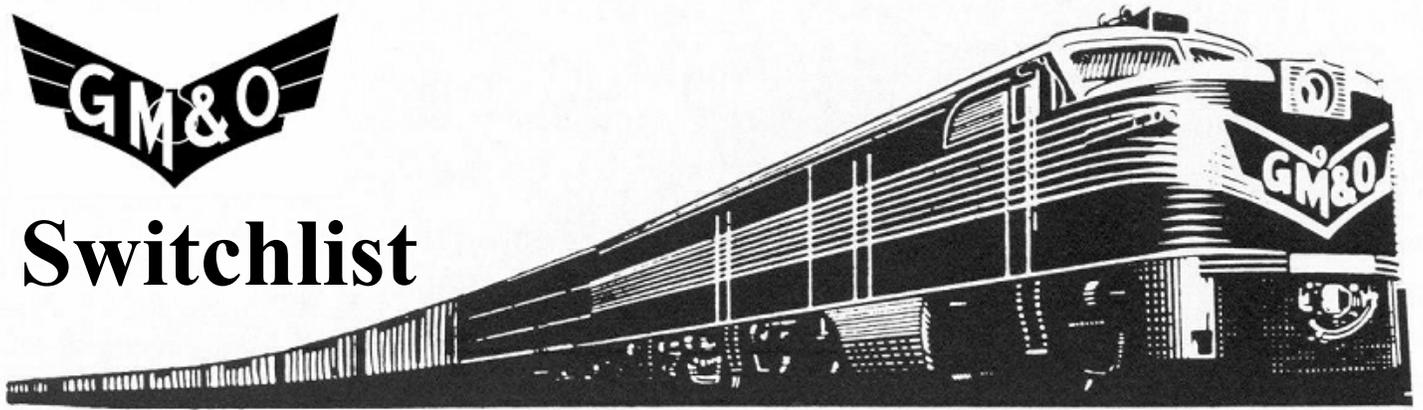




Switchlist



GULF, MOBILE & OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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Message from President Ken Donnelly

While maybe not always traveling with uninterrupted green signals, the GM&OHS continues to move forward, making every effort to spread the word about a great railroad in order to attract new members to the GM&O experience. The Society also does what it can to bring members, old and new alike, together to share that experience, and the best way yet devised to achieve both of these goals is through our Annual Meeting held each autumn.

So, as summer winds down, we find our attentions turning toward St. Louis, Missouri as the site for this year's pilgrimage. St. Louis is very special, as it was the point on the railroad where the GM&O thrust out in three cardinal directions, and provided the greatest diversity of trains and rolling stock that the road had to offer. Likewise, with much of the Society's membership residing along the Chicago to Gulf right-of-ways (as well as that stretch called the Western Division), St. Louis becomes a logical intersection for our 40th annual gathering. It is a wonderful chance for those of us weaned on north end EMD products to mingle with our friends from the south end school of ALCO, and celebrate the memory of the GM&O. So, have safe travels to the Gateway City this October, and I'll look forward to seeing you there.

Message from Secretary Marc Liberta

Enclosed with this mailing is your ballot for the election of Officers and Board of Directors for the 2013 membership year. The offices of Secretary, Treasurer and Board of Director seats are one year terms. President Ken Donnelly and Vice President Ed Stoll are currently completing the first year of their two year terms.

Please take the time to vote, as this is one of your privileges of membership (and is needed so as to comply with our by-laws). Return ballots via one of two methods indicated and by the stated deadlines. When 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. It is also recommended that the tri-fold ballot not be used as an envelope for sending checks through the mail.

2013 GM&OHS All-Color Calendar

With this mailing you will also find an order form for the 2013 GM&OHS All-Color Calendar. We would like to thank everyone that has supported the calendar program in recent years. This year's effort will resemble last year's as an additional 'bonus' month will be included with a special black and white image to kick off 2014.. Remember, the calendar project is preorder based, so don't miss out and get your order in by the October 27th deadline.



40th Annual Meeting Details

Our Fortieth Annual Meeting this October 26-28 in St. Louis (Kirkwood), Mo. is shaping up nicely. Kicking off with something a bit different than just the Friday evening Hospitality Suite gathering, GM&OHS member **Mike Wise** and others in his informal operating group have extended an invitation to participate in a **layout tour/open house** round robin. Each of their locations is within minutes of the *Holiday Inn Southwest & Viking Conference Center*, and directions for the tour will be available at the Hospitality Suite gathering, which will itself be going on Friday night as is the tradition.

Modelers of all scales are invited to participate in the **GM&OHS Annual Model Contest** during the show on Saturday. There will be five categories in which models will compete: *Diesel Locomotive, Steam Locomotive, Revenue Equipment, Non-Revenue Equipment and Structures/Dioramas*. Prizes will be awarded by popular vote of show attendees.

The **Banquet** will be followed by a short business meeting, where the 2013 election results will be announced. Once business is taken care of, the evening's program this year is being presented by **John** and **Daniel Kohlberg**, who will take viewers on a splendid ride down to the old Sparta District.

P.S. Remember to stop by the Society's tables at the swap meet to get your official **GM&O Historical Society License Plate Frame**. You can't get them any other way, and you'll Help Spread the Word wherever you go!

