

***NRHS Bulletin* Scanning Project Update**

Thank you for appropriating money for the scanning of the *NRHS Bulletin*. Much has been accomplished in the past few months and this report will bring you up to speed.

Most of the time spent on this project has been assembling a copy of each *Bulletin* that was in appropriate condition for scanning. Ten years ago, the office staff in Philadelphia had assembled a complete collection of the *NRHS Bulletin* that represented the best copy of each issue that we had. Unfortunately, the staff at National Library Relocators – who have been storing the library collection since we moved out of the self-managed NRHS office in Philadelphia - integrated these copies with the large collection of extra magazines used for back issue sales. After working with Joe Maloney to get all the magazines shipped to me in Pennsylvania, I spent about 30 hours inspecting each magazine and for those that were not appropriate for scanning, finding a suitable copy in the back-issue sales collection. I am happy to report that aside from some issues from 1936 and 1937 we have a complete collection of magazines for scanning.

I have signed off on a scope of work with a company called Digiscribe (<http://www.digiscribe.info>) to perform the scanning work for us. The work will cost \$11,850 (50 cents a page plus some fees for project setup, delivery of the electronic files and a courier service for handling the magazines). An interesting fact is that the *NRHS Bulletin* has published just under 21,000 pages of content in the past 80 years. A kick-off call was held on May 22, 2017 and I expect that the scanning work will be complete by the end of August.

Unfortunately, after inspection of the magazines, Digiscribe has informed me that they will need to cut each magazine to get the best quality scans. Cutting the binding allows for the pages to be scanned completely flat, leading to a higher quality image. Since some of the issues they will be scanning are our only copy, I will have the complete set of magazines bound at the end of the project to preserve them. The additional cost for binding will likely be covered by the \$15K budget the Board authorized.

At the Fall Board meeting I will have a final report on the scanning operation as well as several options (and costs) for the Board to consider regarding how we can provide access to the digital archive. In the meantime, any questions or concerns can be directed to Jeff Smith (Editor, *NRHS Bulletin*) at bulletin@nrhs.com.

Thank You
Jeff Smith
Editor, NRHS Bulletin