

NRHS RailCamp 2025

By BECKY GERSTUNG, Railcamp Committee, NRHS

RailCamp 2025 gave 37 young people a week they will never forget. They went places the ordinary railfan does not have an opportunity to experience. Both East and Northwest camps sold out with campers coming from 22 states. Plans are already being made for the 2026 season.



OREGON RAIL HERITAGE CENTER – Engine 700 is a favorite attraction.

The RailCamp application will be available January 1, 2026, on the NRHS website. For 2025, we are proud to say that nineteen campers received full or partial scholarships. No applicant has ever been turned away due to his/her inability to pay the tuition. Generous donations from members with their dues, chapters and individuals have made possible these scholarships. If you or your organization would like to become a sponsor, please get in touch with me at railcampnrhs@yahoo.com.

RailCamp is an expensive project. Housing, food, insurance, transportation and equipment costs add up quickly. This year the rental of vans to transport campers to and from locations was one of the most expensive items. If you are involved with this industry, we need a sponsor to help defray some of this expense. *(Continued on page 3.)*

OCTOBER 2025

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Submission Deadlines for NRHS News

- **December 2025 issue (online pdf) – deadline Nov 17, 2025 (Nov. issue moved to Dec.)**
- January 2026 issue – no issue this month.
- February 2026 (online pdf) – deadline January 15, 2026.

About the NRHS News

NRHS News is published nine times a year by the National Railway Historical Society. Six full-color issues are published usually in even-numbered months. The three remaining issues are printed in black-and-white and mailed to members across the year. Issues are available (pdf file) online at <https://admin.nrhs.com/NRHSNews/>
 Valli Hoski, Harrisburg Chapter NRHS, Editor. Alex Mayes, Potomac Chapter NRHS, Content Assistant. Elizabeth Guenzler, Central Coast Chapter NRHS, Editorial Assistant. Eileen Weber, St. Louis Chapter NRHS, Editorial Assistant. Email submissions to News@nrhs.com or mail to NRHS News, c/o Valli Hoski, P.O. Box 234, York Springs, PA, 17372.

The address for the Society is: National Railway Historical Society, Inc., 505 South Lenola Road, Suite 226, Moorestown, NJ 08057. Membership information changes should be sent to Doug Scott at Membership@nrhs.com. Membership dues should be mailed to NRHS - Membership, PO Box 31074, St. Louis, MO 63131-0074



Union Pacific Railroad | Keddie, California | EMD SD40-2 #3645, #3781, and #3103 diesel-electric locomotives | Keddie Wye Trestle | August 20, 1983 | Mitchell E. Dakelman photograph / collection

NRHS RailCamp 2025 (continued)

By BECKY GERSTUNG, Railcamp Committee, NRHS

(Continued from p. 1)

Tony White has been Director for the East program for many years. We owe him our thanks for his dedication to the program, his desire to constantly improve the schedule, his attention to every detail for the week and countless hours of volunteering his time and experience visiting our partners to guarantee success. While he is retiring as Director, you can be certain he will be there every step of the way helping wherever needed as we continue with this signature NRHS program. If you have an interest in becoming involved with RailCamp, let me know. We are always looking for capable volunteers.



SOUND TRANSIT ALWAYS GIVES A GREAT TOUR!



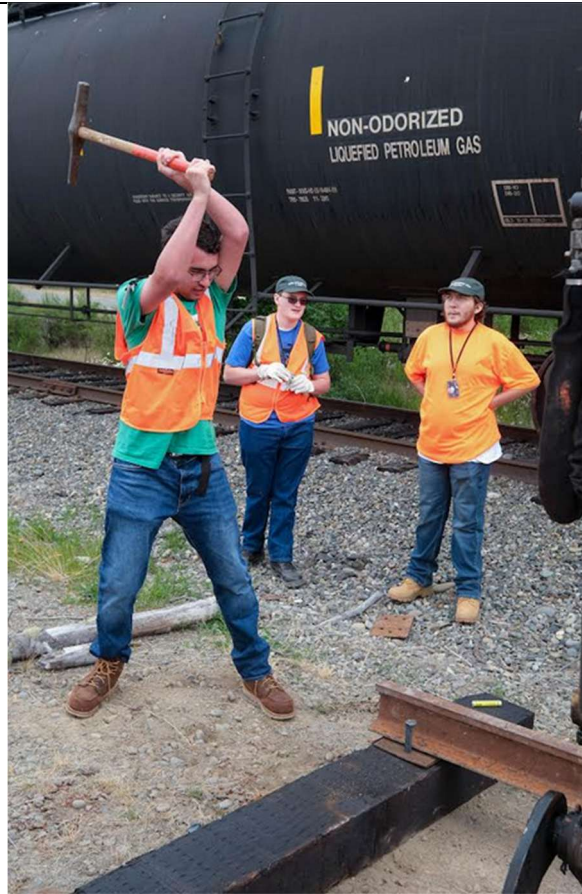
SURPRISE! – It is not every day you can see the underside of a modern streetcar.



