

## CALENDAR

### June 20-24, 2017

2017 NRHS Convention  
Nashville, TN  
[www.nrhs.com](http://www.nrhs.com)

### June 25 – July 1, 2017

RailCamp East  
Newark, DE

### July 30 – August 6, 2017

RailCamp West  
Tacoma, WA

### October 19 - 21, 2017

2017 NRHS Fall Conference  
Advisory Council and Board of  
Directors' Meetings  
Kansas City, MO  
[www.nrhs.com](http://www.nrhs.com)

## NRHS 2017 Fall Conference and Hotel Information

The NRHS Fall Conference will be held in Kansas City, Missouri from October 19 – 21, 2017. The Registration form is available in the public section of the NRHS web site (<https://admin.nrhs.com>). Conference registration is \$50, one per household, and is non-refundable.

The Conference hotel is the Westin Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center, 1 East Pershing Road, Kansas City, MO 64108 (one block southeast of Union Station). For reservations, please contact the hotel directly, phone 888-627-8538 or online at [www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/NRHSOct](http://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/NRHSOct) (case-sensitive).

For the special group rate, be sure to mention the event name "National Railway Historical Society October 2017". Hotel rates for a traditional guest room are Single or Double: \$139, Triple: \$164, Quad: \$189. Applicable state and local taxes are not included in the stated rates. Special rates will be available for three (3) days before and three (3) days after the conference, subject to availability of guest rooms at the time of reservation. **Payment must be received by the Westin Hotel no later than 5:00 PM Central Standard Time on September 22, 2017.**

The Fall Conference includes the traditional mix of local rail tours and NRHS meetings:

- *Friday, October 20, 2017* - a streetcar ride, car barn tour and Union Station tour are available in either the morning or afternoon. Ticket price is \$25, with a tour limit of 40 for either the morning or afternoon tours.
- *Saturday, October 21, 2017* - the Conference Banquet offers a choice of KC Beef Brisket, Crusted Salmon, or a Black Bean, Portobello Mushroom dinner. Banquet ticket price is \$49.
- *Sunday, October 22, 2017* - an optional all-day excursion is available, limited to 30 riders (please make reservations early). The Kansas City-St. Louis excursion is on the Swift Stream private car. Ticket price is \$189, and includes train fare, snacks, mid-morning brunch and evening dinner.

For payment, please make check payable to Kansas City Chapter National Railway Historical Society and mail your completed registration form to: Kansas City Chapter NRHS c/o Ruth Ann Troop, Secretary, 5238 Nieman Road, Shawnee, KS 66203-1853.

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### NRHS Member Update

Submitted by Al Weber, President

The NRHS strives continuously to improve the benefits and value you receive as a member. At the 2017 Spring Conference in Claymont, Delaware, several changes were discussed to make membership more flexible and relevant to members.

In recognition of our long-standing members, a new membership type will be available. If you have been a member for 25 continuous years (or more), are ninety years of age (or older), you are honored with a reduction in member dues. Starting in 2018, annual dues rate for this membership type only will be one half of the regular member rate that is in effect at that time. Chapters are invited to consider a similar membership type for their long-time members. This change does have a financial impact at the national level. Chapters could help by making an unrestricted donation in the long-time member's name to National to help support this type of membership.

A membership change has been suggested to honor members and veterans of the armed forces. This membership type will be discussed and finalized at the NRHS Board

meeting in Nashville. For any veteran or current member of the armed forces who has not joined NRHS before, a free one year membership would be available on a limited basis. It would be valid for the current membership year only. Hopefully, the member would renew as a full dues paying member. This is a new opportunity for chapters to attract and recruit new members, as well as honor individuals with military service.

Both membership initiatives have a financial cost for National. To support the 90+ year rate reduction, chapters could help by making an unrestricted donation in the long-time member's name to National. The armed forces and veterans membership will be limited in availability. However, this will provide a way for new members from the armed forces to experience the fellowship of preservation and rail activities and join us in NRHS projects and events.

Your local library (public or academic) is an excellent location for NRHS and chapter outreach. Public libraries are a good venue to share your chapter's activities, programs and local rail history. Displays can tell the story of your chapter, activities, how to join and be involved with railroad history and preservation. This type of outreach has a good track record for attracting members and making your chapter more visible in the community. All it takes a visit to your local public library and an offer to share your chapter's story, program or display.

This is the peak time of year for chapter events and excursions. Get your FREE outreach and publicity through the NRHS. Send a description to Charles Williams (email to [nrhsnews@charter.net](mailto:nrhsnews@charter.net)) and your event will be seen by many through the NRHS Facebook page. After the event, get more FREE publicity by sharing your story with other railroad fans. Please send photos and a field report for the *NRHS News*. This is a great way to attract more visitors and participation in your events next year!

Hope to see you at the 2017 National Convention in Nashville. Al.

## Free *NRHS Bulletin* Magazines for Chapters

Submitted by Jeff Smith, *NRHS Bulletin*  
Editor

The NRHS is looking to significantly reduce the inventory of back issues we keep in stock. In many cases we have hundreds of copies of individual issues. Given our limited sales of back issues (a few dozen per year) and the expense of storing the extra magazines (\$1,500 annually) we have decided to reduce inventories substantially.

