



# NRHS News

National Railway Bulletin No. 3

September 2000

## Grant Awards Announced



A Birthday on the Road (story on Page 4)

### NRHS Programs Need Your Financial Support

As this issue goes to press, kids are returning to school, the football season is starting, and the NRHS staff is gearing up to produce dues notices next month. And that means it's a good time to start planning for charitable contributions before the current tax year runs out.

We urge all NRHS members to continue their generous support of the Society. Our membership support has increased substantially in recent years, and this has allowed us to expand several important programs. But there is always so much more we could do if the funds were available.

Your dues alone don't cover everything. Dues fund ongoing Society operations, including the *Bulletin*, this newsletter, and the very successful RailCamp program. Dues money also provides the administrative support that enables our volunteer staff to deliver numerous services at very low overall cost.

See **Programs**, Page 3

### Twelve Organizations to Receive \$27,000

Grants Program Director Jack Salt announced the following awards at the National Board of Directors' Meeting, held on June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Society's Annual Convention in Stamford, CT.

#### ACL & SAL Railroads Historical Society

Rocky Mount, NC - \$500 towards the initial purchase of computer and scanning equipment suitable for producing CD-Roms of photographs, drawings, and documents from the former Atlantic Coast Line and Seaboard Air Line Railroads. The society is establishing a functioning archive in the restored ex-ACL passenger/office building that will serve as a repository for historical materials and artifacts.

#### Branford Electric Railway Association

East Haven, CT - \$4800 to complete the reassembly work on the New Orleans Public Service streetcar 850, a classic 1920s double-end lightweight-style streetcar, the type that was immortalized in "Streetcar Named Desire" by playwright Tennessee Williams. To date, over 2400-person hours and \$13,000 have been committed to this project, which is due for completion July 2001.

#### Central Florida Chapter, NRHS

Winter Garden, FL - \$1,000 matching funds for extermination of dry termites and other insects in the Chapter's railway museum building, a former SAL freight station circa 1913. NRHS in 1998 awarded a matching grant of \$1500, the City of Winter Garden, FL. granted \$1500 and the Chapter contributed \$1500 to replace the station's roof.

See **Grants**, Page 2

## Grants

From Page 1

### **Cumberland Valley Chapter, NRHS**

Chambersburg, PA - \$500 matching funds for the videotaping of oral history of the living persons who worked for the Cumberland Valley Railroad and/or its successor, the Pennsylvania Railroad. The Chapter will record their recollections before they are no longer available. A completed video tape is planned for April 2001 providing first hand knowledge of CV RR headquarters building, roundhouse and shop buildings that are still in existence but are now used for other commercial endeavors.

### **Griffith Historical Society**

Griffith, IN (Endorsed by Blackhawk Chapter, NRHS) - \$4500 towards the moving and relocation of the 75 year old Broad Street Crossing Tower, a \$66,000 project. The tower controlled traffic for five railroads: EJ&E, GT, MC, Erie and C&O. 180 trains a day crossed at Broad Street. The top level contains the original equipment that will remain intact as a historical display, also providing an excellent location for the photographic purposes of railfans. The lower floors will house a museum. The completion date of 2004 coincides with Griffith's centennial celebration. The 165 ton tower was, in fact, moved across the tracks in July.

### **Illinois Railway Museum**

Union, IL - \$4,500 matching funds toward the restoration of electrical equipment on the 1940 *Electroliner* interurban that ran on the Chicago, North Shore & Milwaukee Railway. The *Electroliner* has been restored externally to its original blue-green and salmon color scheme, and work is underway to correct the mechanical and electrical problems. "This icon of modern rail design was streamlined and articulated with an operating speed of 85 mph."

### **Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Railway Historical Society**

Scranton, PA (an NRHS Chapter) - \$3,000 toward boiler repairs on ex-Boston & Maine number 3713, a 4-6-2 built by Lima in 1934. Total restoration to operation is underway in the Steamtown shops at an estimated cost in excess of \$240,000. The private contractor, Bill Frederickson Co., plans for steam-up sometime prior to 2007, the 50th

anniversary of 3713's last run. Daily work commenced June 1999 and continues at a "brisk rate" with Phases I and II completed and Phase III well underway.