THE REAL THING - Tacoma Rail lets us visit on a working day to see how a “real” railroad operates day to day.



AN AMTRAK RIDE TO PORTLAND AND WE ARE AT THE OREGON RAIL HERITAGE CENTER - Getting a close look inside of the cab of famous Southern 4449.



RAILROADING IS HARD WORK - Rainier Rail is once again taking part in the program. Here is where you learn just how much demanding work is involved in railroading.



SNOQUALMIE - The Northwest Railway Museum in Snoqualmie provides a full day of exploration and learning.

Membership Matters

By TONY WHITE President, NRHS

It is my pleasure to announce that we have a new Membership Chair for the NRHS. **R. Douglas Scott** has accepted the position vacated by Patti Webb.

Doug is well known within the NRHS Community as he belongs to several Chapters. He has presented rail photography programs via Zoom to many chapters and other groups. He was formerly on the Board of Directors and currently serves on the Advisory Council representing three Chapters. Doug currently oversees the Membership Awards, sending the pins and certificates to members for their years of membership.

The previous Chair, Patti Webb, stepped up to the plate when we desperately needed someone in that position. Her diligence and forward thinking helped the NRHS reach new heights in how we do business. She continues to work tirelessly with the Heritage Grants Committee, another major item in the NRHS resume. Thank you, Patti.

The members of the Membership Team are very satisfied to see that the emails sent for dues renewal have been successful. Kudos to all who renewed online. This provides instant acknowledgement of your renewal and donation if made, it lessens the workload of our small team of volunteers who as seen above have other NRHS responsibilities.

Every transaction is looked at for completeness and while there have been a few mistakes such as people paying twice, it is always noticed and corrected. We thank those who renew by mail. Steve Siegerist is a one-person operation who manages a couple of thousand renewals through the mail each year. He not only deciphers your handwriting, but he also makes trips to the post office, the bank and creates a wonderful spreadsheet for input into the system.

Thank you, Patti, Steve and Mike, for getting us on track for the future. Welcome Doug, help us stay on track.

Time to Renew Your NRHS Membership

By TONY WHITE President and MIKE YUHAS Membership Volunteer

Now is an exciting time to be an NRHS member! NRHS RailCamp™ had another great season, offering hands-on experiences to 37 high school students in Newark, Delaware and Tacoma, Washington. RailCamp participants are the future of the railroad industry, and of railway preservation.



One camper told us, "*RailCamp was a unique experience. For a variety of reasons, it was one of the greatest, most influential, and most educational experiences of my life.... The social networking opportunities and knowledge of railways and their interworking relationships allowed me a new understanding of this backbone industry of America.*"

Another signature NRHS initiative, the Railway Heritage Grants program, awarded \$150,000 to 31 non-profits in support of railway preservation projects in 2025 – over \$1.4 million since 1991. Another \$150,000 is budgeted for distribution in 2026. All this support comes from voluntary donations, not member dues.

Delegates at the 2025 NRHS convention experienced a week-long railroad adventure featuring steam, a giant-screen movie, behind-the-scenes tours, seminars, and interaction with fellow members. Please consider attending our 2026 convention (details coming soon).

NRHS appreciates your membership since you first joined us. Please renew early so you can spare us the expense of sending a printed reminder. Membership renewal may be made online. In these inflationary times, it's noteworthy that NRHS dues have remained consistent for over a decade!

