

Whitewater Valley Railroad
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www.whitewatervalleyrr.org



WHITEWATER VALLEY RAILROAD ANNOUNCES 2013 SEASON

Celebrating 40 Years as Indiana's Most Scenic Railroad.

For Immediate Release – Monday April 15, 2013

Connersville, Indiana – Travel Through Time On Indiana's Most Scenic Railroad. The Whitewater Valley Railroad (WVRR), an authentic, historic train offering recreational train excursions and events for its 40th operating season in 2013. Established in 1972, the WVRR 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.

Ride the 40th season of the Valley Flyer as it travels from Connersville to historic Metamora, Indiana, a restored canal town. During the 2 hour layover in Metamora, visit the working grist mill, restored canal and lock, operating replica horse drawn canal boat, historic covered aqueduct, and over 100 shops and restaurants. Trains consisting of vintage equipment depart Connersville's Grand Central Station at 12:01 pm on Saturdays, Sundays, and major holidays, May through October. This train will not operate June 14th through 23rd, 2013 due to a Day Out With Thomas in Connersville. Also during the month of May, the Whitewater Limited departs Connersville's Grand Central Station for Metamora at 10 am on Thursdays and Fridays.

All Aboard with a western twist and join the Circle D Rangers as they protect the Metamora bound Overland Limited every 3rd Saturday May through October excluding June. The Overland Limited also operates a special departure on the 3rd Sunday in October. Come and see Bandits, Marshals, Robber Barons, Fancy and some Not So Fancy Women as you roll through the scenic countryside. Trains depart Connersville's Grand Central Station at 12:01 pm.

Cost for these 33-mile round trip excursions is \$22 for adults and \$14 for children ages 2 to 12. Groups are welcome with group rates of 30 or more. Special school rates are also available.

The popular Twilight Limited Train To Dinner will begin on Friday May 3rd at 6 pm. This train takes riders from Connersville to the Laurel Hotel Restaurant for a delicious pan-fried chicken dinner and other home-cooked meals. The Twilight Limited Train To Dinner operates each month on the first and third Fridays at 6 pm. Total cost for the train ride, meal, tax and tip is \$29 for adults and \$15 for children ages 2 to 12. Reservations are required for the Twilight Limited Train To Dinner.

Also available on most weekends is the WVRR's Metamora Local, which offers a 30 minute ride further south from Metamora on the historic Whitewater Branch of the former New York Central Railroad. Some sites along the way include the restored canal, operating canal boat Ben Franklin III, the Duck Creek Aqueduct, working canal lock and the Whitewater Canal Trail.

Come to Connersville, Indiana and return to a time when the railroad moved the nation and the short line railroad was a small town's best friend. 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 or visit the Whitewater Valley Railroad's web site at www.whitewatervalleyrr.org and follow on Facebook.

Other entertaining and educational events planned by the Whitewater Valley Railroad's 40th Season include:

- **Whitewater Limited, (FAVORITE)** - May 2013 - Enjoy the beautiful Whitewater River Valley between Connersville and Metamora on the Whitewater Limited. These special excursions run every Thursday and Friday during May, departing Connersville's Grand Central Station at 10:00 am, and allows a two hour stopover in Metamora. Cost for these 33-mile round trip excursions is \$22 for adults and \$14 for children ages 2 to 12. Groups are welcome with group rates of 30 or more. Special school rates are also available.
- **National Train Day with Mr. Abraham Lincoln, (FAVORITE)** – May 11, 2013 – 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 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 along remnants of the Whitewater Canal to the historic town of Metamora. 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.
- **Mother's Day Valley Flyer (NEW IMPROVED)** - May 12, 2013 - Visit Historic Metamora, Indiana without worrying about parking!! This train departs from our Connersville depot at 12:01 pm. Old Truck Revival will be providing Live Music while onboard for Mom and her guests to enjoy. Platted in 1838, Metamora is a restored canal town. Visit the working grist mill, restored canal and lock, operating replica horse drawn canal boat, historic covered aqueduct, and over 100 shops and restaurants during the 2 hour layover. Trains consisting of vintage equipment departs Connersville's Grand Central Station at 12:01 pm on Saturdays, Sundays, and major holidays, May through October. The Valley Flyer departs Metamora for the return to Connersville at 3:30 pm, arriving at the Connersville Station at 5:00 pm.
- **Memorial Day Valley Flyer, (FAVORITE)** - May 27, 2013 - Enjoy a relaxing train ride through the scenic Whitewater Valley, on your way to the historic town of Metamora. Enjoy a two hour layover before your return trip to Connersville. Train departs Connersville at 12:01 pm.

