

## CALENDAR

### April 22 - 23, 2016

Spring 2016 NRHS Conference  
Cumberland, MD  
[www.nrhs.com](http://www.nrhs.com)

### June 26 – July 2, 2016

RailCamp East  
Newark, Delaware

### July 19 - 24, 2016

2016 Convention  
Denver, CO  
[www.nrhs.com](http://www.nrhs.com)

### July 31 – August 7, 2016

RailCamp Northwest  
Tacoma, Washington

## 2015 NRHS Members Update

Submitted by Al Weber, NRHS President

My personal thanks for your 2015 support of the NRHS, and continuing assistance for 2016. We have had and continue to meet challenges in getting the NRHS back on track. As I mentioned last year, it will take a few years for the NRHS to be stable and growing. In 2015 we enjoyed many successes and faced many problems. All NRHS officers and committee volunteers are owed my deepest gratitude. Our officers put many hours in per week. The good work of our volunteers continues to bring us forward towards stronger times. I cannot thank you and them enough.

The 2015 convention in Rutland, Vermont went well, under the leadership of Bart Jennings and Walter Zullig. Our gratitude goes out to them for outstanding work well done.

As a key NRHS signature program, RailCamp focuses on attracting young people to the NRHS and railroading hobby. In 2015, two RailCamps were successfully operated. The time, effort and dedication of a large group of volunteers make RailCamps possible. We owe them recognition and acknowledgement for excellent work.

Quality publications are a vital part of the NRHS. They are a key membership benefit that provides essential outreach and information for our members. In 2015, NRHS publications improved robustly, providing quality, informative articles and news on a predictable, timely basis. Jeff Smith, at the helm of the *NRHS Bulletin*, provides creative collaboration among writers and photographers, and a clear vision to produce a high-quality, visually impressive, informative journal. Charles Williams manages our Facebook Page and steers the *NRHS News*, a bimonthly publication with timely news, photographs and member contributions. As editor of the *NRHS Telegraph*, Valli Hoski provides periodic updates on key events, programs and committees of the NRHS.

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### 2015 NRHS Members Update

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As 2015 draws to a close, NRHS has some cash in the bank (not much but some). An outside audit is now completed for the 2014 NRHS and NRHS Fund, Inc. financial books.

Looking ahead to 2016, the importance of your volunteer help is still essential to complete needed work and keep the NRHS moving forward. The upcoming Board of Directors' election will need to fill one half of the current positions. Volunteers are needed as camp counselors, the treasurer for the 2016 convention, and people to help with the membership program. For the most part, volunteer positions take a few hours per week, and provide essential support in ensuring the NRHS can preserve railroad history. To volunteer or to learn how you can help, please contact Al Weber at [aweber@nrhs.com](mailto:aweber@nrhs.com).

In 2016, publications will expand. A second *NRHS News* editor is needed so to help bring out more issues next year. The *NRHS News* will have 2 print editions in addition to the 6 electronic editions. The *NRHS Bulletin* will also have 2 issues.

Thank you again for your support and commitment to NRHS throughout 2015 and 2016. The officers truly could not do the job without you. The strength, commitment and loyalty of the NRHS members are essential to the success of the NRHS, its projects and publications.

### Jan. 5, 2016 Next Deadline for NRHS News

Submitted by Charles S. Williams, Editor,  
*NRHS News*

The deadline for submission of articles and photos for the February 2016 issue of the *NRHS News* has been moved from Jan. 15 to Tuesday, Jan. 5. The change was made to allow extra time for the special March 2016 issue of the *NRHS News*. Since the layout of the February issue is already underway, please submit items as soon as possible. Articles and photos from chapter events, and articles about upcoming activities, are welcome. Releases about upcoming chapter activities can also be posted on the NRHS Facebook page.

Send submissions to [<nrhsnews@charter.net>](mailto:nrhsnews@charter.net) or Charles S. Williams, Editor, NRHS News, 4712 Brushy Mountain Road, Moravian Falls, NC 28654. If you're sending an article, please include the name and home chapter name of the author.

If you are sending photos from an event, please include caption information, the name and home NRHS chapter of the photographer, and an article about the event with information such as date, location and special attractions either in a Word file or the body of the email. Please send high resolution photos as attachments to the email. Photos included in the body of a text file cannot be used.

## **2016 RailCamp Dates, Locations and Applications Announced**

Submitted by Becky Gerstung, RailCamp Program Director

Application for 2016 RailCamp will be posted January 1, 2016.

The success of the program depends on the participation of campers. We are asking all chapters to get involved with this amazing opportunity for young people. Spread the word through your newsletter, create a sign to post at your meetings or take with you as you attend train shows or public displays and programs. Applicants do not have to belong to the NRHS to be accepted into the RailCamp program.

*NRHS Press Release, Monday, December 14, 2015* - The National Railway Historical Society (NRHS) has announced the dates for its 2016 RailCamp. The annual RailCamp program offers a unique railroading opportunity to high school students, providing hands-on training in one of America's oldest and most important industries.

