

WAYFREIGHT

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FALL 1991

DECEMBER 1991

happy
holidays!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!! JUST WHEN YOU THOUGHT IT WAS SAFE TO CHECK THE MAILBOX FOR THOSE CHRISTMAS CARDS! The spirit of the holidays, with the sending of cards and visiting with friends, made me realize that it was time for a WAYFREIGHT.

I wish you all the best during this season, and hope the new year is a prosperous one. You can think of this as one big Christmas card from me. (A few LUCKY ones will still receive a REAL one from me!)

I received some positive feedback about the past couple of issues - Thanks! We have seen an increase in submissions from our talented(?) authors. I'm sure it is pleasing to see someone else's point of view than mine.

The biggest thing to happen in the Chicago area of late is the long awaited ground breaking for the new GENEVA SOUTHERN LINES. Yes, ..., Tom and Greg, ..., there IS a Geneva Southern! After years of absence from the hobby, ex-WF editor Gerry Dobey has returned to model railroading. Even the anti-modeler Ed Moran has gotten into the act helping out with the HO Scale GSL, and rumor has it that your editor is going to change from N to HO (rumor ONLY).

Work has also resumed on the Spooner Central, with scenery making progress for the first time in years. I have had Gerry over practicing his scenery techniques. About the only thing that had been done until recently was the continued track upgrading. Our mainline is now up to 30mph from Minneapolis to Spooner, and 49mph (single-track, unsignaled) from Spooner to Itasca (Superior). The Oakwood Northern continues to pound our track with heavy trains, and the Geneva Southern continues to send us \$@*&\$#¢?! pool power. Our SD 45 "fleet", which has dwindled down to 3 units (2 off line fire incidents), may be replaced by already short-term leased C&NW nee-CGW SD 40's with dynamic brakes. This depends on how we are affected by the new CN/DWP-SOO agreement and what traffic the Wisconsin Central will attract with its new trackage into Superior.

Before the cold of winter hit, the Chicago Central kept me busy on Sundays. One fall Sunday gave me the opportunity to chase a westbound empty coal train (with some manifest mixed in the middle!) from Elgin, IL to Freeport, IL. Yes, it is a long way, but it was nice out and I planned to spend my day railfanning anyway! The train had nine (9) engines, with a mixture of ex-ICG orange and white GP 10's, ex-Milwaukee orange and black GP 20's, and some repainted red GP 38's. Upon arrival in Freeport, the yard contained an EB coal train, a merchandise train, and another cut of coal! The total number of units after "my" train came in was 22, including all 6 (at that time) GP 38's - all RED - with one just out of the paint booth! Needless to say, I had a nice chase back home!

ENJOY THE ISSUE!

Stan

another local arrived and switched the same industries on the north end of town. He had a CSX U23B, a CSX B30-7, a Family Lines U36B, and an L&N GP38. I think every one of them were smoking something fierce. A big cloud of black smoke rose every time they went back and forth. He switched for nearly two hours and left at 11:12 AM, but not before another appearance from Amtrak at 11:04 AM.

I was about ready to leave town. I went to Hardee's to do that natural thing that man does, so I missed one train at 11:30 AM. I did catch another train shortly afterward. He was waiting for the first one to clear. His consist was another mixed bag of CHESSIE, SCL/LN, and CSX power with representation from both major builders. I missed another southbound at 11:49 AM while maneuvering through town. I almost missed a third one, but I was able to chase him about 14 miles south to the town of Callahan. This was another autorack train with two SCL/LN 3100 series and one CSX 3200 series GE's. He was moving at a quick pace and ended a nice railfanning trip.

I was really impressed with the traffic through Folkston. I had no idea that one railroad could consistantly provide so many different paint schemes and locomotives at one place. It was a nice sight to see more GE's on a major class I railroad. Dirty dash two's were by far in the minority.

Though sometimes I question why I joined the armed forces, I have been able to see some interesting places. Hopefully we all will have an opportunity to railfan some areas we have not seen before.

COMING IN THE WINTER 1992 ISSUE
* M.E.S.S. IN REVIEW -
SPOTLIGHT KANSAS CITY NORTHERN

REGION MEET :
GATHER IN STEVENS POINT, WI
FOR A WEEKEND OF WISCONSIN
CENTRAL ACTION IN MID TO LATE
JANUARY. CONTACT THE EDITOR
FOR DETAILS AND THE FINAL DATE!

ENDANGERED RAILROAD LIST

1. C&NW
2. B&P
3. C&NW
4. GUILFORD
5. C&NW
6. Southern Pacific
7. C&NW
8. GSL
9. Illinois Slag and Ballast
10. C&NW
11. Freddy's Choo Choo Burger
12. C&NW
999. NS

RAILFANNING IS...

Chasing WC south-
bounds on Byron Hill
with 25 cases of POINT
in the truck!

RAILFANNING IS...

Listening to "Da
Yoopers" while waiting
for LS&I action during
the miners' strike.

CHICAGO CENTRAL & PACIFIC has
acquired (terms unknown) some
ex-GATEWAY WESTERN GP 38's.
The units seen were lettered
for GWR and are in Conrail
blue and Penn Central black.

CENTRAL REGION MEMBERSHIP
DECEMBER 1991

CORBY ANDERSON 1209 97TH AVE KENOSHA, V 53142	BRIAN BRANTLEY RT.4 BOX 29A LUTESVILLE, MO 63762	ERIC BURNHAM 409 MOREY 256 W. KING ST. WINONA, MN 55987	BRIAN CARSON 7702 FORCE AVE CLEVELAND, OH 44105
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Towel-Off Situations

RR's Top 5 ~~Best Bets!~~

1. AT&SF train 199
2. Anything WC
3. U.S. 30
4. Tennessee Pass
5. SHOOTING NS action from
a Ft. Wayne overpass

RAILFANNING IS...

Winter RRing,
shorter railfan trips,
colder beer, longer
slide shows, football
playoff games during
slow pornos, low light
angles, snowball fights.

"OH Well, At least the Union Pacific
will get some new GE units out of
the deal!!"

GFL:

The Gilbert Family Lines system is 'Bending Over Backwards' to serve your transportation needs. For information on our services from the Midwest to the Pacific Northwest, contact your local G.F.L. Agent.

The WAYFREIGHT is the official publication of the Central Region of the Teen Association of Model Railroaders. It is published six times per year, and subscriptions are available for \$4.

SEND IN YOUR MATERIAL : The WAYFREIGHT accepts material of railroad or model railroad themes from anyone who cares to send it in. All materials are submitted gratis, although credit will be given where it is due. You don't have to be a star, journalist, or a member of our anonymous 'Crossing Zone/Skibo Skuttlebutts' staff from the Great White North. We welcome any submissions from anybody. Address all materials to the editor.

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