

## Tidewater Division

# CALLBOARD

Volume 2018, Issue 7

NMRA MEMBER

July, 2018

### “From the Caboose”

**Pat Mahoney, Superintendent**

The “Super” is away from his desk on holiday preparing for his trip to Kansas City (family & friends) and the NMRA Convention. Look for details of this adventure in the August edition of the Callboard.

### CN Purchases 200 Locos GE To Produce Over 3 Years

Canadian National Railway (CN) will acquire 200 new locomotives from GE Transportation over the next three years to accommodate future growth opportunities and drive operational efficiency across its system, the Class I railroad said in a statement. The order includes Tier 3 and Tier 4 certified Evolution Series locomotives equipped with GE Transportation's GoLINC Platform, Trip Optimizer System and Distributed Power LOCOTROL Expanded Architecture to “maximize train effective-

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### BILL OF LADING – JUL 2018

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### This Month in Rail History

July 2, 1881: President James A. Garfield shot by Charles J. Guiteau, a disappointed office seeker at B&P (Wash DC) station. Garfield dies from blood poisoning September 19, 1881

July 4, 1828: the Baltimore & Ohio Rail Road lays first stone.

July 6, 1862: U.S. Congress passes the Pacific Railway Act.

July 11, 1911: *Federal Express* (Pennsylvania Rail Road) plunges down an 18-foot embankment killing 14. The train was also carrying the Brooklyn Dodgers baseball team.

July 14, 1955: *Federal Express* commuter train (Pennsylvania Rail Road) derailed after hitting a curb at excessive speeds. The sole fatality was the train's engineer.

July 15, 1853: Grand Trunk Railway (Canada) is formed.

July 29, 1896: First successful electric conduit operation for streetcars in Washington. Only Washington & New York City-Manhattan Island ever adopt this type of operation in the United States. Overhead wires permitted outside city limits (remember we had Washington CITY as well as Washington COUNTY until after the turn of century) necessitating 'plow pits' for changing from conduit to overhead trolley & vice-versa.

“The Callboard” is the newsletter of the Tidewater Division of the Mid-Eastern Region of the NMRA and any opinions found herein are those of the authors thereof and of the Editors and do not necessarily reflect any policies of this organization. The Tidewater Division, as a non-profit organization, does not endorse any position. Your comments are welcome! Please direct all questions or concerns to: [sorcerer54@cox.net](mailto:sorcerer54@cox.net)

## **Hampton Roads Deemed “Ready”**

**Gov’t Announces Increase - Jul 6, 1918**

The head of the Federal Fuel Commission announces that he is convinced that an additional one million tons of coal per month can be shipped through the coal terminals of the Norfolk and Newport News terminals of the N&W, Virginian and C&O railroads.

Hampton Roads is recognized as the principle coaling station in the Western Hemisphere and is capable of being made the greatest in the world under the plans of the Fuel Administration.

## **Railroad Fever “Death of John Henry”**

**By Fred Humphrey**

John Henry hammered on the right hand side,  
The steam drill was on the left,  
“Before I let that steam drill beat me down,  
I’ll hammer my fool self to death,  
I’ll hammer my fool self to death.”

John Henry told his captain,  
“I am a Tennessee man,  
Before I let that steam drill beat me down,  
I’ll die with a hammer in my hand,  
Die with a hammer in my hand.”

John Henry he hammered in the mountain,  
‘Til his hammer it caught on fire;  
“Cool drink of water ‘fore I die,  
Cool drink of water ‘fore I die.”

They carried John Henry to the graveyard,  
They looked at him good and long;  
Very last words that his wife said to him,  
“My husband, he is dead and gone,  
My husband, he is dead and gone.”

## **Norfolk Police Arrest N&W Train Crew**

**June 1918**

Officials with the Norfolk & Western Railroad, with assistance from the Norfolk Police, arrested a full train crew. The four men are charged with robbing one of the freight cars of flour.

