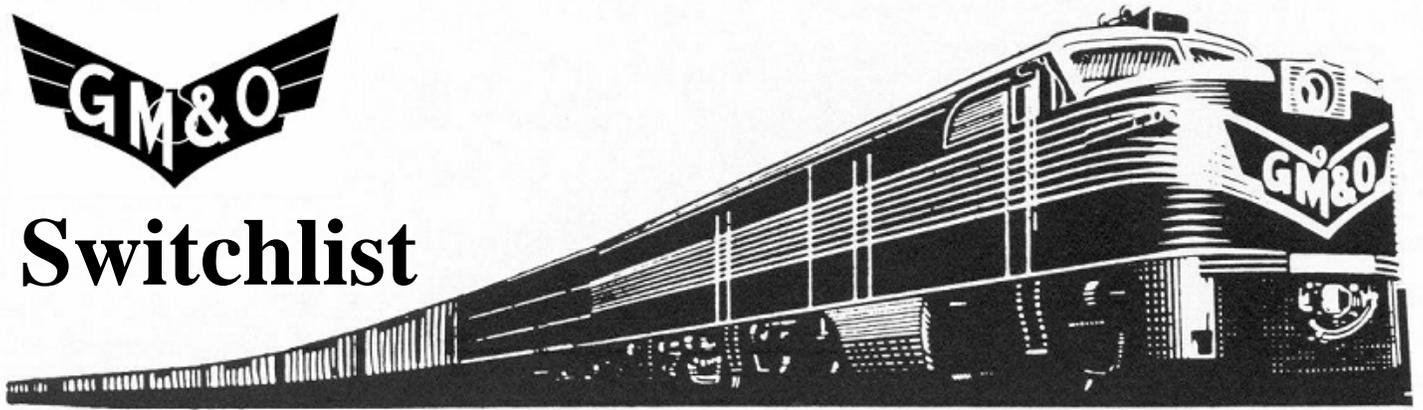




Switchlist



GULF, MOBILE & OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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The 37th Annual Meeting of the Society is fast approaching. By the time you receive this *Switchlist* it will be less than a month away. Finalize your plans now to attend this event which is being held at the **Hampton Inn and Centre** in Union City, TN on October 9/10/11. See the included show flier for specific information. Please make your room reservations directly with the hotel at (731) 885-8850 and remember to mention the *GM&OHS* to receive the discounted room rate. Please note that all Society functions will take place in the Ballroom of the Hampton Centre at the south end of the facility.

The festivities begin on Friday night October 9th at 7 pm with the **Friday Night Hospitality Suite**. This is an event open to all, members and non-members alike, and is free of charge. Stop by and enjoy the friendship, refreshments and slide presentations.

Saturday October 10th opens with the **Railroadiana and Model Show**. Doors open at 9 am to the public and the event runs through 3 pm. Admission is a very reasonably priced 3.00 per adult with children under the age of twelve being admitted for \$2.00 each. This is a great event to find that sought after model or rare antique (and the only way to get an official GM&OHS license plate frame). We will also have the *GM&OHS Model Contest and Display* so be ready to show off that exceptional model in your collection. There are a limited number of dealer tables remaining, and may be reserved by using the included show flier. Contact show coordinator Dave Wagner at (773) 581-4809, or at railfest2009@gmohs.org, if you have any questions.

Saturday evening begins with the **Social Hour** at 6 pm in the Ballroom. This is a great time to spend with guests and friends reminiscing about days and events past. This year **Terry "Foots" Quinn** of Bogalusa will entertain us with renditions of various railroad ballads from 6:30 to about 6:50. At 7 pm we will begin the banquet portion of the evening, with dinner concluding at 8 pm. A short business meeting will follow to include the announcement of the newly elected Officers and Board of Directors for 2010, the winners of the Model Contest, among other agenda items.

After a short break, we will have a presentation on the cosmetic restoration of GM&O no.72, a ten-wheeler at Franklinton, LA. "Foots" Quinn will host this portion of the evening's activities and tell us about the incredible efforts it took to get no. 72 looking as good as she does now. We will cap the evening off by showing slides from the personal collections of guests at the banquet. This has become a GM&OHS tradition and many people feel it is often the highlight of the evening. So don't leave early, as we have an entire night's activities planned for you.



Message from President Kenneth Donnelly...The current Publications Committee will turn over the keys to a new consortium on the first of January. The new committee will be headed by long-time standout authors **Harold Weber** and **Stephen Parsons**, and supported by many of the people that made the GM&OHS *NEWS* a success from 2002 to 2009. I strongly urge everyone to throw your support to these gentlemen after the New Year, and let them know they can count on the membership to help ensure the continued publication of our beloved magazine. Support by the membership coupled to a responsible Publications Committee is paramount to our survival. As we witnessed in 2000-2001, even the slightest lack of vigilance on the part of the BOD and the Publications Committee can, and will, result in an exodus of members en masse. During that period we lost nearly 300 members, only a fraction of which ever returned. Another loss of membership anywhere along those lines would be one this Society could not survive.

Message from Secretary Marc Liberta... Enclosed is your ballot for the election of Officers and Board of Directors for the 2010 membership year. The offices of Secretary, Treasurer and Board of Director seats are one year terms, while the offices of President and Vice President are two year terms. As you will have noted, there were no nominations received for President and Vice President, myself and current Treasurer David Johnston are running unopposed, and there are only four candidates for Board of Director seats where five are needed. Frankly, this level of participation does not bode well for the next two years. Please take the time to vote, as this is one of your privileges of membership (and is still needed so as to comply with our by-laws). Return ballots via one of two methods indicated and by the stated deadlines. If mailing the ballot please do not use staples to close, as these get caught in the machining process used by the post office and arrive damaged.

2010 GM&OHS All-Color Calendar

With this mailing you should have an order form for the 2010 GM&OHS All-Color Calendar. We would like to first thank everyone that ordered one last year, making the program a success. We also want to remind the membership that this is the last year that Ken Donnelly will be in charge of this program. Anyone interested in putting their mark on this program, please contact him at either kennednn@aol.com or (815) 278-0384. Of all the Society sponsored programs this is absolutely the easiest to put to together, and Ken will walk you through the entire process.

Book Announcement

Society member **Joe Petric** has assisted author **Jim Boyd** in completing *GM&O-The Alton Route: In Color Volume 1*, which will be released by **Morning Sun Books** in September. Contact your local hobby shop or book store to view a copy first hand.

In Memoriam

The loss of two members must be noted at this time. Both **Howard J. Eslinger** of Eugene, OR and **Ernest R. Smith** of Baton Rouge, LA were early members of the Society. Our condolences go out to their families.

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.