

# Report to the Advisory Council

## National Railway Historical Society

### Membership Matters - Hugh Harris

As of today (5/17/2018), when I'm writing this report, membership in the Society stands at 4,776 current, paid-up Members. That's the largest number of paid members since I took over as Membership Administrator.

I think the recent efforts to increase membership and the new Membership Brochure have been the main drivers of this growth, I also think that the new NeonCRM interface, which is easier to use and understand, has helped.

I must apologize to everyone for the troubles in the renewal process when I didn't realize that the "Family Links" had been broken in the data transfer process. If I had realized that I could have made the renewal process much easier for the many Family Members who had trouble in renewing.

The database currently can only hold one Chapter for each Member - that is the Member's Home Chapter. We use this for ensuring that the Member is sent the correct Ballot Forms for the elections for Directors and Officers.

I am investigating the possibility of adding another data field to the database where we could record any Chapters where a Member held a Membership. This would permit multiple entries, so a Member could enter all the Chapters where he/she holds a Membership.

We are in the process of entering all the Chapters into the database as "Organizations" - this will permit us to record their officers and the means to contact them and will also allow us to check that the officers are, in fact, all paid-up members of the Society, as required in the by-laws.

I will be moving from Marion, Indiana to Fayetteville, Arkansas this year and will probably not be able to make any of the meetings. I'm sorry but I do need some time for my personal life!

Hugh R. Harris, Membership Administrator.