

## Membership Report April 25, 2021 BOD Meeting

We currently have a total Membership of 5,051 made up of 4,170 Regular and Student Members and 881 Family Members.

Of those a total of 311 were signed up as new Members in 2020 and 346 in 2019.

In our records we have 544 Members who were members in 2019 but have not yet renewed for 2021 and 469 Members who were members in 2018 but have not yet renewed for 2020 or 2021.

We still have about 100 - 150 Members who routinely renew late in the year - or early in the next year.

I would ask the Board again to consider establishing a three month "Grace Period" after the end of a Membership for all Members. Currently we have a 365 day grace period - anyone whose Membership expired on 12/31/2020 is still considered a Member up until 12/31/2021. They get all the publications and mailings except those for elections. There we do cut people off at three months. After 3/31/2021 members whose expiration date is 12/31/2020 do not get election mailings for the current year.

We do not mail out 2021 Membership cards until we have payment of 2021 dues. Anyone who renews after August of 2021 will NOT get a 2021 Membership Card since we'll be starting the 2022 renewal cycle at the end of August - beginning of September/

We are looking at ways to re-establish Membership access to their own accounts. Our problem with Neon is that they will not allow a direct connection with PayPal - they insist that we use their China based credit transaction processor. As long as we refuse to do that we cannot have Members having direct access to their accounts since we have no way to collect the renewal fees from them when they enter a renewal.

I will update the Board and the Executive Committee on this as we make any progress.

Hugh R. Harris.  
Membership Administrator,  
National Railway Historical Society.