

CALENDAR

October 14 - 15, 2016

Fall 2016 NRHS Conference
Portland, OR
www.nrhs.com

June 20-24, 2017, 2016

2017 NRHS Conference
Nashville, TN
www.nrhs.com

Membership Update

Submitted by Al Weber, NRHS President

NRHS members and chapters are a diverse group – we are from many geographic regions, live within varied proximity to rail lines (trans-continental to short lines, commuter to light rail and trolleys, enjoy the hobby in different ways and scales (prototype, garden to N scale). What brings us together – our camaraderie, shared spirit and same interests in preserving railroad history.

The National Railway Historical Society offers its members and chapters several benefits, tangible and intangible. Being a large, recognized national organization has its advantages as well. For example, the NRHS has received special consideration from large railroads at several national conventions.

- *Annual National Convention.* The 2016 convention in Denver, Colorado included three major train trips (one with rare mileage, of interest to our mileage collectors), one day with transit and cultural tours, plus twelve historical seminars, a banquet, and organizational meetings. Our convention in 2017 will be held in Nashville, Tennessee on June 20 – 24, 2017.
- *Heritage Grants.* In 2016, the NRHS awarded grants for \$35,000. Grants for over \$100,000 were requested. Grant requests from Chapters are given extra consideration, but are not guaranteed to receive funding.
- *RailCamp,* sponsored/supported by the NRHS. RailCamp allows young people to experience all things railroad – historical and modern. There are 36 slots, and sold out in 2016. Railroads and museums in the northeast and northwest also support the camp and help make the camp possible. (Continued on p. 2)

2017 NRHS Convention Hotel

Submitted by John H. Goodman, Convention Chairman

The Nashville Airport Hotel is selected as the location for the 2017 NRHS Convention in Nashville, Tennessee. This hotel was formerly the Holiday Inn/Airport and was recently sold to new owners. Dates are June 20-24, 2017. The nightly rate will be \$129.00 per night for single or double rooms. This rate will apply for two days before or after the Convention. Free hotel shuttle is provided from the airport to the hotel. Guests are asked to phone the hotel to arrange for pick up at the airport.

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- *NRHS Board Meetings* (three/year). All members are welcome at the Board of Directors' Meeting and the Advisory Council Meeting. Chapter members get their voices heard by sending representatives to the Advisory Council meetings.
- *Publications – NRHS Bulletin, NRHS News, NRHS Telegraph.* NRHS maintains open communications with our members through print and online publications.

The full-color *NRHS Bulletin* is sent twice annually via postal-mail to members. The *NRHS News* is provided to members through email and postal mail. Six *NRHS News* issues (full-color, usually thirty plus pages) are distributed annually to members online through the NRHS web site. Additionally, two *NRHS News* issues (printed, eight pages) are postal-mailed to members as well. Six issues of the *NRHS Telegraph* are (4 pages each) distributed annually online with news on upcoming meetings, projects, grants and more. Publications are available to members at the NRHS web site, administration section (<https://admin.nrhs.com/>).

We hope to be able to send additional postal-mailed issues, as our finances allow. For our members without email, Chapter members frequently have additional friends / contacts to receive the emailed issues of our publications. In addition, minutes from our meetings, financial records, and Federal 990 reports are available to all our members online at <https://admin.nrhs.com/>. The NRHS believes in openness with our members and, as such, you always have access to me and other officers of the NRHS.

- *Discount Program.* NRHS members receive discounts at many railroad attractions, museums, and tourist railroads throughout the country. A list of participating organizations is provided on the NRHS web site (NRHS.com).
- *NRHS Library.* NRHS maintains a large library of historical documents and a film library; both are available to chapters and members.

Film library. Any NRHS Chapter can borrow films from the library at no cost – except for the shipping of the films. We are also working on converting unique 8 mm and 16mm films to more modern media to make the films more accessible to the railfan community. Many of these films are one of a kind and help railroad history. Chapters use this resource for meetings that are unique since they are not the standard published railroad films and DVDs.

Railroad history library. NRHS maintains a large library of historical documents from many car and locomotive builders, as well as planning documents from railroads and transit systems around the country. This library is available to our members for research.

- *NRHS Fund.* The NRHS Fund is working on a national plan to obtain donations for local railroad preservation projects. As a national organization, we have a large number of members to support a project, beyond the limited size or resources of a local group.

