

President's Message

Dollars Whistle In To Shiawassee County From 1225 Program

by Renita Mikolajczyk

Very early on the morning of Saturday, April 20th I was awakened by the sound of the 1225 train whistle. The horn blew again and again until I pulled my still sleepy body out of bed. Frustration set in that I hadn't had the opportunity to get a few extra hours of beauty sleep, which I need a lot of, on a Saturday morning. As I sat gulping my cup of java I came to the realization that the sound of the train whistle was bringing money into this community. And the money would not only be from the current event but future events as well.

The Steam Railroading Institute hosted 52 photographers from twenty-six states, three provinces of Canada, and eight foreign countries, including Holland, Germany and Peru.

In a letter written to T.J. Gaffney, Executive Director of the Steam Railroading Institute, John Craft, President of Historic Transport Preservation, Inc. said; "The participants in this sellout event had a wonderful time in Owosso, and are looking forward to a return visit. The 20+ who had to settle for a spot on the waiting list, plus those who will see the photos, could sell out another event in the future."

This weekend event brought somewhere close to \$50,000 to the local economy. For that amount of money I'll be happy to loose a couple hours of beauty sleep anytime – it won't help anyway.

To view a selection of photos taken during the event visit

<http://steamspecials.com>

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