

# The ET Times

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A NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ET & WNC RR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## The 27th Annual ET & WNC RR HS Convention



The 27<sup>th</sup> annual Convention of the East Tennessee & Western North Carolina Railroad Historical Society will be held June 26-28, 2015 in Johnson City, Tennessee. Your Board of Directors are once again planning some new and exciting events for this year.

On Friday June 26, we will once again convene at the Carnegie Hotel in Johnson City. The kick off will be at 3 pm with registration. At 5pm the Business meeting will start. Dinner will be held at 7pm and once again there will be a special guest speaker. Please note we have been promised both rooms this year so we will not be as cramped as last year. Also this will allow us to bring memorabilia or other railroad items to share.

Saturday will start at 8am with a guided walk on the Tweetsie Trail. The tour will begin at the Carnegie with a brief lecture from Chris Ford with aerial maps. Then a caravan will head out going by the Clinchfield and ET Station. Please plan ahead and carpool as much as possible. The caravan will stop at Alabama Street Trail Head. There will be a brief intro to the Engine house and then a walk over the trail. This is a 2 mile round trip. Please wear comfortable shoes and layer clothing for the weather. Remember it is easier to remove clothing layers than put on. Complete details about the Tweetsie Trail can be found at their official website.

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### Board of Directors

#### Officers:

##### President: Chris Ford

901.497.0809  
chris@cfordart.com  
www.cfordart.com

##### Vice President: Jerry Turbyfill

828.733.0680  
Jerryturbyfill@gmail.com

##### Treasurer: LeAnn Odle

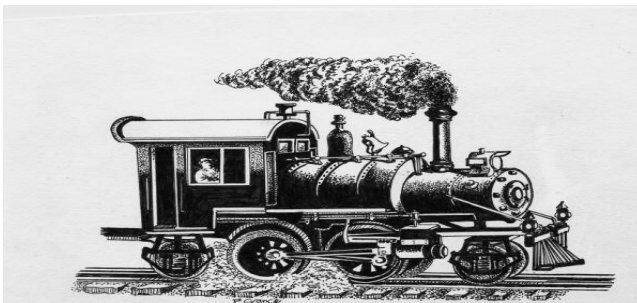
336.467.0364  
surgnursenc@aol.com

##### Secretary: Jane Brady

336.566.3437  
Just1jane67@gmail.com

#### Board Members:

Johnny Graybeal, Past President  
Joel Shipley  
Michael Paschall  
Dr. Fred Alsop III



## ( Convention, cont. from page 1)

The George L Carter Museum will be open from 10 am to 3 pm on the campus of ETSU. Don't worry. You will have plenty of time to take the walk and enjoy the museum if you choose.

This year at Tweetsie events will happen a little differently. The Management at Tweetsie is going to keep the park open till 9 pm this year, so therefore we will not have the park to ourselves. The park will open up to the Society Membership at 3pm and the membership will have the opportunity to experience the entire park plus a special viewing of #12 if it is not operating that day. For more on this see the message from Vice President Jerry

Turbyfill below. Dinner at the park will be served at 6 pm in a location specially set up for us.

On Sunday we will be visiting the Doe River Gorge for a train ride through the Gorge. Please be at the Gorge no later than 9:45 am to get loaded and head out. Lunch will be on your own and then we will head over to the Avery County Museum, Depot, and Caboose 505. The museum will be open at 1 pm for anyone who would like to drop by.

The cost for the Convention this year will be \$49.00 per person. Once again the Carnegie Hotel will be the hotel of the convention. We have reserved a specific number of rooms

especially for us. As this is the weekend before July 4<sup>th</sup> do not procrastinate in getting your room. Remember the hotel and surrounding hotels will fill up quickly.

Of special note, the Cranberry Church has remodeled the front of the building. If you would like to go by and see this please feel free to stop by. This can be done on your own. Other things to do on your own are Grandfather Mountain, Historic Johnson City, shopping, dining and many other venues. Please go to the Johnson City Visitors website for ideas.

