

THE FLATWHEEL

The Official Monthly Publication of the Central Florida
Railway Historical Society, Inc.



July 2016

July 2016 Meeting

Monday, July 11th at 7:00 PM
Central Florida RR Museum
101 S. Boyd St., Winter Garden, FL
Program: Steam in the Summer
By: Jarrod Reynolds
Refreshments: Phil Piet

August 2016 Meeting

Monday, August 8th at 7:00 PM
Central Florida RR Museum
101 S. Boyd St., Winter Garden, FL
Program: Images of America
By: Bobby Grenier
Refreshments: David Rhea

Central Florida RR Museum Host Duty Schedule July 2016

DAY	DATE	HOURS	MUSEUM HOST
Saturday	7/2/16	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Irv Lipscomb
Sunday	7/3/16	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Sharon Lamb
Saturday	7/9/16	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Allen Quinn
Sunday	7/10/16	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Phil Piet
Saturday	7/16/16	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Jarrod Reynolds
Sunday	7/17/16	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Gary Dettman
Saturday	7/23/16	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Jerry & Ginger Honetor
Sunday	7/24/16	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Dan & Janet Crusie
Saturday	7/30/16	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Irv Lipscomb
Sunday	7/31/16	1 P.M. – 5 P.M.	Gary Dettman

**July 2016
Museum Work Session
Saturday, July 23, 2016
8:30 AM to 3:30 PM**

**Please come out and help
with the many chores that
need to be done!!!!**



The Silver Springs, Ocala & Gulf Railroad

One of the last independent railroads to become affiliated with the Plant System in Florida was the Silver Springs, Ocala & Gulf, which had been chartered on May 1, 1877, to construct a line of railroad from Palatka to Point Pinellas (now St. Petersburg), a distance of approximately 186 miles.

What was actually built however, the S. S. O. & G. extended westward from Ocala to Dunnellon, 26 miles, thence southward to a point at the mouth of the Withlacoochee River, designated as Homosassa, 23.4 miles. The railroad transited at this very location, and was built to four-foot, eight and a half-inch gauge, and laid with 56-pound steel rail. The line was opened from Ocala to Dunnellon, May 1, 1888, and to Homosassa, during December of the same year. During 1890-91, a branch was built southward from a point in the main line, just south of Dunnellon, known as Gulf Junction, to Inverness, 15 miles distant.

At the time that the S. S. O. & G. was taken over by the Plant System, the rolling stock consisted of 4 locomotives, 4 passenger cars and 10 assorted freight cars. The merger with the Plant System was July 1, 1901. All of the Plant System holdings became part of the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, upon his death.

The line that passed here from 1888-1941 had a nickname "Mullet Express" and carried product and people. There have been reports of a water tower at the Head Springs to refill the train water tanks. Just imagine a train system, Halls River Head Springs swimming hole and a rock house church were all active from 1935-1941 at this location!

This history is from "The Story of the Florida Railroads" by George W. Pettengill, Jr. appearing in Bulletin 66 published by the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society in 1952. Additional information, materials and construction of this representative track section were provided by John Leynes, Jim Garner, Jay Boggs, and Jud Sapp, of Jacksonville, who were contacted by owners of this historical property.

Craig and Cindy Shatto requested help completing this endeavor of building a section of track where the system once ran to help preserve the history that had been lost.

Take a photo on the track and share your photo on Facebook...

Protect our History and Lands for the many generations to enjoy!

July Birthdays

Bill Delmar 7/1
Sharon Lamb 7/5
Patricia Smith 7/10
John Jackson 7/13
Chuck Hanus 7/22

This Is The Way It Was

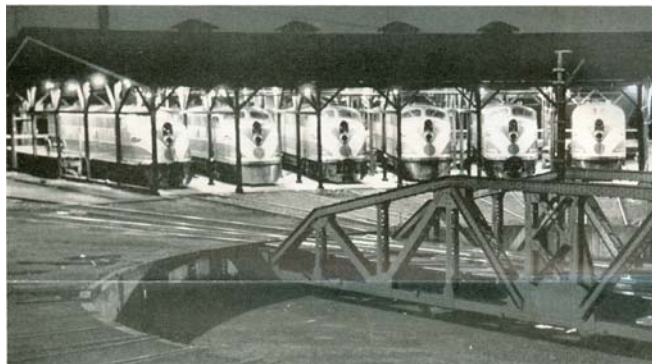
This monthly photo column by Ken Murdock features railroad scenes of the past, a look back into railroading's history.



