



Turntable TIMES

The Official Newsletter of the
Roanoke Chapter, National
Railway Historical Society, Inc.

Volume 32, Number 11

November 2000





Turntable TIMES

**Volume 32, Number 10
October 2000**

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Turntable Times is published monthly as the newsletter of the Roanoke Chapter, National Railway Historical Society, Inc. Opinions and points of view expressed herein are those of the staff members of the Turntable Times and not necessarily reflect those of the members, officers or directors of the Chapter.

Meeting Notice

The Roanoke Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society will hold its next general meeting on Thursday, November 16, 2000 at 7:30 pm. This will be our annual meeting with election of directors for the year 2001. The meeting will be held at the First Presbyterian Church on the corner of McClanahan and Crystal Spring Avenue in Roanoke.

November's program will be by Ed Fielding who will do a slide presentation on North Carolina shortlines. Those of you that did not make the September meeting missed Tom Ledford's excellent show on Lynchburg's Railroads and Canals.

From The Head End

Cards and Flowers

If you know of a Chapter Member who is sick, lost a loved one or has a new birth in the family, please contact Bonnie Molinary. Bonnie is responsible for Chapter cards and flowers and can be reached at 362-0273.

Deadline for Turntable Times

The deadline for the next issue of Turntable Times is Sunday, November 19, 2000. Please send articles, information and all exchange newsletters to: Kenney Kirkman, Editor, Turntable Times, 590 Murphy Road, Collinsville, Va. 24078-2128.

Cover Photo

Due to an extra large amount of tonnage delivered by the Norfolk and Western from their Lynchburg-Durham line, the Durham & Southern decided to run this extra south to get the cars out of the "Bull City" (Durham, N. C.) and on to Apex and Dunn, N. C. this cold December 2, 1951, afternoon.

Extra 201 South is approaching the D&S Junction in East Durham, N. C. as the two "decks" leave town with 45 cars. The Southern Railway System's Greensboro-Goldsboro line, which the extra south is about to cross, can be seen in the foreground.

Ray Carneal Photo/Curt Tillotson Collection/Courtesy TLC Publishing from the new volume "Classic Steam Trains of the South" published 2000.

Notice of Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Roanoke Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society will be held at the First Presbyterian Church on the corner of Crystal Spring and McClanahan Street on Thursday, November 16, 2000. The meeting will begin at 7:30 pm. At this time we will hold our annual election in which six (6) directors will be elected.

This election provides a change from standard procedure, normally we elect five directors in even number years, however with the resignation of Gary Ballard earlier this year, we have the remaining year of his two-year term to fill with the election, therefore, we elect six directors, one of which will serve a one year term.

Instructions for Absentee Ballot: This year we will be electing six (6) directors. Election will be by secret ballot. Any member may vote by absentee ballot. The nominees are as follows:

Brian Crosier
Bill Mason
Dave Meashey
Ken Miller
Wanda Troutman
Richard Shell

Please Note: if you are interested in running, or know of another Chapter member who is, please contact the nominating committee as soon as possible.

To vote by absentee ballot, one must:

1 - Request an absentee ballot from the Secretary or a member of the nominating committee. The nominating committee is chaired by Bill Arnold, members Bonnie Molinary and Jim Overholser. You will

receive (a) one ballot; (b) one "ballot" envelope; and (c) one mailing envelope.

2 - Mark the ballot (vote for not more than six (6) directors. If more than six (6) votes are cast, the ballot will be discarded).

3 - Place the ballot in the "ballot" envelope and seal. Do not put your name on the ballot or "ballot" envelope.

4 - Place "ballot" envelope in the mailing envelope. Write your name and return address on the mailing envelope and mail to;

Roanoke Chapter, N.R.H.S.
P. O.Box 13222
Roanoke, VA 24032-1322

or the envelope may be hand delivered to the Secretary anytime before the election at the annual meeting.

Christmas Gathering

by Bonnie Molinary

Last December a number of members and friends enjoyed a Christmas social meeting in lieu of the normal Banquet which occurred at the end of January.

Come and join us once again this year for an evening of food and fun at the Virginia Museum of Transportation on Thursday, December 14 beginning at 7:00 pm. You can enjoy a wide variety of finger foods, desserts and beverages.

There will be plenty of time to socialize with very little business to be conducted except for the installation of officers and directors for 2001. Come and enjoy! For details and/or to volunteer to help, contact Bonnie Molinary, Kathy Overholser or Wanda Troutman.