GM&O News CD Project—1940's

For those that have been waiting for the final decade of our original **GM&O News CD's** to become available, we want to update everyone on where the project stands. At this time we have approximately 70% of the issues covering 1940 to 1949. However, the sources we expected to utilize for the remaining issues have not panned out. Therefore, we are asking for persons with any *GM&O News* issues from the years 1940 through 1947 to contact the Secretary (marc.liberta@gmail.com). A complete list of needed issues will also be posted in the Commissary area of the Society's website. Some years it is a single month that is needed, others maybe two or more. Persons contributing to this effort will be provided a FREE set of 1940's CD's when the project does become complete.

Switchlist Classified Ads—Remember Those?

We still get the occasional inquiry regarding members' **Classified Ads** that once were included in the *Switchlist*. With the advent of the internet and Ebay, that feature became somewhat archaic and was eliminated as an ongoing concern. However, for the Winter *Switchlist*, the Classified Ads will make a one-time reappearance. Members wishing to have an ad included should submit it to the Marion postal address, or online via email to classifieds@gmohs.org **The Rules:** 1) There will be limited space, so first come, first served. 2) "Sale" ads will get preference over "Wanted" ads if space becomes an issue. 3) No Ebay-related ads will be accepted. 4) We don't want to edit these, so do your own proofreading. So, if it is time to thin-the-herd, so to speak, here is your chance to let everyone know what you've got. Deadline for all submissions is **November 1st**.

40th Anniversary China Butter Pat

Pictured here is the pre-production sample that has been approved for the limited edition butter pat being produced by **China Concepts** for the Society. As mentioned in the last *Switchlist*, it is 3 ¼” in diameter, and is adorned with the wings logo in the Rose pattern. Each piece is backstamped with “GM&O Historical Society 2012”, and will come in a white gift box, along with a small clear display stand. A color version of this photo may be seen on the Society’s website in the Commissary area, though online ordering is not offered domestically.



Preorders are now being taken, and may be included with banquet reservations for **\$10.00** (see bottom of enclosed flier). Preorders may be picked up at the Society’s tables Saturday by show attendees. For those unable to attend the meeting, but wishing to purchase a commemorative butter pat, **mail orders** are being taken for **\$16.00** postage paid (check/money order payable to ‘GM&OHS’ and sent to the Society’s Marion, Ill. address). All preorders must be received by **October 26th**. If pieces remain, they will be available at the **Saturday show** for **\$15.00**. All mail orders will be sent out the week following our Annual Meeting.

Modeling Announcements

Atlas O has announced a 1st Quarter 2013 release date for its Alco RS1 locomotive in two GM&O road numbers. Both two rail and three rail versions of GM&O nos. 1123 and 1125 will be produced in the maroon and red scheme, and are sound equipped. MSRP for either the 2-rail Gold Series locomotive, or 3-rail TMCC version, is \$479.00. See an example of no. 1125 on Atlas’ website: <http://www.atlaso.com/ors1a.htm>

For the steam fan, **Broadway Limited Imports** has announced the release of its HO scale Paragon 2 Sound/DC/DCC USRA Light Pacific lettered as GM&O nos. 267 and 268. An updated color drawing of the paint scheme on BLI’s website seems to have corrected the coloring of the locomotive’s lettering to white (from an initial yellow/gold). The expected arrival date for these is November of this year at an MSRP of \$299.99. For a complete listing of features for this offering (and there are a ton), go to: <http://tiny.cc/8qcfjw>

According to the owners of **Bluford Shops**, a small N-scale outfit, there are plans to develop a 14-panel extended side wood-chip hopper (standing in for the 15-panel series rebuilt from ex-DT&I cars), and will include GM&O 82400 series painted cars. This would be something unique to N-scale that even HO and O scale modelers have been waiting for. Stay tuned, or check in on www.bluford-shops.com from time to time...

Joliet Union Station Centennial



Joliet Union Station was completed in the fall of 1912, and was formally dedicated with a Banquet and Reception that took place in the station on October 14, 1912, one hundred years ago this year. Rather than let this significant anniversary pass by unrecognized, the **Blackhawk Chapter** of the **National Railway Historical Society** has contracted to host the *Joliet Union Station Centennial Banquet and Reception* on the afternoon of Sunday, October 14, 2012—exactly 100 years to the day from the original event—from 1 to 5 pm. Complete information about this once-in-a-lifetime event is on our website in the Events and News area, with links to both the Blackhawk Chapter's website and Joliet Union Station's website. This event will be taking place in "The Grand Ballroom at Joliet Union Station", the site of the original event. Because Joliet Union Station is an integral part of the history of the Gulf, Mobile & Ohio Railroad, members of the GM&O Historical Society are cordially invited to be in attendance at this event. The deadline for reservations to this gala event is September 21, 2012.

In Memoriam

The Society has been notified of the passing of **Maurice (Bill) Midgette** on June 9, 2012 at the age of 73. Bill was a native of Mobile, Ala., who earned an Industrial Engineering degree from Auburn, before entering the Army. Prior to retirement (allowing pursuit of his two favorite activities—hunting and fishing), Bill was the Senior Facilities Engineer at Teledyne Continental Motors, in Mobile. Our condolences go to his wife, Virginia, his children, and grandchildren.

We also regret to report that *Honorary* GM&OHS member **William Raia** passed away on June 30, 2012 at the age of 67. Bill was an early supporter of the Society who opened up his photo collection for use in the *NEWS* and many annual calendars. He will be missed at our Annual Meetings, where one could count on finding something special amongst the many photographs he offered to the eager. Our thoughts are with his wife, Darlene, and family.

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 purposes of increasing communication between members and disseminating time sensitive information. Members with information suitable for publication in the *Switchlist* should forward it to: GM&OHS *Switchlist*, P.O. Box 1753, Marion, IL. 62959.