, City Point branch right-of-way and track maps, SD45 electrical diagram

Roger Link – Photos from the R. G. Bowers, C. K. Marsh and H.F. Brown collections; G84R, G86R, G90R and G91R gondola rebody program; stenciling drawings for GP7, GP9, GP30, GP35, GP38, GP40 and VGN diesels

Jim Blackstock – HS-D and E series; NS T10 locomotive drawings, Roanoke material yard

John Swann – Hollinger boxes, books in library from GEN.ILL.01 (Illustrated Encyclopedia of North American Locomotives) to GEN.LIM.01 (Lima, The History)

Ron Davis – HS-B series, VGN right-of-way maps and details

### **Database Cross-Referencing Feature**

A table has been created in the Archives database for cross-referencing road numbers with equipment classes.

This table will be used to assist with the data entry process and save volunteers from needing to look up equipment classes while doing data entry.

A companion web page for entering and editing this table has been created:

<https://www.nwhs.org/archivesdb/tools/editRoadNums.php>

With everyone being stuck inside, this would be a great time for someone to add more data to this table, especially for freight and passenger cars.

If anyone has a list of freight car numbers they can share for this purpose, it would be greatly appreciated.

### **General Archives Activities**

Charlie Schlotthober and Larry Hill scanned drawings for orders and continued working on scanning mechanical drawings.

Eddie Mooneyham helped pull, scan and refile drawings. He also pulled the necessary drawings for the T-42R truck repairs for Roanoke Chapter's N&W MS baggage car, which is 611's tool car. The archives provided 46 electronic drawing scans and the bill of materials for the work. Some of these drawings were from the Chapter's collection that was transferred to the archives in 2008. He also looked up VGN EL-3A drawings for an upcoming Chapter project.

Landon Gregory continued trimming and flattening drawings from projects requiring multiple pages.

Ben Shank continued to work on the AAR photos and negatives.

Gordon Hamilton continues research for a future article in *The Arrow*.

John Swann went through the donations from VMT and NRHS Roanoke Chapter. He pulled all duplicates and

books not considered useful for our library. He recorded all items in each box on a donation sheet.

Dean Taylor flattened drawings.

Working from home, John Garner and Dave Stephenson began analyzing the Thieme recordings. Roger Link digitized cassette copies which John and Dave then downloaded. This enabled them to get a start on the recordings without using the original reel-to-reel masters. One unique sequence is an on-train recording of Class M No. 382 on the Abingdon Branch with Nichols' custom made whistle.

### **Visitors**

Stephen Warren continued work on the Roher mines project.

We had a visitor from the City of Roanoke. Charlie helped him find some drawings and other paperwork and he made several copies.

Another visitor, Kenny Kirkman, is an FRA locomotive inspector. He lives in WVA and Roanoke is in the eastern edge of his territory. Before FRA he was a locomotive engineer on CSX, KCS and others. He filled out an application is now a member of NWHs.

### **GOB EAST (from Joe Shaw)**

We had five attendees at the December GOB-East work session held on Jan. 2nd: Ron Davis, Rob Ervine, Roger Link, Joe Shaw and Stephen Warren

Stephen Warren led the charge on finding boxes of published books in the VMT collection and delivering them to Salem Ave to be merged into the Salem Ave library. Everyone else assisted.

Rob, Joe, Roger and Ron worked on cleaning and flattening drawings.

**Here are the dates for future GOB East work sessions:**

**Feb 27 • Mar 26 • Apr 30 • May 28 • June 25**

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### **Report No. 225**

### **Work Session: Mar 10-13, 2016**

**A**ttending: Jim Blackstock, Bob Cohen, Ron Davis, Dick Fisher, Landon Gregory, Gordon Hamilton, Larry Hill, Chris and Harold Hunley, Dick Kimball, Roger Link, Cecil Jones, Skip Salmon, Charlie Schlotthober, Ben Shank, Joe Shaw, Dave Stephenson, Dean Taylor.

