

The Danville Flyer

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NEXT MEETING:

FEBRUARY 15th
Jocko's Pizza Inn, 1:00PM

URBANA TRAIN SHOW:

MARCH 28-29
LINCOLN SQUARE MALL
URBANA, IL

OPERATING SESSIONS:

MARCH 7th
APRIL 4th *
Rossville Depot Museum

C&EIHS MEET:

APRIL 11th
Watseka Union Depot
Watsseka, IL

Newsletter by the Danville Junction
Chapter, National Railway Historical
Society.

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organizers of this show plan a big tribute to Rick for this one, since he was one of the coordinators of it for many years.

C&EIHS MEET ON APRIL 11th

As you can see from the calendar above, the C&EIHS Meet this year will be on **April 11th**. Shane Wilson of Scale Trains has been asked to give the program. Assume there will be tributes to Rick at this. Because of this conflict with a secondary date for the April Operating Session at Rossville, I have left that for April 4th which is the Saturday of Easter Weekend. If we don't have enough for that, it will just be cancelled. See the other blurb about this in this issue. All Chapter members are welcome to attend this meet in Watseka, of course.

URBANA TRAIN SHOW DATES

March 28 and 29 are the dates for the Urbana Train Show. We will sell popcorn, and whatever is left of the Ziebart Collection that we feel we will never use. Rick's widow will have tables next to ours, and we can help her as needed.

This is an important event to us. Some of the best sales we have had in recent years are due to this. And I know for a fact that the

THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Unfortunately, the Lebanon, Indiana model train show on 1/25 was cancelled due to bad weather. We will be selling popcorn and some of Mark Ziebart's HO train items at the Urbana, Illinois train show on March 28th and 29th. Help with selling is always welcome.

Some members are going to the Muncie, Indiana train show on Saturday February 28th. It opens at 10 AM. If you want to join the group, let me know.

The picture on the back page is a narrow gauge steam train that I rode in October 2025. It is located at Hesson Steam Museum north of LaPorte, Indiana. You can ride behind three different steam trains through their large woods. They have narrow gauge, 12 inch gauge and 7.5 inch trains. You will see some of the different scenes of Hesson on my slide show at February meeting.

Henry Schmitt

ABOUT US

The DANVILLE JUNCTION CHAPTER, NRHS, is a not-for-profit corporation organized to preserve the history of railroading in Eastern Illinois and Western Indiana and operates a museum located in the former Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad depot on East Benton Street in Rossville, Illinois. The museum is open weekends from Memorial Day to Labor Day and features many railroad displays plus a large operating HO model railroad. Membership in the Chapter is open to anyone having an interest in any aspect of railroading. Dues per year are \$30.00 for Chapter membership in addition to \$50.00 for NRHS membership.

Rossville Depot Museum membership is \$30 per year. Meetings are held on the third (3rd) Sunday of each month (except June, July, August and December) at the Jocko's Depot Restaurant, Gilbert Street (Illinois Route 1) and Williams Street, next to CSX (former Conrail), in Danville, IL with lunch beginning at 1:00 PM Central Time followed by meeting and program.

PROGRAM NOTES

The Minutes say that President Schmitt will give the February program.

Danville Junction Chapter Officers for 2026

President: Henry Schmitt
Vice President: Doug Butzow
Secretary: Dick Brazda
Treasurer: Doug Nipper

Museum Direc: Bob Gallippi
Historian:
National Rep: Dick Brazda

Flyer Editor & Publisher:
Doug Nipper

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<https://www.facebook.com/Rossville-Depot-Railroad-Museum-1317428034957274/>

* On the Schedule in this issue, I showed the April operating Session as the 4th, even though that is Easter Weekend this year. Problem with delaying it a week is that the C&EHS Annual Meeting is in Watseka this time, and that is for April 11th. So not sure of we will have one this month at all... I'll be able to gauge this when I send the notice out....

Danville Jct. Chapter, NRHS Meeting Minutes

The January 18, 2026, meeting opened at 1252 at Jockos.

The secretary's minutes were accepted as printed.

Expenses for the month(s) were utility payments, post office box rental and table fee for the Urbana train show (March 28-29). Donations, sales revenue and dues were the major income for the month. Current checking account balance is \$5406.

Following up on a discussion at the December meeting, Henry talked with Jockos and found out the second Sunday is already booked in the meeting room for all of 2026.

The next operating session will be February 7. There were some young operators at the January session.

Meeting programs: Henry will be in February, Dave for March, and Danny in April.

Henry and Dave will have tables at the RR show in Lebanon. A number of the cars, engines and buildings to be sold are from the Ziebart collection.

The opening of the South Shore Monon line was tentatively set for March.

Skyler discussed the need for public awareness to recruit new members. Various ideas were brought up, including a small modular layout.

Danny mentioned the TAG and Central of Georgia NS units passed thru Danville.

Dick reported on a trip he and his brother took on the new Acela equipment between BWI and Boston in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 1308.

Danny presented a video of the Lake States Alco locomotives in Michigan. All of the locos in the film are now sold or scrapped.



This is the photo that Henry mentioned in his article on page 1. The Hesson Steam Museum seems very interesting....



Photo from Dick Brazda: Michigan, Calumet, Keweenaw Central RR #29 (2-8-0, ALCO, ex Copper Range, 1907)