Jane Brady and LeAnn Odle

# A Message from the Vice President

## A New Day is coming to Tweetsie

For years, President Chris Robbins of Tweetsie Railroad has given us the privilege of coming to the theme park as part of our convention. Chris called me in January



to inform me that the park will be changing their hours of operation this season, in order to stay open until 9 pm. As part of our convention we can still come to the park at 3 pm. We will be there with the general public but will be the special guest of Mr. Robbins. We will be able to ride the train and other park activities, including riding the rides and seeing the shows. We will still have dinner as usual at 6 pm.

Admission into Tweetsie is waived for those who have a convention name badge. All others will have to purchase a park admis-



sion. Tweetsie has offered us full access to number 12 to look at, measure, or climb into the cab for pictures if it is not working in the park. This maybe your one and only chance for full access to number 12. The last train will leave between 8 and 9 pm offering twilight ride around the mountain.

Jerry Turbyfill  
Vice President

# From the Desk of the President

## Hey y'all!

I'll be brief.....yeah, right! That's not going to happen! I will say it's really an exciting time to be a member of the ET&WNC Railroad Historical Society. There's change in the air, and not change just for change's sake, but change to help make this Historical Society what we know it can be. Changes in leadership, changes in the way we do our business, changes to the yearly convention...all these changes are exciting, and they're scary at the same time. Scary because much of this change brings on extra work and challenges to the dedicated folks who volunteer their time to help lead. But exciting because these changes will ultimately bring with them a renewed professionalism to the Historical Society.

That being said, there's a balance we have to respect between what we CAN do and what we, as an organization, WANT to do. Achieving that balance will require input from the membership and careful thought from the leadership. To this I think the members have already spoken that they want some changes to help bolster and increase our membership numbers, bring a newness to the conventions, get a website up and running to help us do our business, and still have fun in the process. It's the job of the leadership to see that the will of the Society is heard and acted upon.

Hard at work are many folks. Your vice-president Jerry Turbyfill is a tireless worker and has put in countless hours along with his committee to bring about some of the best conventions that we've ever had. Our newest officer,

Jane Brady, has stepped...no, not just stepped...has JUMPED into her newly appointed role of secretary to relieve LeAnn from the unenviable role of being both treasurer and secretary. Jane will be a great asset for the Society and her work, very important as this position, is responsible for the newsletter...and the newsletter is what puts a face on the Society. Both the secretary and treasurer positions require constant work and diligence and are really at the heart of the Society.

"So, we elected Chris as president...what's he doing?" Let me preface the answer with the thought that the Board of Directors of an organization helps shape and push the organization, bringing new ideas and experience to the table. We've had two official Board of Directors meetings since the convention and a new and larger Board of Directors has been appointed, consisting of the current officers - Jerry, Jane, LeAnn and myself, the immediate past president Johnny Graybeal, plus new members Joel Shipley, Michael Paschall and Fred Alsop. All these new members of the Board bring with them different strengths and resources to help push this organization forward. I'm still looking for more.

Particularly exciting to me is that Michael Paschall is heading up the Website Committee, tasked with engineering and building an attractive and fully functional website that will make you proud to be a member of the Society, be the envy of other Historical Societies, and will allow members and future members to conduct our business - join the Society, pay dues, print membership cards, renew memberships, donate to projects, register and pay for conventions, access the Society by-

laws and newsletters, have dedicated email addresses to the officers so you can send suggestions, and on and on. Oh, man...the list can only get longer with your input on how we want to use it. I'm almost always available on my cell, and I'm ALWAYS available via email. If you think you have something to share, let us know....that's how a new member by the name of Clark Barrow got our Facebook page started. He had something he wanted to share.

Your help. Your input. I'll be asking for it. I want you to get involved. I don't want you to be disappointed. I want you to have fun. I want you to be proud. Watch for changes coming to YOUR Historical Society, together we can make it bigger and better. I know we can.

Chris Ford  
[chris@cfordart.com](mailto:chris@cfordart.com)  
901-497-0809







## Board of Directors Meeting

The Board of Directors of the ET & WNC RR Historical Society met Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at the campus of ETSU in Johnson City.

Of main focus for the meeting was the discussion of the upcoming convention to be held in Johnson City, TN. A set cost of \$49.00 per person will cover 2 meals, Tweetsie entrance in to the park, a walk and talk at the Tweetsie Trail, train ride at the Gorge on Sunday, and cost of the meeting rooms at the Carnegie Hotel. The business meeting will begin at 5 pm and dinner/speaker at 7 pm.

