

N&WHS 2008 CONVENTION

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, THROUGH SUNDAY JUNE 15

CONVENTION ACTIVITIES WILL BE HELD AT:
HOTEL HARDING (NOT CURRENTLY AN ACTIVE HOTEL)
267 W. CENTER ST., MARION, OH 43302

N&WHS MEET HOTEL ROOM RESERVATION INFORMATION

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

(SITE OF SUNDAY MORNING BUSINESS MEETING)

HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS • 740-389-4300

ROOM RATES OF \$90.00/\$115.00

WILL HOLD 40 ROOMS UNDER KEYWORD

"RAIL CONVENTION" UNTIL MAY 11, 2008

OTHER HOTELS WITH SPECIAL N&WHS RATES:

COMFORT INN • 740-389-5552

ROOM RATE OF \$62.00

WILL HOLD 15 ROOMS UNDER THE

KEYWORD "RAIL CONVENTION" UNTIL MAY 11, 2008

COUNTRY INN & SUITES • 740-386-5451

ROOM RATE OF \$85.00

WILL HOLD 25 ROOMS UNDER THE

KEYWORD "RAIL CONVENTION" UNTIL MAY 10, 2008

FAIRFIELD INN • 740-389-6636

ROOM RATE OF \$89.99/99.99

WILL HOLD FIRST COME FIRST SERVE UNDER THE

KEYWORD "RAIL CONVENTION"

SUPER 8 MOTEL • 740-386-6908

ROOM RATE OF \$59.99

WILL HOLD 30 ROOMS UNDER THE

KEYWORD "RAIL CONVENTION" UNTIL MAY 1, 2008

THESE ESTABLISHMENTS ARE ALL LOCATED NEAR THE
**MARION-MT. GILEAD ROAD EXIT FROM US 23 ON THE EAST
SIDE OF MARION. THERE ARE ALSO SEVERAL SHOPPING
CENTERS LOCATED IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT WITH JUST ABOUT
EVERY CHAIN RESTAURANT THAT YOU WOULD CARE TO NAME
ALSO CO-LOCATED.**



HOTEL HARDING

MARION, OHIO



The N&WHS and your convention hosts invite you to the 2008 N&WHS convention in Marion, Ohio. The convention will be held from June 11 to the 15, 2008. Marion is located in north central Ohio 40 miles north of Columbus on US 23. The city is located on the ex-Pennsylvania Railroad's Columbus to Bellevue rail line, one of the two that were purchased by N&W in 1963 to connect to the Nickel Plate and the Wabash. Along with the Cincinnati to New Castle line, the lines made important connections to the new system and continue to be important as they connect the old N&W and the Southern in Cincinnati for NS today.

Marion is a new location for the N&WHS. The convention headquarters will be in the old Hotel Harding in downtown Marion. While this historic

(continued on page 3)

landmark will host the convention, it is no longer an active hotel. Several motels located near the US 23 expressway will offer us special room rates for the convention. As with all conventions, please book before May to ensure the best rate and availability of rooms.

Marion is much more than just one railroad. The station in Marion sits at the juncture of not one or two, but three lines! These are the CSX's former C&O Hocking Valley line, and former Erie main line to Chicago. In addition, The Big Four (New York Central) also used the Erie line and had a separate line split from the Erie just west of the diamonds. These lines were busy in the days of steam and continue to be busy today. With these lines converging at the Marion train station, it is an excellent place to watch trains. Fortunately, the train station has been preserved and the

