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December 2025 Gateway Railletter

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THE GATEWAY RAILLETTER

St. Louis Chapter NRHS --- www.stlouisnrhs.org

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Editor: VACANT - newsletter.exchange@stlouisnrhs.org

President: David Huelsing - dhuelsing@stlouisnrhs.org

Happy Holidays!



Missouri-Kansas-Texas FP7 80-C leads three more F-units through St. Charles, Mo. in the autumn of 1972. At the time the Katy ran two to four long freights daily through St. Charles.

Photo by Bruce Sellman, Collection of Andy Sisk

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETING

Wednesday, December 3 7:00 pm

The National Museum of Transportation

Lindburg Automobile Center, 2nd Floor

President's Message

A number of our members are working on Polar Express at Union Station, and maybe a few of you will be riding as passengers as well. Maybe I will see you there.

In this issue you will find the information for renewing your membership. Don't forget that National and Chapter memberships are separate renewals.

I will not be at the December Chapter meeting, so I hope everyone has a good Thanksgiving, Christmas, Hanukah, and New Years.

Results of the Chapter Officer Election

The annual election of St. Louis Chapter NRHS Executive Board officers was held at the November Chapter meeting on Wednesday, November 5. The elected officers for 2026 are:

President: David Huelsing

Vice President Program Director: Andy Sisk

Vice President Trip Director: Rick Sprung

Vice President Membership Services: Eileen Weber

Secretary: Bill Heger

Treasurer: Steven Siegrist

Chapter Representative to the National NRHS: Cliff Kierstead

Minutes From The St. Louis Chapter NRHS Monthly Meeting

Date: November 5, 2025

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President David Huelsing

There were no new members or guests present

A motion was made to approve the minutes of the October meeting by Eileen Weber. Seconded by Ron Gawedzinski. The motion was approved.

Officer and Committee Reports:

VP Program Director Andy Sisk – Change in the night's program. It will be films on the KATY in Missouri presented by Ray George. Next month's program is scheduled to be a video of holiday, winter and snow trains.

VP Trip Director Rick Sprung – Looking into a tour of St. Louis Union Station in the spring.

VP Membership Eileen Weber – Reminded everyone that it is membership renewal time for both the Chapter and the National.

Treasurer Steve Siegrist – Gave an update on income, expenses and balances.

Investment Committee – Steve Siegrist reported on the quarterly meeting.

Secretary Bill Heger – Not Present

National Advisory Council Representative Cliff Kierstead – Not Present

Railletter Editor – Acting editor Rick Sprung requested photos with captions as well as articles.

Internet Media Administrator Steve Binning – Not Present

Librarian Taylor Hunt – Announced the books he had with him tonight.

Parliamentarian Ron Zimmer – Not Present

President – David Huelsing – Announced that the last Executive Committee meeting two Endowment Fund grant applications were approved:

- Missouri Pacific Historical Society - \$4,000 archival quality telescopic tubes to store large format items.

- American Industrial Railroad Society (AIRS) - \$5,000 for chassis and running gear work on the steam locomotive Indiana Northern No. 4 as listed in the grant application.

Old Business – None

New Business – Election Committee chair Rich Chenault announced the slate of candidates for election to the Executive Committee. All are incumbents running unopposed. Eileen Weber made the motion to elect the slate by proclamation. Don Bowling seconded the motion. The motion passed. The chapter officers for 2026 are: President – David Huelsing; VP Program Director – Andy Sisk; VP Trip Director – Rick Sprung; VP Membership Services – Eileen Weber; Secretary – Bill Heger; Treasurer – Steve Siegrist; National Advisory Council Representative – Cliff Kierstead.

Announcements – Al Weber reported that the installation of 18 trolley poles for Street Car Expansion project at the Museum of Transport have been approved. Andy Sisk and Rick Sprung gave an update on the Kirkwood Station restoration project. Rick Sprung gave a report on this year's Polar Express at Union Station.

Eileen Weber made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Rick Sprung

VP - Trip Director

St. Louis Chapter NRHS

It's Chapter Membership Renewal Time

It is time to renew your membership in the St. Louis Chapter NRHS. Cost is only \$14.00 for a family membership. Please renew via mail using the form below, or via the internet using the link provided. Your membership expires December 31, so please join now. This just renews your membership in the Chapter; you must renew your National membership separately.

Eileen Weber
VP - Membership Services

We Are (Still) Looking For An Editor

Want to be an editor of a periodical publication? Always wanted to put a newsletter together? Here's your chance...

The Chapter's *Gateway Railletter* Editor position is currently vacant. The job requires a few hours a month of putting articles, news and photos into the MailChimp format.