It was moved and seconded to appoint Jane Brady as interim Secretary. As stated in the by-laws, Jane will be confirmed to the office at the next annual business meeting. This coming year

will be the elections of Vice President and Treasurer. If you have a nomination please email a board member with that nomination.

The advisory committee headed up by Joel Shipley, has met and discussed pros and cons for association with the George L. Carter Museum. Joel will bring a memorandum of understanding to the membership at the business meeting and then a vote will be held to proceed with association or not to proceed with association.

Michael Paschal who is heading the website committee has finalized the domain and reports that website is coming closer to being finished. More information about this can be found in Chris's message in this newsletter.

It has been suggested that the society as a whole needs to be more transparent. In response, Treasurer LeAnn will be presenting a budget for the society at the annual business meeting.

It was moved that any cost to be reimbursed over \$500 will require a second approval by the President. This will be in the form of a letter emailed and then archived in the official documentation of the Society.

A move and second for adjournment was made and the meeting closed.

Jane Brady  
Secretary



## Have You Seen Us??????

As of this printing we currently have 790 likes on our Facebook page created by member Clark Barrow. Let's try and get it to 1000 before the convention.

Website:

<https://www.facebook.com/ETWNCRRailroadHistoricalSociety?fref=ts>



**George L. Carter Railroad Museum  
ET & WNC RR Historical Society  
Order Form**



**Color: Black**  
**65% Polyester**  
**35% Cotton**

Logo Embroidered Polo Shirt Without Name				
Size	Price	Qty	Total	Delivered
S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___	28.00			
2XL _____	32.00			
3XL _____	34.00			
4XL _____	36.00			
5XL _____	38.00			
6 XL _____	40.00			

**Logo Embroidered Polo Shirt With Name (Add \$5.00 to the above price)**

Size	Name as you want it on shirt (First, Last, or First and Last) Please print legibility	Price	Delivered



**Patches & Pins (\$5.00 each)**

	Price	Qty	Total	Delivered
3 inch Embroidered Logo Patch	5.00			
1 inch Enameled Metal Logo Pin				
Red _____ Green _____	5.00			

<b>Yes</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I will pick up my order at the June Convention
<b>No</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Please ship me my order (\$5.00 S&H shirt; \$2.00 Patches/Pins)

Please send check payable to:

**G.L. Carter RR Museum.**

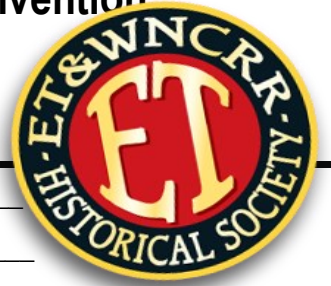
Mail to: **George L. Carter RR Museum,**  
**PO Box 70703, ETSU, Johnson City, TN 37614**

Ship to: Name _____	Total Enclosed _____
Address: _____	
City _____ State: _____ Zip Code _____	
Email : _____	



# 27th Annual ET & WNC RR Historical Society Convention

## Johnson City, TN



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Convention price is \$49.00 per person. Please indicate each person attending for name badges to be made. Please indicate if you will be attending the business meeting and Tweetsie so meal tickets can be made. Thank you. ( Example: You and your spouse attending.....Total Due \$98.00 )**

Name	Business Meeting	Tweetsie	Price
			49.00
			49.00
			49.00
			49.00
			49.00

Total Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail To: LeAnn Odle  
PO Box 154  
McGrady, NC 28649**

Please make checks payable to:  
ET & WNC RR HS.

If paying by credit/debit Card : \_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_ Master Card \_\_\_\_ America Express \_\_\_\_ Discover

Name as on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Security Number/ CVV Number on back of Card: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\*Note: There is a 3.5% plus .15 cents processing fee by the card processing company. Your card will be charged 50.93 per person.\*\*\***

If you have questions please contact LeAnn Odle by email or phone at [surgnursenc@aol.com](mailto:surgnursenc@aol.com) or 336.467.0364.

For Office Use Only!!!! Member # \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Cash: \_\_\_\_\_ D/C #: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_