Condolences

The Chapter extends its sympathy and thoughts to the family of Henry Cake who passed away from an apparent heart attack on the evening of our September meeting, the 21st. Henry was a quiet fellow who went about his work in a determined manner, he will be missed.

Here and There

by Kenney Kirkman

According to word from the Virginia Creeper Club The North Carolina Clean Water Management Trust Fund has announced a grant of up to \$636,000 to

acquire 14 miles of the former N&W Abingdon Branch right of way in North Carolina from the Virginia state line south to the area of Lansing, North Carolina.

The project first requires acquisition negotiations with more than 80 property owners and will take several years to complete. The 45 miles of the former rail line in Ashe County, North Carolina reverted to abutting properties when rail service ended from Todd to West Jefferson in the mid-1930s and from West Jefferson to Abingdon, Virginia in the late 1970s.

In other news regarding the Abingdon Branch, the depot at White Top, Virginia



Bill Mason captured the 611 with auxilliary tender and tool car backing toward the wye track at Bluefield, West Virginia for turning to return the Roanoke Chapter excursion train to Roanoke in October, 1992.

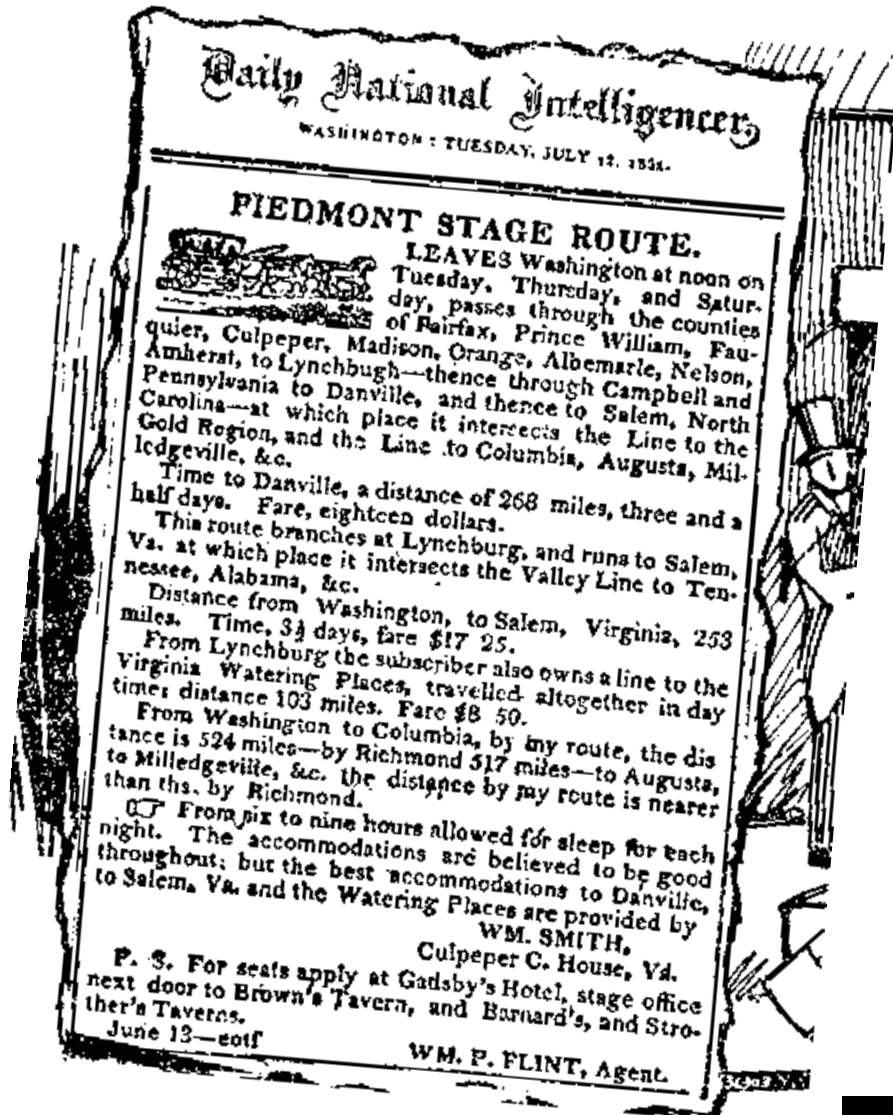
Our September program regarding Lynchburg and the railroads and canals provided a reminder of days long gone. We almost forget in this fast paced age, of how travel was at one time a true adventure and not nearly as fast. Look over the clipping from the Daily National Intelligencer, a very early Washington D.C. newspaper from 1832 with the stage schedule for the Piedmont route. Imaging taking 3 1/2 days to travel from D.C. to Salem! With the fare at the princely sum of \$17.25, what might the equivalent be in today's dollars?