### **Reading Company Technical & Historical Society**

Reading, PA - \$500 toward the purchase of 15,000 acid-free envelopes to protect 15,000 negatives and photos taken by official Reading Railroad photographers from the late 1930s up to the railroad's termination in 1976. The images not only cover steam and diesel locomotives, they include rolling stock, accidents and derailments, storm damage, employee meetings and events, and many other topics. An estimated 600 person hours will be required to complete the labeling, cataloging and envelope insertion of each individual photo/negative.

### **Ridgway Railroad Museum**

Ridgway, CO - \$2,400 towards the establishment of a museum display area within the Ridgway Chamber of Commerce Visitor's Center that will include a dramatic 1:20 scale diorama of the Pleasant Valley Bridge on the RGS, complete with "Galloping Goose" railbus. An accurate and fully functional re-creation of RGS motor No. 1 is currently under construction and will be displayed with other equipment and buildings alongside of the Visitor's Center. An early 2001 completion date is contemplated.

### **Transport Museum Association**

St. Louis, MO - \$2,000 toward the restoration to "Pristine" and fully operational condition of City of St. Louis Waterworks Railway car No. 10 at the Museum of Transportation. Car No. 10 ran on the unique Waterworks Railway and had as its main purpose the transportation of employees from the end of the public streetcar line to the water treatment plant. This unique car was built in 1914 to almost interurban proportions with railroad height floor and couplers so it could move carloads of chemicals into the waterworks. This unusual car and line operated until 1955. A Spring 2001 completion date is intended.

### **Waymart Area Historical Society**

Waymart, PA - \$2,000 toward the restoration of D&H Gravity Railroad open (summer) car No. 43 in time for the 2001 Sesquicentennial celebration in Waymart and Carbondale, PA. The Delaware and Hudson Canal Co. Gravity Railroad was

completed in 1829 to carry anthracite coal from Carbondale, PA over the 900-foot Moosic Mountain to the head of the canal in Honesdale, PA. The coal moved via the D&H Canal to the Hudson River and on to New York and other eastern markets. In 1877 scheduled passenger service began with 36 "summer" cars in use in addition to 12 "winter" cars. Car 43 will be assembled in the freight room of the well-preserved Waymart D&H steam era passenger/freight station built in 1900 when the line was converted to steam. Number 43 will be displayed next to the restored Waymart D&H Gravity Railroad station in a pavilion supported by cast iron columns from the Gravity Railroad Shops in which it was built.

### Western Steam Fiends Association

Salem, OR - \$1,300 toward the restoration and relocation of a 1927 Bucyrus-Erie steam powered railway crane, formerly Southern Pacific No. 7020. Specifically, this grant will be used to refurbish & reset two safety valves, repair a leak in the fuel oil tank, provide 30 yards of ballast gravel, ties, plates, spikes and a display panel. Recent state inspections have shown the crane to be in excellent condition overall. The goal is to have the crane operational in the Western Antique Powerland Museum in Brooks, Ore., for the "Great Oregon Steam-Up" shows in July and August 2002.

## Programs

From Page 1

Several important programs, however, rely on donations rather than dues in order to keep going. These include:

- **The Railway Heritage Grants Program.** Since its modest beginnings in 1991, this program has awarded 56 grants totaling \$131,880 to support a variety of rail history projects, including 12 awards totaling \$27,000 this year. Once again, the program was able to support only a small fraction of the worthwhile projects seeking help.
- **Expansion of the NRHS Library.** This important reference collection is available to all members for research.
- **Our continuing film preservation efforts.** The Harry P. Dodge film

library collection of professional films continues to grow, and our efforts to preserve valuable amateur films and negatives have barely scratched the surface.

- **Building the NRHS Heritage Preservation Fund.** This fund will provide long-term financial support for railway history preservation.
- **Creation of a new Educational Endowment Fund.** Initially, this fund will provide scholarship support for programs such as RailCamp. Details of this program will be announced in the near future.

