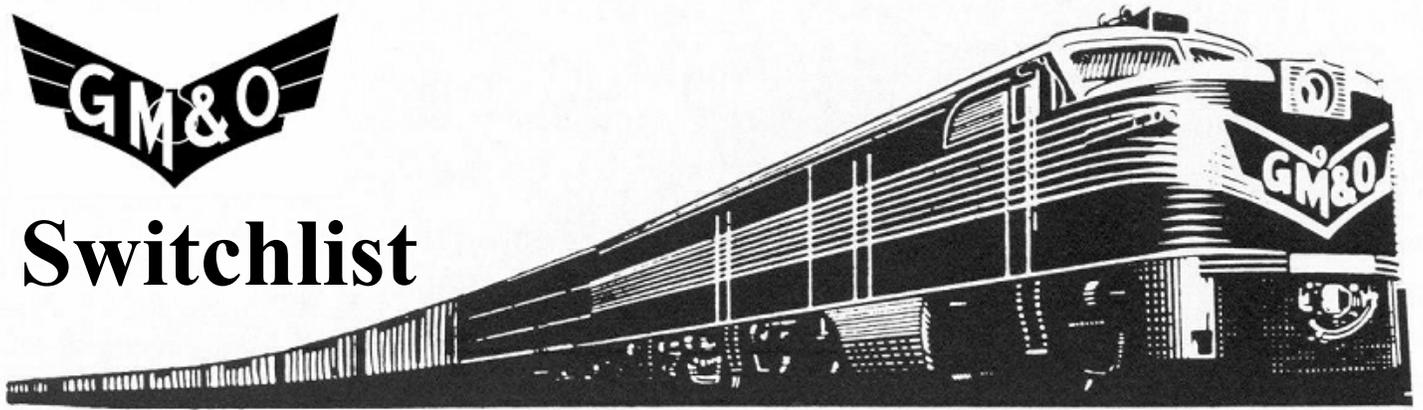




Switchlist



GULF, MOBILE & OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Winter 2011, Vol. XXXIX, No. 4

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Message from President Fred Bradley

The year is almost over and my tour of duty ends. Again, I ask each one of you to make an effort to recruit at least one new member in 2012. This is your Society and it will succeed only if all of the membership makes an effort to help it grow.

I think that we have had a very successful year, with the *GM&OHS NEWS*, 2012 Calendar, Special Edition Cars and by all accounts, a great annual meeting. I again want to thank all of those who helped with these projects. You have done a good job.

I wish each one of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Secretary's Report from Marc Liberta

We are pleased to be able to continue our eleven-year trend of having no increases in our membership dues! Please do your part in controlling our costs by **renewing now**. Complete and mail the enclosed renewal form before it gets buried under other papers, or use our convenient *PayPal* method on the Society's website.

Election Results for Membership Year 2012 (*21% of eligible ballots returned*) The following persons have been elected to terms beginning in 2012 (President and V.P. are two year terms).

President: **Ken Donnelly**, Joliet, IL

Vice President: **Ed Stoll**, Granger, TX (*write-in*)

Secretary: **Marc Liberta**, Marion, IL

Treasurer: **David Johnston**, Collierville, TN

Board of Directors: **Pat Coughlin**, Ovilla, TX (*write-in*); **Dwaine Hubbell**, Goldengate, IL;

Brian Johnston, Pascagoula, MS; **Jason Parham**, McCalla, AL; **Dave Wagner**, Chicago, IL.

GM&OHS 2011 All-Color Calendar and a Correction

Calendars were mailed out on **November 14, 2011** via our regular bulk mail permit. If you have not received your calendar(s) by **December 20th**, contact the Secretary at the Marion, IL address, or by email. Thanks to everyone that supported the calendar program again this year.

We regret that the caption for *November's* photo was incorrect. The caption erroneously identified the bridge as spanning the Black Warrior River, when in fact it is the Alabama River, just northwest of Montgomery, Ala. Photographer J. David Ingles made the picture while chasing this train as well as the 'Prattville Turn' in April 1971. The bridge over the Alabama River was a swing bridge, and the control house is visible to the far right in the photo. The bridge spanning the Black Warrior River did not have a swing-span section.



Two New All-Color Books for Your Stocking

Central Illinois Rails Color Pictorial, 1950s-1970s by R.R. “Dick” Wallin and J. David Ingles is 146 pages of non-stop mastery from some of the biggest names in railroad photography. The subject matter is nicely varied from steam to diesel, passenger to freight, and mainline to branch operations in its coverage of three decades. Along with Wallin and Ingles, the works of renowned picture takers such as **Walt Peters**, **Monty Powell**, **Paul Stringham** and others are also included. With over 250 photos covering 20 Class I carriers, Amtrak, Campaign Specials, and Towers, this **Four Ways West** edition will please all Midwest railfans. Look for it from your favorite book seller, or order online at www.fourwayswest.com. The MSRP for the volume is \$59.95.

Trackside in the Land of Lincoln with Richard Ward by James Leonard is one of the latest titles from **Morning Sun Books**, released in October 2011. It features 128 pages of rail scenes from Richard Ward taken all across the state spanning the late 1950’s to the early 1970’s. As is usually the case with Morning Sun, the photo reproduction is top-notch, with the GM&O portion being among the best in the book. The MSRP for the volume is \$59.95. You can see it at www.morningsunbooks.com.

HO Modeling Announcements

Walthers has announced the 2012 limited edition release of their 50 foot GM&O-N.I.R.X plug door insulated boxcar with revised paint and graphics. The Walthers part no. for this RTR car is 910-1602 and retails for \$19.98. The model comes complete with metal wheels and Proto Max couplers. The only drawbacks to this model are the two-panel COTS stencil (ICG era only) as well as the availability of one number. See the car at www.walthers.com.

InterMountain Railway Co. has announced the release of their milk car kit in the GM&O’s yellow and silver M.O.W. scheme. InterMountain’s catalog number for the car is 48213, and is available in four numbers: 66180, 66183, 66189 and 66190. The RTR car retails for \$32.95, but does come complete with metal wheels and Kadee couplers. See the car at www.intermountainrailways.com. A history of these cars is on the Society’s website.

In Memoriam

John W. Barnett of Roodhouse, Ill. passed away on August 11, 2011 at the age of 70. John was a veteran of Viet Nam as a Second Lieutenant in the Signal Corps, and later became a fifth generation farmer of his family’s land in Roodhouse.

Lane Venardos passed away August 19th at his home in Maui, Hawaii at the age of 67. Lane was a 13-time Emmy Award winner for his work with CBS News as a producer, and those that attended the 2007 Annual Meeting in Burr Ridge, Ill. will remember his terrific presentation on Barnum & Bailey's Circus Train, for which his son was the Ringmaster for a number of years.

Jack L. Batton, Sr. of Meridian, Miss. died at the age of 60 on September 8, 2011. Following a career with the IRS, Jack went on to work for Amtrak until his health finally disallowed it. Many will remember Jack as being a joyful presence at multiple Annual Meetings through the years. Our condolences go out to the families of our departed friends.