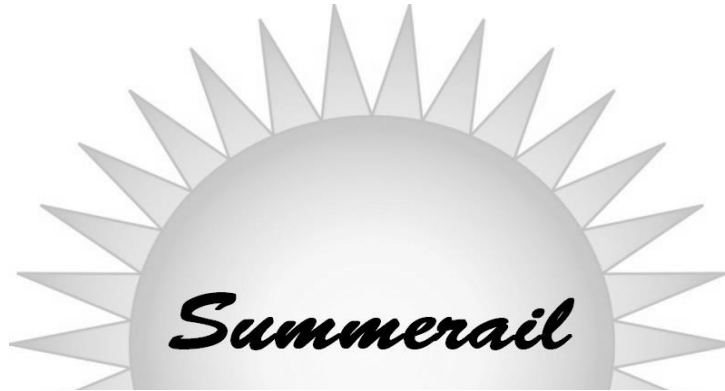




SUMMERAIL AT MARION

Saturday, August 8, 2026

**Sponsored by
Marion Union Station Association**

SCHEDULE

Railroad Show & Sale.....	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Session 1 Presentations.....	1:00 p.m. - 4:35 p.m.
Dinner Break.....	4:35 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Session 2 Presentations.....	7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

2026 Planning Committee & Workers

Bruce Barrett, Steve Barry, Rich Behrendt, Charles & MaryAnn Bogart, Steve Forrest, Corey Haines, Bill Haines, Scott & Myra Lindsey, Zach Marlow, Brian Matsumoto, Dave & Jill Oroszi, Kirk Reynolds, Keith Robbins, Otto Vondrak, Pete White

MUST SHOW WRIST BAND TO ENTER AUDITORIUM

No smoking or videotaping devices permitted in the theater.

For safety and courtesy to other attendees and presenters,
re-entry to the theater is not permitted once each program begins.

A whistle will sound two minutes before the doors close after each intermission.

NEXT YEAR'S SUMMERAIL - AUGUST 14, 2027 - BE SURE TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR

SESSION 1 PRESENTATIONS - 1:00 p.m. – 4:35 p.m.

1:00 p.m. 1) Dave & Kyle Ori - *Hangin' With The Ori Boys* (Cleveland, OH)

This father and son pair cover a wide variety of railroads across the US from 1980-2020. The first segment is railroads Dave captured with his Nikon FM during the 1980s and 1990s. Following that, Kyle explores Class One and regional railroads. And finally, the pair combines their photographic skills in the barren southwest desert of Arizona and the rugged terrain of the Golden State, featuring scenes from the Santa Fe, Southern Pacific, Union Pacific, BNSF, Apache Railway and Escalante Western.

Born in 1960, Dave became interested in railroading during the early 1970s and took up photography in 1978, when he got a Pentax K1000 camera as a graduation gift. Over the years, Dave has written articles for various railroad publications and has co-produced four books on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. He retired after 38 years in the railroad industry in 2021 and lives in Fairview Park, Ohio with his wife Karen and two cats, Milo and Maverick. Kyle became interested in railroad photography at a young age and honed his photographic skills traveling throughout the US with his father and friends. He works in the banking industry and lives in North Ridgeville, Ohio with his wife Liz and daughter Charlotte.

1:35 p.m. 2) Michael Harding – *50 Shades of Blue* (Toledo, OH)

This show explores a theme of “blue” in several different interpretations of the idea. Though he’s long been a typical railfan photographer with a photojournalism style, Michael’s learned over the years to not always put the camera away just because the sun is setting, first exploring blue hour photography and eventually night flash photography. This show reflects photographic work over the course of the last 20 years chasing different themes.

Michael only started off seriously photographing trains just over 20 years ago after a new job put him in constant proximity to Class I railroading. Prior to that, his basement Western Maryland layout and operating on friends’ layouts had been his outlet for a lifelong interest in trains. He’d like to thank many friends and a number of publications for helping him learn and improve on the art of railroad photography over the years. Michael and his wife Claudia enjoy travelling to different parts of the country to visit National Parks and interesting railroads & railroad locations .

2:00 p.m. 3) Dave Beach – *Thanks for the Memories* (Independence, OH)

All of the pictures in this program were taken by Dave’s dad, John Beach, between 1956 and 1975. Living near Massillon, Ohio, the home roads were Nickel Plate/N&W, Pennsylvania/PC, and B&O and the program begins with those. Most of the traveling he did in those years was to visit in-laws in the south and that opened the door to photographing class 1 and shortline railroads in Appalachia, particularly the Clinchfield, Southern, and C&O. He had a special interest in the Black Mountain/Yancey railroad and later published a book of its history.

