

National Historic Railroad Society
ANNUAL REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS REPORT
2009

COASTAL PLAINS REGION – Art Giardino

Activities

- Facilitated preparation of a proposal for the Charleston Chapter to host the winter 2010 Board of Directors Meeting. Negotiated favorable hotel and transportation arrangements upon approval of the proposal
- Met with the Executive Director of the Summerville - Dorchester (SC) Museum regarding addition of a Railroad History exhibit and inclusion of historical railroad publications in the Museum's Reference Library. Both elements are expected to proceed in mid 2010 following completion of renovations to the museum building

METROPOLITAN REGION – Walter E. Zullig, Jr.

Visits to Chapters

- Attended June, September and October meetings of Bergen-Rockland Chapter. Spoke on matters of national concern
- Attended October, May and June meetings of the New York Chapter
- Attended October and December meetings of the Jersey Central Chapter. Spoke on national and photography issues
- Attended the January meeting of the Tri-State Chapter. Participated in the presentation of a 25-year pin and spoke on national issues
- Attended October and May meetings of the North Jersey Chapter
- Attended and spoke at the April meeting of the Long Island Sunrise Trail Chapter. Assisted with program to observe the 175th Anniversary of the Long Island Rail Road
- Attended the March and April meetings of the Miami Chapter

Programs Presented to Chapters

- Presented railroad slide show at the October meeting of the Jersey Central Chapter
- Presented slide program on the New York, Susquehanna & Western RR passenger service at the June meeting of the New York Chapter
- Presented railroad slide shows at the March and April meetings of the Miami Chapter

Other Communications with Chapters

- Sent multiple email messages to chapter National Directors to apprise them of significant activities and developments. Telephone and postal mail communications also used when appropriate
- Made best efforts to inform National Directors who were unable to attend Board meetings as to the highlights of those meetings

Service on National Committees

- Served on the Historic Plaque Committee
- Member of NRHS Governance Committee

NRHS Conventions & Board of Directors' Meetings

- Attended National Convention and Board Meeting in Fort Worth, TX
- Attended Board Meetings and Regional Vice Presidents Meetings held in Chicago in October, Philadelphia in February and Norwalk, CT, in April

Contributions to National Projects

- Continuing with program to educate rail and transit agencies about the Railfan hobby and to urge the elimination of restrictions on photography
- Member of Governance Committee seeking ways to streamline the NRHS organization

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METROPOLITAN REGION – Walter E. Zullig, Jr. (cont.)

Activities to Represent NRHS to Outside Organizations and/or the General Public

- Communicated with countless railroads and transit operators and other agencies to request that photo restrictions be rescinded and/or that proposed restrictions not be adopted. Most agencies have either withdrawn proposed restrictions or acknowledged that no restrictions are in effect. A few problems remain to be handled.
- Together with Senior VP Barry Smith, attended meeting with Amtrak officials in Washington to discuss photography problems and proposed photo Guidelines.
- Sent letter of congratulations to the President of the Long Island Rail Road regarding the 175th Anniversary of that company.

Programs Presented to Outside Groups

- Presented illustrated lecture to the New Jersey Midland Railroad Historical Society during their Annual Meeting in Paterson, NJ, during April

NEW ENGLAND REGION – William E. Wood

- June 8, 08 - Dedication of the newly installed Engine Turntable at Connecticut Eastern Chapter's Museum in Willimantic, CT. Spoke on behalf of National
- June 16, 08 - N.H.R.S. National Convention-Fort Worth, Texas. Attended the Directors meetings and The Annual Meeting of Members
- July 18, 08 - Attended the joint Hartford R.R.E. and Connecticut Valley Chapter NRHS picnic at the Connecticut Eastern Chapter
- July 27, 08 - Attended the calling hours for late N.R.H.S. member Ray Evarts in Newington, CT
- Oct. 12, 08 - Attended the Orange, CT Rail Show with the Connecticut Valley N.R.H.S. Exhibit-Spoke to visitors about N.H.R.S.
- Oct. 30 – Nov. 2, 08 - Attended the Fall B.O.D. Meetings in Chicago, IL, as well as the R.V.P. Meeting
- Nov. 9, 08 - Attended the Cheshire, CT Rail Show with the Connecticut Valley N.R.H.S. Exhibit, speaking to visitors about N.R.H.S.
- Jan 23-25, 09 - Connecticut Valley Chapter N.R.H.S. Exhibit at the Big "E" Amherst Rail Show in North East. Talked to dozens of visitors about N.R.H.S. and handed out material to about 100 persons
- Feb 6-8, 09 - Winter B.O.D. meeting in Philadelphia, PA. Was planning to attend, but Doctor ordered me not to take the trip
- March 8, 09 - Attended the Spring Cheshire, CT Rail Show with the Connecticut Valley Booth, talking to visitors about N.H.R.S.
- April 17-19, 09 - Spring N.R.H.S. B.O.D. Meeting, Norwalk, CT
- Required many phone calls over the late Fall and Winter, and visits with the Western Connecticut Chapter. N.R.H.S, the hotels
- Attended and chaired the Spring R.V.P. meeting
- Attended the Spring B.O.D. meetings
- May 14, 09 - Visited with the White River Junction Chapter N.R.H.S. at their Annual Dinner in White River, VT. Spoke on National progress on problems and answered questions
- Over the course of the year, many phone calls from chapters in dealing with the dues and the Philadelphia office and number of other subjects on the direction National is going (around a hundred calls in the 12 months)

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OHIO VALLEY REGION – Dr. Wesley Ross

Chapter Visits

- Kentucky Central – 11 meetings
- Scioto Valley – Christmas Banquet
- Collis P. Huntington – Christmas Banquet
- Cincinnati – Presented Program at Christmas Banquet
- Bluewater Michigan – Presented Chapter's 25 Year Certificate
- Robert R. Young Chapter – Presented Charter