Without an editor the Gateway Railletter does not get published. We can't depend on temporary editors forever.

If you are interested in becoming the editor, please contact David Huelsing or any chapter officer. Until we find a new editor David and Rick Sprung will be filling the position. If you have anything that you would like to submit please e-mail it to newsletter.exchange@stlouisnrhs.org. Photos must have captions or an overall description included. Image and text file requirements can be found below.

The Jay Christopher Railroad Museum

While attending the NRHS Fall Conference in Milwaukee, Chapter Representative to the National NRHS Cliff Kierstead toured the Jay W. Christopher Transportation Collection. Located on Christopher Farm and Gardens in Sheboygan, Wis., it is a personal collection of historical artifacts that focus primarily on airline, steamship, railroad, and airship travel with a particular emphasis on the dining experience. While not open to the public, they do welcome visitors and groups on a request basis. The tour was part of the Fall Conference.

Cliff took A LOT of pictures while on the tour. Here we present a small fraction of his photos.



Above: A view down one of the aisles

Right: A few of the passenger train drum heads on display. Note the A.P.I. Convention Special. On the right hand side are top to bottom Frisco's The Will Rogers, Wabash's Banner Blue Limited, and Burlington's Denver Zephyr.

Below: Playing card display





Above and Below: Missouri Pacific china and other items



Above: Chicago and Alton Lincoln pattern china

Below Left: Dining car menu display

Below Right: Missouri-Kansas-Texas china





Above: Great Northern dining car china. Childrens (top shelf) and Glory of the West and Mountains & Flowers (lower shelf).

Below: From the airline section, a portion of the Trans World Airlines (TWA) collection



New Amtrak Station In Carbondale, Illinois

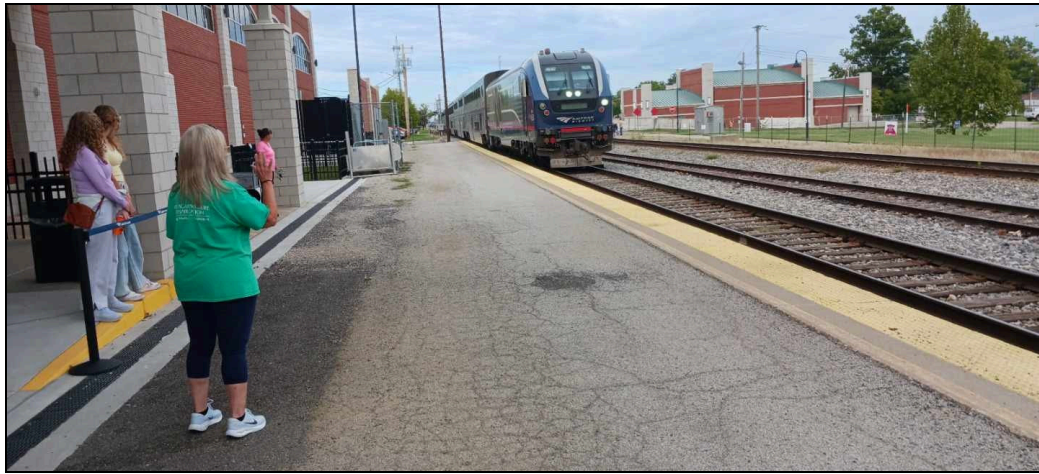
Bill Schaberg visited the new Amtrak station in Carbondale while attending the Missouri Pacific Historical Society meeting in Marion, Illinois on October 10 of this year. Here are a few photos he took.