Many members step up to support the NRHS operating funds at renewal time. You may donate to the Heritage Grants Fund, RailCamp Fund, Film Preservation Fund, and/or General Fund. These funds rely on NRHS members to advance the important work of railway preservation. All our programs work and produce great results, thanks to the generosity of those who donate. *Donations more than dues paid may be deducted as a charitable contribution to the extent permitted by law. NRHS is a 501(c)3 charitable organization.*

Visit NRHS Online Media – YouTube Channel, Photos & More

By MARLIN TAYLOR, Co-Chairman, Film & Slide Archival Committee

How about a show of hands? When was the last time you visited the NRHS website?

Did you enjoy the seven historic photos which rotated on the Home Page (NRHS.com)?

If you are a lover of rail history – which you likely are, as why else would you be a member of the NRHS? – are you fully aware of that those seven photos are just the beginning of what can be an exciting visual journey through rail history?

Beginning your journey ... go to *Our Programs* in the column on the right side of the NRHS home website (nrhs.com). There you will find two links: Photo Gallery and Our YouTube Channel.

 PHOTO GALLERY The National Railway Historical Society invites you to visit our Photo Gallery, which contains an ever-growing collection of historic rail photos, now numbering over 3,000! As photos are digitally scanned and accurately documented, they are added to the collection. As you'll see, the Gallery is searchable by category.	Photo Gallery – a collection of still photos and slides and recently digitally-scanned by our librarian, Mitch Dakelman. Well over 3,000 images now await your viewing ... and that number grows almost daily! Enjoy! After viewing, we'd love to receive your comments ... you may leave them at heritagefilms@nrhs.com – thank you.	 OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL	Our YouTube channel – shepherded by Tom Coughlin ... a collection of more than five dozen videos have been digitized, many of which were recorded years ago by devoted NRHS members, now await your attentive eyes. We believe you'll supremely enjoy what you see!
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We Need More Conferences

By Bob Bitzer, Conference Coordinator, National Railway Historical Society

I hope that got everyone's attention. We need more conferences. As of mid-September, no future conferences are planned, scheduled or approved by the Society. So yes, we really do need the support of the chapters to put together conferences! Our Society is required to schedule conference meetings for the Advisory Council and the Board of Directors twice a year to conduct our organization's business and to develop the direction of its work on rail history and preservation.

As an organization, we are spread out all over the U.S. and the world. Our interests in railroading are diverse and cover all aspects of it. Which is why it is important that we have a solid network in place to communicate with each other on these interests and share our ideas and goals. This is how we will continue to learn and grow and meet our objectives. One of the most important ways we accomplish our goals is by getting together through our twice-yearly conferences. The NRHS Conference Committee continues to coordinate these conferences for the Board of Directors and the Advisory Council.

Here comes the big ask which needs everyone's support. The chapters and the members are the Society. You will help determine its future and direction. Getting together at the conferences is one major part of this goal. Whether it is in-person, or by internet services such as Zoom, these meetings are important to have and attend. Please contact me if your chapter is interested in hosting a meeting for the Society.

I will be glad to work with you. We have a complete information kit on the requirements for setting up and operating a meeting. In addition, the Society will now offer financial assistance in supporting the meeting room costs for the event and provide equipment for on-line meeting set-up. It is not that difficult to run a conference and can be a terrific way for a chapter to show off its local railroading sites, rail heritage preservation work and museum operations, educational programs, and give us an opportunity to ride trains.

On our current schedule of conferences, Milwaukee, WI on October 2-4, 2025. This is where this report was distributed initially and included in October issue of the NRHS News. Now here comes the real difficulty we face. No conferences are scheduled for 2026 and 2027.

This should be a concern for ALL of us. It is very important that we get support from the chapters to host these events.

Chapter Events and Activities

Lehigh and New England's Industrial & Shippers Guide

Two groups



R H L V

Railroad Historians of the Lehigh Valley

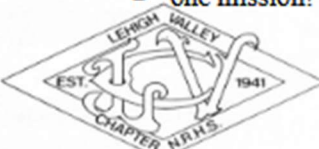
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Lehigh Valley Chapter, NRHS

Dedicated to preserving the Lehigh Valley region's rich railroading history for the future.

Please visit us online at www.lehighlines.org or through our Facebook page.

