The George L. Carter Chapter, of the National Railway Historical Society in conjunction with the George L. Carter Railroad Museum at East Tennessee State University, will conduct an overnight Labor Day weekend train excursion on three West Virginia railroads, Saturday-Monday, September 3-5, 2016.

We depart by modern motor coach from ETSU on Saturday for Elkins, WV where we will check into the Holiday Inn Express before going to dinner and evening entertainment at the Gandy Dancer Dinner Theatre. We will travel to Cass Scenic Railroad State Park on Sunday morning to ride the Cass Scenic Railroad in the rugged mountains of West Virginia. The railroad was established in 1901 to bring timber to the mill using some of the same geared, Shay, locomotives that are still in operation in the park today. The route up towards Bald Mt. will carry us up some 11 percent grades that can only be negotiated by these Shays. Cass has the largest fleet of working geared locomotives in the country and you will get to see their shops and have a stop at Whittaker Station in route to see their outdoor display of vintage logging equipment. Our train at Cass will deliver us across the mountain to Old Spruce to transfer to the Cheat Mountain Salamander. We will ride the rails from a town that was once considered the highest and coldest community east of the Mississippi. The train, named for a small endangered amphibian whose entire range is in the watershed of the river draining these mountains in this remote wilderness area, will take us back to Elkins, after a stop at the High Falls of the Cheat, where we will spend our second night at our hotel.

On Monday morning we will bus to Durbin, WV to ride aboard the Durbin Rocket powered by a rare Climax, old #3, built in 1910. The ride is 10.5 miles and takes about 2.5 hours. Following our train ride we will board our bus for a short trip to a local restaurant for lunch after which we will begin our journey back to Johnson City.

Passengers should arrive at ETSU’s parking lot No. 22a on Go Bucs Trail (accessible from Jack Vest Drive off State of Franklin Road or South Greenwood Drive off State of Franklin Road) at 6:15 a.m. to be checked in and loaded onto the bus by 6:45 a.m. with departure promptly at 7:00 a.m. The bus will not wait for late arrivals and no ticket refunds will be made if you miss the bus. There are no parking restrictions in this lot on the ETSU campus on weekends.

The price for adults and/or seniors for this excursion package is $450.00 double occupancy. These prices include the roundtrip bus ride to Elkins, WV, your roundtrip train fare on all 3 railways, and the dinner theatre on Saturday night, hobo lunch on the Cheat Mountain Salamander, buffet dinner at the Railyard Restaurant on Sunday night, and two hot continental breakfasts at our hotel. The price does not include lunches on the road on Saturday or Monday, or any tipping.
Ticket order forms and liability waiver forms can be picked up at the George L. Carter RR Museum (open Saturday's only from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.) in Johnson City or printed off by going to the memrr.org website, choose NRHS News, then Ticket Order Form or to glcarternrhs.com and printing off your ticket order and waiver of liability forms. The signed liability waiver form must accompany the ticket request form. Please have your ticket requests in by August 19th. Space is limited to 56 travelers so don’t delay in making your ticket request. We shall reserve the right to cancel the trip if we have fewer than 35 participants.

Make check or money order (no cash please) payable to: George L. Carter Chapter, NRHS. Please mail the ticket request form along with the signed liability waiver form to: George L. Carter Chapter, NRHS; 519 Headtown Road, Jonesborough, TN 37659.

We have a limited number of seats available so please get your ticket requests in early. Ticket sales must be cut-off on August 19th. Sorry, no refunds can be made.

If you have further questions regarding this excursion, please contact Charlene McLeod at 386/717-2925 or chardanmcleod35@comcast.net

**Day One:**
Depart ETSU Johnson City for Elkins, WV

- Check into Elkins hotel
- Dinner and show at Gandy Dancer Dinner Theatre

**Day Two:**
- Warm Continental Breakfast at hotel
- Depart on the Cass Bald Knob train excursion at the Cass Depot
- Transfer to the Cheat Mountain Salamander train excursion at Old Spruce
- Lunch included on board
- Arrive by train at the Elkins depot
- Buffet dinner at the Railyard Restaurant

**Day Three:**
- Warm Continental Breakfast at hotel
- Depart for Durbin to ride the Durbin Rocket
- After lunch depart for Johnson City