RailCamp is an educational experience designed to teach students about 21st century railroad operations, dispatching, and maintenance while providing a simultaneous experience in the early history of U.S. railroads in the development and settlement of our country.

Students will learn both modern and historic elements of America's most vital transportation mode, including how diesel, electric, and steam locomotives function, how track is built and maintained, and how early freight and passenger cars were constructed. With a focus on the ways in which revolutionary technical changes in modern railroading affect today's business, students will participate in railroad operations, interact with railroaders, learn

about preservation techniques, experience railroad history, obtain career opportunities, and work with real railroad equipment.

Two different camp opportunities are offered during the summer months:

- *June 26 – July 2, 2016, RailCamp East, Newark, Delaware* – Amtrak will host students at its High-Speed Rail Training Facility and National Operations Center in Wilmington, DE. Campers will also spend two days in Strasburg, PA at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania and the Strasburg Rail Road.
- *July 31 – August 7, 2016, RailCamp Northwest, Tacoma, Washington* – Students will visit Amtrak's King Street Station in Seattle, WA and its adjacent maintenance facility. Campers will also visit the operations center of Tacoma Municipal Belt Line (Tacoma Rail), The Northwest Railway Museum at Snoqualmie, WA, and the Mount Rainier Scenic Railroad at Mineral, WA. Additional time will be spent at Seattle's Sound Transit commuter rail facility.

The program is open to high school boys and girls who are currently freshmen, sophomores, juniors, or seniors (class of 2016). Individuals who enter their freshman year in 2016 will also be eligible to participate. Applicants do not have to be NRHS members to attend. For more information or to apply, please visit [www.nrhs.com/program/railcamp](http://www.nrhs.com/program/railcamp), the website of the NRHS. Applications will be available January 1, 2016.

## **NRHS 2016 Railway Heritage Grants Announcement**

Submitted by Robert M. Kornreich, Chair of the Railway Heritage Grants Committee

The NRHS is again awarding grants to support railway history and the preservation of railway heritage this year. Applications must be submitted electronically by 5 p.m., March 1, 2016. (See details below.)

In 2016, several individual awards will be made for amounts up to \$5,000. The NRHS reserves the right to fund grant requests partially. The form for Application with Terms and Conditions and Instructions can be found and downloaded on the NRHS.com website.

*Who is Eligible?* Projects involving the preservation, restoration, re-use, interpretation, or stabilization of historic railroad resources and materials will be considered, as will projects that plan for the same. Projects that support publication, research, outreach, and education are also encouraged. Applications should indicate how a project will catalyze community involvement, coordinate multiple sources of support, and produce long-lasting outcomes.

New components of ongoing projects which were the subject of a previous NRHS grant are eligible.

*Match Requirements.* All grants require a 50/50 or 1:1 match with AT LEAST half of the required match being cash. Up to one-half of the required match may be in-kind expenditures of labor and material directly and specifically benefitting the project. Labor expended on the project, whether paid or volunteer, can be counted toward the in-kind portion of the match at a maximum rate of \$15/hour. Materials may be valued at their retail price.

*Non-eligible Projects.* Not eligible for funding are routine maintenance of restored vehicles, running maintenance or repair of restored artifacts that exhibit wear from regular use, or inadequate protection,

or have reached the end of their service life.

Purchase of computer equipment and software is also not eligible for funding. Funding is not available for work already completed before receipt of the grant and for work undertaken elsewhere.

*Applicant Organizations.* Eligible projects must be submitted by nonprofit 501(c)(3) history organizations such as museums, historical societies, preservation organizations, historic sites, libraries, archives, or other history organizations that are located in one of the fifty states or the District of Columbia that actively engages in railway history and operations. Proof of 501(c)(3) status is required.

Entities that do not have 501(c)(3) status as determined by the Internal Revenue Service should seek fiscal sponsors as co-applicants who are municipalities, municipal entities, or 501(c)(3) organizations whose missions are in keeping with the work the applicant proposes. Fiscal sponsors who have 501(c)(3) status whose missions are in keeping with NRHS-funded projects often include local NRHS chapters, historical societies, preservation advocacy organizations, and church, youth, and civic NRHS 2016 Railway Heritage Grants Announcement organizations. Grants applied for in partnership with NRHS chapters are encouraged.

Note: Under limited circumstances when there is a compelling reason, the 501(c)(3) requirement can be waived. Applicants who do not have 501(c)(3) status and who cannot reasonably find a fiscal sponsor should state why that is the case. Eligible applicants may only submit one grant request per calendar year. Applicants that have received a Railway Heritage Grant for two (2) consecutive

years must wait a period of one year before submitting another application. *Award Criteria.* Grant awards will be based upon the following criteria and conditions:

- The proposed project contributes to the preservation of, and increases the general knowledge and understanding of railway history.
- The proposed project is original in scope or a new component of an ongoing project for which a grant was previously received. Duplication of past efforts must be avoided.
- The proposed project will catalyze community involvement, coordinate multiple sources of support, and result in long-lasting positive outcomes.
- The proposed project timeline for completion of the project, or completion of a new component of an ongoing project, shall not be longer than two (2) years from receipt of the NRHS grant.
- The proposal must satisfy the required match.
- Plans for maintaining the restored artifact or building shall be in place.
- Membership in the NRHS is not a prerequisite but will be strongly considered as a tie-breaker between two equally acceptable proposals that are finalists.