We had 18 attendees at the work session this month. Work session hours are 8:00a-4:00p Thurs-Sat and Sunday (starting 12:30p).

The card table by the front door for incoming donations has been moved to the end of the railing. They will be processed from there to the work areas.

Be sure to fill out a donation form when accepting materi-

als. The form is on the web site at

<http://www.nwhs.org/archives/DonationForm.pdf>

This month's archives report was written using contributions from many of the volunteers.

### Specific Research Requests

The reporting of completed requests reflects the previous 12 months instead of work-session-to-work-session:

Mar 2015	7
April	9
May	13
June	7
July	9
Aug	3
Sept	7
Oct	14
Nov	4
Dec 2015	6
Jan 2016	6
Feb	7
<i>Total 92</i>	

Harold Davenport, Ron Davis, Gordon Hamilton, Roger Link, Joe Shaw, and Dave Stephenson worked on research requests.

### Database Entry

Fred Boettner - C31 caboose slides from Robert G. Bowers collection.

Dick Kimball - slides from NWHS collection, many from unknown locations; N&W box cars and hopper cars; former NWHS building on Orange Ave in Roanoke; N&W flat cars; coal loadout at Keystone, WV.

Joe Shaw - HS-C series drawings, standard drawings of structures and other track material; VGN profile of mainline from Deepwater to Sewalls point plus branches (single drawing!) for 1921, 1925 and 1958; other VGN right-of-way maps; N&W system maps and track maps; Tidewater Ry. right-of-way maps between various mileposts; Crewe, VA division office building drawings

Roger Link - Photos from the Thieme collection, F-size drawings, passenger car details, dynamometer car stencils, N&W lubritorium photos

Jim Blackstock - Buena Vista station drawings, Roanoke Machine Shop details, easements to be acquired by the City of Roanoke along the Roanoke River, N&W Belt Line and Virginian line (1950).

Ron Davis - stenciling drawings for NS passenger cars, Slides of 611 and 1218 being removed from the Roanoke Transportation Museum in Wasena Park, advertisements

Harry Bundy - Division office building Montpelier from the Library of Virginia collection, Cincinnati Union Terminal express building details, soundings at Piers 5 and "N",

plans for roundhouse at Lamberts Point.

Skip Salmon - VGN accident investigation near Danielstown, VA, VGN freight car monogram (28" diameter)

### General Archives Activities

Charlie Schlotthober and Larry Hill scanned drawings for orders and continued working on scanning mechanical drawings.

Harry Bundy and Landon Gregory continued trimming and flattening drawings from projects requiring multiple pages. Harry did research for two members and entered 20-some drawings. The drawing of the month was HS-CC0527 dated 5/17/1979. This was a plan showing consolidation of the Peru dispatchers (ex-WAB) with Chicago District dispatchers (ex-NKP) at East Wayne Yard (Fort Wayne, IN). Most prominent were nine printers for the Servo hot box detectors. At that time, it was a dispatcher's responsibility to scan the tape for overheated bearings. Now a computer diagnoses the results and sends a radio message.

Ben Shank continued to work on the AAR photos and negatives.

Gordon Hamilton continues research for a future article in The Arrow.

Dick Fisher checked the library database with shelf order. He completed through GEN.CON.01, "Conquering the Appalachians". He found several books that were on the shelves but not in the database.

Bob Cohen researched early N&W annual reports.

Dave Stephenson printed and updated archives research requests which cleared a 3-month backlog of administrative work. He also delivered and accessioned a donation of Railway Age and Modern Railroad magazines from Kerry Worsham.

Dean Taylor filed drawings and was doing research for upcoming bike trips on the Virginia Creeper Trail (former N&W Abingdon Branch).

Following the Board of Directors meeting March 18, the display cases on the east side of the front room were relocated to the west side of the room along the railing. This opened up wall space to start moving data entry workstations from the middle room to the front room.

### Visitors

Georgia and Phil Williams from NC spent Friday at the archives.