- **Day Out with Thomas™ THE GO GO THOMAS TOUR 2013, (FAVORITE)** - June 14, 15, 16 & 21, 22, 23, 2013 - The popular public television character Thomas the Tank Engine™ chugs into Connersville's Grand Central Station. The 25-minute train rides are perfect for young children. Enjoy storytelling, live magic, handcar rides, giant family games, bounce house, miniature golf, and posing for pictures with Thomas and Sir Topham Hatt. Tickets Are On Sale Now.
- **Connersville Bicentennial Celebration (SPECIAL ONE TIME EVENT)** - June 28 - July 7, 2013 - Something for Everybody, Every Day! Ten Big Days and Nights Proudly Celebrating 200 Years of Life in Connersville, Indiana! More information is available at www.connersville200years.com.
- **Lasers & Lights Train To Dinner (BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION)** – June 28, 2013 - Special running of the Twilight Limited Train to Dinner excursion departing Connersville Grand Central Station. Return back to the Connersville Bicentennial Celebration in time for the downtown Laser Light Show. Limited seating is available and reservations are required. Tickets On Sale Now.
- **American Limited Civil War Special, (BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION)** - July 4, 2013 - Come along and take a trip back in time with us. Be in the middle of the action as a Union Army detachment protects the US Government Payroll. While along the line a relentless group of Confederate soldiers plan and wait. Enjoy a relaxing train ride through the scenic Whitewater Valley, on your way to the historic town of Metamora. Enjoy a two hour layover before your return trip to Connersville. Train departs Connersville's Grand Central Station at 12:01 pm. Tickets Are On Sale Now.
- **Dinosaur Train™ (NEW) – August 17, 18, 24, & 25, 2013** - Roar...take a ride back to the Jurassic Period on the Dinosaur Train™! Patterned after the hit PBS Television cartoon series, families take an adventurous ride to the Nature Trackers Activity Area where they explore, play and learn about life science, natural history and dinosaurs. Guests will meet their favorite T-Rex, Buddy, find real fossils and dig for dinosaur bones! There is also giant dinosaurs and merchandise! Grab your family and friends and join a fascinating time that only dinosaurs and trains can bring together. Tickets Are On Sale Now.
- **The Statesman with Mr. Abraham Lincoln, (FAVORITE)** – August 10, September 14 & October 12, 2013 – Spend the day with the 16th President on this special excursion to Historic Metamora, Indiana. Mr. Lincoln will be riding along in order to present a speech to the good town folk of Metamora. Come along as ask questions and have your photos taken to preserve the memories.

- **Valley Flyer to the Metamora Music Festival, (FAVORITE)** – August 31 & September 1, 2013, Enjoy a relaxing train ride through the scenic Whitewater Valley as you're on the way to the historic town of Metamora for the annual Music Festival. Enjoy a two hour layover before your return trip to Connersville. Train departs Connersville at 12:01 pm.
- **Labor Day Valley Flyer, (FAVORITE)** – September 2, 2013 - Enjoy a relaxing train ride through the scenic Whitewater Valley, on your way to the historic town of Metamora. Enjoy a two hour layover before your return trip to Connersville. Train departs Connersville at 12:01 pm.
- **Metamora Canal Days Specials, (FAVORITE)** - October 4, 5, & 6, 2013 - Enjoy Metamora Canal Days without worrying about parking. These excursions leave Connersville's Grand Central Station on Friday Oct 4 at 10:00 am with a 2 hour layover. On Saturday Oct 5 & Sunday Oct 6 at 10:01 am with a 4 hour layover and 12:01 pm with a 2 hour layover. Caboose tickets & rentals are available for all trips. All trains departing Metamora for the return trip to Connersville on October 3 & 4 will combine and depart as one train consist.
- **Fall Foliage Flyer, (FAVORITE)** - October 2013 - Enjoy the beautiful fall foliage in the Whitewater River Valley between Connersville and Metamora on one of our Fall Foliage Trips. These special excursions runs every Thursday and Friday during October, departing Connersville's Grand Central Station at 10:00 am, and allow a two hour stop over in Metamora.
- **Pumpkinliner, (FAVORITE)** - October 26 & 27, 2013 - Bring the family out for a afternoon of fun. Enjoy a round trip from our Connersville Grand Central Station to our pumpkin patch. Your train ticket includes round trip service to the pumpkin patch, a hay ride to the patch, and a pumpkin from the field. Trains depart at 10:00 am, 12:30 pm, 2:30 pm and 4:30 pm. Ticket includes a pumpkin for children age 11 and under. Tickets are Limited and Reservations are Recommended.
- **THE POLAR EXPRESS™, (FAVORITE)** - November & December 2013 - THIS HOLIDAY SEASON... BELIEVE. THE POLAR EXPRESS rolls into Connersville's Grand Central Station this Holiday Season. The Polar Express will come to life when the train departs Connersville's Grand Central Station for a journey through the quiet countryside for a special visit to the "North Pole" with Santa Claus. Seating for this event is Limited and tickets are On Sale Now.

- **Santa Claus Limited, (FAVORITE)** - Friday November 29, 2013 - Board the train at Grand Central Station in Connersville to pick up Santa Claus along the way. Once on board Santa will come and visit with each child on the train. Train departs at 10am, 12pm and 2pm. (NOTE: These trains are not affiliated with the POLAR EXPRESS)
- **Metamora Holiday Specials, (FAVORITE)** - November & December 2013 - Special holiday shopping excursions to Metamora are available in conjunction with Metamora's Annual Christmas Walk. Reservations must be made in advance. Early reservations are highly recommended, since these trains usually sell out very early due to the train's limited capacity. Caboose Rentals: Bring the whole family, or a group of friends! Rent one of our cabooses for your private excursion to Metamora, and tag it on to any the Christmas Express Excursions. (Maximum of 20 guests on most of our caboose fleet). Limited Availability, These sell out early, so make your reservation today! Train departs Friday November 29, Saturday November 30, Saturday December 7, & Saturday December 14 at 4 pm with a 3 1/4 hour layover in Historic Metamora. (NOTE: These trains are not affiliated with the POLAR EXPRESS)

About the WVRR

Travel through time on Indiana's most scenic railroad, voted Indiana's Best Scenic Railway in 2013 by The Official Best Of at <http://www.officialbestof.com>. Established in 1972, the Whitewater Valley Railroad is a non profit 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. Train operations began in spring 1974 with trips between Connersville, Metamora, and Brookville, Indiana.

Come to Connersville, Indiana and return to a time when the railroad moved the nation and the short line railroad was a small town's best friend. 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.

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.

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William W. Gray, WVRR Publicity Officer

This document is also available at www.whitewatervalleyrr.org