In the conductor’s house, 10,000 cigarettes are also discovered, but one suspect denies ownership, claiming that the train’s engineer asked him to store them at his residence.



# Washout May Have Caused CSX Derailment

## May 19<sup>th</sup> Incident Due to Heavy Rains

The May derailment of a CSX freight, which sent cars plunging off a bridge, appears to have been caused by heavy rains washing out the supporting rock according to a preliminary NTSB report.

There had been heavy rain and thunderstorms in the days and hours leading up to the derailment, over five and a half inches of rain over the preceding 10 days. The rocks sat foot and half lower than they should have, and a mark on the rail showed that area was where cars slid off the tracks parallel to the Capital Beltway east of the Van Dorn Street Metro Station.

Investigators will now focus on the root causes of the incident, and ways to prevent something like it in the future. They are checking the signal systems, track and engineering problems, and any possible mechanical or equipment problems. Investigators have also interviewed the train crew and other CSX employees.

Damage is estimated at up to \$7 million. It includes extensive damage to the bridge, which appears to have twisted down as cars fell to the ground below.

The southbound train to Rocky Mount, North Carolina, with three locomotives and 167 cars (76 of them empty, none carrying hazardous materials) was going about 38 mph when the 42<sup>nd</sup> through 66 cars derailed. The 89<sup>th</sup> through 94<sup>th</sup> cars derailed a bit farther down the tracks. No one was hurt.



## Trains and Baseball

### Joliet Slammers

The Joliet Slammers of the independent Frontier League play at Joliet Route 66 Stadium, which is adjacent to the Joliet Amtrak station, served by the Lincoln Service, Texas Eagle, and the Metra's peak-hour-only Heritage Corridor, and one block from the Metra station served at least every other hour by Metra's Rock Island District.

Views of both busy main lines can be had from seats on the top row (the field faces away from both railroads).

## **Manslaughter Charges in Amtrak Crash**

### **Driver Reportedly Under the Influence**

**A** garbage-truck driver who drove into the path of an Amtrak train carrying Republican members of Congress near Charlottesville, VA, resulting in a wreck that left a co-worker dead, has been indicted on charges of involuntary manslaughter and being under the influence. Dana W. Naylor Jr., 31, faces one count of involuntary manslaughter and one count of maiming another while driving under the influence, the Albemarle County Police Department said in a statement Friday. It wasn't immediately clear what the alleged intoxicant was.

One trash company employee, 28-year-old Christopher Foley, was killed in the Jan. 31 collision. A second passenger and several others were injured. The lawmakers were on their way to a strategy retreat at the Greenbrier resort in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, when the crash occurred in Crozet, just outside of Charlottesville.

According to a preliminary report from the National Transportation Safety Board, witnesses told investigators the truck entered the railroad crossing after the safety gates had come down. The report said data taken from the camera on the Amtrak train showed that as the crossing came into view, the gates were down and the trash truck was on the crossing. Three people who live near the railroad crossing told AP that the safety gates, which are designed to come down to warn drivers of approaching trains, were known to frequently malfunction, sometimes staying down for extended periods of time even when no trains were coming. The preliminary NTSB report said investigators "continue to examine issues related to the highway-railroad grade crossing."

Boyd McCauley, the founder of the trash company, Time Disposal, previously told AP Naylor was a longtime employee who was familiar with the railroad crossing, which is located at an intersection at the top of a hill where visibility is limited. McCauley did not immediately respond to a request for comment. Online court records indicate Naylor has a history of motor vehicle infractions dating back to 2008, including driving an uninspected vehicle, failing to display license plates, having an improper exhaust system and failing to wear a seat belt. The infractions appear to be related to maintenance and inspection of his vehicles, not moving violations. He was also convicted of possession of marijuana in 2011 and resisting arrest in 2009.