This rare 1948 scene is ACL train 446/434 with P4 Pacific #456 on the east leg of the wye, waiting at the Tavares depot (now the fire station). The train is on its return trip from Leesburg and has stopped at Ft. Mason, Altoona, Umatilla and Eustis as it returns to Sanford via Mt. Dora and Sorrento. With no wye at the end of the line, it would have backed the 11 miles from Ft. Mason to Altoona. *C. K. Marsh/Dick Kearns collection*



This is Drexel tower that was located on the ACL's former Orange Belt line to St. Petersburg, about 26 miles west of Trilby, where it crossed the SAL's former Tampa Northern line to Brooksville. Today the former ACL line is gone but the former SAL line is still an active CSX branch to Brooksville. *Irv Lipscomb photo found on Facebook*



While this first appears to be an ACL facility, it is actually FEC's Buena Vista roundhouse in Miami. The publicity photo was taken around midnight in May, 1941 by EMC and ACL personnel while the nearly new power was lying over between runs. ACL diesel power and passenger cars ran thru on the FEC on their New York to Miami Trains such as the *Champion* and *Florida Special* and the Chicago trains such as the *City of Miami* and the *South Wind*. *Atlantic Coast Line News, CFRHS Collec-*

June 2016 Museum Report

By Ken Murdock, Museum Curator

We have continued our weekly Wednesday workdays with Al Sharp, Jarrod Reynolds, Irv Lipscomb, Jerry & Ginger Honeter and your curator participating. Al, Jarrod and I focused mainly on the Past Perfect inventory system while Irv worked in our flat files, organizing and inventorying large format items such as maps, calendars, artwork, drawings and etc. Irv's hand written inventory can be quickly transferred into our Past Perfect inventory system. Jerry continued working on the Library inventory system and Ginger continued her work of cleaning the inside and outside of our showcases and polishing our silver.

Just as I made the statement that we haven't had many donations this year, the bottom fell out! We received a second donation from Mary Hartman of Oviedo. She made a sizable donation in May of this year and soon found more items from her late husband's collection, while cleaning out her house to down-size. Her donation included a Seaboard long spout oil can, a rare Fonda, Johnstown & Gloversville RR Dietz Vista, oil burning, hand lantern; 5 brass switch lock keys, a PRR switch lock with key, 30 brass uniform buttons, forty transit tokens, two railroad marked silver spoons, some model railroad items to sell, plus a variety other things.

Then a few days later, Mike Ryan donated his sizable collection of Lionel trains which included two steam locomotives, eleven cars, a powered pump car, numerous sections of Fastrack, seven switches (6 powered), an 80 watt transformer plus 48 ceramic, lighted buildings of every description. Everything is in like new condition!! Thank you Mike for such a generous donation!!

In the event that you missed the June meeting, I announced that I have appointed two new assistant curators. They are Al Sharp and Jarrod Reynolds. I was looking for members familiar with Past Perfect and able to participate on most Wednesdays and monthly workdays to work on the collection. They both have been doing this for quite a while, so I was pleased that they accepted the positions.

When we started with Past Perfect in 2011, we were sharing the same server with the Winter Garden Heritage History Center while they were located in the Roper Building. When they moved into their permanent facility, we could no longer share a server. So the inventory files from their server were copied to our server, thus giving us a complete copy of everything including their inventory files. Earlier this year, I made the decision to delete all of their data from our server, thus freeing up more than half of the space on our hard drive. It should also help the speed of our system. This process can only be done one item at a time, because each item has to be de-accessioned. So it has been time consuming but the end result, having our server contain only our items, will make it worthwhile.