When John graduated high school, he went to work as a yard clerk for the Wheeling & Lake Erie in Canton, Ohio where his father had worked and grandfather was still the section foreman. He spent eight years working for the W&LE/Nickel Plate before graduating with a teaching degree and teaching science in high school and college for 58 years. When he started taking railroad pictures, he didn’t know any other railfans, so he discovered the hobby by using Trains and Railroad magazines from the news stand for inspiration and direction. He was an active railfan and historian and passed his interest in trains to Dave who is now retired and enjoying railfanning, traveling with his wife, and watching his six grandkids grow.

25 MINUTE INTERMISSION

2:40 p.m. 4) John Leopard – *All Red* (Waynesboro, VA)

This title comes from when a train crew member calls out a stop signal as "All Red." The show is a look at railroads John has photographed over the past 50 years that have the color red prominently displayed in their paint schemes. Other "red" subjects are sprinkled throughout the show as well.

A native of northwest Illinois, John retired from a 35-year career as a train dispatcher. Working for a number of railroads starting with Guilford's Boston & Maine in 1987 and finishing in 2022 with the Buckingham Branch RR in Virginia. In between were stints with the Burlington Northern, Rio Grande, Santa Fe, DM&IR, Wisconsin Central, IC&E/DM&E, BNSF and the Ohio Central. Mergers and office consolidations contributed to this lengthy resume. John has been married for 31 years to Margo, they "currently" reside in Virginia with their three cats and a German Shepard. This is John's second Summerail presentation

3:10 p.m. 5) Lou Gerard – *Chicago Juice* (Skokie, IL)

"Chicago Juice" reflects Lou's interest in traction, covering several Chicago systems: the CTA, South Shore, North Shore and Illinois Central Electric suburban. Working for the CTA afforded opportunities to record views that weren't available to the public. Lou also spent many years covering the South Shore in the orange car and electric freight era, as well as the present-day operation.

Lou was born in 1953 and was raised in a railroad family. His dad worked as a Soo Line carman and also ran a steam wrecking crane. They lived in the far north side Chicago neighborhood of Rogers Park, and the Chicago Transit Authority "L", which also hosted the North Shore Line, ran a few doors from their home. His interest in the CTA led to a 38.5-year career as a Rapid Transit car repairman. Now retired for over 16 years, Lou volunteers at the CTA Heritage Fleet maintaining the vintage "L" cars and pursues his many interests, including model railroading, steam and diesel trains, commercial aircraft, Great Lakes ships, and buses.

25 MINUTE INTERMISSION

3:55 p.m. 6) Charlie Dischinger – *Once Upon a Time in the West* (Springfield, MO)

This program is a synopsis of images taken over the past 40 years west of the Mississippi River. It showcases some of Charlie's favorite locations and images, with his flair for the more dramatic situations that come from braving the elements, getting up at O' Dark Thirty, or staying out after the sun has set. Once Upon a Time in the West is where a fistful of images meets the rich, soulful sound of the symphony orchestra.

Graduating in 1971 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Layout & Design, Charlie gave up an art career for his second love, trains. His railroad career spanned 34 years, working for the Frisco, Burlington Northern, and then BNSF, as a Locomotive Engineer, Yardmaster, Photographer, and on Safety projects. But he never gave up on his artistic pursuits; first by becoming Master Model Railroader #186, and later with his photography, embracing digital graphics in 1995. His photography has appeared in railroad industry publications, and in ads for national corporations. He has been retired for over 20 years and has been married to Micki for over 18 years.

4:25 p.m. 7) Ben Kletzer – *Chasing Africa's Last Articulateds* (Huntington, WV)

This program captures an odyssey from the Red Sea to Victoria Falls to photograph the last articulated steam locomotives in Africa. Starting with Eritrea Railways, an engineering marvel, that climbs from the Red Sea at Massawa to the capital of Asmara in just 100 miles on a steep mountain line featuring 3.5% grades, sharp curves, 31 tunnels and nearly a hundred brick-arch bridges. Such rugged topography mandated that the narrow-gauge railway utilize a fleet of Mallet locomotives, which continue to haul the sporadic train services. Further south, the National Railways of Zimbabwe, home of the Beyer-Garratt articulated steam locomotive, is the last state railway to maintain a roster of these gigantic locomotives, elephants of the rails. It has the most scenic lines in southern Africa en route to Victoria Falls. The show ends with Hwange Colliery, a fascinating industrial line, which was the last stand of revenue articulated steam locomotives in Africa until dieselization in 2018.

