

# MAY 2016 NEWSLETTER

**May Meeting - 6:45 PM - Tuesday, June 7, 2016**

**Chippewa Valley Museum, Eau Claire, WI  
Carson Park, Eau Claire, WI**



## **Opening Day - Memorial Day - Successful**

Frank Garber returns with the first trip of the season as No. 16 waits to depart with the next train. The day was busy. Approximately 600 passengers rode the trains. A solid opening day.

The weather cooperated this year. We also had a great Leader - Telegram story in Saturday's paper. Front page too. The reporter luckily called the depot Thursday during our steam training, she came right out to take pictures and interview the crew. Charlie Schaaf had contacted the paper about our "Big 40" year, so the paper thought that was front page stuff.

## **Steam Locomotive Training**

Thursday, May 26, 2016, members participated in training on the basics of locomotive preparation. Byron Bobb here is demonstrating oiling procedures. Boiler filling, flue cleaning, greasing, oiling, fire building, were reviewed using No. 16. Live steam procedures were reviewed with No. 19 since it fired up for testing earlier in the day. Sight glass inspection and blow down was demonstrated plus firing technics. Proper shown down procedures were performed to include ash removal, boiler blow down at the end of the day and securing the locomotive at the end of the day.







### Heat Kink

The week before Memorial Day this heat kink appeared, shown at the left. Hot days and bright sun can cause the rail to expand in unexpected ways.

The photo above makes the kink look worse than it really was but a correction was required.

In the photo at the bottom left the track is moved back into place. An inch or two at a time moves the track into place. Care is taken not to raise the rail

The bottom right photo shows the completed job with new ballast. The crew moved around the remainder of the track making slight alignment adjustments.







### **Ballast Car**

Marc Brown and his crew have made great progress with the ballast car.

The steel frame frame work in this picture is shown just before welding it together. The large "V" area will form the ballast bunker. The ballast will slide down to the middle and flow onto the track. Dumping shoots will place the ballast between the rails, or to either side beyond the rails as required.

### **Inspection Train**

Sunday the track received its final inspection prior to opening Monday.

The G-16 with three coaches made a few trips a ground crew walking ahead clearing any debris like down branches, etc and negotiating switches .

Thanks to all who participated in Sunday's preparation for the opener.



## **CHIPPEWA VALLEY RAILROAD**

**Agenda - June 7, 2016, 6:45 PM** at Chippewa Valley Museum, Eau Claire, WI

### **Agenda Approval**

**Minutes of the May 3 2016 meeting . Review and Approval. Attached to this email.**

### **Treasure's Report for Review and Approval**

#### **Updates...**

- No. 19. Driving blocks and brake components have been machined. Assembly will begin in June
- Recognition Day - Recognize various members and their efforts. Not finalized.
- Track extension. Inspect right of way inspected. Potential grades need to be set.
- Coal - Whiskey River Railroad confirmed coal will be available.
- Infrared heating system. Preliminary installation underway.
- Fund Raising discussed for No 16 boiler, track relocation, and tower completion. Committee completing work. Start first of June.
- No. 16 Boiler replacement update. Received contract. Committee report on details. Details set.
- Radios working. Mile Markers installed. Waiting for numbers.
- Boiler and amusement inspection complete. No issues.
- Steam training completed May 26th
- Project Priority List -
  - 1) Straighten and level track and ballast. Underway.
  - 2) Depot repair - will require about 6 sheets of plywood and some 1 x 6 facing
  - 3) Complete the painting of the trolley stop. Almost complete.
  - 4) Gutters for the roundhouse and the back of the depot
  - 5) Paint touchup
  - 6) Ballast car - Fabrication nearing completion.

#### **New Business..**

- May work projects.
  - Schedule. Sign up for operation. Few have returned their choices
  - Project Lists.
  - Track, Steaming bay. Excavated. Final design and budget?
  - Semaphore mast.
  - Equipment check.
  - Fire extinguisher training.

#### **• Other Business**

- **40th**

Next Meeting; Chippewa Valley Museum, **Tuesday, July, 5 or 12 2016?**

Adjourn