TRAVEL

imb aboard historic trains for a rail adventure



The days of the Wabash Cannonball, the Orange Blossom Special, and the

Orange Hossom
Special, and the
Choo-Choo may be over. But if
you're a railroad buff — or just
interested in old-fashioned fun,
combined with a bit of American
history — there are still plenty of
memorable train rides waiting out

For starters, here are on-track trips that can take you and your family over the river and through the woods, as summer changes into the blaze of autumn, and au-tumn into the jewel-like glitter of

winter.

Climb aboard any of them either within Michigan or not far from its borders.

Board the Star Clipper Dinner Train in Walled Lake and enjoy a delicious, three-hour excursion that includes a five-course gournet meal, plus Broadway resue or murder mystery play (you solve the crime). You'll travel round-trip through southeast Michigan. The Star Clipper operates yearound, with two-hour lunch excursions also available at selected

times through early October. Coach cars, circa 1917, once car-ried passengers on the Erie Lackswanna line.

Lackawama line.

On a similar tour, the Murder Mystery Express — also a dinner train — embarks from the Billssfield Station on Saturday and Sunday evenings year-round. The train crosses the River Ralain, then chups through Lenawee Junction, where the world's only full-sized Lional locomotive is turned around for the return trip. You might want to set saide several hours to emplore Blisafield (take U.S. 23 to Exit 5) and its many antiques and crafts shops before your departure.

In the mood for nostalgia? Hop aboard the Obio Central & Sugarcreek Service, and explore the state's Amish countryside.

As the big steam locomotive

state's Amish countryside.

As the big steam locomotive (built more than 90 years ago) pulls out of the village of Sugarcreek, the whistle blows, and a uniformed conductor begins his stroil through the vintage passenger coaches to punch all tickets. Before long, you're traveling past pristine Amish farms and homes. The one-hour trek through this colorful area known as "The Switzerland of Ohio" is 12 miles round trip.

Travelers can enhance their visit back in time by exploring the charming streets and shops of Sugarcreek afterward.
Round up kids of all ages and, the the thickberry Rallinead out of Film's popular Crossroads Village, soak up some Michigan color. The train, powered by a historie Baldwin locomotive, carries up to 500 passengers on the 35-min ute excursions, and is made up of refurblished open-and-closed-patiform coaches, many of which transported passengers throughout Mexico in bygone days. Huckberry Rallinead is Michigan's only narrow-gauge line.

The Bluewater Chapter of the

only narrow-gauge line.

The Bluewater Chapter of the
National Railway Historical Society, based in Royal Oak, can bring
it all back for you, in style. Echoing the days when passenger
reins regularly transported thousands of resorters to points north,
the Society annually sets up several raill trips as "living history
demonstrations." And you don't
have to be a member of the nonprofit organization to join in the
fun.

On September 23, The Resorter will depart Battle Creek and other stations, and travel the meander-ing rail route to the Little Trav-erse Bay area and Petoskoy's for-mer Pennsylvania Railroad Sta-

Rafting trip: Judy Derek of Farmington Hills joined her sister, Marie Krochmalny and her family, this summer on a whitewater rafting trip in West Virginia. Judy (right) and her niece, Anne Hauger, are holding

> flipped over and out on the first rapid we hit," said Judy.

If you're crary for color tours, you might prefer the Society's Autumn Leaf Circle tour which departs from the Royal Oak, Birmingham, and Pontiac stations for one-day trips, October 1 and 2.

Agaway Canyon Tours, headed north into the vast Canadian Wil-demess are waiting just for you at the Alguma Central Station, 129 Bay St. in Sault Ste. Marie, On-tario.

This is one of the most magnifi-cent train tours in North Ameri-ca, especially in fail and winter, and generous picture windows on recently-renovated coaches afford annorance views for all.

On the day-long excursions, you travel to the floor of the Agawa Canyon where you'll have pienty of time to get out and acquaint yourself up-close with the spe-tacular terrain.

The highly-popular Snow Train tours embark Saturdays and Sun-days, January through March

Don't forget about the always popular, regularly-scheduled Am-trak tours to Toronto and Chica-go. Contact your travel agent for the dozens of packages available on these. Taking the train

Denne Talin •840 N. Pontiac Trail Walled Law

Fare: Approximately \$69. (810) 960-9440 (reservations required

Osco Cormal's Scenecer's Serves

Sugarcreek, Ohio (1-77 to Dover Exit, turn west at Ohio Route 39.) Fare: Adults \$7, children (3.12 years), \$4, under 3, tree. (215) 852-4676.

Nuce meser Research Cossesses Visuas

*Birry RG. ners Stanley RG. (Take 175 to 1475 to Esit 23.) Fere:
Admission to Hischieberry Village and train ranges from \$5.05 to
\$8.25, depending on age (children under 3 free). 1800

so. 2p. copening on age (children under 3 free). 1800-648-PARK.

*The Resorter departs Battle Creek and other stations on Sept. 23 and returns Sept. 25. Various packages are evallable which include meats. Specially arranged aids thip via bus to Mackinae Island and Hemingwey. Country on Seturdey, Sept. 24 are evallable for an extra fee.

*Fare: Ranges from \$400 plus to atround \$270.

*Autumn Leaf Circle departs from Royal Oak, Birmingham, and Pontise stations for one day trips Oct. 1:2.

•Fare: Approximately \$79 (810) 399-7963

AGENCY CANYON TOURS

*Algorna Central Station, 129 Bey St. Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario (I-75, about one hour north of the Mackinac Bridge)

Pare: Ranges from \$46 for adults to \$8.25, children under 5. (705) 946-7300.

Wish you were here



East coast vacation: The Hantler family of Farmington Hills Scott, 9; Bradley, 4; mom, Saree and dad, Steve took their Farmington Observer to the Atlanson rauss Scott, s. prausey, s. mom, caree and ada, Steve took their Farmington Observer to the Atlantic Coast states of New Jersy, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia this summer. The driving trip took them through several cities which provided a good selection of family oriented hotels and beaches. Scott and Bradley are shown standing on part of the 3-mile boardwalk in Wildwood, NJ. The family's favorite." "Whether we go to Wildwood for a long weekend or a week we have a great time," said Saree Hantler. "The boardwalk has shops, restaurants and arcades as well as piers which extend toward the ocean and are home to midway games, amusement rides and waterparks. People watching on the boardwalk is also a great pastime. Of course the beautiful white sand beach and hotel pool are enjoyed by our family as well."



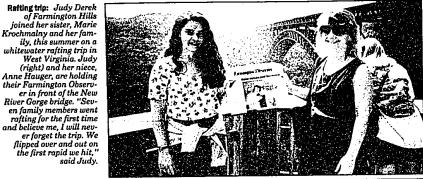
Bend liems to be considered for publication to: Keely Wygonik, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, SSES Scholeraft, Livonia 48160, or by fax 1-313-891-7279.

a Tour, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sat-10, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sun-1, Antiques Mariet, 5 a.m. to day, Sept. 17, 10 a.m. to 4 Bept. 18. Marshall is at the

from \$206 to \$216 per person at (0.343-2005 or \$100 477-1479.

Wish you were here









Authenic Greek Cuisine

Opening September 8th



FREE Saganaki! (1 per table)

Formally, the MainCentre Grille 146 MainCentre, Northville (810) 380-9350



NEBRASKA AT TEXAS TECH TONIGHT 7:56 ET

<u>Metrov</u> <u>ISION</u>

CHANNEL 31

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THURSDAY NIGHT CFA FOOTBALL