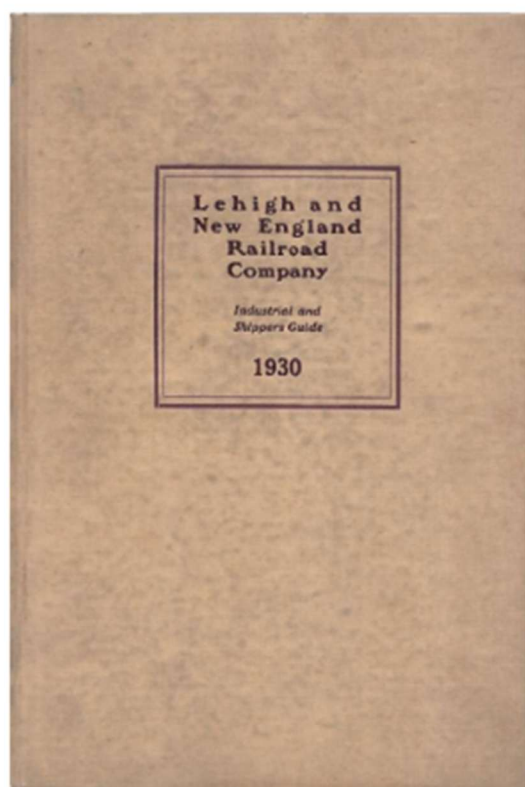
one mission!



EST. 1941



Announcing the sale of professionally reprinted and bound copies of L&NE's Industrial & Shippers Guide



Originally issued in 1930, this 101-page book covered nearly every aspect of Lehigh and New England's physical plant between Nesquehoning, Allentown/Bethlehem, and Martin's Creek, PA and Maybrook, NY. Key features included a descriptive overview of the railroad, two system maps, diagrams of the railroad's clearances and load limits, concise lists of all shippers located at every station, profiles of the L&NE-served anthracite and slate industries, geographic descriptions of the 14 main towns and boroughs along the railroad, period photographs and advertisements, and more.

Whether a modeler or scholar, this book is a must for the L&NE enthusiast. All items have been painstakingly reproduced in their entirety. The book retains its as-delivered appearance and format. Originally hardcover, this reprint is a perfect-bound softcover printed on high quality glossy paper.

The book is expected to be available on October 3, 2025 at a cost of \$40. Members of RHLV will enjoy a special member's-only price of \$30. Books can be ordered at <https://www.lehighlines.org/rhlv-bookstore.html> or by mail using the form below. Shipping is \$10, or free pickup at our monthly meetings or at train shows.

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Send checks made payable to Lehigh Valley Chapter, NRHS to Jim Rowland PO Box 397 Cobb Island, MD 20625



2026 Western New York Railroad Calendar



54th Edition

Another Fine Publication Of The Niagara Frontier Chapter - National Railway Historical Society
& Railroad Museum of the Niagara Frontier

Outstanding Color And Black & White Photographs Are Featured In A Limited Edition Printing Of The Chapter's Annual Railroad Wall Calendar. This High Quality Publication, A Tradition Since 1972, Contains 12 Photographs of Steam, Diesel And Electric Railroad Action. All Scenes Were Recorded In And Around Western New York, Northwest Pennsylvania And Nearby Southern Ontario. The 2026 Photographs Were Carefully Selected From The Chapter Archives And From The Collections Of Chapter Members.