Artist's rendering of the new Carbondale Amtrak / Intermodal station



Waiting room

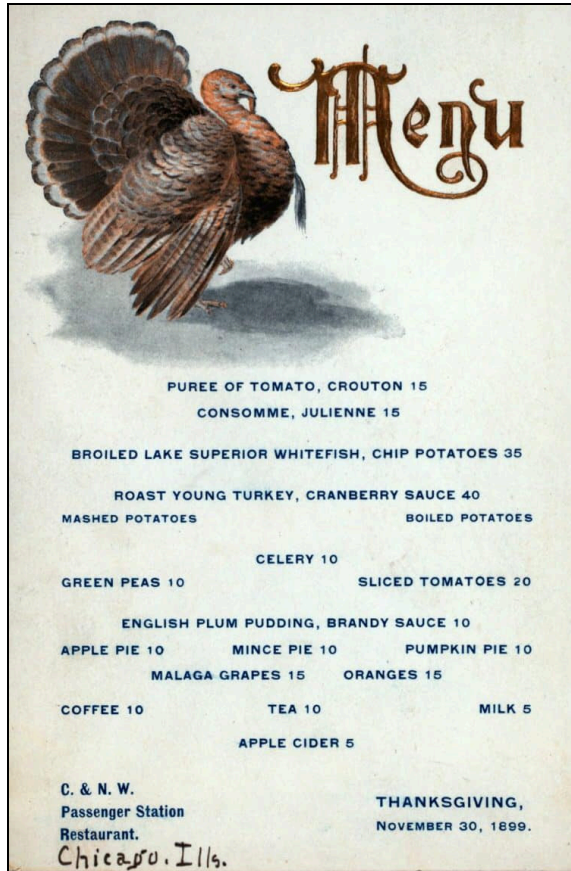


Amtrak's Saluki arriving at the new station from Chicago



The distinctive tower was still under construction.

David Huelsing has contributed two items to get us in the Holiday mood. On the left is the Chicago & NorthWestern Railway's Chicago passenger station restaurant menu for Thanksgiving of 1899. On the right is a Christmas advertisement for the Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad from the World War II era. Happy Holidays!



St. Louis Chapter NRHS 2026 Annual Membership Renewal

St. Louis Chapter NRHS 2026 Annual Membership Renewal

You will receive a renewal notice from NRHS National separately. National offers online renewal or mail in options. You are encouraged to process your National Membership online at <https://nrhs.com/membership/membership-renewals/>

National renewals can be processed by the Chapter. If you wish to mail them together, Include the **National form & Chapter form** with your payment(s). The Chapter will forward your check and National membership form to them.

SEPARATE CHECKS ARE REQUIRED FOR NATIONAL AND CHAPTER.

****CHAPTER RENEWALS CAN NOW DONE ONLINE:**

<https://www.stlouisnrhs.org/ContactUs.html>

An additional \$1.00 fee is charged for this service.

It is necessary to be a member in good standing with NRHS National to also be a Chapter Member.

Regular **National** membership is \$50.00 [Additional members of your family & individuals living in the same household may also become members for just \$7.00 per year]

Student **National** Membership is \$16.00

Regular **Chapter** Membership is \$14.00 (does not include National Membership)

Student **Chapter** Membership is \$10.00 (does not include National Student Membership)

For chapter membership, please include \$1.00 extra if paying by credit card.

Make check(s) payable to:

Chapter Check - St. Louis Chapter NRHS

National Check - NRHS

Please fill out and include the included membership form(s) and mail to"

St. Louis Chapter NRHS

Membership VP

P.O. Box 220168

Kirkwood, MO 63122-0168

****RENEWALS ARE DUE BY DECEMBER 31 2025**



St. Louis Chapter National Railway Historical Society Membership Form

Please type or print legibly, fill in all applicable data, sign and date with check or money order

Name		
Address		
City	State	Zip Code
Country, if not USA	Additional Family Member Name (if joining)	
Referred for Membership in St. Louis Chapter NRHS by:		
Have you previously been a Member of the National Railway Historical Society? ☐ Yes ☐ No		
Telephone	Cell	E-Mail
Occupation or Special Talents		

Regular Membership (\$14.00 Chapter + \$50.00 National) \$64.00

-Additional Family Member (\$7.00 National only)

Student Membership (\$10.00 Chapter + \$16.00 National) \$26.00

*****It is necessary to be a member of NRHS National to also join a Chapter****

****If you are already a National Member or have paid National dues online (www.nrhs.com) you can just send Chapter Dues******

*****PLEASE SEND SEPARATE CHECKS FOR NATIONAL AND LOCAL DUES*****

Remit To:

St. Louis Chapter NRHS

Membership VP

PO Box 220168

Kirkwood, MO 63122

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I agree to abide by the Constitution and By-Laws of the National Railway Historical Society

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN CONTRIBUTING TO **THE GATEWAY RAILLETTER**, THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING CONTENT IS THE 20TH OF THE MONTH TO BE INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING MONTH'S ISSUE. **THE GATEWAY RAILLETTER** IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY ON OR BEFORE THE 25TH OF THE MONTH. SEND YOUR ARTICLE OR PHOTOS TO

NEWSLETTER.EXCHANGE@STLOUISNRHS.ORG

PHOTOS MUST HAVE A CAPTION OR GENERAL DESCRIPTION. IMAGE FILES SHOULD BE jpg, gif, png, bmp or tif FORMAT. DOCUMENT FILES CAN BE doc, docx, or pdf.

St. Louis Chapter NRHS

PO Box 220168

St. Louis, MO 63122



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