

Cincinnati Chapter NRHS 40th Anniversary

Article by Frank Kammer

What a wonderful afternoon and evening we had to celebrate our 40th anniversary on the actual date of our charter on May 16, 2010. We were chartered on May 16, 1970.

There were 80 folks that signed up to ride the special train being pulled by Flagg Coal #75. The celebration started by meeting at the Lebanon Train Station to receive the tickets to ride the train. Since the last regular schedule train by LM&M had just arrived some of our members visited with the actors for the old west play on the last train.

We received our tickets and boarded at 3:50 pm for our 4 pm departure. After the train was in motion and all tickets were punched we were permitted to ride on the open car behind the engine. Ray Kammer no relation to Frank Kammer who is the manager for the LM&M RR was our engineer. We in fact had the owners of the Flagg Coal #75 riding on the open car with us John Gramling, is a member of our chapter and his son Barney Gramling.

As we were being pushed south just out of town it started to rain. It was just a light drizzle and did not dampen any spirits. We were able to go about 5 miles until the grade became too much for the engine to push with the wet rails.

A decision was made by Ray Kammer the LM&M Superintendent to proceed towards Lebanon and do a series of runbys along a cut by a factory. The cut was about 5 feet high and the folks that climbed up to take photos had a great view of the train coming by. Flagg coal then proceeded closer to Lebanon and stopped for another series of runbys. This was a nice open flat area and offered a number of spectacular shots. All during the train ride another chapter member Jim Corbett was giving us historical remarks about the train and its location.



Photo by Graeme George



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We arrived back in Lebanon just about 4 pm. A few folks stayed around and watched the engine being shut down while the largest group headed up the hill 2 blocks to the Golden Lamb Restaurant.

At the Golden Lamb we had 74 folks to join us and celebrate with food and good fellowship. I have eaten many banquet meals at various locations and I have to say that this was the best meal for a banquet that I have ever had. The meal was not only delicious but we had more than enough food for all to eat.

While at the Golden Lamb we introduced our 40 year member Dick Klaus who is also a Charter member. We also introduced a group of members from the Huntington Chapter led by none other than Don Maxwell. Thanks ladies and gentlemen for your participation.

I had the pleasure to introduce Mr. John Zimkus. John is the historian for the Warren County Historical Society, he is also the Historian for the Golden Lamb. John has many other titles and awards. We had the pleasure to have a presentation about Lebanon and the RR not coming to Lebanon then coming to Lebanon. We had a very informative presentation



Photo from Golden Lamb Web Site

about all of the presidents and other high ranking political figures that have stayed at the Golden Lamb. Mr. Zimkus was so good that he kept everyone's attention for the 45 minute presentation.

I have to thank Graeme George, Chris Lockwood and Joe Rosenthal for the photos presented to me for this article. If not for them I would not have any photos for you to view. Please see the next page for more photos of the trip.



Photo by Chris Lockwood and Joe Rosenthal



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