



IOWA RAILS

IOWA ASSOCIATION OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Next meeting is Saturday, April 2, 2005, at the Blue Room of the Colony Village Restaurant, Interstate 80 at Exit 225, Little Amana, Iowa.

Attendees may enjoy an optional from the menu lunch at 11:30 a.m. and join together at 1:00 p.m. for the program and business meeting. Meals will be paid for by each individual participating in the lunch.

The program includes:

Dan Sabin, President, Iowa Northern Railroad and Special Consultant to the *Hawkeye Express*

“The *Hawkeye Express* – How and why the *Ski Train* ran in Iowa last fall.”

Pat Hendricks, President, IARP

Passenger rail update

NARP Region 10 meeting update

George Davison, General Counsel, IARP

“How to build steam for passenger rail.”

The public is invited and welcome and encouraged to attend the program and meeting.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, May 1, 2005

Amtrak's Birthday
34 years

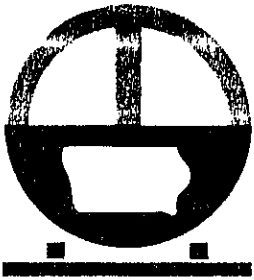


In the past, IARP has celebrated Amtrak's birthday by giving out cookies, cupcakes and donuts at the Iowa AMTRAK stations.

Ft. Madison
Burlington
Mt. Pleasant
Ottumwa
Osceola
Creston

This is a great day to show support for Amtrak.

We can invite senators, congressmen, state legislators, mayors, council and/or county supervisors. We can inform the media and invite the media.



Iowa Association of Railroad Passengers

Affiliated with the National Association of Railroad Passengers

Patrick Hendricks, President
Iowa Association of Railroad Passengers
513 East 6th Street, Suite D
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

All Concerned:

The Iowa Association of Railroad Passengers faces the biggest challenge yet in our collective efforts to preserve and improve upon Railroad Passenger service in Iowa and the United States. This is your call to action!

President Bush has sent to Congress a plan to bankrupt Amtrak.

That proposal gives us the greatest reason to take action that we have ever had.

We have many allies in our battle to preserve Amtrak, and I know that each of you will perform an essential role in our success in saving our current system of passenger rail.

Today is the day that we let Congress know how strongly we feel about preservation of Amtrak for the sake of our families and friends for the future.


Please take a few minutes to write a letter to your U. S. Senators and Congressmen to urge them to continue their support for full funding for Amtrak.

In addition, one of our allies in this fight, the National Association of Retired and Veteran Railroad Employees, has provided toll free numbers to contact members of Congress on this issue. You can connect to the Capitol Hill switchboard by calling 1-877-668-3864 or 1-877-668-3866. Ask for the office of your Congressman or Senator and let them know how you feel. Ask for a letter in reply, so that you have a written response that you can share with your fellow advocates for America's Passenger Rail System. Call today.

I know you will help us win, and we will win, but only if you take immediate action.

Thank you for your dedication to our common goals. I look forward to sharing in the success that we will accomplish together. Let's ride *that* train!

Sincerely,



Patrick Hendricks, President
Iowa Association of Railroad Passengers

United States Congress - House of Representatives

U.S. House District	Name	Street Address	City	State	Zip Code	Phone
1	Jim Nussle	Rooms 303 Cannon House Office Building	Washington	DC	20515-1502	202-225-2911
Local offices in Davenport, Dubuque, Manchester and Waterloo						
Contact information for local offices can be found at http://nussle.house.gov/contact.htm						
Jim Nussle's e-mail Web form for e-mail correspondence at http://nussle.house.gov/email.htm						
2	Jim Leach	2186 Rayburn House Office Building	Washington	DC	20515	202-225-6576 Fax 202-226-1278
Local offices in Burlington, Cedar Rapids, Iowa City and Ottumwa						
Contact information for local offices can be found at www.house.gov/leach/contact.htm						
Jim Leach's e-mail Web form for e-mail correspondence at www.house.gov/leach/email.htm						
3	Leonard Boswell	1427 Longworth House Office Building	Washington	DC	20515	202-225-3806
Local office in Des Moines						
Contact information for local office can be found at www.house.gov/boswell/contact/information.htm						
Leonard Boswell's e-mail lep.boswell@mail.house.gov						
4	Tom Latham	448 Cannon House Office Building	Washington	DC	20515	202-225-5476
Local offices in Ames, Clear Lake and Fort Dodge						
Contact information for local offices can be found at http://www.house.gov/latham/						
Tom Latham's e-mail tom.latham@mail.house.gov						
5	Steve King	1432 Longworth Office Building	Washington	DC	20515	202-225-4426 Fax 202-225-3193
Local offices in Council Bluffs, Sioux City and Storm Lake						
Contact information for local offices can be found at www.house.gov/steveking/contact.htm						
Steve King's e-mail Web form for e-mail correspondence at www.house.gov/wz/steap/						

