

Colorful diesels on display at Carter Railroad Museum's Heritage Day Sept. 30



JOHNSON CITY – Thanks to a desire to honor of the past in the present, the George L. Carter Railroad Museum at East Tennessee State University will showcase modern railroading with a vintage twist during its monthly Heritage Day on **Saturday, Sept. 30**.

Some years ago, both Norfolk Southern and Union Pacific chose to recreate variations of paint schemes found on their originating firms like the Rio Grande, Interstate, Pennsylvania and Southern on brand new diesel locomotives. These engines roam their respective railroads across North America, and a number of them have been seen traversing tracks in Johnson City. The museum will showcase these engines in HO scale form thanks to examples owned by members of the Mountain Empire Model Railroaders.

“This effort really took the enthusiast railroad community by storm,” said Geoff Stunkard, Heritage Day coordinator. “The Norfolk Southern did 18 engines this way, and the United Pacific did five, plus the Santa Fe rekindled its legendary ‘war-bonnet’ design.”

Located in the Campus Center Building at ETSU, the Carter Railroad Museum is open Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and includes model railroad layouts, a children's activity room, and ongoing programs. Heritage Day is held the last Saturday of each month. There is no admission fee, but donations are welcome.

The museum is also seeking artifacts for display, including the newest addition dedicated to the 'Tweetsie' line, the East Tennessee & Western North Carolina Railroad, which will be open for guided tours

during event days. In addition to the displays, there is a growing research library, and an oral history archive being established as part of the museum's programs. For more information, visit www.etsu.edu/railroad.

Members of the George L. Carter Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society and the Mountain Empire Model Railroaders (MEMRR) club coordinate the exhibits. For more information, visit www.memrr.org or visit www.glcarternrhs.com to learn more about the Carter Chapter, which helps demonstrate and maintain the model layouts, museum exhibits and other projects.

The museum can be identified by a flashing railroad crossing signal at the back entrance to the Campus Center Building. Visitors should enter ETSU's campus from State of Franklin Road (at green light) onto Jack Vest Drive and continue east to first street on left (David Collins Way) then turn left and go to the end (John Roberts Bell Drive) then turn right then left on Ross Drive(176) to end, adjacent to the flashing RR crossing sign.

For more information about Heritage Day, contact Alsop at 423-439-6838 or alsopf@mail.etsu.edu. For disability accommodations, call the ETSU Office of Disability Services at 423-439-8346.

CARTER MUSEUM HERITAGE DAYS 2017 – final Saturday each month

January 28: Northeast

February 25: Short Line – Industrial lines

March 25: Steam UP! All Steam

April 29: Diesel – All diesels 1925-1960

May 27: Modern – 21st Century

June 24: Tri-Cities

July 29: Western

August 26: Midwestern

September 30: Heritage paint schemes

October 28: Roanoke Rails

November 25: Clinchfield

December 30: Fallen Flags