An occasion column appearing in the Turntable Times featuring material from the Roanoke Chapter Archive Facility.

Historian
Kenneth L. Miller

Any material of interest comments or corrections may be submitted to Roanoke Chapter NRHS Archives, attn Ken Miller, P. O. Box 13222, Roanoke, VA 24032.

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Attention Virginia Residents!

New Commemorative License Plate Design Approved by Virginia Division of Motor Vehicles

Earlier this year, the Virginia General Assembly authorized a special license plate design to commemorate Virginia's Railway Heritage, featuring the Class J, Number 611.

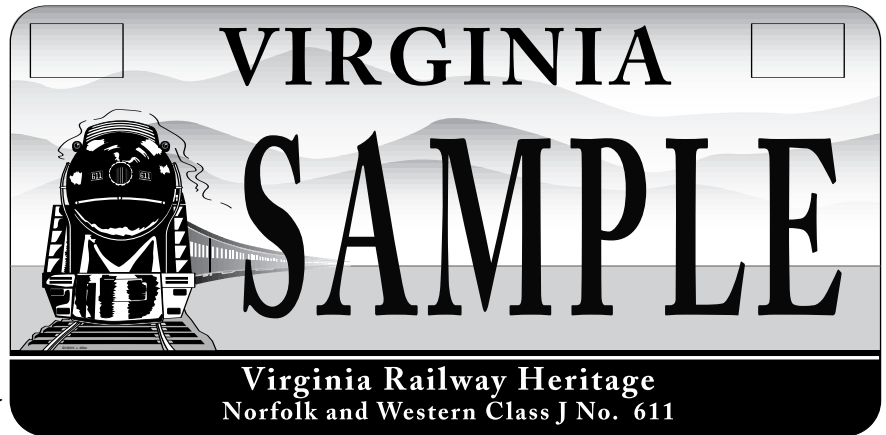
Before this design can be issued, a minimum order of 350 plates must be made.

The Roanoke Chapter NRHS along with the Virginia Museum of Transportation (Home of the 611) is coordinating the effort to get enough advance orders for the plate to allow it to be issued.

The colorful design (shown above in black and white) features the 611 pulling a tuscan red passenger train in front of the Blue Ridge mountains. The bottom of the plate features the wording in gold on a tuscan red banner. The plate is available for a \$10 extra charge; besides, your current plates.

If you wish to personalize the plate, a total of 6 spaces are available (5 for disabled) including spaces or dashes. Please list three choices, in order of preference. For personalized plates the charge is \$20 extra, plus the usual personalized plate charge each year at renewal.

If you choose not to customize the plate it will be issued with four numerals fol-



lowed by two alpha characters.

Remember, we must get the 350 orders for these plates before they can be made.

Please note, this design will not be available via the DMV website until actually produced, orders must be sent with the form.

Please make your check payable to Roanoke Chapter NRHS and send it with the completed application form to:

**Roanoke Chapter NRHS
attn. 611 License Plate**

P.O. Box 13222

Roanoke, VA 24032

Please be aware it may be six months or more until the plate will be issued, if 350 orders are not collected, we will return your check then. Please include a Stamped Self Addressed Envelope with your order and we will provide an update on the plate status as we get closer to our goal.

The official DMV form is reproduced on the back of this sheet.

**APPLICATION FOR COMMUNIPLATES OR
SPECIAL INTEREST SERIES
\$10.00 FEE**

VSA 10 (01/99)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|
| OWNER'S NAME (LAST) | (FIRST) | (MIDDLE) |
| CO-OWNER'S NAME (LAST) | (FIRST) | (MIDDLE) |
| MAILING ADDRESS | | |
| CITY | STATE | ZIP CODE |
| CURRENT PLATE NO. | EXPIRATION: MO. | YR. |
| TITLE NO. | T | TELEPHONE NO. |
| VEHICLE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER | | |

FOR REGULAR PASSENGER PLATES ONLY:(BLUE & WHITE)
 I DO NOT WISH TO APPLY FOR PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATE. THE FEE IS \$10.00 ANNUALLY.