In addition to the larger benefits above, the NRHS assists members and chapters through research, outreach, and other services.

NRHS volunteers assist with research of railroad history. Members and chapters have used this unique resource to document railroad history to local governments to preserve items.

Outreach to the rail enthusiast and history community is easier with the NRHS. From Facebook, to e-mail distribution and postal mailing, the NRHS can reach a broader audience than most local groups.

Individuals are allowed to photograph trains from a public right-of-way – but NOT from private property. Occasionally, there are conflicts between members and local law enforcement.

When the need arises, the NRHS has a volunteer attorney who assists these conflicts with guidance on the legality of public photography.

The NRHS is involved with the major railroads to assist local chapters with railroad preservation projects and as a national interface with the local chapter. We are currently in discussions with several railroads not only about preservation but also about activities that promote the NRHS and the railroad to the public. As part of a large national system, the NRHS and chapters get a better audience than a local group would. This two way conversation benefits the railroad and the NRHS. As noted in internal publications, railroads recognize the NRHS as a very special partner.

To contact the NRHS, info@nrhs.com is available so you can get questions answered; also, feel free to email me at aweber@nrhs.com

NRHS 2016 Election Results

Submitted by Al Weber, NRHS President

The results are in! We just had an election for the 2017-2018 NRHS board and the new board will be officially seated at the Portland conference. These board members are your direct contact to the national organization. When a member has a question, comment or complaint, bend your board member's ear.

Here are the newly elected Vice President, three Global Directors and one District Director:

Vice President: Joseph C. Maloney, Jr.

Global Director: William Brotherton

Global Director: Robert Ernst

Global Director: Walter Zullig

District 1 Director: Tony White

District 2 Director: Charles Webb

District 3 Director: Ralph R. Bitzer

District 4 Director: Charles S. Williams

District 5 Director: Wesley Ross

District 6 Director: Duane Durr

District 7 Director: Skip Waters

District A Director: Wesley Weis

District B Director: Ricky Durrant

We also publish all names in each Board of Directors' Meeting minutes, and in the members' section of the NRHS web site at <http://admin.nrhs.com/public/>. Information on past Board and Advisory Council Meetings are also available there.

Please feel free to email or call me, and I will try to get you in contact with the volunteer who can assist with the question or problem.

The 2017 membership renewal cycle is underway. Please encourage members to renew promptly and, if possible, to renew on-line.

NRHS News Deadline

Upcoming *NRHS News* deadline:

- *November 10, 2016* – submissions for the December 2016 web edition of the *NRHS News*.

Please submit photos and items as soon as available. Items submitted after the deadline will be held until the next issue.

Photos should be high resolution photo files attached to an email. Photos that are included in the body of a text file or in the body of an email cannot be used.

Please remind your chapter members to "like" the NRHS Facebook page.

Chapter newsletter editors may also send copies of their publications to the addresses listed below.

Submit items for the *NRHS News* or the NRHS Facebook page by email to nrhsnews@charter.net or mail to Charles S. Williams, Editor, *NRHS News*, 4712 Brushy Mountain Road, Moravian Falls, N.C. 28654.

NRHS Telegraph Deadline

For the November issue of the *NRHS Telegraph*, please email news and articles by October 15, 2016 to Valli Hoski, Editor, *NRHS Telegraph* at TelegraphVal@gmail.com.

NRHS 2016 Meeting Postings

Meeting notices and announcements for the NRHS including Bylaws, Policies, Meetings, and Approved Financial Documents are in the public directory at <https://admin.nrhs.com/> .

New postings include (not limited to):

2016 Election

- Official NRHS 2016 Election Totals - Posted August 25, 2016

Fall 2016 Meeting (Portland, OR)

- Fall Board of Directors' Meeting Notice - Posted September 6, 2016
- Fall NRHS Fund Meeting Notice - Posted September 6, 2016
- Fall Conference Information Flyer - Posted July 14, 2016
- Fall Conference Registration Form - Posted July 14, 2016

NRHS Telegraph is published by the National Railway Historical Society as news warrants. News is current at time of printing.

Send all submissions to:

TELEGRAPHVAL@gmail.com

Valli Hoski (North Texas Chapter), Editor
Ellen Pinsky (Iowa Chapter), Editorial Assistant.