

NRHS 2022 Election - Candidate Bios

Office: President



Tony White
Stamford, CT
Western Connecticut Chapter, NRHS

Biography: Much thanks to the Western Connecticut Chapter and the Danbury Railway Museum with the many members in common for my involvement in the NRHS. In 1998, the WestConn Chapter was starting the work necessary to host the 2000 New Haven Rails Convention and I wanted to be a part of it and joined the Chapter and became a member of the convention committee and have been actively volunteering for the NRHS since.

Elected by the Chapter to be their National Director in 2003, my activities included attending meetings and conventions, working with the Board in all Society matters. I participated as a RailCamp Counselor in 2015 and became the Director of the East RailCamp in 2016, a position I still have. The program resides in Newark, DE at the University of Delaware. Maintaining partnerships with Amtrak, The Strasburg Rail Road, the Railroad Museum of PA and the University was important for its continued success. Maintaining the safety of the campers, staff and public is paramount as well as the learning opportunities. Additionally maintaining the very positive name of the RailCamp program, the NRHS is very important for members, rail organizations and the public.

I have served on the Electoral and Membership Committees, the 2015 Vermont Rails Convention committee, the Executive Committee for 4 years, the Trains Magazine 2022 Photo Contest, the District 1 Director for 8 years and am the current Vice President of the NRHS.

Reason for seeking office: My primary reason for seeking the office of NRHS President is the belief that I can maintain the great job that President Al Weber has done to bring back the NRHS from a declining membership and financial hardship. There are things that need tweaking, and I will correct them using the experience gained from all of the years of service to the NRHS. I have open lines of communication with anyone who wants to talk, and this includes the Board, Advisory Council, the Fund, committees, and any member.

I have supported both At-Large members and Chapters. I am currently a member in 19 Chapters and belong to 12 other rail related organizations and museums.

With the smaller Board of Directors, communication, dedication, and experience will be most important. The Advisory Council will be important. Listening to and working with all members will be necessary to maintain and develop relations with the railroads and making sure that government agencies know and support us as the premier rail organization.

Office: Director



Frank Reeder Scheer II
Boyce, VA
Winchester Chapter, NRHS

Biography: Frank's fifty-year career in supply chain management spans transportation carriers, public utilities, and the federal sector. He retired during 2019 as a U. S. Postal Service's Transportation Services a team leader. Responsibilities included contract administration for bulk, mobile, and emergency fuel support for all postal facilities. Prior to 2017, Frank also negotiated, awarded, and managed trailer services, freight transportation, domestic ocean mail transportation, as well as intermodal rail contracts.

Prior to joining the Postal Service, Frank was a Staff Transportation Specialist in the Virginia Power (now Dominion Resources) Transportation Department. In that role, he negotiated and administered coal transportation contracts, as well as private rail equipment leases between 1982 and 1990.

Between 1978 and 1982, Frank was Manager - Rail Cost Analysis, Office of General Counsel in the U. S. Railway Association. He performed traffic studies on the Erie-Lackawanna Railway and testified as an expert witness for the Government Parties during the Asset Valuation Case. Earlier in the 1970s, Frank worked for the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac, Chesapeake and Ohio, and Norfolk and Western Railways in various operating positions.

Frank has a Doctorate as well as Masters of Business Administration in Transportation and Logistics, conferred by the *University of Tennessee*. His Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in Economics was received at the *University of Virginia*.

Frank has been an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC) since 2006. He presently teaches a Master's degree course, ASCM629 – Strategic Purchasing and Supply Chain Logistics Management.

Reason for seeking office: A majority of members focus upon steam locomotive development, construction, and operation. While this historical interest is well understood and documented, other aspects of railway operation such as signals, communications, freight traffic, and station agency work are opportunity areas for further research and authorship. Preservation opportunities for disappearing railroad structures decline with each passing year. The NRHS Grants Program is an important contributor to these efforts and should be strengthened through increased member involvement for both giving as well as applying efforts to approved projects.

My personal view is that some members belong to more than one railway historical society including the National NRHS and its Chapters. Those members will be well served if several historical societies coordinate events and annual conventions. A benefit is that attendance of two or more societies at a single venue can obtain better services pricing, in addition to allowing members to attend presentations and workshops that are not limited to a single railroad's perspectives.

Office: Director



Ellen F. Scott
Bluffton, SC
Cape Cod Chapter, NRHS

Biography: After graduating from college, I spent the next years working various jobs while obtaining a master's degree. I then worked for Verizon until I retired in 2003. During retirement I began my own business in stained glass and jewelry making. I sold my work at craft shows and was in two galleries located on Cape Cod. I also taught jewelry making at a local art center.

