

CALENDAR

May 30 – June 3, 2018

2018 NRHS Spring Conference
Advisory Council and Board of
Directors Meetings
St. Louis, MO
www.nrhs.com

August 7 - 12, 2018

2018 NRHS Convention
Cumberland, MD
www.nrhs.com

October 11 - 13, 2018

2018 NRHS Fall Conference
Advisory Council and Board of
Directors Meetings
Scranton, PA
www.nrhs.com

Spring 2019

2019 NRHS Spring Conference
(Location to be confirmed)
www.nrhs.com

May 2019

2019 NRHS Convention
Salt Lake City UT
www.nrhs.com

November 8-9, 2019

2019 NRHS Fall Conference
Dallas, TX
www.nrhs.com

NRHS Member Update

Submitted by Al Weber, President

The annual membership renewal cycle is underway. Many have already renewed for 2018. Many renewals are arriving from the new website, which is very cost-effective for the NRHS. Renewals are also arriving in the mail.

Our volunteers are processing the data as fast as possible. Many thanks to them for diligent efforts. Please be patient as the batches of renewals are worked through.

Your membership card will arrive in the next month or so. Please let us know if there is an error in the data. Please send both the existing incorrect information and the corrected data in the mail or via email.

A very good year is planned for 2018, with an abundance of publications, convention and conferences, East and West RailCamps. You can look forward to four issues of the *NRHS Bulletin*, nine issues of the *NRHS News*, to six issues of the *NRHS Telegraph*. Conventions and conferences are coming up too, from the 2018 Spring Conference in St. Louis, Missouri to the 2018 National Convention in Cumberland, Maryland and the Fall Conference in Scranton, Pennsylvania. The NRHS discount program offers many benefits, but is overlooked by many members.

Volunteers are working on getting the 2018 Historical Grants requests out. If you or your chapter has a project in mind, please apply. If not, please consider a donation so more rail preservation requests can be fulfilled.

Thanks to each of you for renewing your membership. Every renewal helps to support rail history preservation.

Al Weber <aweber@nrhs.com>

2018 NRHS Convention News

John Goodman, NRHS National Convention Chairman

(Editor's note: The December 2017 NRHS News included this update on the 2018 NRHS Convention. It is reprinted here for your convenience.)

High level officials at the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad have confirmed that repair work being done on steam locomotive No. 1309 will not be completed by the August 2018 convention dates.

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The museum is running short on funds to complete the necessary work — they need over \$500,000.00 — and at this time they do not expect the work to be completed by late 2018.

The convention committee will move ahead with other plans for our Aug. 7-12, 2018 convention, which will still be held in Cumberland, Md. Many other venues are planned for that week. We still plan a visit to Cass, West Virginia, a ride on that railroad, a steam trip at the Everett Railroad and a diesel trip over the Potomac Eagle line.

2018-2019 Convention and Conference Update

This update is summarized from the approved minutes of the *NRHS Board of Directors* meeting, Saturday, October 21, 2017, at the Fall Conference in Kansas City.

Conventions

- *2018. Cumberland, MD* – The dates for the 2018 Convention are set for August 7 to 12, 2018. The Convention Committee is very close to finalizing the hotel contract. Rail activities are planned each day Wednesday through Saturday of the convention. The Advisory Council and NRHS Board meetings will be held on Thursday. The Annual Membership

meeting will be held on Friday.

- *2019. Salt Lake City, UT* – The Convention Committee recently visited Salt Lake City, and looked at hotels. The final hotel selection is not yet finished. To date there is no trip information available from the Union Pacific Railroad. The date at Promontory Summit is May 10, 2019.
- *2020 and Beyond* – No update.

Conferences

- *Fall 2017. Kansas City, MO* – President Al Weber thanked the Kansas City Chapter for their hospitality.
- *Spring 2018 Saint Louis, MO* - The 2018 Spring Conference will be held in St. Louis, MO in conjunction with the R&LHS Annual Meeting. The dates are Wednesday, May 30 to Sunday, June 3, 2018. All events will be arranged by the R&LHS. All meetings of the NRHS will be held on Sunday, June 3, 2018. Times are to be determined. A handout was given to the Board and attendees outlining the planned events.
- *Fall 2018. Scranton, PA* – The Fall 2018 conference will be in Scranton, hosted by the Lackawanna & Wyoming Valley Chapter. The dates are October 11 – 13, 2018. This is in conjunction with the chapter's 45th anniversary. Activities are to be determined.
- *Spring 2019. Johnson City, TN* – The George L. Carter Chapter will investigate holding a Conference in Johnson City, TN. Because of the May date for the 2019 Convention this meeting may be held in March or August.
- *Fall 2019. Dallas, TX* – The Fall 2019 Conference will be November 8-9, 2019 in Dallas, hosted by the North Texas Chapter. Hotel and activities are to be determined.
- *2020 and beyond* - Bob Bitzer is seeking proposals for future Conferences.