It's been a year since we visited Lakeville Elementary School and checked on our museum displays there, so I made an appointment for June 29th and returned to see if anything needed to be cleaned, polished or dusted. This should be done at least once every summer, while school is out, to keep our displays looking fresh.

On Saturday, June 25th, we had our monthly museum workday. We had 7 members participating who included Phil Cross, Alan Quinn, Al Sharp, Jarrod Reynolds, Jerry and Ginger Honeter and your curator. Phil took care of the necessary housekeeping chores and sprucing up the grounds. Allen and Jarrod erected the poles for the railroad crossing on the concrete pads that were poured earlier in the caboose yard. They then began assembling the railroad crossing signal lights. Al and I installed LED lights in the showcase in the meeting room on the south wall between the two sliding doors. We also installed a phone line in the Roper Building and worked on inventory. Phil soon joined us to work on the Flat Wheel. Ginger cleaned showcase glass and assisted Irv Lipscomb with hosting after lunch. Jerry continued his inventory work in the library, but came out for a breath of fresh air after lunch, and was successful in getting the Plant City interlocking signal lights working once again.

June has been a very busy month and many things have been accomplished by our volunteers. Thanks to each of you for your participation on the workdays and for hosting. We couldn't do it without you!

Upcoming Events

July 9, 2016 — Deland, FL — 56th Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3150 East New York Avenue, 9 am – 4 pm. Contact: Charles Miller, 386-736-8185, rrshows@aol.com. Website: <http://www.gserr.com>.

July 11, 2016 — Monthly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

August 1, 2016—Quarterly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society Board of Directors at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

August 8, 2016 — Monthly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

August 27, 2016 — Atlanta, GA — 51st Atlanta Model Train and Railroadiana Show, INFINITE ENERGY CENTER, 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, GA 30093, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Contact: Charles Miller, 386-736-8185, rrshows@aol.com. Website: <http://www.gserr.com>.

September 12, 2016 — Monthly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

September 23, 24 & 25, 2016 — Tavares, FL — Rifles, Rails & History 2016, Wooten Park, Downtown Tavares.

October 1, 2016 — Deland, FL — 57th Florida Rail Fair, Volusia County Fairgrounds, 3150 East New York Avenue, 9 am – 4 pm. Contact: Charles Miller, 386-736-8185, rrshows@aol.com. Website: <http://www.gserr.com>.

October 10, 2016 — Monthly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

November 14, 2016 — Monthly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

December 12, 2016 — Monthly Meeting of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society at 7:00 PM in the Central Florida Railroad Museum, 101 South Boyd Street.

December 17-18, 2016 — Tampa, FL — 16th Tampa Train Show & Sale, Florida State Fairgrounds Special Events Center, 9 AM to 5 PM Saturday, 10 AM to 4 PM Sunday. Contact: Charles Miller, 386-736-8185, rrshows@aol.com. Website: <http://www.gserr.com>.