In late 2014 I was appointed by my chapter to be their representative on the Advisory Council. In 2015 I was elected to be the Council's Secretary. I retained that position until Spring 2021 when I was appointed to fill the position of Chairperson due to the death of the chairperson and the election of the vice-chairperson to the Board of Directors. In the spring of 2021, I was appointed to the position of Secretary of the Board of Directors. I continue to hold that position.

From 2016 to the present, I have been a Railcamp counselor and on the RailCamp committee. I have served at both the East and West camps but have been primarily at the East.

Reason for seeking office: As a member of the Advisory Council, I have attended many Board meetings. With the By-Law change and reduction of board members, I feel that the Director position requires a person who can devote their time to the position. The person should also be able to attend meeting in person. I also feel that the members of the Board should be willing to work in the best interest of the NRHS and help it move forward. I feel that I am qualified for the position and will work with the other Board members to continue the purpose of the NRHS.

Office: Director



R. Robert Bitzer
Laurel, MD
Washington D.C. Chapter, NRHS

Biography: I'm a native Washingtonian. I was born, raised and educated in the DC area. In my professional life I served as an Executive with both May and Macy's Department stores for 40 years in many operational, auditing and system capacities. I'm now retired.

I have been a member of the NRHS for nearly 60 years. I hold memberships in several chapters of the Society and other rail organizations including R&LHS, FEBT, C&O Hist. Soc, WM Rwy. Hist. Soc.

My background and experience in the Society includes National Treasurer (current), Conference Coordinator (current), former member of the BOD's, former Convention Chairman, By-Laws and Planning Committees, Mid-Atlantic RVP, current member NRHS Fund Board of Trustees

I also enjoy photography, O gauge model railroading and railroad watch collecting.

Reason for seeking office: I would like to join the board again in order to work with the officers, board members and the membership of the Society for the following reasons:

First, the NRHS needs to do things that are relevant to the purposes of rail history, preservation, education, and resource development. We have in place excellent programs to meet many of these goals which include Heritage Grants, RailCamp, the Digital Film & Video Library. We need to seek out new partnerships with others both in the historical preservation and the corporate business worlds who will help us move forward not only with these programs but to develop new ones related to the history and development of railroads.

Second, we need to build solid working relationships with the chapters and membership of the Society. The members are the Society. Without members we could not have accomplished all of the great things that have been done since our founding in 1935. Working together as a team through the NRHS Advisory Council we can develop a strong future for the Society so it can continue its goal of preservation and education on the history of railroads and railroading.

Let's move forward and meet these challenges.

Office: Director



William Scott Andes

Springfield, OH
Cincinnati Chapter, NRHS

Biography: I have been a practicing attorney for 30 years and am currently in my 27th year of NRHS membership. Among my many interests, I have a particular passion for and interest in railroads and railroad history.

Since joining the Cincinnati Chapter in 1995, I have served in several capacities including President and Newsletter Editor for over 20 years. I have also represented my Chapter in the NRHS since 1999 as a National Director and an Advisory Council Representative, and most recently have served as NRHS Director for District 5 since 2020. I have made many friends in the NRHS and enjoy traveling to and participating in NRHS Conventions and Conferences across the US.

Reason for seeking office: My longstanding NRHS and Chapter memberships, as well as my record of service in elected office in both organizations, provide me with experience dealing with many issues in both as well as a unique perspective in understanding 'the NRHS-Chapter relationship. My education and experience as a practicing attorney also benefit both organizations, in terms of the ability to understand the many legal and business issues that arise in the management of a non-profit corporation in today's world.

I look forward to having the opportunity to continue to serve the NRHS as a Director and ask for your support in the upcoming 2022 Election.

Office: Director



Jon Baake

Tall Timbers, MD
Washington D.C. Chapter, NRHS

Biography: Jon has been a member of the NRHS for 55 years, having joined in 1967. His fascination with trains and railroads began at a very early age when his father introduced him to trains and railroading in Southern California. He was living in the Washington DC area when he joined the NRHS and the Washington DC Chapter, NRHS.

Jon's active support of the NRHS began in 2007 when he retired and became active with his chapter as a member of the trip committee and serving a crew member on the chapter's 1923 Pullman, the Dover Harbor. At that time, he also became active with the National organization serving as the chapter representative from the time the Advisory Council was established until 2017 when he became a NRHS Director, a position he holds to this day.