United States Congress - Senate

Name	Street Address	City	State	Zip Code	Phone
Chuck Grassley	135 Hart Senate Office Building	Washington	DC	20510-1901	202-224-3744
Local offices in Cedar Rapids, Council Bluffs, Davenport, Des Moines, Sioux City and Waterloo					
Contact information for local offices can be found at http://grassley.senate.gov/consil.htm					
Web form for e-mail correspondence to Chuck Grassley at http://grassley.senate.gov/webform.htm					
Tom Harkin	731 Hart Senate Office Building	Washington	DC	20510	202-224-3254
Local offices in Cedar Rapids, Davenport, Des Moines, Dubuque and Sioux City					
Contact information for local offices can be found at http://harkin.senate.gov/contact/index.cfm					
Tom Harkin's e-mail Web form for e-mail correspondence at http://harkin.senate.gov/contact/index.cfm					

Notes:
 Due to security issues associated with traditional mail service in the Washington, D.C. government offices, many legislators are recommending phone, fax or e-mail correspondence to avoid delays. See individual web sites for any specific recommendations on how best to contact a legislator.

Iowa Rail News

HF 330/SF 222

On February 16, 2005, Representative Libby Jacobs, West Des Moines, and Representative David Jacoby, Coralville, introduced House File 330 relating to The Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact and providing an effective date. This bill was referred to the Transportation Committee.

On February 28, Senate File 222 was introduced into the Senate by Sen. Dotzler of Waterloo.

HF 330 and SF 222 did not pass out of committee. We will work with state lawmakers to get the proposal introduced next year.

This is not the first time that Iowa has introduced a house file for Iowa to join the compact. In 2001, HF 2068 was introduced.

Representative Jack Hatch said the following in his February 9, 2001 issue of Statehouse News.

"Passenger rail service necessary for 21st century

The Midwest needs a unified voice to advocate at the federal, state and local levels for frequent, convenient, cost-effective passenger rail service. The development of a modern passenger rail service is an integral part of the intermodal transportation infrastructure needed to move people and

goods quickly, safely and economically in the 21st century.

Iowa is ideal for high-speed passenger rail service. Several major metropolitan areas are within the 100-150 mile range of the Chicago hub. Midwestern states need to come together and declare that improvements in passenger rail are critical and necessary. Unless Iowa becomes involved, rails will by-pass this state. The old Rock Island line is a designated corridor, but the track needs to be updated.

This bill also received the approval from the House State Government Committee during the 2000 session but was never brought before the entire House. "

Midwest Interstate Rail Commission

The Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission (MIPRC) brings together state leaders from across the region to advocate for passenger rail improvements. Formed by compact agreement in 2000, the MIPRC's current members are Indiana, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and Ohio.

The main purposes of the compact are to promote, coordinate and support regional improvements to passenger rail service:

- Promote both current improvements and long-range plans for intercity passenger rail service in the Midwest.
- Coordinate interaction among Midwestern state officials, and between the public and private sector at all levels (federal, state and local).
- Support current state efforts being conducted through state DOTs

Iowa Rail News

State of Iowa Amtrak Facts

RIDERSHIP

<u>City</u>	<u>FY04</u>	<u>FY03</u>
Burlington	6,532	5,576
Creston	3,894	3,592
Fort Madison	8,677	7,530
Mount Pleasant	12,010	10,075
Osceola	14,044	11,490
Ottumwa	9,208	9,179
TOTAL	54,365	47,442

Procurement/Contracts

Amtrak expended \$180,321 for goods and services in Iowa in FY2004. Much of this money was spend in New Albin, \$80,191.

Amtrak expended \$237,199 for goods and services in Lisbon, \$158,784.

EMPLOYMENT

During fiscal year 2004, Amtrak employed 13 Iowa residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Iowa were \$572,091 during this period.

As of December 2003, Amtrak employed 14 Iowa residents. Total wages of Amtrak employees living in Iowa were \$373,359 in calendar year 2003.

Iowa House Transportation Committee Members

- Rich Arnold (R, District 72), Chair
- Henry Rayhons (R, District 11), Vice Chair
- Geri Huser (D, District 42), Ranking Member
- Polly Bukta (D, District 26)
- Dennis Cohoon (D, District 88)
- Cecil Dolecheck (R, District 96)
- Jeff Elgin (R, District 37)
- Bruce Hunter (D, District 62)
- Dan Huseman (R, District 53)
- Gerald Jones (R, District 98)
- Jim Lykam (D, District 85)
- Kevin McCarthy (D, District 67)
- Dolores Mertz (D, District 8)
- Steven Olson (R, District 83)
- Scott Raecker (R, District 63)
- Dan Rasmussen (R, District 23)
- Mike Reasoner (D, District 95)
- Bill Schickel (R, District 13)
- Dave Tjegkes (R, District 50)
- Jamie Van Fossen (R, District 81)
- John Whitaker (D, District 90)

Senate Committee Members

- Matt McCoy (D, District 31), Co-chair
- John Putney (R, District 20), Co-chair
- Daryl Beall (D, District 25)
- Jeff Danielson (D, District 10)
- Dick L. Dearden (D, District 34)
- Gene Fraise (D, District 46)
- James F. Hahn (R, District 40)
- Steve Kettering (R, District 26)
- Doug Shull (R, District 37)
- Pat Ward (R, District 30)
- Steve Warnstadt (D, District 1)
- Mark Zieman (R, District 8)

Rock Island E Units

We received the following request from Dan Sabin, President of The Iowa Northern Railway Company.

