

TRAIN EXCURSION TO RAILFEST

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2008

The Harrisburg Chapter, National Railway Historical Society is on the move again with another excursion behind the Juniata Terminal/PRR E8A engines. If you wanted to ride behind these beautiful locomotives but couldn't afford the fare, this trip is for you. Plan to join us for an exciting train excursion from Harrisburg to Altoona, PA, plus a ride around the famous Horseshoe Curve, followed by an afternoon at Railfest and a return to Harrisburg by chartered motor coach. The excursion will feature coach seating on a train pulled by two immaculately-restored, vintage passenger diesel locomotives painted for the Pennsylvania Railroad.



The chartered train will depart the Harrisburg Amtrak Station at 7:15 am. After a non-stop run to Altoona, where additional passengers will board, the train will climb the Allegheny front, traversing majestic Horseshoe Curve en route. After tunneling under the crest at Gallitzin, the train will make a loop and return to Altoona for detrainning all passengers at approximately 11:30 am. There is a convenient foot bridge to reach the Museum from the station, and a separate foot bridge provides an overhead vantage point for photographing through trains, helpers and the excursion train. Passengers will be on their own for the afternoon to participate in all the activities of Railfest—a celebration of Altoona railroad heritage. Your trip fare will pay for admission to Railfest, which includes the Railroaders Memorial Museum, live entertainment on the Museum stage, outdoor rolling stock, a new turntable, Museum grounds, a shuttle bus ride to visit the Horseshoe Curve and admission to the Curve. The Museum houses numerous exhibits and displays of the rich railroading tradition of Altoona, its citizens and the way they lived. There will also be a model train show, special exhibits and food and drink all day. The motor coaches (buses) will depart the Museum for Harrisburg promptly at 6:30 pm, arriving back about 9 pm.



The locomotives for the excursion are privately owned by the Juniata Terminal Company and are restored to their original colors and numbers. They were built in the 1950's and were last used by Conrail to power its executive train. The coach cars for the train are air-conditioned commuter cars from SEPTA and have a limited number of restrooms. There is no food service available on the train (except to Pgh), but guests are welcome to bring their own food along.

Fares for the entire trip are \$75 per person, just \$10 more than last year. Included in the cost is the train fare to and around the Curve, admission to Railfest and the Museum, bus shuttle to the Curve, admission to the Curve and the return bus ride to Harrisburg. Tickets may be ordered from Railfest Trip, 2467 Little Buffalo Road, Newport, PA 17074-8822. Checks must accompany an order and should be made payable to "Harrisburg Chapter NRHS." INCLUDE A STAMPED (42 ¢), SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR MAILING OF YOUR TICKETS, which will be done as soon as they are available. We would also appreciate an e/mail address for emergency use only. There are no refunds given on purchased tickets. Sorry, but we are not able to take credit cards for this trip. The Railfest website is <http://www.railroadcity.com>. The Harrisburg Chapter website is <http://nrhs-hbg.pennsyr.com>. Details on parking in Harrisburg and a Railfest brochure will be mailed with your tickets. We hope you can join us for this opportunity to attend Railfest.

We expect these seats to be sold quickly, so do not hesitate to order. Capacity is limited to three buses. Besides driving, this is one of the few attendance options that does not involve a two-day stay and yet allows a long-distance ride through the beautiful Juniata Valley. Plan now to join us. Questions regarding this trip may be left on the Chapter's answering machine at 717-232-6221. We will attempt to return your call as soon as possible.

One more option is being offered for the first time this year. For \$275 per person, you can ride from Hbg all the way to Pittsburgh, stay overnight and return the next day, July 13, with the train following Railfest. In that price is included R/T train fare, hotel room in Pgh (double occupancy only), a box meal on the way to Pgh, the first trip around the curve on Saturday, access to a Guest Lounge in Altoona both days, and all admissions and shuttles in Altoona. Secured luggage space will be available in Altoona during the days. The train will depart Hbg at 7:15 am Saturday and will return after 6 pm on Sunday. Order tickets as above, enclosing the proper amount and including a SSAF phone number and e/mail if possible.