Early on he recognized he could help in publicity when he found current membership brochures did not exist. He updated the outdated brochure, arranged for printing, and started a process to distribute it widely. He presently sends out about 8000 brochures annually to NRHS members for use at chapter events and train shows and to over 100 tourist railroads and museums making them available for customers.

During his time as a Chapter Representative and Director he has never missed a meeting, save one, with an excused absence.

Reason for seeking office: As a Director under the new structure, I will work to increase public awareness of and membership in the NRHS. I will continue working to retain current members and attract new members. I initiated and operate the program making NRHS membership brochures available at no cost to chapters, railroad museums, and railroad attractions such as tourist railroads. I believe this program has been largely responsible for the gradually increasing membership the society has enjoyed over the last two years.

As a Director, I hope to establish a Publicity Committee focused on increasing public awareness of the NRHS and increasing NRHS membership through as many means as possible. As a Director I will support the NRHS where needed and as asked. And I will continue my efforts to promote the NRHS through an increasingly wide distribution of membership materials. As a retired executive and Chief Information Officer of a large organization, I have the time and experience to make this a reality.

Office: Director



Kevin Feeney
Abington, PA
Philadelphia Chapter, NRHS

Biography: I have been a member since 1986. When living in CT, I was active in the West Connecticut Chapter serving as Editor, Officer [VP & Treasurer] and docent in its switch tower museum. Later I switched to the Philadelphia Chapter. where I have been Officer [VP & President] and Editor of Cinders.

My main interest is Midwest RRs and I belong to the IT, GM&O and TRRA historical societies. I am a retired CPA with doctoral degree in Accounting from Pace University. My dissertation was a detailed study of 00s of RR annual reports. In the early 2000s, I served on the NMRA's BOD and that of another not-for-profit organization.

I am currently the Comptroller of the NRHS Fund.

Reason for seeking office: NRHS membership has declined as older members have passed away and few new members have joined. The NRHS must take steps to attract younger members. From chasing Big Boy and other steam engines, I know there are many younger railfans. We need to make better use of the web and social media.

We need to partner with other RR orgs in holding our meetings and conventions. We should offer online digital events like the NMRA has done with NMRAx or NERx. The Philadelphia Chapter has had hybrid zoom meetings for the last year attracting members who were otherwise unable to attend meetings for health or other reasons like living elsewhere. Working with others in formulating a new strategy for the NRHS and then implementing it, making any needed changes, etc.

I would welcome your vote so I can serve as one of the nine directors.

Office: Director



Charles L Webb
York, PA
Harrisburg Chapter, NRHS

Biography: Born in 1958 and growing up in West Chester PA I couldn't help becoming an avid fan of the Pennsy. The West Chester Branch of the PRR ran past my elementary school. I have been interested in railroads since I was young.

Timing is everything in that I was graduating from college during the latter part of the Penn Central years and the early Conrail days when layoffs in the rail industry were widespread. I worked for a bit on the Octorara Railroad in Kennett Square PA. My senior paper in high school was on the history of the railroad in West Chester.

In 1981, I graduated from West Chester University with a degree in Political Science / Public Administration. My senior paper was on the potential impacts of the then newly passed Staggers Rail Act of 1980.

With no opportunities in the railroad industry, I worked for the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation. I held various management positions starting in 1985 and retired from state government in 2015. I served as a volunteer firefighter/ Emergency Medical Technician for 30+ years.

My wife Patti and I are owners of Tartan Insurance and Investments LLC, and we own an antique business, Railroad Ave Antiques and Toy Trains.

I have been a National Director with the NRHS since 2016 and serve as the Chairperson of the NRHS Heritage Grants Program Committee.

I belong to the following groups: Harrisburg, Pennsylvania Chapter of the NRHS, The Northern Central and Philadelphia Chapters of the PRRT &HS. I am a railroad photographer and collector of railroadiana, Lionel and American Flyer trains. I have travelled extensively via AMTRAK. I enjoy the history of the rails as well as modern day railroading.

Reason for seeking office: I am running for the Board of Directors of the National Railway Historical Society because I have a passion for preserving railroad history and for promoting the camaraderie that goes with membership of this first-class organization. I recognize the need to promote new memberships by appealing to the next generation of railfans and rail history lovers.

I have served as a Director since 2016 and have worked hard to be sure the needs of our chapters are met. I strive to strengthen the NRHS for the future. We have weathered some very difficult storms in the past several years, yet we continue to push forward. We continue to build on a strong foundation as we continue to grow and promote our mission.