In case you did not see this, two Rock Island E Units, passenger locomotives used throughout the Rock Island system were saved from scrapping a few years ago and now being offered for sale at auction.

I am especially interested in these two units since they both operated many times on the Twin Star Rocket, and the 630 operated often on the joint Rock Island-CB&Q Minneapolis-St. Louis Zephyr Rocket through my home town of Manly, IA.

If an organization can be put together to raise funds to purchase and own these units, Iowa Northern would be interested in working with the group to bring the units home to Iowa and have a base for them toward restoring to full operating condition. We are also aware of the existence of at least one former Rock Island high-nose GP-7 that could be possibly restored to Rock Island.

We will also be looking at working with the Historical group at Oelwein to restore the CGW F unit into operating condition. Please pass this one to others who might be interested. I would urge financial and other support resources to place these units in positions of prominence.

Daniel R. Sabin, President
Iowa Northern Railway Co.
2277 E Grant View Drive
Coralville, IA 52241

IARP Presents Certificate of Appreciation

At the November 13, 2004 IARP meeting in Albia, Iowa, Board member Gary Billmeyer presented a *Certificate of Appreciation* to Pat Green and Orville "J.R." Black.

Pat and J.R. have 25 years of service as caretakers of the Osceola, Iowa Amtrak station.

The certificate includes the wording "for hard work, perseverance and unwavering dedication".



Several IARP members volunteered as car attendants for the 2004 Iowa Hawkeye Express.



Iowa Association of Railroad Passengers

The Officers, Directors and Committee Chairpersons of the Iowa Association of Railroad Passengers, Inc. (IARP)

President:

Pat Hendricks, 513 E. 6th St. Ste D, Des Moines, IA 50309-1917 Voice: 515-282-9289, FAX: 515-282- 4642

Vice President:

Diane Smith, 2824 Grand Avenue APT 308, Des Moines, IA 50312-4271, 515-284-5256 home, 515- 681-0368 cell

Legal Counsel:

George F. Davison, Jr., 2501 Grand Avenue, Suite C, Des Moines, IA 50312-5311, 515-288-6532

Secretary: Joe Buczek, 1422 West 9th Street, Davenport, IA 52804-4018, 563-323-3390

Treasurer: Mary Buczek, 1422 West 9th Street, Davenport, IA 52804-4018, 563-323-3390

Directors:

John Ely, Jr., 203 23rd Street, N.E., Cedar Rapids, IA 52402-4901, 319-363-3927 (term expiring 2006)

Roland Lynch, P.O. Box 864, Council Bluffs, IA 51502-0864 712-323-0522 (term expiring 2007)

Gary Billmeyer, 1301 Rittenhouse, Des Moines, IA 50315-6531, 515-287-3107 or 800-383-4444 (term expiring 2005)

Excursion Chair:

Eliot A. Keller, 1244 Devon Drive NE, Iowa City, IA 52240-9628, 319-363-2061 (work) 319-337-9924 (home)

Newsletter: Mary Buczek, 1422 West 9th Street, Davenport, IA 52804-4018 563-323-3390

Membership Chair: Cathy Johnson, 242 Ferson Avenue, Iowa City, IA 52246-3509

NARP Region 10 Director (from Iowa)

Richard F. "Dick" Welch, IARP, 3349 Southgate Court SW #108, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404-5424, 319- 362-6824 Voice, 319-362-7734 FAX dick@rfwelch.com

Records Chair:

Richard F. "Dick" Welch, IARP, 3349 Southgate Court SW #108, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404-5424, 319- 362-6824 Voice, 319-362-7734 FAX dick@,rfwelch.com

General Correspondence:

IARP, 3349 Southgate Court SW #108, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404-5424 319-362-6824 (voice) 319-362- 7734 (FAX)

IARP Membership Application

Yes! I want to support improved Iowa railroad service. Here's my membership in the Iowa Association of Railroad Passengers (IARP).

(Print this form, fill it out and mail it with your payment.)

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State and Zip: _____

Telephone: (_____) _____

E-Mail: _____

One year regular membership \$15.00 (Student members \$12.00)

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to: IARP

Mail to:

IARP
3349 Southgate Court SW #108
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404-5424

Note: IARP is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(4) of the IRS code, however contributions to IARP are not tax-deductible.