*How to Apply.* Applicants shall submit a signed, scanned grant application electronically to [grants@nrhs.com](mailto:grants@nrhs.com). Applicants for and recipients of NRHS Railway Heritage Grants are deemed to agree to the Terms and Conditions which is part of the application form.

**GRANT APPLICATIONS MUST BE ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED NOT LATER THAN 5:00 P.M. PST (8:00 P.M. EST) - TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2016.**

## **NRHS 2016 Convention, Denver Schedule and Trips Announced**

Submitted by John H. Goodman, National  
Convention Chair

We expect convention registration to open in the middle of January 2016. Watch the NRHS web site ([www.nrhs.com](http://www.nrhs.com)) for announcement of registration and ticket availability.

Hotel is the Holiday Inn, Denver East - Stapleton. Rates are \$99.00 per night plus tax for 1-2 people in a room. Reservations are now available; call the booking phone number at [1-855-914-1373](tel:1-855-914-1373) and ask for the NRHS Group rate. A 20% discount will be offered in both restaurants in the hotel to registered guests of the hotel.

### **Events**

- *Monday, July 18, 2016.* Registration Room open 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- *Tuesday, July 19, 2016.* Chartered buses to the Royal Gorge Route with lunch on board this wonderful dome train.
- *Wednesday, July 20, 2016.* Three trips this day go to different events.
  - *Trip #1.* All day trip over the new and existing light rail and heavy rail lines in the Denver metropolis area.
  - *Trip #2.* Heritage Tour to the History Colorado Center and the Denver Art Museum.
  - *Trip #3.* Tour to the Forney Museum of Transportation and the Platte Valley Trolley line and finally a visit to the Caboose Hobbies store.
- *Thursday, July 21, 2016.* Tour by chartered buses to Georgetown Loop Railroad and then to the Colorado Railroad Museum. The entire facility is chartered for our group. Buffet lunch included at their new lunch facility on the grounds. They have 2 operating narrow



gauge steam locomotives operating that day. Rides are included for this tour.

Thursday late evening is the annual Night Photo Shoot for up to 50 photographers. This includes a chartered bus from the hotel to the museum. This is a separate cost event.

- *Friday, July 22, 2016.* This is a day in the hotel for meetings and seminars. That afternoon is the annual NRHS Membership meeting. The annual banquet is that evening with a cash bar prior to the event.
- *Saturday, July 23, 2016.* Chartered buses take our group up to ride a chartered train on the Leadville Colorado & Southern Railroad. We operate rare mileage to include the Climax part of the line which is not part of the regular tour. Box lunch is included in this package.
- *Sunday, July 24, 2016.* Chartered buses will take us on a special outing. We hope (but do not guarantee) to view the UP steam engine #844 on its deadhead move from Denver to Cheyenne. (The #844 is expected to operate on the Cheyenne Frontier Days train on Sat. July 23, 2016 for invited guests only.) On the day's return trip, we stop at the Fort Collins Trolley Museum.

## Meetings

- *Wednesday, July 20, 2016, 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.* National Representatives Meeting.
- *Friday, July 22, 2016, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.* The Board of Directors' Meeting.
- *Friday, July 22, 2016, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.* Annual Membership Meeting.

Meetings are open to the membership. Meeting rooms will be announced that day.

This information will be supplemented by the actual ticket reservation and registration

when available on the web site in mid-January 2016.

## NRHS 2015 and 2016 Meeting Postings

Meeting notices and announcements for the NRHS 2015 Conferences, 2015 Annual Meeting, and 2016 Conference are available at the NRHS admin public site (<https://admin.nrhs.com/public/>).

Postings include:

- 2015-07-29 NRHS Fund, Inc. Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
- 2015 Summer Convention Board Meeting Minutes, Approved
- 2015 Annual Members Meeting Minutes, Draft
- 2015 Advisory Council Bylaws Change (2015 Summer, Rutland, VT)
- 2015-10-23 NRHS Fund, Inc. Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes, Approved
- 2015 Fall Conference Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes, Approved
- 2016 Spring Conference Invitation
- 2016 Spring Conference (Cumberland, MD) Registration Form

**NRHS Telegraph** is published by the National Railway Historical Society as news warrants.

Send all submissions to:

**TELEGRAPHVAL@gmail.com**

Valli Hoski (North Texas Chapter), Editor

Ellen Pinsky (Iowa Chapter), Editorial Assistant.