Silver Springs Ocala & Gulf Railroad Homosassa Florida

By: John Leynes

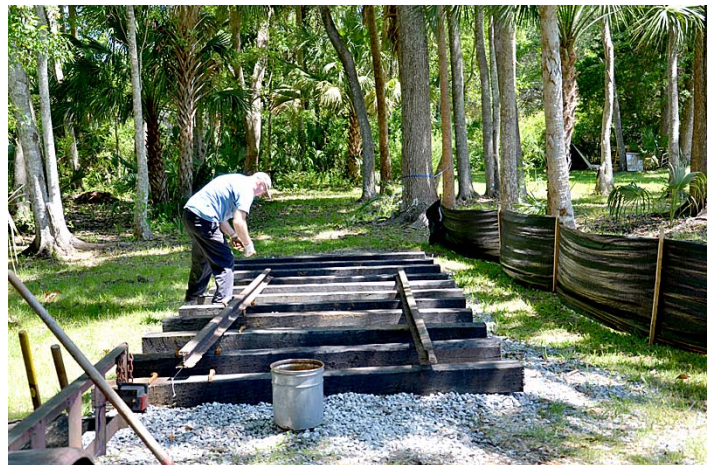
Last year, I was contacted through my Florida Railroad website, by Craig Shatto, of Homosassa. He had purchased property that had an old rail line running through it. He asked for information about it. We determined that it was originally, the Silver Springs Ocala & Gulf RR. See the sign text in the last image for detail. Craig has established a restaurant there and is planning a small camping area near the spring, and is using a railroad theme for the operation. He advised that he wanted to build a small section of representative track, for historical purposes. Working with Jay Boggs and Jud Sapp, we got together two 18' sections of 65# rail, and Jud provided the crossties. On May 26th Jay and I took the materials down and with a couple of helpers, constructed the track in about 5 hours. It was a difficult job for us old folks to do. I have had total knee replacement surgery two months ago, and Jay has back problems. Our section is about 20 feet east of the original roadbed, as that was literally adjacent to the spring edge, and Craig did not want it there because of a small boat ramp and swimming dock. We helped to promote a piece of Florida railroad history.

If you happen to go to the Homosassa area, stop in and check it out..!! It is located between Homosassa and Crystal River on the west side of US-19, also known as Suncoast Blvd.

2420 South Suncoast Blvd.

Homosassa FL, 34448

(Across from Village Toyota/Cadillac)



Thanks to Society Member Bill Delmar for passing along this great story on the SSO&G.

Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc.
Combined Board & Regular Meeting Agenda
Central Florida RR Museum
June 13, 2016
7:00 PM

1. Call to Order – Jerry Honetor
 - Board Members present: Jerry Honetor, Irv Lipscomb, Ross Marvin, Joe Lehmann, Phil Piet, Ken Murdock and Phil Cross.
2. Meeting Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance – Irv Lipscomb
 - There was a moment of silence in observance of the Pulse nightclub tragedy that occurred the past weekend in Orlando.
3. Recognition of Visitors – Jerry Honetor
 - Cynthia Cardona, Executive Director of the WGHF.
 - Patrick Smith introduced his guest Robert and Jessica.
4. Recognition of Members/Friends Concerns – Jerry Honetor
 - Al Sharp's wife is not doing well.
 - Phil Piet spoke about his mother who is terminally ill. He will be needing to remove himself from the schedule as he attends to his mother's needs.
5. Approval of the May 9, 2016 Combined Board & Regular Meeting Minutes – Jerry Honetor
 - A motion by Irv Lipscomb second by Phil Piet to accept the minutes, the motion carried by unanimous vote.
6. Executive Director of WGHF Cynthia Cardona.
 - Cynthia introduced herself and gave a brief description of her background as a curator. and asked the membership what their ideas are regarding the museum.
 - She discussed suggestions regarding the displays.
7. May 2016 Treasurer's Report – David Rhea & Roger Wilson
 - Jerry Honetor reported on behalf of David Rhea that the Society is solvent.
8. Vice President of Membership & Programs Report – Ross Marvin
 - **Membership Report**
 - * Currently 72 Members
 - * 62 members have renewed for 2016.
 - * 10 new members for 2016 so far.
 - **Field Trips Suggested/Planned for 2016**
 - * Gold Coast Railroad Museum in Miami, FL (Suggested)
 - * 253 Steam Association Museum in Ft. Pierce, FL (Suggested)
 - **Programs & Refreshments Hosts for 2016:**
 - * All the programs for the remainder of the year have been filled.
 - * Refreshments Hosts slots for 2016 have been filled.
 - **E-Bay Store Report**
 - * Ross Marvin reported the eBay store will be closed for the next couple weeks.
9. Museum Curator Report – Ken Murdock
 - **CFRR Museum Report** – 875 visitors during April and 3,720 visitors for 2016 to date. 351 hours donated by the membership during April and 1,284.00 hours donated by the membership for 2016 to date.
 - **Library Update:** Jerry reports that he is running out of room.
 - **Technology Update:** Joe will set up a cloud account as soon as he can get our credit card number from David Rhea.
 - **Recent Acquisitions & Donations:** CD of Dick Perkins' steam engine operating in Oviedo is a donation from Neil Aly.
 - **Expansion Plans for the Central Florida Railroad Museum:** Still waiting on building permit.
 - **The Next Museum Work Session:** The next work session is scheduled for **June 25th**, beginning at 8:30 AM. The following work session will be July 23rd.
 - Ken Murdock also reported we have two new Assistant Curators, Al Sharp and Jarrod Reynolds
10. Museum Host Schedule for July 2016 – Irv Lipscomb – Irv secured hosts for some of the Saturdays and Sundays in July.
11. President's Report – Jerry Honetor
 - **Winter Garden Heritage Foundation Board of Directors Activities for May 2016** – Conducted the annual golf tournament on May 9th.
 - **Next CFRHS Quarterly Board Meeting** – Date for the Third Quarter 2016 Board Meeting is Monday, August 1, 2016 at 7 PM.
12. CFRHS Facebook Page – Jarrod Reynolds
 - Jarrod now has the ability to add and edit the Facebook page. He has already begun to add content.
13. Central Florida Railroading Update – no report since Bill Dusenbury was absent