## 31 Oil Cars Derail Near Doon Iowa

### BNSF Spokesman Says No One Injured in June 22<sup>nd</sup> Crash

A freight train derailed in northwest Iowa on Friday and leaked crude oil from at least 1 of 31 tankers into flooded fields flanking the tracks. The nearby Little Rock River, instead of being 100 yards wide, is now maybe a half-mile wide in spots. The Little Rock River joins the Big Sioux River before merging into the Missouri River at Sioux City. This raised concerns about possible contamination of residential water supplies.

A broadening sheen of oil spread near several of the tankers, which had piled up across the track, some submerged in the water. BNSF spokesperson Andy Williams said he was unsure how much oil leaked and how many of the cars were leaking. No information was immediately available on how much oil each of the tankers was carrying. Cleanup crews were dispatched to the site. Lyon County Sheriff Stewart Vander Stoep said 4 homes near the site had been evacuated.

Williams said no one was injured when the cars derailed about 4:30am. Officials aren't sure whether floodwater from the swollen Little Rock River caused the cars to leave the tracks. The river rose rapidly Wednesday after 5 to 7 inches of rain fell and a downpour took place on Thursday. The National Weather Service has forecast flooding in the area into the weekend.



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ness and efficiency and optimize power distribution, train handling, brake control and fuel utilization," said CN.

"We are bullish on the North American economy and on our ability to compete and win new business with our superior service model," said Luc Jobin, CN president and chief executive officer. "In the years ahead, these GE Transportation locomotives and their digital technology will support and enhance our operational efficiency. We are proud to continue our partnership with GE Transportation and look forward to adding these units to our fleet.

The locomotives will be produced at the GE Manufacturing Solutions facility in Fort Worth, Texas beginning in 2018. The first units are expected to be delivered in 2018 and the remaining locomotives delivered in 2019 and 2020. CN's order is the largest among class I railways since 2014, according to the railway.

## On the Advertiser

### Division Meeting Schedule for 2018

June 16 – Portsmouth Railroad Museum of Virginia, 16 Crawford Circle, Portsmouth VA – Contest: Favorite Photo

August 18 – Trinity United Methodist Church, 1294 Poquoson Ave, Poquoson VA – Contest: Locomotive

September 15 – TBD – Contest: Off Line Structures

November 17 – Virginia Beach (Main) Library - Contest: Dioramas

***From “the Timekeeper”***  
**Division Business Meeting Minutes**  
**16 June 2018**

Reports:

- Minutes of the BOD meeting of 2 May were published in the callboard and copies were available so the minutes were not read.

- The paymaster’s report was is available in the BOD minutes.

- Invitations to vendors for the October Train Show have gone out. On track for approximately 75 vendors to set up at the Virginia Beach Convention Center.

- The meeting rooms at the Virginia Beach Library are not available for our meeting despite having contacted the responsible individual at the six-month mark (as the policy stated). We were told the policy had changed. We must have a sponsor to reserve a meeting room. Have been unable to obtain a sponsor. We will still be able to use the display cases to highlight our hobby for National Model Railroad Month. The Superintendent continues to look for alternatives.

- The August 18th meeting will be at the Trinity United Methodist Church in Poquoson. We can hold it in the chapel. There will be a train show there, and the UMW will be selling refreshments.

- Sharon Prescott won the photo contest with two pictures (one taken from the platform of a private car illustrating tracks in the woods with a mist and N&W 611 at the station during evening. Great pictures.

- Roger Bir has recently taken over the responsible for interaction amongst the different gauge railroaders within the Tidewater Division. In recent division board meetings, Pat Mahoney, division superintendent, has put an emphasis towards interaction amongst the different gauges within the Tidewater Division.

- Joseph Reinhardt volunteered to be the Boy Scout coordinator.

- Roger Bir reported progress on the web site. Under “Links” look for “Fallen Flags.” Under Fallen Flags, we’re going to highlight two railroads of yester year each month. June’s selection will be the Baltimore & Ohio and the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac railroads.

