Message from President Ken Donnelly

If it ain’t broken, don’t fix it is pretty much my position as I head into my second turn as President of the GM&OHS. Outgoing President Fred Bradley did such an outstanding job during his tenure that there isn’t really a whole lot to change. I would like to echo Fred’s call for the membership to enlist any and all persons they can to join our fine group. I realize this is especially hard during tough economic times, but the Society’s long-term survival will be dependent on how many new members we can generate over the next few years. This is an area all may participate in, regardless of time, resources, or talent. Aside from that, I know 2012 will be another great year for the GM&OHS NEWS, our upcoming Society offerings, and in October, the 40th Annual Meeting in St. Louis. So, welcome aboard and enjoy!

On a somber note, with the passing of Board of Directors member Dave Wagner (see Office Car, page 2), it will be necessary to fill his vacant seat. In accordance with the Society’s By-Laws, this will be accomplished through appointment by the remaining Board members, and a handful of persons are currently under consideration. As there is no precise timetable for this process, if you feel like putting forth your name for consideration, please contact the Secretary via our post office box address, or by emailing marc.liberta@gmail.com. This is NOT a call for nominations, rather an expression of your willingness to become part of the GM&OHS Board for the remainder of 2012. The appointment decision by the Board will be announced on the Society’s website when it occurs, but will also be noted in the summer Switchlist.

40th Annual Meeting Announcement – ♪ ♫ Meet Me in St. Louis! ♪ ♫

We have chosen our most central location for this very special milestone to be celebrated, which we hope will allow anyone wishing to join us for the 40th Annual Meeting, to do so. 1997 is the last time we have met in the Gateway City, and we are looking forward to gathering once more at the Southwest & Viking Conference Center of the Holiday Inn (10709 Watson Rd.), this October 26-28. The first informational flier for the meeting will arrive with the summer mailing, and the Society’s website will add information as we get closer to October in the Events & News area. Vendor information is posted there now, and we encourage anyone wanting table space to act quickly. Our shows have been completely booked for the past six years. So if you’re in Kansas City, Chicago, Mobile, or points in between and beyond, celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the GM&O Historical Society this fall in Saint Louis.
Note from Secretary Marc Liberta

Thank you to everyone that renewed their membership for 2012. It’s good to have everyone with us for another year. Special thanks go out to individuals who have chosen to provide additional support to the Society by being Sustaining and Benefactor level members. All annual members will find 2012 membership cards included with this mailing. To complete your card write in your membership number (which can be found on your mailing label to the right of your name) in the appropriate space on the pass.

John Carlock GM&O Model Collection Auction

You will find in this mailing, a flier for items from the John Carlock collection which he generously donated to the Society. These are not estate items, as John is happily still with us, rather he reached the conclusion that in all likelihood, creating a layout for these kits to run on (much less building them up), was not in the cards, after all. All Special Edition kits, both from the GM&OHS and End Cab Models, are in unbuilt, like-new condition. Many of these sets reach back to the earliest offerings in our custom model program's history. Here is your chance to fill in a gap or two in your own collection, or get additional favorite and/or needed cars for your layout. This unique offering is in lieu of producing a new Society car for 2012. The Society's website has photos of representative cars/kits (Society, not End Cab), road number information, and the original flier for each.

In order that all interested members have an equal chance at purchasing these cars, the manner in which this auction is being conducted is as follows. On the flier:
   1) Select the item(s) desired by checking the box(es) next to the description(s).
   2) Enter the maximum bid you wish to make for each item, to the right, on the line.
   3) Fill out contact information. Phone number and/or email address is required.
   4) Mail completed flier by May 20th. (Keeping a photocopy is suggested)
   5) International members wishing to participate, contact the Secretary via email.

At auction’s end, successful bidders will be notified as to the item(s) won and total due. Payment must be received within two weeks, or item(s) will pass to next highest bidder(s). Online payment (PayPal) may be used upon request using specially provided invoice.
   1) Bids increase by even one dollar increments beyond previous rounded high bid.
   2) Shipping charges will be calculated at auction close.
   3) Notifications will be made on May 28th to successful bidders.

In Memoriam

The Society has been notified of the passing of Larry Blair on April 7, 2011 at the age of 58. Larry was born in Pontiac, Ill., but resided in Roxana, Ill. at the time of his death. Our condolences go to his wife, Paula, his children, and grandchildren.