14. Items from the Board of Directors
 - Irv Lipscomb made a motion second by Phil Piet to purchase a Blue Ray DVD player to be connected directly to the large television. The motion carried.
15. Items from the Membership: None
16. Tonight's Program: **Grand Canyon Railway Scrapbook by Phil Piet**
17. Tonight's Refreshments Provided by: **Ken Murdock**
18. Meeting Adjournment
 - A motion by Phil Piet second by Ross Marvin to adjourned the meeting. The motion carried.

Of Links and Pins

Photos and comments courtesy of Abram Burnett

Someone recently asked for photos of links and pins, such as were used on old Link and Pin Couplers. Here you go...

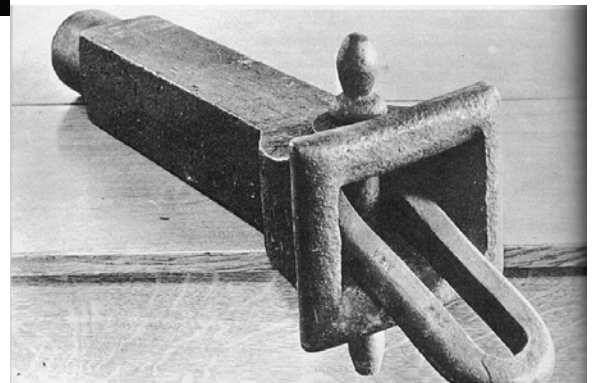
The top piece is the first pin I ever owned. It was found about six feet deep in a fill on the Lehigh Valley's Flemington Branch in New Jersey, when a cable was being trenched in, about 40 years ago. The dark item 4th down, the link, came with it, from the same excavation. Since they were buried so deeply in the fill, my surmise is that were in dirt brought in from somewhere else at the time the fill was constructed. The link is of wrought iron and is badly stratified by corrosion. To prevent further deterioration of the iron, I treated the link in boiled linseed oil, and hung it in the Summer sun for two months, to dry. This treatment accounts for its shininess, but the piece is now effectively sealed against further corrosion.

The two pins and the link painted in silver were just items I picked up at sales, totally devoid of information on their provenance.

The one thing I have never been able to get is the "draw-head" (a.k.a. "bull-nose casting") which was mounted in the end sill of a car, and received the link into its pocket. But I will put a photo of one below. If anyone knows of one of these castings for sale, please let me know.

The items are mounted on a piece of 3/8" plywood, 18" x 28", screwed into the studs of a wall with long drywall screws. You wonder why you can't see the screw heads...? Photoshop took them out!

My kind of railroadin'. What else would you expect for a guy whose chosen form of communication is the Telegraph ???



Thanks to Society Member Warren McFarland for passing along this story and photos.