### GOB EAST (from Joe Shaw)

We had five attendees at the December GOB-East work session held on Jan. 2nd: Ron Davis, Rob Ervine, Roger Link, Joe Shaw and Stephen Warren

Stephen Warren led the charge on finding boxes of published books in the VMT collection and delivering them to Salem Ave to be merged into the Salem Ave library. Every-

one else assisted.

Rob, Joe, Roger and Ron worked on cleaning and flattening drawings.

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### Report No. 226

#### Work Session: Apr 7-10, 2016

Attending: Jim Blackstock, Harry Bundy, Ron Davis, John Garner, Gordon Hamilton, Larry Hill, Chris and Harold Hunley, Roger Link, Cecil Jones, Skip Salmon, Charlie Schlotthober, Ben Shank, Joe Shaw, Dean Taylor.

Next Session: May 12-15, 2016

We had 15 attendees at the work session this month. Work session hours are 8:00a-4:00p Thurs-Sat and Sunday (starting 12:30p).

The card table by the front door for incoming donations has been moved to the end of the railing. They will be processed from there to the work areas.

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This month's archives report was written using contributions from many of the volunteers.

#### Specific Research Requests

The reporting of completed requests reflects the previous 12 months instead of work-session-to-work-session:

Apr 2015	9
May	13
June	7
July	9
Aug	3
Sept	7
Oct	14
Nov	4
Dec 2015	6
Jan 2016	6
Feb	7
Mar	7
<i>Total - 92</i>	

Ron Davis, Gordon Hamilton, Roger Link, Joe Shaw, and Dave Stephenson worked on research requests.

#### Database Entry

Joe Shaw – N&W standard drawings for signs, trackwork, tools; highway situation plans; various HS-series large drawings; proposed overhead coaling bridge at Vicker (1916); improvements to VGN facilities at Elmore

Roger Link – Photos from the Gregory Smith and August Thieme donations, N&W mechanical department drawings

Jim Blackstock – HS-D series drawings, changes in U.S.

460 east of Roanoke (1955), changes to U.S. 23 in Ohio (1932 and 1977), diagrams of property owners, Portsmouth Div. (1851)

Harry Bundy – US-G series drawings, right of way and track map Levisa Branch; record of turntables for Radford, Scioto, Shenandoah, and Norfolk Divisions and Roanoke; right-of-way and track maps for N&W main lines; VGN diesel detail drawings (nos. 51-68).

Ron Davis – Photos of Williamson YMCA building; various maps for VGN and Tidewater Ry's; other maps and profiles of sidings

Skip Salmon - Roanoke Southern set of the ownership papers of the N&W Belt Line from Franklin Road to Rolf Street in Roanoke.

#### General Archives Activities

Charlie Schlotthober and Larry Hill scanned drawings for orders and continued working on scanning mechanical drawings.

Harry Bundy processed drawings but most of his time went to data entry. His selection for drawing of the month was HS-C01268- thru HS-C01272. The five sheets show a record of turntables, by division, for the Norfolk, Radford, Shenandoah, Scioto divisions and Roanoke Terminal. For each turntable, the manufacturer, turntable length, and mile post location is shown PLUS there are 9 other specifications noted. There was no sheet for the Pocahontas Division turntables. From memory, this record was updated to 1931.

Jim Blackstock also made a selection for drawing of the month. He selected HS-D02284 and HS-DO2285, the sewer profile of the B&B Shop, Section Headquarters and Maintenance of Way Equipment building at Montpelier, OH.

Ben Shank continued to work on the AAR photos and negatives.

Gordon Hamilton continued research for a future article in *The Arrow*. He also conferred with Ron Davis about several Archives and NWHS matters.

Joe Shaw scanned drawings for data entry from home (with help from Roger on Saturday). Cecil Jones repaired drawings for future scanning/entry. Sunday Joe scanned a drawing at GOBE for a commissary order. He also got three copies of the first quarter Arrow for record copies.