The NRHS offers a variety of options for making donations:

- We hope everyone will consider adding a donation to their annual dues renewal. Simply fill in the national donation line and add the additional amount to your dues payment.
- At other times, or if you belong to a Chapter which does not use the national renewal form, you can send donations directly to our national office (P. O. Box 58547, Philadelphia, PA 19102-8547).
- For those who find it advantageous, we welcome direct donation of stocks and other financial instruments. To make such a donation, please contact the national office (phone 215-557-6606 or fax 215-557-6740) to make the arrangements.

As you consider your financial support, please remember:

- The NRHS is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, and gifts are tax-deductible in the USA.
- Many of our Chapters are also tax-exempt organizations, and they can use your support for a variety of local projects.

We hope we can continue to count on you to support the NRHS and the railway history preservation movement across the country.

---

 L • C • L
 

---

*We wish to welcome aboard three new Chapters who received their Charters at the Annual Convention this year:*

**Longhorn Chapter**, located in San Antonio, Texas. For information, contact the President, Marla Heim Rodríguez, at: 6400 Wurzbach #1807, San Antonio, TX 78240.

**Southwest Florida Chapter**, located in Fort Myers, Florida. For information, contact the President, Jeanne Hickam, at: P. O. Box 101382, Cape Coral, FL 33910.

**Willow Springs Chapter**, located in Willow Springs, Missouri. For information, contact the President, Jack Webb Richardson at: 998 County Road 5170, Willow Springs, MO 95793-9253, jrich@townsq.com.



The **Heart of Dixie Railroad Museum** in Calera, Alabama (an NRHS Chapter), is seeking ten benevolent friends of the museum, willing to donate \$400 each, for the purchase of a new hand car. The plan is to set up a section of isolated light rail, where visitors can experience what it was like to propel one of these cars. A similar ride has proved most popular at the Steamtown NHS. Donors will be recognized on a plaque affixed to the car. For more information, one can write Gilbert Routman at: P. O. Box 727, Calera, AL 35040; or call Mark Greve at: 205-979-5748.

**Railfan & Railroad** magazine is currently seeking an Associate Editor. Duties will include proofreading, writing video and railroadiana reviews, returning used and unused material to contributors, general correspondence and some magazine layout work.

If you are interested, please send E-Mail to [steveb@railfan.com](mailto:steveb@railfan.com), or write to: Steve Barry, Managing Editor, Railfan & Railroad Magazine, P. O. Box 700, Newton, NJ 07860-0700. Steve promises to forward a complete job description, applicant requirements and instructions for submitting a resume.

## A UP Birthday!

Union Pacific Steam Boss Steve Lee celebrated his 50th birthday August 2nd, while on the road with steam locomotive 3985 to the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles.

The crew of the 3985 surprised Mr. Lee before their 8:00 AM departure from Ogden, UT on his 50th birthday with a sign and several black balloons that were strategically placed throughout the cab and on 3985's throttle. The picture on Page 1 shows Steve disposing of the last balloon after deflating it with one of his trademark stogies. After a few laughs, and colorful remarks to the crew, Steve proclaimed it was, "time to get back to work and dispense of this nonsense".

The 3985, and 6 cars were in Ogden, UT July 31 - August 2, en route from Cheyenne to Los Angeles to be displayed with the passenger car fleet for the Democratic National Convention. The 3985, E9's 951, 949, 963b, support cars and a selection of business cars from the UP passenger fleet were in Los Angeles August 5th through August 20th. The 3985, and support cars returned to Cheyenne on August 28th. The E9's will head up the rest of the fleet for its return to Fox Park in Council Bluffs, IA. Both trains departed LA on August 20th.

*Editors' Note: Our thanks to Terry Holdeman, Vice President/Public Relations, for this article and the photo on Page 1.*

The NRHS News is published six time a year by the National Railway Historical Society, as a supplement to the National Railway Bulletin – Lynn Burshtin & Robert Pinsky, Editors. Please send all items to:

NRHS News, Post Office Box 6144, River Forest, IL 60305-6144.