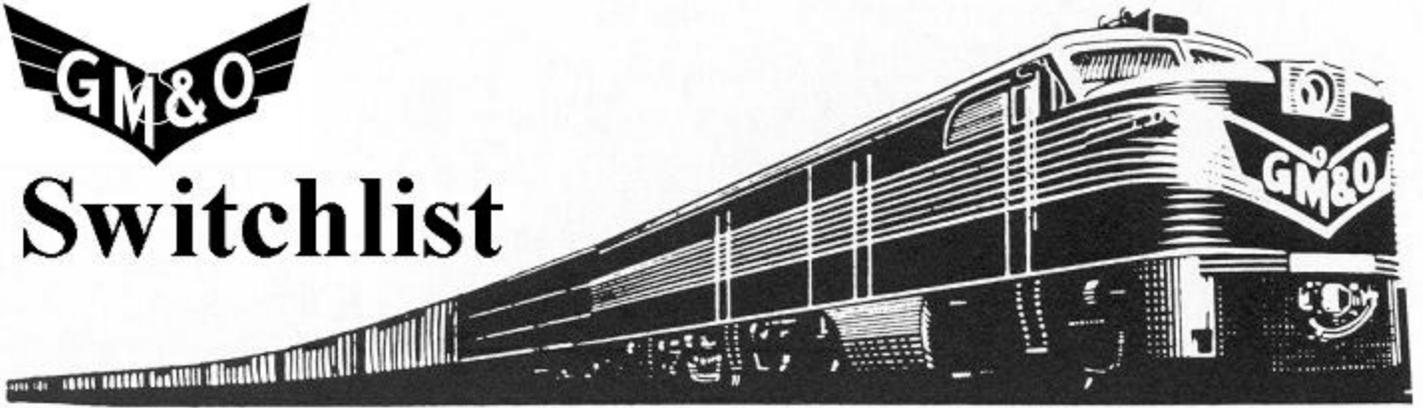




Switchlist



GULF, MOBILE & OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winter 2008, Vol. XXXVI, No. 4

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End of Year Message from President Ken Donnelly

As this year comes to an end, I would like to say a few things about the state of affairs within the GM&OHS at this time. Traditionally, the last few months of a given year are the slowest business months for the Society and this gives the Board of Directors some time to do a final accounting of all business conducted during the year. This year will be no different. Although the final financial numbers will not be tabulated until after January 1, 2009, I can tell you now that because of your support of various Society projects, we have had a successful year, and will not be forced to raise dues for 2009. With that being said, please look at the enclosed membership renewal form for 2009 in this mailing, and get back onboard as soon as possible. This will help greatly to allow for future Society savings when it comes time to mail that first issue of the *NEWS* at the end of March. Now, we fully realize that economically speaking, times are as tough as they have been in decades. If renewal is a problem, please contact Secretary **Marc Liberta** or myself (President **Ken Donnelly**), and let's work it out so we don't lose contact with a member and friend, and so you don't miss out on anything the Society will produce for 2009. **Marc can be reached at the Society address at: P.O. Box 1753, Marion, IL 62959, and I can be reached at (815) 278-0384.** We will not leave any of our friends behind if we can help it. Lastly, I want to wish you all the happiest and healthiest of Holiday Seasons and a very safe and happy New Year. I'll see you in 2009.

Union City Annual Meeting Summary

The 36th Annual Meeting and Swap Meet of the Society in **Union City, Tenn.** was well-attended this past October 11th, with nearly 70 tables full of all kinds of great railroading and modeling items. Local attendance was particularly impressive, as a wide-ranging effort at publicizing our event was put together by show host **Darren Doss**.

The evening Banquet was an enjoyable event, as diners were treated to not only a delicious meal, but several interesting guest speakers afterwards. The highlight of the evening was hearing the recollections of former GM&O Hostess, and Union City native **Charlotte Hudgens** as she told of her travels, layovers, and very dedicated mother (who would meet her at her stop in Union City in the early morning hours to hand off home-baked goodies).

This year's media program was provided by **David M. Johnston** of Memphis, as he showed two well-received presentations divided into Northern Region and Southern Region images. The accompanying soundtrack was a nice mix of blues music, with everything 'bookended' by an original song from member **Terry 'Foots' Quinn**, "*The Rebel Keeps On Rolling*".



Secretary's Report by Marc Liberta

If you look back at my report from this time last year (Winter 2007, Vol. 35, No. 4, available on our website), I commented on late renewing members causing the Society unnecessary expense by not renewing on time. So, as a follow up, here are the relevant numbers for: Members that received issue... #116 (last mailing of 2007) equaled 741.

#117 (first mailing for 2008) equaled 610.

#118 (second mailing of 2008) equaled 711.

As you can see, we had quite a few members not renewing on time for this membership year. I'll take the conservative number for the difference between #117 and #118, because we know this does not include non-renewals due to attrition. The cost of mailing issue #117 of the *NEWS* using our non-profit bulk mailing permit was \$0.44 per packet. For each late renewal, it cost \$1.85 to mail that same packet individually. The difference in expense was \$1.41 each, then multiplying this by the 101 persons renewing late, gives a total of **\$142.41**. This is simply an *avoidable* waste of Society funds, one which we can no more afford than if we were a small family household.

For the eighth straight year, there has been no increase in our membership dues. This has been possible because of the very determined efforts of your officers and directors, both in controlling costs and generating supplemental revenue. As one of our 727 (as of this writing) members, you can assist this effort by renewing *now*, before other matters command your attention. It is a small but important way that everyone can help the *GM&OHS* prosper.