Below is a list of *NRHS Bulletin* issues available to the Chapters. If you are interested, they are available in allotments of 50 magazines. You can choose which issue you want or you can leave it to the Bulletin editor to select the issue(s). In the inventory below you will see how many issues are available and a brief description of the content in that magazine. Please reach out to Jeff Smith at [bulletin@nrhs.com](mailto:bulletin@nrhs.com) if you are interested in receiving one or more boxes of magazines. They will be provided free of charge including shipping. (National will pay for the shipping.)

This is a limited time offer. Within the next 12 months we will begin recycling these magazines if no one takes them.

- *Spring 2010* (50 copies) - Tehachapi in the 21st Century, FL9 Dual Mode Locomotive.
- *Summer 2010* (50 copies) - Garden City Western, UP's Central Coast Line.
- *Fall 2010* (50 copies) - American Railway Depots.
- *Spring 2011* (50 copies) - Portland Switching District, The Railroad Landscape as a Site of Cross Disciplinary Inquiry.
- *Summer 2011* (50 copies) - Small Town Grain Elevators (railroading in flyover country), Burnside Shops.
- *Fall 2011* (100 copies) - The Challenge of Steam Tourist Railroads in the American West.
- *Summer 2012* (120 copies) - The

Pennsylvania Railroad Mainline:  
Exploring the Railroad Landscape.

- *Fall 2012* (250 copies) - Removing Southern Pacific's Cajon Pass Tunnels, the Virginia & Truckee Railroad.
- *Spring 2013* (110 copies) - Savannah to Tybee Island, CSX's New River Subdivision.
- *Summer 2013* (500 copies) - The Tenacious Tweetsie, Bethlehem Steel.
- *Fall 2013* (50 copies) - The Modern Streetcar: Transit or Time Machine?
- *Winter 2014* (400 copies) - Some Vernacular Railroad Photographs (a Brief History of Railfan Photography).
- *Volume 79, No. 2* (80 copies) – Bay Line Graceville Extension, Today's High Priority Trains (intermodal).
- *Volume 79, No. 3* (100 copies) – Contemporary Views Along the First Transcontinental Railroad.

## A Call for Conferences

Submitted by Bob Bitzer, Conferences

The Society is in urgent need of sponsors to host NRHS Fall and Spring Conferences for 2018 and beyond. One of the most important business actions that takes place three times a year are the Spring, Summer and Fall conferences which are held for meetings of the NRHS Board of Directors, Advisory Council and the NRHS Fund Board of Trustees. The spring and fall conferences are generally separate events hosted by a local chapter or chapters and in some cases other rail hobby or business groups in partnership. The summer conference is part of the NRHS convention. These meetings are extremely important because they allow us to conduct the business of the NRHS.

Currently we have meetings scheduled only through this year. The Fall 2017 meeting will be in Kansas City, Missouri. We like to have these events scheduled a minimum of 2 years out. We should have 2018 already planned for and approved. Unfortunately that has not yet happened.

How can the chapters help? Give serious thought to hosting a Spring or Fall

conference. It's really not that hard. It will result in the satisfaction of helping the Society and giving our members the opportunity to experience your rail scene culture and history. Look into your area and you will often be amazed on how much there is available to offer visitors. You may have a museum, operated by the chapter or another historical group, have local or regional railroads that can operate excursions, be part of an annual festival event for your area, have an important historical rail or related event which could be tied to a conference, or have knowledgeable historians or railroad officials who can be guest speakers, etc.

Remember that conferences are normally only three days in length. It is not an extensive time commitment. Our normal schedule is Thursday for check-in and evening visual program, Friday is a rail related event, and Saturday is for business meetings and an evening banquet with speaker.

If you are ready to sign up to run a conference, or have questions and wish to discuss operating one, we want to hear from you. The Society will provide full instructions and support. We have a conference handbook that will be provided and a knowledgeable team which can walk you through the entire process of running a conference.

Please contact me for more information, or any questions that you may have related to running a NRHS conference. Email is [treasurer@nrhs.com](mailto:treasurer@nrhs.com); phone is 301-206-5321. Looking forward to hearing from you. Thanks much and safe tracks ahead!

### **NRHS News Deadlines**

Upcoming *NRHS News* deadlines:

- *July 10, 2017* – submissions for the August 2017 web edition of the *NRHS News*.
- *September 10, 2017* – submissions for the October 2017 web edition of the *NRHS News*.
- *October 5, 2017* – submissions for the November 2017 print 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](mailto:nrhsnews@charter.net) or mail to Charles S. Williams, Editor, *NRHS News*, 4712 Brushy Mountain Road, Moravian Falls, N.C. 28654.

### **NRHS Telegraph Deadlines**

Upcoming *NRHS Telegraph* deadlines:

- *July 8, 2017* – submissions for the July 2017 web edition of the *NRHS Telegraph*.
- *August 15, 2017* – submissions for the September 2017 web edition of the *NRHS Telegraph*.

Submit news and articles to Valli Hoski, Editor, *NRHS Telegraph* at [TelegraphVal@gmail.com](mailto:TelegraphVal@gmail.com).

### **NRHS Meeting Postings**

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

*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.