2016 CFRHS Membership Statistics

Society Members	26
Society Century Members	14
Ward Britt	
Phil Cross	
Ann Cross	
Bill Dusenbury	
Charles Hanus, Sr.	
Chuck Hanus	
Linda Hanus	
Andy Healy	
Jerry Honetor	
Clarence Hurt	
Ross Marvin	
Ken Murdock	
Al Sharp	
Jim Shoemaker	
Society Friends	19
Society Family Members	13
Society Student Members	0
Total Members	72

July 2016 Museum Work Session

Saturday, July 23, 2016

8:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Please come out and help
with the many chores that
need to be done!!!!

The Flatwheel is the official monthly publication of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society. Opinions and views expressed in this publication are those of the editor and contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the members, officers or directors of the Society.

Material for the Flatwheel (including exchange newsletters) should be sent to the editor via e-mail at:

editor@cfrhs.org.

Please Note: Material from The Flatwheel may be reprinted in other publications provided credit is given as to the source.

The Central Florida Railroad Museum is located at 101 South Boyd Street, Winter Garden, FL, 34787 (downtown Winter Garden, immediately north of the water tower).

The Museum is open daily from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM (excluding selected holidays) or by special arrangements. Large groups are encouraged to contact the Museum at 407-656-0559 to arrange for their tour in advance.

The Central Florida Railroad Museum is operated under a cooperative agreement between the City of Winter Garden, the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation and the Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc..

The Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc. meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 PM at the **Central Florida Railroad Museum**. The Museum is located at 101 South Boyd Street in downtown Winter Garden immediately north of the water tower. Guests and visitors are welcome and encouraged to attend.

All correspondence and other materials for the Society should be mailed to:

Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc.

PO Box 770567

Winter Garden, FL 34777-0567

Or e-mailed to the Society at: info@cfrhs.org

Web page: www.cfrhs.org

Mission: The mission of the Central Florida Railway Historical Society, Inc. is: Promoting railway heritage and preservation and educating members and the public about rail transportation, its history and impact, with a focus on Central Florida.

Purpose: The purpose for which this Society is formed and the business or objects to be carried on and promoted by it are mainly historical, educational and not-for-profit. The more particular objects are:

- Preserve the historical materials of rail transportation of all kinds and issue publications relative to the subject.
- Acquire by donation, purchase, lease or otherwise, real or personal property, and to maintain, sell, lease, deed or otherwise manage in a manner appropriate for the Central Florida Railroad Museum and the above mentioned purposes.
- Plan and run a series of programs and events for Society members' education and participation.
- Work and support the activities of the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation. Assist in any and all group projects which benefit the goals and activities of the Society and the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation.

President: Jerry Honetor

president@cfrhs.org 407-957-8788

Vice President - Membership & Programs: Ross Marvin

vpmembership@cfrhs.org 407-909-9823

Vice President - Education & Public Relations: Irv Lipscomb

vpeducation@cfrhs.org 407-895-4749

Secretary: Joe Lehmann, Jr.

secretary@cfrhs.org 856-912-8628

Assistant Secretary: Phil Piet

asstsecretary@cfrhs.org 407-656-4960

Treasurer: David Rhea

treasurer@cfrhs.org 407-656-8749

Assistant Treasurer: Roger Wilson

assttreasurer@cfrhs.org 352-314-0881

Museum Curator: Ken Murdock

curator@cfrhs.org 407-277-5719

Assistant Museum Curator: Al Sharp

asstcurator@cfrhs.org 407-898-4082

Assistant Museum Curator: Jarrod Reynolds

asstcurator2@cfrhs.org 407-256-6516

Historian: Phil Cross

historian@cfrhs.org 407-509-4572

Immediate Past President: Bill Dusenbury

pastpresident@cfrhs.org 407-509-1521

Flatwheel Editor: Phil Cross

editor@cfrhs.org 407-509-4572

Webmaster: Joseph Lehmann, Jr.

webmaster@cfrhs.org 856-912-8628