



MTTV News Loop

September, 2011

Museum of Transportation Trolley Volunteers

Please Take It Easy!

By now, some of you have gotten the word to watch your speed when operating our cars. This is directed to all of us, not anyone in particular. Over the years, we've become comfortable with running the cars. As a result, our average speed has crept up to the point that it has been remarked to me by Museum staff and some of our own operators.

How fast is OK when none of our equipment is equipped with speedometers? Let's try this Keep it to the speed of a trot of a healthy man younger than most of us are. We'll bring a GPS to try to pin it down better but the cars still will not have a speedometer. Some operators have suggested that we equip each car with a GPS Feed back is appreciated and will be discussed at our annual meeting in January



Track Extension

We have been promised free ballast for the track extension. The catch is that it must be delivered off-season when all the donor's trucks are not supporting construction jobs. The white sheet laying on the right of way is the underlayment for the first 200 feet of track. This material keeps the mud from pumping up into the ballast and prolongs the life of the installation.

The other factor not in our control is the hot Summer that we have had. There have been precious few work days to start the rail bending without causing heat stroke of our aging work force. With the change in weather, that work should start soon.



Which Car to Operate?

Below is our schedule to distribute operating time for each car.
If a scheduled car is not available, use the car scheduled just before or just after.

Thursday Date	Thu	Fri	Sat AM	Sat PM	Sun AM	Sun PM	Sunday Date
9/22	10	2740	44	44	44	10	9/25
9/29	44	44	10	44	2740	44	10/02
10/06	44	44	44	2740	44	10	10/09
10/13	10	44	44	44	44	2740	10/16
10/20	2740	44	44	10	44	44	10/23
10/27	44	44	10	2740	44	10	10/30

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The Illinois Terminal Sign

The IT sign probably is the big news this month even though it doesn't involve operations.

The Illinois Terminal Sign was hung on September 7 by a crew of dozens. The labor and expertise was provided by Plasti-Lite Sign of St. Louis. This is the company that repaired the sign and reproduced the neon lettering. Support was provided by several Museum staff members and MTTV volunteers.

Wiring was installed by two qualified MTTV volunteers. The sign people came back on September 13 and installed the neon tubing. Behold the finished product in the photos.

Thanks to all the MTTV members who not only worked on the sign but also donated cash for the cost of restoration. And special thanks to Plasti-Lite Sign who was paid for the tubing restoration but then provided the labor and knowledge to erect the sign at no additional cost to us.

The sign should add greatly to the ambiance at the Roberts' Building.



The Wellston Loop

Well into the 1950s, Wellston was a very vibrant community. It reached a high level of popularity as a shopping, business, and transportation district. Some seven miles from downtown, it has been referred to as the 'Western Gateway to St. Louis.' Perhaps most remembered was the shopping district centered on Easton Ave, close to the Wellston Loop. There was nothing you couldn't get in Wellston.

The streetcar system in Wellston had become a major transportation hub in St. Louis. The part of Wellston located in the City of St. Louis, had four PSC street car lines and three bus lines operating to and from Wellston. In a day they moved some 40,000 passengers in and out of the section.

So central had Wellston been to mass transportation in St. Louis that the Hodiament Streetcar line – a staple of Wellston life – was the last St. Louis streetcar, ceasing operation in 1966. Its last stop was the Wellston Loop.



Your Input Will Be Appreciated

Do you have news, pictures or other information of interest to your fellow trolley volunteers? Please let me know by e-mail, U.S. Mail or phone.

Thanks,
Charlie Jones

MTTV CREW SCHEDULING

To **Schedule** or **Change**, contact Charlie Jones
Home: 636-391-8258 Cell: 314-277-2748
or, charlie.jones@charter.net

Trolley Operations Scheduling

Watch for the email updates, or, give me a call to discuss your preferences. With your help, we can avoid cancellations.

See the Run Board at:
<http://www.mot-trolleyline.org/schedule/schedule.html>