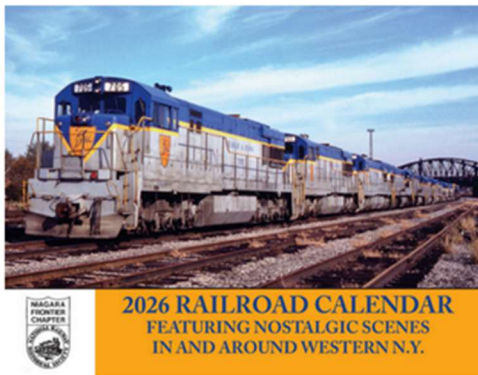
- **Jamestown, Westfield & Northwestern Railroad** - Interurban car #302 (Cincinnati Car Company, 1914) at Westfield, NY
- **New York Central** - 4-6-2 K5b class Pacific #4915 (American Locomotive Company, 1926) at Buffalo Central Terminal
- **Delaware & Hudson Railroad** - U30C #705 (General Electric Company, February 3, 1967) at the North Yard in Buffalo, NY
- **Grand River Railway** - Interurban car #862 (Preston Car Company, 1921) stopped in front of the Preston, Ont Station
- **Chessie System** - GP40-2 #4301 (Electro Motive Division, January 2, 1978) pulling a freight train at Springville, NY
- **Amtrak** - P42 #100 (General Electric Company, June 9, 1997) painted for Amtrak's 50th anniversary east of Exchange Street Station
- **Buffalo Southern Railway** - RS-18u #1847 (Montreal Locomotive Works, March 1958, ex-Canadian Pacific #/8752/1847) Hamburg
- **New York, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad** - Nickel Plate 2-8-2 #647 H6e class (Lima Locomotive Works, January 1924) at Silver Creek
- **Norfolk Southern** - 2-6-6-4 #1218 A class steam locomotive (Norfolk & Western Roanoke Shops, June 1943) at Erie, PA
- **Pennsylvania Railroad** - E-8 #6894 (Electro Motive Division, March 1951) with a passenger train at East Aurora, NY
- **Baltimore & Ohio** - SW900 #9411 (Electro Motive Division, May 1955) approaching the depot in Jewettville, PA
- **Consolidated Rail Corporation** - S-2 diesel #9705 (American Locomotive Company, November 1947, ex-NYC, PC) at Lockport



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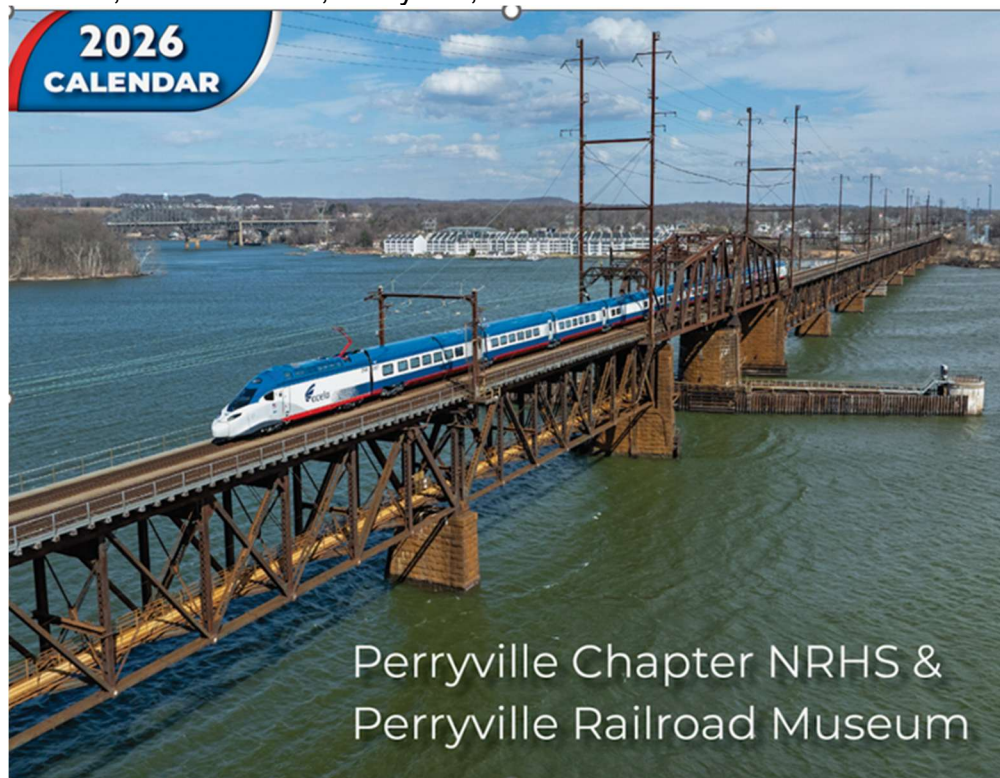
E-Mail _____ Phone _____

2026 Perryville Chapter NRHS Calendar

Our Chapter 2026 Calendars are now available at the Station.

- Member cost: \$10 each or 3 Calendars \$20 for members. \$15 for non-members.
- Non-member cost: \$15.
- Shipping costs are \$5 for 1 calendar and \$1 for each additional one.
- Each member that had a photo published in the calendar will get one copy free.

Perryville Chapter NRHS, P.O. Box 326, Perryville, MD 21903



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