Ron Davis was presented with an opportunity to get 9 of the 15 August Thieme's tape recordings digitized free in connection with VMT's upcoming 611 documentary. They needed some Class J sound material for the movie and so made the offer. The recordings are on reel-to-reel tapes and we were actively searching for a professional to digitize them. In return NWHS will receive digital copies of the tapes.

John Garner spent some time getting updated on the

ongoing digitization of most of the Thieme field tapes. He researched and recorded N&W steam retirement and disposition dates and locations during the 1959 - 1961 time period, as well as exact acquisition dates of the first N&W diesels in 1955 (oddly ALCO RS-3 #303 is the first diesel NW received). He reviewed Voyce Glaze's calculation books, noting the section containing the Class J and J1 driver counter-balancing work.

Skip Salmon worked on getting needed Virginian drawings for application to new exhibits and number fonts for the lettering at the Virginian Station in Roanoke.

Working from home, Dave Stephenson tried to track down the master tapes of Bud Swearer's N&W recordings (See *The Arrow*, V22, #4, Jul/Aug 2006). Bud passed away Jan 11, 2016. Although they were supposed to go to the RR Museum of PA in Strasburg, they haven't turned up yet. Fortunately, the archives has access to several complete sets of Bud's N&W recordings so the information hasn't been lost.

**Visitors**

Stephen Warren brought some artifacts that he found using a metal detector at the Roher Mines site, including the narrow gauge roadbed. Dean Taylor helped him to identify some hematite samples.

Phil and Georgia Williams from North Carolina visited the archives

**GOB EAST (from Joe Shaw)**

There were three attendees this month: Ron Davis, Rob Ervine, Joe Shaw

Rob flattened, repaired and sized drawings. Joe scanned drawings and prepared (cleaned, trimmed) rolled drawings for future scanning/data entry). Ron scanned drawings and performed data entry. The scanner and computer installed in February were relocated to a more permanent location.

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**Report No. 227**

**Work Session: May 12-15, 2016**

Attending: Jim Blackstock, Harry Bundy, Ron Davis, Rob Fisher, Landon Gregory, Gordon Hamilton, Larry Hill, Chris and Harold Hunley, Roger Link, Skip Salmon, Charlie Schlotthober, Joe Shaw, Dean Taylor.

Next Session: June 9-12, 2016

We had 14 attendees at the work session this month. Work session hours are 8:00a-4:00p Thurs-Sat and Sunday (starting 12:30p).

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**Specific Research Requests**

The reporting of completed requests reflects the previous 12 months instead of work-session-to-work-session:

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June	7
July	9
Aug	3
Sept	7
Oct	14
Nov	4
Dec 2015	6
Jan 2016	6
Feb.	7
Mar	7
Apr.	7 (estimated)
<i>Total - 90</i>	

Ron Davis, Gordon Hamilton, Roger Link, Alex Schust, and Dave Stephenson worked on research requests.

**Database Entry**

Fred Boettner – C6P and C7P caboose slides from the Robert G. Bowers collection (over 1300 in one month)

Joe Shaw – B17 and B18 box car drawing list and correspondence files; N&W Railroad land maps ca 18889-1895, many locations on Durham, Blacksburg, Shenandoah Division, and main line; ex-NKP covered hoppers and box cars

Roger Link – Photos/slides of Class M 4-8-0s on Blacksburg and Abingdon branches; N&W facilities at Bristol, Bluefield, Glade Spring, Pulaski, Payne and Norton

Jim Blackstock – HS-CC series drawings

Gordon Hamilton – Macograph advertising sheets; booklet for straight air brake tests, 1923

**General Archives Activities**

Charlie Schlotthober and Larry Hill scanned drawings for orders and continued working on scanning mechanical drawings.

Harry Bundy and Landon Gregory processed drawings primarily from the Illinois Terminal Company. There was a 1921 drawing from the Southern Railway for the proposed Winston-Salem Union Station.