Election Results for Membership Year 2009 (22% of eligible ballots returned):

Secretary: **Marc Liberta** of Marion, IL (one year term)

Treasurer: **David Johnston** of Memphis, TN (one year term)

Director: **David Bridges** of Philadelphia, MS (one year term)

Director: **Darren Doss** of Union City, TN (one year term)

Director: **Jason Parham** of McCalla, AL (one year term)

Director: **Art Richardson** of Clinton, MS (one year term)

Director: **Louis Saillard** of Baton Rouge, LA (one year term)

GM&OHS 2009 All-Color Calendar

The GM&OHS-produced, 2009 All-Color Calendar, was mailed out to those that purchased a copy on **November 17, 2008**. We would like to thank everyone that supported the calendar program, and hope to continue it for 2010. If you purchased a calendar, and have any comments, please submit them to the calendar editor (**Ken Donnelly**) at **P.O. Box 2457, Joliet, IL 60434**, or call **(815) 278-0384**. Any suggestions on how to improve next year's edition would be appreciated, as well as anyone that has a slide or photo they feel is "calendar worthy". Images from the 1950's, or along the Western or Southern Regions of the railroad are especially prized. We would like to begin laying out the 2010 calendar as soon as possible. Thank You.



Publication Committee Report

Issue no. 119 met and surpassed the Society-mandated minimum of 80 pages of the *NEWS* for 2008. In fact, the Publications Committee was able to give the membership 96 pages of the GM&O, nearly 20% over a usual publication year! Thanks to authors **Mike Haper**, **Marc Liberta**, **L.N. Stourer**, **David Wagner** and “Mr. GM&O” **Dick Wallin** for all of their hard work resulting in another year of great reading. Additional thanks to **J. David Ingles**, **David Johnston**, **Phillip Kotheimer**, **Curtis Kyger**, **J. Parker Lamb**, and the aforementioned Mr. Wallin, for the use of their photography/collections over the course of the year. Lastly, let’s not forget **Art Richardson** for the very fine SD40/SD40X diagrams appearing in issue no. 118. Thanks, guys!

Issue no.120 of the *NEWS*, due out in spring 2009, will feature “*The Men Who Photographed the GM&O: R.R. ‘Dick’ Wallin*” in a 24-page salute to not only one of the finest rail photojournalists of our time, but also one of the founding fathers of the GM&OHS, and a good guy as well.

Other stories for the year include “*GM&O’s 2900-Cabooses, Pt 1: The Roodhouse Series*”, “*The Wreck at Cotton Plant*” by David Bridges, an all-color retrospective of the GM&O in the 1950’s, and much, much more. You won’t want to miss out on any of it!

Finally, if you have any material/photos/diagrams/information for any of the GM&O’s 2900-series cabooses, please contact Ken Donnelly at (815) 278-0384.

2008 St. Louis RPM Meet in Collinsville, Ill.

The 2008 St. Louis **Railroad Prototype Modeler’s** Meet was held in Collinsville, Ill. on August 15 and 16, hosted by GM&OHS members **Daniel Kohlberg** and **Lonnie Bathurst** at the Gateway Center. Featuring over 10,000 square feet of vendors, displays and historical societies, there were also a number of clinics offered by some of the finest modelers in the Midwest. Next year’s show is tentatively scheduled for August 14 and 15, 2009. There are a number of eateries and hotels in the area, so keep this weekend in mind next summer.

2008 Union City Railfest Model Contest Winners

The winners in the five categories represented in this year’s model contest were as follows:

Diesel Locomotive-John Polsgrove, G Scale GM&O RS2 no. 1507.

Freight Car- John Polsgrove, G Scale GM&O 79,000 depressed center flat.

Passenger Car, Duane Hubbell, GM&N coach with interior.

Caboose-Duane Hubbell, O Scale GM&O 2700-series “Western” caboose.

Structure-John Polsgrove, O Scale Union City, TN station and interlocking.

Congratulations to these winners, and many thanks to all who entered models.

Modeling Committee Report

GM&OHS Special Edition Car no. 33, the four-car set of green, 40 ft., 24,000-series boxcars, has sold out completely. Thanks to everyone who supported this project.

We have sets of the 2008 Annual Show Model remaining in both HO and N scales. The five-piece *Gulf Transport* truck sets use **Classic Metal Works** models, with artwork drawn by **Vickey Graphics**, and painting and lettering done by **Double "R" Graphics**. This gorgeous set includes two red and black International R-190 tractors, one red and silver Fruehauf Aerovan Trailer, one maroon covered wagon trailer, and one red, cream and silver straight box truck. The sets sell for \$90.00 for the HO scale version, and \$85.00 for the N scale version, postage paid. Checks payable to the *GM&OHS* may be sent to the Society's P.O. Box, or members may use *PayPal* on the Society's website.



Diorama courtesy Chuck's Depot, Marion, IL

Society Car Project no. 34 will represent the GAEX 103000-103149 series of 50 foot boxcars leased by the GM&O in 1960 from GATC. These cars were all green with arched lettering on the right hand side of the body, and the diagonal "No Damage" emblem on the left. Both HO and N scale versions will be made. This will be the first 'official' N scale Special Run offering by the Society, with the hope of more to follow if support is present.

In September 2008, **Atlas** re-released its HO RS1 in the two-toned original paint scheme (nos.1123 and 1125). The model has been updated with separate grabs, lift rings, and close-to-scale handrails, and is quite nice looking. No. 1125 served her entire career in this paint until retirement in 1975.

The *Switchlist* is a quarterly publication of the Gulf, Mobile and Ohio Historical Society, Inc. and is provided as a benefit of membership. The *Switchlist* is produced for the purpose of increasing communication between members and is edited, except where noted, by Dave Wagner. Members with information suitable for publication in the *Switchlist* should forward it to; GM&OHS *Switchlist*, P.O. Box 1753, Marion, IL. 62959.