2018 NRHS Election Overview

The NRHS is now soliciting nominations for all Officer and Board positions. The 2018 election is the fourth under the Bylaws previously adopted in 2011.

In this election the President and nine Board positions will be on the ballot. All positions will be four-year terms.

All NRHS members in good standing are eligible to run for any of the Officer and Board positions based on meeting the criteria set forth in the *NRHS Bylaws* Article VII, Section 7. For more details please see the NRHS Bylaws at <https://admin.nrhs.com/public>. Look for the link to Current Bylaws.

If a member desires to run for office and is qualified based on the criteria in the *NRHS Bylaws* Article VII, Section 7, the member must submit a nomination application to the NRHS Electoral Committee Chair no later than the end of business March 31, 2018. The nomination application is available online at <https://admin.nrhs.com>.

Send the nomination application form to NRHS Electoral Committee Chair, 3013 Heritage Landing Road, Williamsburg, VA 23185, or as an attachment to an email addressed to vp@nrhs.com. If you have any questions regarding qualifications for office, please contact Joseph C. Maloney Jr. vp@nrhs.com NRHS Vice President and Chair, 2018 NRHS Electoral Committee National Railway Historical Society, Inc.

Once nominations close on March 31, 2018, the Electoral Committee will create the ballot for each of the Districts. The membership mailing of the ballots will commence on or about June 1, 2018.

The election will close on August 1, 2018. All ballots must be postmarked no later than August 1, 2018 to be counted. Election shall be by a plurality of those votes legally cast.

Additional details, including election certification, notification of election results, and seating of new Board of Directors, will be included in the approved, final 2018 Nominations Form and Instructions and will be available at the NRHS Admin website at <https://admin.nrhs.com/public/>

Reminder - 2018 RailCamp Deadlines and Guidelines

Submitted by Rebecca Gerstung

RailCamp appreciates all the chapters, groups and individuals who have sponsored campers in the past. Each year more

chapters become involved. Priority placement is given to sponsored campers.

To plan ahead, we have only 36 available spots. We needed to know your intention to sponsor by January 15, 2018.

The *deadline for sponsored applications is March 1, 2018*. No exceptions! By that time applications are arriving and these kids are anxious to hear if they have been accepted. We basically use a first come-first served approach. Applications are recorded as received. Sponsored campers who do not get their applications in by March 1, 2018 fall in line with all the other applicants. They lose their priority placement.

Please understand that there is a very thorough interview process involved with accepting kids into the program. Sponsored candidates are not automatically accepted. This program demands that the campers pay attention, follow directions, and be responsible. Safety is our primary concern. Talking with parents and especially teachers who see these kids away from the family environment gives us good insight as to their ability to be comfortable and function safely within the RailCamp rules. The decision on acceptance is with the RailCamp Committee.

For information about RailCamp, sponsors or other questions, please email railcampnrhs@yahoo.com.

Membership Report, December 2017

Submitted by Hugh R. Harris, Membership Administrator

As of December 30, 2017, the database shows a total of 1,338 people renewed. Also, there are between 600 and 700 checks in process between John Fiorilla's office and me. I should start to see those records over the next day or so.

The new system is up and running though not without some problems. People with Family Members have had trouble renewing them and that has turned out to be a problem that the link tying the Family Member to the Regular Member was broken in the data transfer between the two

systems. We weren't aware of that originally and so have not prepared for it. I can help if you contact me as soon as you are ready to renew. Any problems at all, please contact me (hughrharris@aol.com) and I'll help!

NRHS Telegraph Deadlines

The NRHS Telegraph is published in odd-numbered months, for a total of 6 issues annually.

Submissions should be text-only, and sent the month prior to the issue. Issues are distributed in PDF format. Files are available on the NRHS Admin website at <https://admin.nrhs.com/telegraph/>.

Upcoming issues and deadlines are:

- *January 2018* issue – January 5 deadline.
- *March 2018* issue – February 20 deadline.
- *May 2018* issue – April 20 deadline.
- *July 2018* issue – June 20 deadline.
- *September 2018* issue – August 20 deadline.
- *November 2018* issue – October 20 deadline.
- *January 2019* issue – December 20, 2018 deadline.

Please send news and articles to Valli Hoski, Editor, *NRHS Telegraph* at 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.