The drawing of the month is NS-CC00541, a proposal to extend the Boone's Mill, VA passing siding (then 3441 feet) to accommodate a 150-car, five unit train. The drawing is dated January 22, 1959, revised Nov. 17, 1960. In 1959 the Winston District had 19 sidings, averaging 3520 feet

in length, enough to clear a 70-car train, plus engines and caboose. Owing to the new multi-level traffic to the Walkertown (NC) automobile unloading facility, the possibility of making meets was limited. The Boone's Mill extension never came to be. Some 15 years later, when Duke Power's Belews Creek generating station came on line, 100-car unit coal trains were initiated, the old passing sidings were used for storage and two new traffic-controlled passing sidings were built, Wertz and Stoneville. Later, Philpott siding was added, making it possible to stage meets at three points on the 115-mile Winston District.

Gordon Hamilton continued research for a future article in *The Arrow*.

Joe Shaw and Roger Link repaired and scanned blueprints from a large roll of Clinch Valley valuation drawings recently donated by Robert Harvey (Accession no.2016.011). Joe scanned and data entered a "Master Mechanics Territory" book that we may reproduce for Sales, and entered a few freight car folders to fill up one of the party-empty Hollinger boxes. He also worked on preparing, planning, and packing for the convention.

Working from home, Dave Stephenson completed an analysis of the five Thieme copy cassette recordings. At John Garner's request, he did a comparison of Thieme's recording of 611 on the 10/18/59 excursion from Petersburg to Suffolk with a similar recording found on the LP/CD *Modern Steam* by Semaphore Records. Although the two recordings were of the same event (departure from Suffolk), the Thieme recording was probably not used as the master for the *Modern Steam* CD. There were two details that were missing on the Thieme recording that were present on the CD.

### Visitors

Stephen Warren continued his research on the Rorer Mines narrow gauge railroad.

### GOB EAST (from Joe Shaw)

There were five attendees at the April GOB East work session on April 30th.

Ron Davis worked on scanning drawings.

Roger Link and Stephen Warren worked on flattening drawing.

Joe Shaw trimmed and sized drawings, and working on flattening drawings.

Gordon Hamilton continued his research for future arrow articles.

Joe scanned and data entered GOB East drawings outside the scheduled work session.

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## Ho Scale Free-Mo Modular Group

by Dean Taylor

The society has started a new program for modelers that are members in the form of a modular railroad group. This is not your normal modular concept. We have chosen to follow the practices of the FREE-MO groups. What is *Free -Mo*? Well quite simply it is a freestyle way to construct modules. Rather than be concerned about the size and shape of each separate module this concept only is concerned about the endplates following this plan modules can be set up in way prototypical to real railroad operations, in other words if you and your friends want to build four modules that represent say Hatfield to War Eagle you can with no restriction to size of the module. There is an endplate standard for single track and one for double track. On single track it is 24 inches wide with the center of the track dead center on 12 inches and double track is 26 inches wide and the track center line is 1 inch off the 13 inch center and the other track is set the opposite 1 inch off the 13 inch center. For more on the standards please go to [www.FREE-MO.ORG](http://www.FREE-MO.ORG) and click the standards button.

Why is the society doing this? Well for a couple of reasons, one to bring more fellowship into the organization by building modules you may find out that there may be another modeler living near you that you may not have been aware of, you two get together and find that you two hit it off. Another reason we are trying this is to spread the word about the society by going to RPM shows and other types of train shows how great would it be to have the Norfolk and Western and the Virginian railroads shown on a national stage such as a national model railroad convention. Third the preservation of history, That is what we do is it not, say someone would like to visit the station at Blacksburg VA, that would be pretty tuff to do since it is not there now, but by building a module of that place when someone sees it and ask about it you can tell them the story of the huckleberry and mollies that ran that line. You VGN guys here is your chance to build some of those scenes that are now gone. Plus how great would it be to have operating sessions at the conventions to show off all of those beautiful models that are shown every year. At this year's convention we had a number of the general public stop by how great would it be to introduce them to N&W or VGN than with operating

3D models of what we hold dear in our hearts.