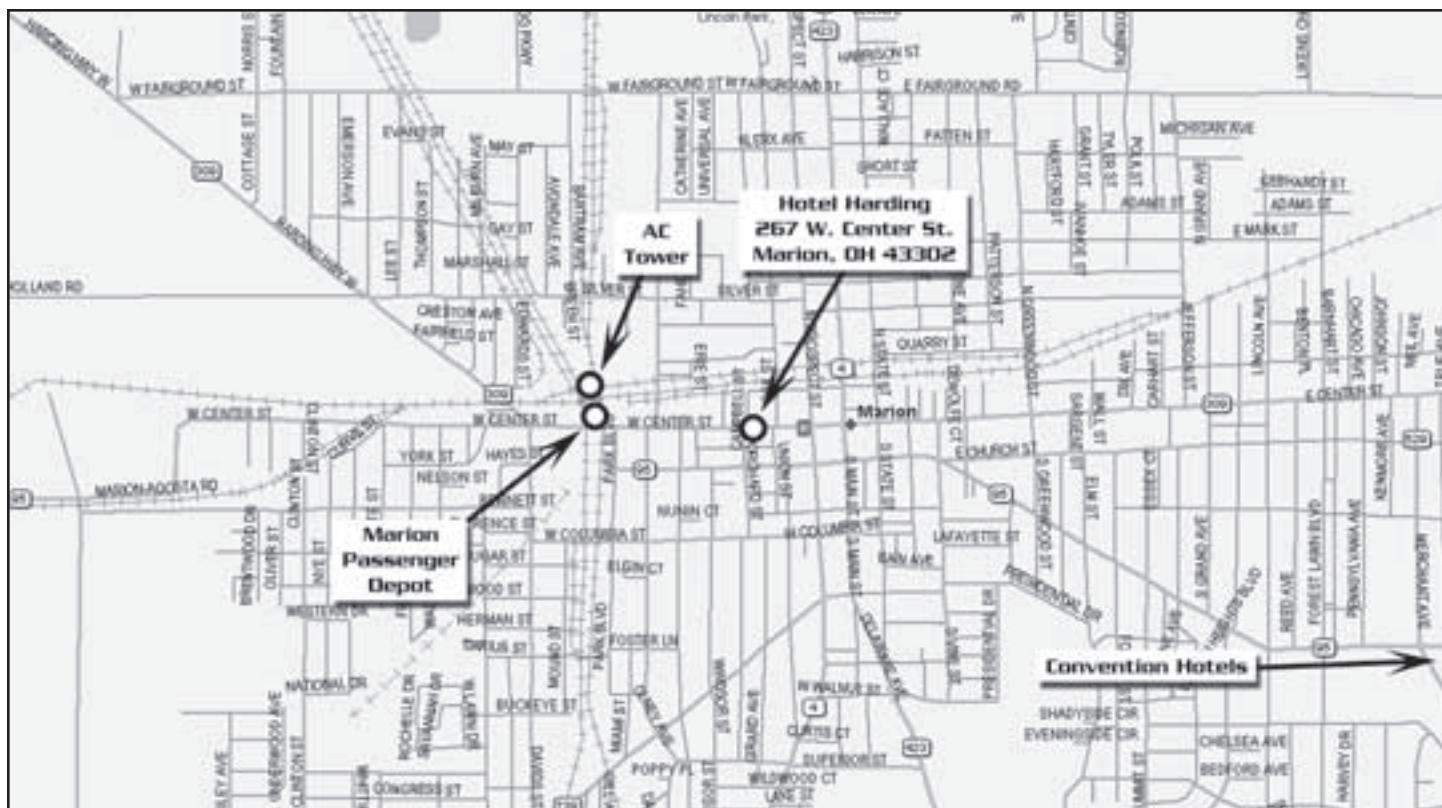
grounds made into a park-like setting for railfans. Erie's famous AC tower has been moved across the tracks to a new location next to the depot. It along with the restored operable model board will be open for touring. It is a legendary railfan hot spot and there are usually several railfans present to see the dozens and dozens of trains.

The station itself has many museum-like displays and a layout occupies one of the freight buildings, all will be open at some time during our convention for your viewing pleasure. We have scheduled a picnic lunch at the station on Thursday to introduce everyone to this grand location, but you don't need to limit your time there to

just the official tour — after all, there are trains to see all the time and every day.

Currently there are more than a dozen seminars in the works for this convention. We have everything from a railfan's introduction to Marion and its rich railroad history to underground coal mining. Seminars are planned on the Marion rail lines, the N&W/NKP/WAB purchase/lease, photo essays of historic and current rail activities in Ohio, modeling seminars, and seminars of particular N&W and VGN topics. If some of your photos don't quite meet your expectations we've also got a seminar on how to use PhotoShop so you can fix them up later. Hopefully there is something for everyone.

Right: GP9 750 hauls a manifest freight westbound past the Erie office building on the right and the "beanery" on the left on June 1, 1974. The beanery was the old Marion Depot hotel dating back to near the construction of the depot in 1902. The old PRR depot sat to the south of the hotel along the east side of the Sandusky Line. A corner of the PRR/N&W freight house pokes out behind the tank car. —Dave Oroszi photo



2008 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday June 11

Afternoon: Registration opens after lunch in the lobby of the Hotel Harding.

Evening: Our first night of seminars begin at 7PM at the Hotel Harding in the Grand Ballroom on the mezzanine level.

The first seminar of the evening planned will be rail fanning in north central Ohio to introduce you to the area. Additionally, the N&WHS Commissary will be set up in the Harding Room. Be sure to stop by and see what's for sale! The Garden Room will be open for contest entries as well.

Thursday June 12

Morning: The Marion Station open house begins 10AM although you may go anytime before then. There is no transportation provided but it's a short drive from the hotels on the east side of town to the depot on the west side of town. Plenty of parking is available, although car-pooling is certainly encouraged. It's a short 10-15 minute drive depending on how many traffic lights you manage to make. A picnic lunch will be provided at Marion Station for those who sign up for this activity. The layout at the station will be open after lunch. Stay and railfan as long as you wish.

