

Whitewater Valley Railroad
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ALL ABOARD THE WHITEWATER VALLEY RAILROAD TO CELEBRATE NATIONAL TRAIN DAY

TRAVELLING ON HISTORY THROUGH THE SCENIC WHITEWATER VALLEY

For Immediate Release – Thursday May 1, 2014

Connersville, Indiana – In conjunction with National Train Day on May 10, 2014, The Whitewater Valley Railroad is proud to host Dean Dorrell as Mr. Abraham Lincoln and local railroad authors Francis Parker and Judy Clem.

On May 10, 1869, in Promontory Summit, Utah, the "golden spike" was driven into the final tie that joined 1,776 miles of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific railways, ceremonially creating the nation's first transcontinental railroad, and America was transformed.

Now, 145 years after the "golden spike" connected east and west, there's never been a better time to take the train. That's why, in commemoration of the anniversary of the day the "golden spike" was driven, we a nation, celebrated the first-ever National Train Day on May 10th, 2008. This year the event will be even better. So mark Saturday, May 10th, 2014 on your calendar for a coast-to-coast celebration of the way trains connect people and places.

In honor of National Train Day and the Whitewater Valley Railroad's 40th Anniversary Season, local railroad authors and longtime Whitewater Valley Railroad volunteer's Francis Parker and Judy Clem will be on hand to sign their newly released book from Arcadia Publishing *IMAGES OF RAIL: WHITEWATER VALLEY RAILROAD*. The book signing will take place from 10:00 AM until the trains departure at Noon in the lobby of Connersville's Grand Central Station. *IMAGES OF RAIL: WHITEWATER VALLEY RAILROAD* takes readers on a ride through history with more than 200 historic images donated from members and volunteers of the Whitewater Valley Railroad, this pictorial history covers the period from 1972 to the present, with a brief introduction to its predecessors, including Whitewater Canal and the original White Water Railroad. It focuses primarily on the efforts of dedicated volunteers who for 40 years have worked to preserve, maintain, and operate a historic railroad.

All profits from the sale of the book are being donated back to the Whitewater Valley Railroad where authors Francis H. Parker and Judy Clem are qualified locomotive engineers and conductors! Both authors hope that this book will encourage other Tourist Railroads or Operational Railroad Museums to publish their histories so that all of their hard work will not be lost or forgotten.

To celebrate National Train Day on May 10, Abraham Lincoln will be riding the Whitewater Valley Railroad between Connersville and Historic Metamora. President Abraham Lincoln, in July of 1862, signed the Pacific Railroad Bill that put the federal government behind the building of the Transcontinental Railroad project. The Transcontinental Railroad was completed on May 10, 1869. Travel through time on The Statesman as you spend the day with the 16th President Abraham Lincoln on a relaxing train excursion through the Whitewater Valley. Mr. Lincoln will be riding along as you travel among remnants of the Whitewater Canal to the historic town of Metamora. During the two hour layover, visit the working grist mill, restored canal and lock, operating replica horse drawn canal boat, historic covered aqueduct, and over 40 shops and restaurants. Ask the former president questions and have your photos taken to preserve the memories. Listen to Mr. Lincoln as he delivers a memorable speech before the train departs Metamora for

the return to Connersville and during the trip Mr. Lincoln will be speaking about the railroads and their effects on his election. Festivities with Abraham Lincoln re-enactor Dean Dorrell will begin at 10:00 AM at Connersville's Grand Central Station.

Come to Connersville, Indiana for this spectacular railroading event, and return to a time when the railroad moved the nation and the short line railroad was a small town's best friend. The round trip fares for these exciting train excursions are \$22 for adult and \$14 for children. Caboose tickets are also available on these excursions for \$25 adult and \$16 child. Tickets are on sale online at www.whitewatervalleyrr.org or by calling the Whitewater Valley Railroad's Grand Central Station at (765) 825-2054.

About National Train Day

Celebrate America's love for rail travel with events across the country during the Six Annual National Train Day on May 10, 2014. Marking 145 years of connecting travelers from coast to coast, National Train Day commemorates the day the first transcontinental railroad was created and looks toward the future of rail travel with large scale events in Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Chicago and Los Angeles, and many more locally organized events in communities nationwide. For more information about National Train Day events, promotions and information about the opportunity to host a National Train Day event in your city, visit www.nationaltrainday.com.

About Arcadia Publishing

Arcadia Publishing is the leading publisher of local and regional history in the United States. Our mission is to make history accessible and meaningful through the publication of books on the heritage of America's people and places. Discover more than 8,500 small towns and downtowns at <http://www.arcadiapublishing.com>.

About Metamora, Indiana

Metamora is Indiana's treasured 1838 canal town. Nestled in southeastern Indiana's beautiful countryside, Metamora is steeped in history and famous for its preservation of Indiana's oldest and still operating water-powered grist mill. Located 60 miles east of Indianapolis and 35 miles west of Cincinnati, A must see town that retains all of its traditional charm and languid atmosphere. Shop in stores housed in buildings dated back to the early 1800s, eat and above all else... Enjoy the slow relaxing pace of the past! For more information on Historic Metamora, visit Metamora online at www.metamoraindiana.com.

About the Whitewater Valley Railroad (WVRR)

Travel through time on Indiana's most scenic railroad. Established in 1972, the Whitewater Valley Railroad is a nonprofit 501c3 railroad history organization. It is an operating railroad museum dedicated to the preservation of a historic branch line railroad, the restoration of railroad equipment, and to the conduct of railroad educational programs. The railroad is operated by trained volunteers and all proceeds are used to further the organization's mission.

The WVRR attracts passengers and railroad enthusiasts from all across the United States and Canada. Connersville is situated 65 miles from Cincinnati, Dayton, and Indianapolis, conveniently located in between the three metro areas.

Call (765) 825-2054 for more information and reservations. Visit the Whitewater Valley Railroad's online at www.whitewatervalleyrr.org. You can follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

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William W. Gray, WVRR Publicity Officer

This document is also available at www.whitewatervalleyrr.org