- Some members indicated they weren’t getting electronic copies of the Callboard. Discussion held on possible problems causing the lack of distribution. One possibility is COX cable may be limiting the number of addressees. Roger will contact COX. Another option is to provide a link of the Callboard verses sent it out the Callboard as an attachment. Roger will send a test to email of the addresses to help determine were the problem may lie.

- Membership tour the Railroad Museum of Virginia train following the meeting. The train consisted of a steam engine, two baggage cars (one had an HO layout), dining car and a caboose. There is allot of artifacts on display.

- Future events:

- June 22-26 – Railroad History through photos and art. TMRC module RR on display. Show continues through July 15 at ODU next to the Constantine Center

- No July meeting

- August 18 – Trinity United Methodist Church, 1294 Poquoson Ave, Poquoson VA – Contest: Locomotive

- September 15 – St Matthews Catholic Church, 3314 Sandra Ln Virginia Beach, VA TBD – Contest: Off Line Structures

- November 17 – Virginia Beach (Main) Library, 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd, Virginia Beach, VA - Contest: Dioramas

- December 29-30 - Greenberg Train Show at Virginia Beach Convention Center

Meeting was adjourned at 1115

Fred Humphrey (sitting in for Bob Cook)

## Tidewater Division

### Board of Directors

Superintendent: Pat Mahoney ([patmahoney356@gmail.com](mailto:patmahoney356@gmail.com))

Asst Superintendent: John Fallon

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Member at Large: Fred Humphrey

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Member at Large: Roger Bir

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## Hobby Shop News

### [HobbyTown USA](#)

4000 Virginia Beach Blvd  
Virginia Beach, VA  
(757) 306-4760

### [Denbigh Hobby Center](#)

14351 Warwick Blvd  
Newport News, VA  
(757) 874-5708

### [Engine House Trains](#)

3900 Bonney Rd, Ste 107  
Virginia Beach, VA  
(757) 463-1240

### [Dales' Trains](#)

5880 Poplar Hall Dr.  
Norfolk, VA  
(757)461-3636

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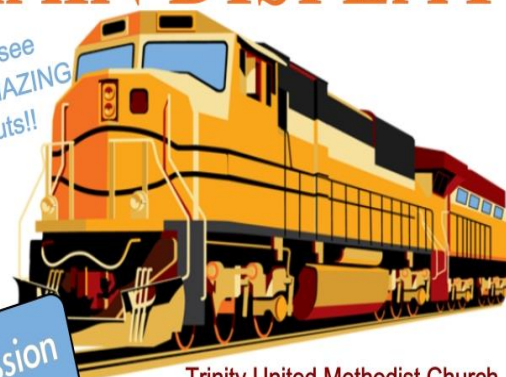
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## NMRA News

For the latest updates, news, clinics and anything model railroad related to the NMRA, click on the link and be connected. [NMRA](#)

# TRAIN DISPLAY

Come see  
these AMAZING  
layouts!!



Admission  
is FREE

Trinity United Methodist Church  
1294 Poquoson Avenue  
Poquoson, Virginia 23662  
868-6174

Friday, August 17th, 4 to 8 p.m.

Saturday, August 18th, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Multiple Gauges on Display  
Poquoson Police & Fire Departments  
will be joining us for the show!

Sponsored by Trinity United  
Methodist Church and  
Tidewater Big Train Operators



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The locomotives will be produced at the GE Manufacturing Solutions facility in Fort Worth, Texas beginning in 2018. The first units are expected to be delivered in 2018 and the remaining locomotives delivered in 2019 and 2020. CN's order is the largest among class 1 railways since 2014, according to the railway.

## UP #1404 Touchup

The city of Cheyenne Wyoming has hired Wasatch Railroad Contractors to cosmetically restore the Union Pacific Big Boy #4004 at Holiday Park.

The project, which began last winter was completed in May of this year. The locomotive was restored to its as-delivered appearance in August 1941. Meanwhile, work continues on the full restoration of her "sister" 4014. Completion date for 4014 is set to coincide with the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad in May 2019