Evening: Seminars begin at 7 PM in the Grand Ballroom at the Hotel Harding. Remember we've also reserved another room right across the hallway from the Grand Ballroom. So if your eyes go fuzzy from looking at yet another slide of a dirty old coal car stop in and let Verna show you how to display your pictures so that even non-railfans will like to look through your pictures. Oh, and be sure to bring along some pictures so that you have something to work with.

Friday June 13

Morning: There will be a tour of the line from Marion to Bellevue and a NS Bellevue Yard tour on Friday. Final details have not been completed at this time, but there will be a stop at the Bucyrus station. This beautiful structure is in the process of being completely restored and should not be missed. The outside has been restored and currently the inside is being redone. This station is also at the juncture of two busy rail lines so it also sees many NS and CSX trains. Other details of this tour will be forthcoming but will include the Bellevue Yard tour — NS has granted us permission. A history of the Marion to Bellevue line will be presented during the bus trip. Lunch will be included on this tour.

We are also offering a tour of what is reputed to be the best of the local historic sites for those so inclined. We will be visiting the President Harding home and the Stengel-True house/museum. The latter museum is open by appointment only. A buffet lunch at the Warehouse Restaurant, located in a former interurban railroad depot, of course, is included with the tour.

Evening: Seminars on the second floor of the Hotel Harding. The company store and the contest room will also be open on the first floor.

Tentative list of seminars:

- Bill Haines: Railfan's history of Marion and surrounding area
- Jim Henry: History of Columbus and Kenova District
- Rick Stone: N&W Position Light Signals
- Everett Young: N&W in Ohio in the 1960s and 1970s
- Bob Hundman: Underground coal mining
- Dave Oroszi: Older N&W slides around Lima, Ohio (now all abandoned)
- Rick Tipton: Merger of 1964
- Gary Rolih: Merged territories and eventual line abandonments. Traffic patterns of the new territories
- Frank Bongiovanni: VGN gondolas
- Gene Huddleston: N&W steam pictures
- Karen Parker: using Adobe Photoshop on rail pictures
- Dick Argo: Freight cars of the transition era
- Bob Hundman: Modeling an N&W Class II depot in styrene
- Verna Kay: Scrapbooking
- Verna Kay: Beginner Quilting

Saturday June 14

Morning: Seminars begin at 10AM in the Grand Ballroom at the Hotel Harding. Break for lunch at Noon.

Afternoon: Seminars continue at 1PM in the Grand Ballroom at the Hotel Harding.

Evening: Banquet in the Grand Ballroom at the Hotel Harding. Instead of the traditional speaker/lecturer Father Dale Peterka will be presenting his program about O. Winston Link after the banquet. This is a near professional quality synchronized sound/slide show that was featured at Summer Rail 2007 in Cincinnati.

Sunday June 15

Morning: The annual membership meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Express on the east side of town to allow attendees to head home with the convenience of the highway nearby.



Above: N&W caboose 518543 in the blue scheme trails an eastbound freight on June 1, 1974, north of AC Tower approaching the small yard at Marion on the Sandusky Line. —Dave Oroszi photo

2008 N&WHS CONVENTION REGISTRATION

<u>Basic Registration (before May 15)</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Sub-Total</u>
Member/Family	\$40.00		
Non-Member/Family	\$45.00		
Basic Registration (after May 15)*			
Member/Family	\$45.00		
Non-Member/Family	\$50.00		
Thursday Picnic Marion Depot Museum	\$15.00		
Friday Bucyrus/Bellevue Tour (box lunch included)	\$35.00		
Friday Historic Marion Tour (buffet lunch included)	\$25.00		
Saturday Evening Banquet (buffet)			
Beef	\$24.50		
Chicken	\$24.50		
Exhibit Table 32" wide x 6' long**	\$20.00		
Total Registration			

Basic registration covers attendee and family members

*Register at the convention after May 30, 2008

**Subject to availability. Requires registration fee.

NOTE! The Basic Registration Fee is required for all activities except the banquet. Make check or money order payable to **Norfolk & Western Historical Society**. Do not send cash! **Do not mail after May 30, 2008.** All tickets are to be picked up at the registration table when you arrive. Receipts are returned via mail for registrations until May 30. After that you may pick up receipts with your convention package. Refunds after May 30 will be subject to a 25% penalty.

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

First & last names of persons attending with you: _____

I Wish to pay with credit card: Visa MasterCard or Discover Card # _____

Exp Date _____ Signature _____

Please include payment and mail this entire page to:

**N&WHS 2008 Convention
PO Box 13908
Roanoke, VA 24038-3908**