FOR PERSONALIZED SPECIAL PLATES ONLY:
 I DO WISH TO APPLY FOR PERSONALIZED LICENSE PLATES. THE FEE IS \$20.00 ANNUALLY.

- INDICATE YOUR THREE CHOICES IN ORDER OF YOUR PREFERENCE BELOW.
- COMBINATIONS WILL BE CENTERED ON THE LICENSE PLATES.
- THE FOLLOWING ARE GUIDELINES TO USE WHEN MAKING YOUR REQUEST.

~~• BLUE & WHITE PASSENGER AND SCENIC (MOUNTAINS TO SHORE, AUTUMN) LICENSE PLATES CAN HAVE A MAXIMUM OF SEVEN CHARACTERS WITH ONE SPACE OR DASH. AMPERSANDS (&) ARE ALLOWED. THEY ARE CONSIDERED AS ONE CHARACTER.~~

- TWO TO SIX CHARACTERS WITH NO MORE THAN TWO SPACES OR TWO DASHES. SPACES AND DASHES CANNOT BE USED CONSECUTIVELY.

~~• PATRIOT AND LOGO LICENSE PLATES WILL ALLOW A MAXIMUM OF TWO TO SIX CHARACTERS. SPACES, DASHES AND AMPERSANDS (&) ARE ALLOWED, HOWEVER THEY ARE CONSIDERED ONE SPACE AND CANNOT BE USED CONSECUTIVELY. NO OTHER PUNCTUATION IS ALLOWED.~~

~~• HERITAGE LICENSE PLATES CAN HAVE A MAXIMUM OF SIX CHARACTERS PLUS A DASH OR SPACE.~~

~~• DISABLED SCENIC LICENSE PLATES CAN HAVE SIX CHARACTERS WITHOUT SPACES OR DASHES OR TWO TO FIVE CHARACTERS WITH SPACES AND DASHES.~~

- DISABLED HERITAGE LICENSE PLATES CAN HAVE FIVE CHARACTERS WITHOUT SPACES OR DASHES OR TWO TO FOUR CHARACTERS WITH SPACES AND DASHES.

*I/We certify that (Check Only **ONE** Box)*

This vehicle is insured by a liability policy issued through an insurance company licensed to do business in Virginia and it will remain insured while registered.

This vehicle is not insured, therefore, I am remitting the applicable uninsured motor vehicle fee (provides NO insurance coverage).

A vehicle must be insured with liability coverage when it is registered, and it must remain insured while registered whether or not it is operated, or the uninsured motor vehicle fee must be paid. Penalties are severe for violation of this requirement.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE:

I certify that all information contained herein is true and correct. A corporation or company must sign the firm's name per authorized representative.

Applicant's Signature _____

Date / /
 M M D D Y Y

Telephone No. _____

If paying by Credit Card, enter Credit Card Number here along with Expiration Date (MM/YY)

FOR SAMPLE ONLY

I desire a sample plate - \$10.00 fee. (One plate will be issued. Plate is **NOT** for use on motor vehicles).

I desire a personalized sample plate - \$20.00 fee. (One plate will be issued. Plate is **NOT** for use on motor vehicles).

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1ST

2ND

3RD

Check Type of Plate Requested:

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular (Blue & White) | <input type="checkbox"/> Heritage (Dogwood-Cardinal) | <input type="checkbox"/> Scenic (Mountain to Shore) |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other | | <input type="checkbox"/> (Autumn) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> (Patriot) |

Virginia Railroad Heritage/611

 Name of Plate

has been rebuilt and was formally dedicated several weeks ago according to an article in the Roanoke Times.

And word has it that the shelter roof over the steam locomotive (N&W Class M, No. 433) on display at the beginning of the Virginia Creeper Trail in Abingdon was to be removed recently either to be replaced by another roof or some type of cover for the locomotive. If anyone has any further on this we would like to hear from you.

Correction

Last months cover caption should have read the westbound Pocahontas, No. 3. It is not often that many company photos depict the westbound Pokahontas, since it was later in the afternoon.

UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS

November 16, 2000
Annual Meeting, 7:30 pm

December 5, 2000
Board Meeting, 7:30 pm

December 14, 2000
Christmas Gathering - VMT

January 2, 2001
Board Meeting, 7:30 pm

January 18, 2001
General Meeting, 7:30 pm

February 6, 2001
Board Meeting, 7:30 pm

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