The NRHS has several signature programs which help move us forward in our mission. Those signature programs are Rail Camp, Heritage Film Collection, Historic Plaque Program, Operation Lifesaver and of course the most important the Heritage Grants Program. I am a bit

biased in that I have served since 2019 as Chairperson of the Heritage Grants Committee. I serve with a great group of volunteers who put in countless hours reviewing grant applications and providing their recommendations regarding awards. The interest in historic preservation of our railroad heritage is strong and the needs are great. Through this program we reach organizations across the country and help with historic preservation projects that also help to strengthen their communities.

I see great opportunities for the NRHS going forward. With the new smaller board of directors my experience in matters of the NRHS, my experience in working with our chapters and my experience in both the public and private sector will be an asset to our organization. With a smaller board of directors, it is imperative that our board be in touch with the needs of our chapters, work hard to promote the NRHS especially to the next generations and to work with similar organizations in a combined effort to promote the preservation of railroad history.

I ask for your support and your vote in the upcoming election for Director of the National Railway Historical Society.

Office: Director



Eric P Fogg

Clive, IA
At-Large Member

Biography: Appreciation and preservation of railroads has long been a passion. As a child, playing for hours with a hand-me-down Lionel set got me "hooked." Wanting to pay for college led me to work as a switchman on the Frisco Railroad.

My journalism degree turned into a marketing, advertising and public relations career. With an active job, family, and civic life, photographing train stations became my hobby. I cataloged dozens of rapidly disappearing or repurposed depots. I've also advocated for depot preservation, written articles and made public presentations on various railroad-themed topics.

As a volunteer leader in a national toy train association with 10,000+ members, I served as treasurer, convention planner and eventually national president. I now volunteer regularly at the Boone and Scenic Valley Railroad in Iowa. When the trains run, I return to being a switchman. The remainder of the year I'm a volunteer archivist, cataloging donated materials and helping organize displays.

Often choosing trains as the preferred way for personal travel, I've ridden the rails in 17 different countries and 47 states. I've also participated in historical events, including riding the last passenger train out of St. Louis Union Station and on the final passenger run of The Canadian across Canada.

Participating in 2019's NRHS-sponsored Golden Spike Celebration was a highlight to last a lifetime. That led me to run for NRHS Global Director, where I've served the last two years.

In addition to my interest in historic rail preservation, I am active in Rotary International.

Reason for seeking office: With each passing day, the railroad industry and its legacy fade from the American consciousness. Now, more than ever, we need to stay focused on our mission. As a Director, I would dedicate my skills and energy to sustain the organization and carry out strategies to increase its visibility and growth.

- Increase awareness of and participation in NRHS-sponsored events and excursions
- Improve NRHS's financial position by careful, thoughtful spending and on-going recruitment of members.
- Continue and expand the Heritage Grants program leading to generation of more publicity regarding the results of our investments.
- Encourage more contributions to the Heritage Film Collection by staging an annual amateur competition among members for the best railroad photographs, with recognition at the Convention.
- Strong funding and possible additional locations could be key for the future of RailCamp. These campers are the new members of tomorrow.
- With Covid relief funding and new infrastructure spending just beginning to be felt in all 50 states, NRHS may well have a role to play. This could be the time to strongly advocate for preservation, rail, and high-speed rail, among other issues. Who better to raise a voice in that effort than the NRHS?

Office: Director



John Goodman
Bloomington, MN
Northstar Chapter, NRHS

Biography: I spent 42 years working in a several passenger departments of various railroads, including the last 33 years in Amtrak. At Amtrak, I held various positions, including sales and operations.

I joined the NRHS in 1969. I'm a charter member of the Northstar Chapter and have held several board positions. I'm currently the Chapter's President.

I am the NRHS National Convention Committee Chairman, and a Director on the National organization's Board of Directors.

Reason for seeking office: In the past I have served as a Director of District 6. I am now serving as a Director on the NRHS' Board of Directors. I wish to continue my work in representing the many chapters of the NRHS. I think the chapters need to be heard in the grand scheme of the NRHS as a whole.

Office: Director



Carol Ann Cornelius
Saint Clair Shores, MI
At-Large Member

Biography: Graduated Western Michigan University, BS mathematics. Accounting professional with extensive experience budgeting, expense monitoring, and pension plan administration for major financial corporation and 700-member trade association. Created new processes and procedures that ensured continuous improvement in efficiencies and cost savings. Computer literate; IT backup for financial corporation.

CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL CORPORATION (Subsidiary of Great American Financial Resources, Inc.) 2002-2011

- Recruited by Company President to create new 401(k) program and oversaw the transfer of 401(k) plans from third party administrators to new program.
- Lowered cost budgets six consecutive years with 99% accuracy in accounts payable processing by setting up QuickBooks to incorporate cost center reporting.
- Wrote detailed procedure manuals for all job functions; utilized them to train employees.

TOOLING, MANUFACTURING & TECHNOLOGIES ASSOCIATION (Formerly Michigan Tooling Association) 1973-2002

- Assisted in creation of 401(k) program for member companies, starting with 15 companies, growing to 120 companies.
- Trained three staff members in 401(k) plan administration procedures.
- Led training seminars for member 401(k) plan administrators.
- Wrote computer program for 401(k) trust accounting.
- Administrator UAW pension plan. Major role in termination, 7,200 participants, \$73,000,000 in assets. Coordinated with IRS and PBGC, locating participants, distributing assets.

NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2009-Present

- Convention Treasurer since 2016.
- Assistant Treasurer since 2019.
- Engage with officers, directors, and working members to pay bills, reimburse expenses. Assist with budget preparation, audits, financial statements.

Reason for seeking office: I would like to move into a position where I could have greater input into NRHS operations and planning. While giving due consideration to all programs, I am especially interested in:

INCREASING COMMUNICATION AMONG MEMBERS AND CHAPTERS by establishing a members-only website on which members and chapters could share their railway photographs and other items of interest and discuss matters of concern to the NRHS. This would allow more members to feel involved in the organization and facilitate communication among chapters.

ESTABLISHING AN ONLINE STORE to sell NRHS paraphernalia and making it available year-round, to members and public. Paraphernalia is good advertising. I propose an annual convention T-shirt design contest in which members could submit designs promoting the upcoming convention, and T-shirts with the winning design could be sold online.

PRODUCING AN NRHS DIRECTORY listing names of all officers, directors, committees, committee chairs, and committee members, with job descriptions for all positions covered by the directory.

EMPHASIZING HERITAGE GRANTS AND RAILCAMP to stimulate interest in railway history and the NRHS. Nothing generates interest in railway history like an operating steam engine. It is in NRHS' interest to strongly support organizations seeking to restore and operate historical equipment. I would like RailCamp expanded to include more young people.

CHANGING CONVENTION SITES from alternating east/west locations to locations with the most passenger/excursion trains, particularly steam.

DIRECTING PERIODIC SURVEYS to former officers and directors, and then-current long-term members.

REMINDING CHAPTERS ANNUALLY to submit questions and concerns to the Advisory Council.

Office: Director



Wilfred F. (Skip) Waters III

Dallas, TX
North Texas Chapter, NRHS

Biography: I have been a NRHS member for 29 years, first joining the Gulf Coast Chapter after riding a Union Pacific 3985 excursion trip from Fort Worth to Houston in 1993 then later joined the North Texas Chapter in 1996. I became a train fan from the moment my dad put a toy train in my hand and became a railfan the instant I saw AFT 4449 steam out of New Orleans on a cold winter morning In 1977... man, I was hooked! Since then I chase mainline steam any chance I get. I am a charter member of the North Texas Chapter and have served as their chapter National Director, President and current Vice President of Trips and Events and part time newsletter editor when needed.

I have also served as the Chairman of Lone Star Rails 2008 NRHS National Convention hosted by the North Texas Chapter and Chairman of the 2019 Dallas NRHS Winter Director's Conference.

I was appointed to the current board for District 7 in 2013. I have served as National Membership Chairman and currently serve on the National Convention Committee.

I model in HO scale and enjoy collecting railroad memorabilia of my favorite passenger train, the Southern Pacific/T&NO Sunbeam. I also enjoy the history and colorful side of railroading and folklore like the Crash at Crush, Casey Jones and the Great Locomotive Chase.

Reason for seeking office: To make a difference and help the NRHS grow and attract new members and keep the organization alive and effective. I believe local activity is the answer and chapters are the source and life blood of activity for the society as a whole. Therefore, I would work diligently with members of chapters with local activities to promote local growth and tie them in with the activities promoted by the national organization, like RailCamp, Regional rail trips and the National Convention. I see a great treasure in the chapters that make up the national organization. There is much to gain by working with local chapters and promoting their activities that would help the national organization grow and expand. With that said, I would make it a goal to strengthen the chapter/national relationship for a better and stronger national society.