If this something you may like please email me at [taylor@nwhs.org](mailto:taylor@nwhs.org) and give me your address and we will send you a standards paper written in layman's terms. You do not have to build a module to participate. In addition, the society has created a mailing list. Let us tell you about something else if you go to [www.mrh-mag.com](http://www.mrh-mag.com) and sign up for their free E magazine you will receive a discount to join Trainmaster TV both of these are excellent places to find information on building a free-mo module. We are also planning a Facebook page for our group.

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## On The Road With The NWHS

*By Chase Freeman*

This spring on April 1st 2016 the Norfolk & Western Historical Society made the trip down to Savannah Ga. To attend the Savannah RPM (railroad prototype modelers) meet. Member Dean Taylor and myself met up with member Greg Davis for two days of nothing short of scale railroading heaven we were introduced to some of the most friendly and talented people that we had ever had the pleasure to know. There were a couple of other societies also there; namely, the Southern historical society and the L&N historical society. The weekend started off with an invitation from Dennis Blake to go to target shooting on Thursday with some of the people who also were participating in the show. This proved to be a great way to have an impromptu meet and greet. I had never thought of combining the two hobbies together, but it was a fine way to get with the others and have a friendly shooting contest or two and fire other weapons that you don't normally get to fire. The next morning it was off to the show and we can tell you that the first five minutes there made the nine-hour drive worth it. The talent on



hand was unbelievable, between the clinics, the display tables, and items for sale, it was great, kind of like a train show and family reunion all rolled together. Dean Taylor and I handed out membership applications and explained some of the new things coming to the society. Over all, everyone seemed to be very impressed with the magazines and other things we handed out. After all was said and done, we came away with over 20 new members and a lot more new friends. Later after the show closed for the night we were treated to a chance to see Nate Stones beautiful Clinchfield layout and later that evening we got to see Wayne Grimes Rat Hole Division NS layout. Who would have ever



thought there would be all this mountain railroad-  
ing deep in Georgia? This is one of just a few RPM  
shows that will be a regular stop on the NWHS tour.  
We leave you with some web addresses to check out  
if you have never been to a RPM show.

*www.savannahrpm.com*

*they also have a face book page*

*www.marrpm.org*

*Mid-Atlantic Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet  
Central Ohio RPM (Facebook only)*



## **Future GOB East Work Sessions for 2016**

**June 25 • July 23 • August 27 • September 24 • October 29 • November 26 • December 31**

## **Other N&W Related News**

*by Skip Salmon*

Saturday Feb 20 was “Train Lover’s Day” at the Virginia Museum of Transportation. There were lots of activities going on while the Roanoke Chapter NRHS gave rides on their cabooses and coach. Because of the delay of a week and a dinosaur show at the Roanoke Civic Center, our ridership was down to a little over 500. There was a “yard sale” by VMT of items from their gift shop, which was a big hit.

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NS donated a major portion of the old Belt Line to Roanoke Southern LLC (RS), with VMT as the “holding company,” Roanoke Chapter as Operator, and N&WHS and OWL as part of the leadership of the LLC. This will develop into a joint effort to bring rail fans to Roanoke to ride trains on the line. RS will use Roanoke Chapter locomotives and passenger cars as well as some from VMT.

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About eight years ago Skip Salmon located an N&W “dog house”, a small enclosure with windows, door and steam heat which was mounted on top of the N&W tenders for the front end Brakemen to ride and observe the freight trains. The owner, who worked in the Smith Shop in Roanoke Shops, was using it as an actual dog house and did not want to part with it. When the land went up for sale, I visited the new owner. He didn’t want it, and donated it to Roanoke Chapter NRHS. They made temporary improvements and repairs. Last Tuesday it was shipped to Spencer to be cosmetically restored for the “611 in Freight Service Run-By”.

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