Chapter Activities

- Participated in Cincinnati Chapter Steam Excursion on Whitewater Valley Railroad
- Worked 4 days on private car for Collis P. Huntington's New River Train Excursion
- Participated with the West Kentucky Chapter on an excursion on the Tennessee Central Railroad
- Participated in Collis P. Huntington Chapter's Greenbo Railroad Show and hosted the Operation Lifesaver Exhibit

Other Activities

- Participated in a number of railroadiana and model railroad shows throughout the country, offering me the unique opportunity to talk with a number of members who attend these shows. Shows were at locations such as: Deland, FL, Jacksonville, FL, Denver, CO, Columbus, OH, Atlanta, GA, Springfield, OH, Gaithersburg, MD, St. Charles, IL, Philadelphia, PA, York, PA, Lexington, KY, and Collinsville, IL.

National Projects

- Compiled the 2009 Discount List for NRHS Members
- Continue to serve as liaison for the Operation Lifesaver Program

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION – Larry Dyer

Visits to Chapters

- Attended Atlanta Chapter 2008 Christmas banquet and presented 25-year pins
- In March 2009, participated along with National President Greg Molloy in the Atlanta Chapter 50th Anniversary celebration where three 50 year pins and ten 25 year pins were presented.
- Visited the Heart of Dixie Chapter museum and met the National Director and several officers
- Met briefly with President of the Queen & Crescent Chapter while passing through Meridian on the Amtrak-Crescent

Regional Mailings and Phone Calls

- Communicated by e-mail or mail with each National Director in the South Central Region with reports and updates on National Director Meetings
- Communicated with the National Director of the Memphis Chapter concerning late membership renewals
- Sent copies of the NRHS Bulletin to several chapters to be used in recruiting new members
- Forwarded Board of Directors Meeting Handbook to the Heart of Dixie Chapter for future consideration
- Sent letters and NRHS Bulletins to members of the inactive North Georgia chapter to encourage them to remain in the organization as At Large members

RVP Contributions to National Projects

- Participated in Executive Committee conference calls and E-mails on various issues
- Encouraged Atlanta Chapter to sponsor youth to RailCamp; assisted with application scholarship
- Wrote article for the NRHS News

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SOUTH CENTRAL REGION – Larry Dyer (con't)

RVP Attendance at Board of Director Meetings and Other National Activities

- Attended Fall RVP meeting and Board of Directors meeting in Chicago
- Attended mid-winter Board of Directors meeting in Philadelphia
- Attended Spring RVP meeting and Board of Directors meeting in Norwalk, CT

SOUTHWEST REGION – Robert Terhune

- Maintained correspondence regional chapters and participated in discussions with a disgruntled member of the Little Rock Chapter who nevertheless succeeded in persuading his colleagues to cease functioning as a chapter
- Attended the Spring BOD meeting in Norwalk CT and announced my intention not to seek RVP for the Southwest Region in 2010
- Submitted the name of Claude Doane of the North Texas Chapter to serve in my place, and he has agreed to be nominated for this position
- Made no visits to chapters this past year and have confined my connection with them through correspondence

MID ATLANTIC REGION - Ralph Robert Bitzer

Visit to Chapters

- Attended annual Washington DC Chapter picnic - September 2008
- Attended September 2008 Baltimore Chapter meeting
- Attended Rivanna Chapter October 2008 meeting - discussed NRHS activities
- Attended November 2008 Delmarva Chapter meeting - discussed NRHS activities and presented a digital image railroad program
- Attended Rappahannock Chapter annual Fredericksburg, VA Christmas Show in November 2008 at the armory
- Rode and photographed Delmarva Chapter's Santa Claus Special operated in December 2008 on the Bayshore RR, from Cape Charles to Parksley, VA
- Attended Rappahannock Chapter March 2009 meeting and presented a digital image railroad program
- Attended Winchester Chapter 2009 Annual Banquet in March. Installed officers for 2009
- Attended Baltimore Chapter March 2009 Annual Banquet. Presented 25 & 50 year service pins
- Attended Potomac Chapter March 2009 Annual Banquet. Presented 25 & 50 year service pins
- Attended Old Dominion Chapter June 2009 meeting. Discussed NRHS activities and presented a digital image railroad program
- Attended Tidewater Chapter June 2009 summer picnic in Norfolk, VA

Programs Presented to Chapters

- Conducted a railroad digital image contest for Washington DC Chapter in 2008
- Presented a railroad digital image program at the Washington DC Chapter December 2008 meeting

Other Communication with Chapters

- Have continued to work with chapters and NRHS headquarters with membership record issues and concerns

Service on National Committees

- Currently serve as Assistant Treasurer for the NRHS 2009 Duluth (Steam on the Range) convention

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MID ATLANTIC REGION - Ralph Robert Bitzer (con't)

- Currently serve as a member of the NRHS Executive Committee
- Currently serve as a member of the NRHS Governance Study Committee
- Currently serve as the Board of Director Meeting Coordinator for the National Convention Committee

NRHS Conventions and Board of Directors Meetings

- Attended RVP & Director's meetings - Fall 2008 in Chicago, IL; Winter 2009 in Philadelphia, PA; Spring 2009 in Norwalk, CT

Other Activities

- Presented a digital image railroading program at the May 2009 meeting of the Chesapeake Railway Association
- Participated in the set-up and operation of several public model railroad displays in 2008 and 2009 with the National Capital Trackers (O gauge) and the Washington Maryland & Virginia Garden Railway Society (G gauge)
- Operated a Washington DC Chapter member and public chartered trip to Philadelphia in April 2008 to visit Amtrak's CETC, and ride a chartered SEPTA PCC II streetcar