Ben Kletzer spent much of his twenties living abroad and chasing the last revenue steam locomotives in the world. Ben is currently an Assistant Professor of History at Marshall University in Huntington, WV.

4:45 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

DINNER BREAK

SESSION 2 PRESENTATIONS - 7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

7:00 p.m. 8) Chris Guss/Mike Abalos – *From the Midwest to the Rockies* (Lake Villa, IL)

Following mergers in the early 1980s, the former Missouri Pacific and Rio Grande across Kansas and Colorado became part of a new rail corridor linking the Midwest and West. In 1982, Rio Grande was granted trackage rights from Pueblo, Colorado, east to Kansas City on former Missouri Pacific tracks as a result of the UP/MP/WP merger. These rights coupled with its own route across Tennessee Pass created a new route for business that would expand further with Rio Grande's purchase of SP in 1988. While coal and ore would further increase traffic, UP's 1996 purchase of SP shifted all business away from the line for good in 1997.

Mike Abalos, a prolific photographer based in Chicago, documented the industry from the late 1970s until his sudden passing in 2006. A small group of his friends manage his slide collection, sharing his images for various book and multimedia projects such as this. His images are slowly being posted on Flickr under 'Mike Abalos photography'. Two of Mike's friends, Chris Guss and Sayre Kos, produced this show.

7:40 p.m. 9) Jerry Jordak – *Turning Back Time* (Macedonia, OH)

Sometimes we can wish that we could go back in time to the "good old days" of railroading when steam locomotives still roamed. Until someone perfects time travel, the next best thing is attending an organized photo charter with vintage railroad equipment, people dressed in period clothes, and other means to make it seem like you are back in the past. This presentation looks at a pair of recent photo charters organized by my friend Chris Lantz at the Age of Steam Roundhouse Museum and on the Everett Railroad.

Jerry grew up in Middlefield, Ohio, where he got his introduction to trains watching trains as a child on the Baltimore & Ohio's Lake Branch. Today he lives in Macedonia, Ohio, along a former Pennsylvania Railroad main line, works as an IT engineer for a large regional bank, and models a Penn Central branch line set in 1969 on his HO scale model railroad.

7:50 p.m. 10) John Fuller – *VIA Corridor & Atlantic Service* (Indianapolis, IN)

John's program captures memories of his remarkable train odysseys of the 1980s riding across the Canadian Via Rail Corridor and Atlantic Service eastward to Halifax, when he experienced the nostalgia of open berth section sleepers and first-class service. He returned 45 years later to follow the route by car and record the dramatic, picturesque scenes he had glided through decades earlier by rail with the freedom to pause and photograph the stunning vistas, charming towns, and sweeping landscapes.

A lifelong central Indiana resident, John has been a rail photographer since his teenage years in the late 1960s. He is enjoying retirement with his wife Fran.

15 MINUTE INTERMISSION

8:30 p.m. 11) Brice Douglas – *Boomer: A Traveling Rail* (Centerville, OH)

Fifth generation railroader Brice Douglas takes the audience on a trainman's journey around the world. Titled "Boomer", his presentation will take you from the mountains in Alaska, behind EMD's crossing the sands of the Sahara Desert, blizzards in Iowa, high speed trains in Europe and more.

Brice Douglas has spent the past 13 years working for nearly a dozen railroads across North America. He has worked as a locomotive engineer, freight and passenger conductor, diesel locomotive mechanic and Yardmaster. He enjoys extensive travel trips with his beloved dog, Miss Montana and his girlfriend Laura.

8:55: p.m. 12) Dave Oroszi – *Crazy Mix 2* (Dayton, OH)

This program is a mix of various subjects from Dave's photo archive. It starts out with a look at the B&O CPL signals on CSX's Toledo Subdivision. Then traverses the country viewing railroad-themed artwork on walls of buildings. Next are pictures of windmills and trains, followed by some photos taken during the blustery winter months. The final section is photos taken during the time of the setting sun into dark.

David and his wife Jill have been pursuing their railroad interest for over 50 years now. They are lifelong residents of Dayton, Ohio, where they live with their three cats.