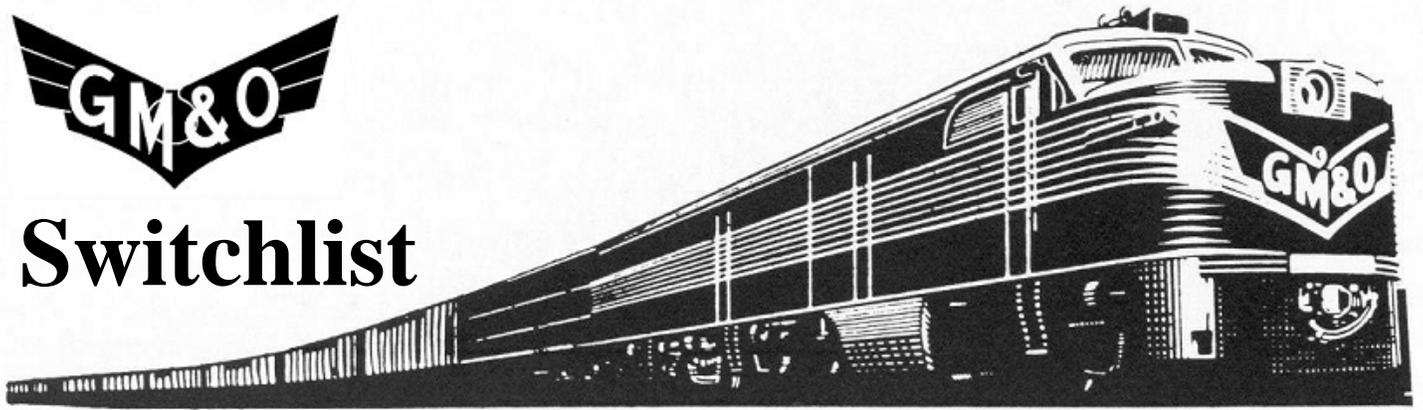




# Switchlist



## GULF, MOBILE & OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Spring 2013, Vol. XLI, No. 1

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### Message from President Ken Donnelly

I hope this message finds all of our friends well and whole, having weathered yet another winter and Holiday Season. 2013 promises to be another satisfying year for GM&OHS members. For the 12th straight year we were able to hold the line on membership dues, and coming your way will be at least 80 pages of the *NEWS*, offers for the 2014 Color Calendar and another HO scale freight car project. We also have a couple of digital undertakings that I think you will enjoy, so stay tuned. Our Annual Meeting will be held in Meridian, Mississippi the first weekend of November in conjunction with Meridian's Railroad Days. Sounds like another great year to me.

There is one subject I would like to touch on as early as possible, and that is passing the Presidential torch to someone else at the end of this year. As you know, my current term as your President will conclude on December 31, 2013. I will not be running for re-election. I firmly believe that leadership must change periodically to ensure a fair and balanced viewpoint, and I have held the reins long enough. I also fear that given my job requirements, I will become increasingly unable to serve the Society as it is needed. With that being said, I invite any and all that wish to be play a larger role to come forward as soon as possible. If you feel your talents can be of service to the Society either in the governing or publications arena(s), please contact either myself at **(815) 278-3245** or Society Secretary **Marc Liberta** at **(618) 998-9227** to find out more about these positions. This is an exciting time for the Society to experience an infusion of some new blood, and possibly move on to bigger and better things, but we need time to ensure a smooth transition. Please don't delay.

### ***41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting Announcement – Meridian, Here We Come***

We are very excited about our return to Meridian after quite a few years. Past Annual Meetings were held there in 1991 and 1996, so it will be good to return to this great railroad town. And as if just being in Meridian wasn't enough, we are timing our gathering this year so that it coincides with Meridian's annual Railfest, the first weekend of November. Our venue, the Holiday Inn—Meridian, is a short half-mile distance from the historic depot district where Railfest will take place. This new hotel opened in 2010, has all the latest amenities, and will provide shuttle transportation to and from the Railfest grounds for our attendees. Besides historic Union Station, the **Queen & Crescent Chapter** of the National Railway Historical Society maintains a museum in the old Railway Express building next to the station. If ever there was a reason to arrive early to our Annual Meeting, this is as good as it gets. So, mark your calendars for November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>, and check the Society's webpage for updates as they occur, as well as for vendor information currently available.



## Notes from Secretary Marc Liberta

*Thank you* to everyone that renewed their membership for 2013. Special thanks go out to individuals who have chosen to provide additional support to the Society by being Sustaining and Benefactor level members. Annual members will find 2013 membership cards enclosed, but unfortunately, the quality of the printing is not what we are used to. Our vendor for these has agreed to reprint them for us, but they are not expected to be finished in time for this mailing. At the time of this writing, we expect the initial cards we received will be enclosed. If so, the redone cards will be sent with our next mailing.

Board of Directors member **Pat Coughlin** suffered a couple of serious strokes in December. He is now working on his recovery, which will be a long process, and I'm sure he would enjoy hearing from friends during this time. His contact information may be found on our website.

## Modeling News: Unfortunate Delay of Our Red/Winged GM&O PS-1's from Kadee

The Special GM&O 56000-series, 50-foot red PS-1, which the Society is producing in conjunction with **Kadee**, has hit a small snag, backing up the delivery date to August 2013 instead of the original delivery date of March 2013. The project was held up by Kadee's research department, and was backed up to the later date for frankly, undetermined reasons. Rest assured that this project will be completed, along with Kadee's plans to release two additional numbers of this unique series. We apologize for any inconvenience this development may cause, and ask that you bear with us. If you have any questions, call project coordinator, **Ken Donnelly**, at (815) 278-3245 or email at [gmnofan@yahoo.com](mailto:gmnofan@yahoo.com).

## In Memoriam

The Society has learned of the passing of Life Member **Gary Barnes** last year on March 23<sup>rd</sup>, at the age of 73. Gary resided in Hammond, Ind. with his wife Donna, who survives. A veteran, Gary was interred at Ft. Leavenworth National Cemetery.

The Rev. **Thomas S. Church** of Beverly Hills, Fla., passed away at the age of 66 on January 5, 2013. He was a Lutheran minister for 40 years, and previously resided in Waukegan, Ill. Reverend Church and his wife Jo, were in attendance at the Annual Meeting in St. Louis last year, where he lead our dinner prayer for the Banquet.

Following a courageous battle with cancer, the GM&OHS 2012 "Man That Photographed the GM&O," **Robert Bullermann**, passed away on February 23, 2013 at the age of 86. Mr. Bullerman shot photos and color video for over fifty years throughout the Midwest. Besides being featured in *NEWS* issue no. 129, Mr. Bullerman's photos have also appeared in Society calendars over the past few years. His wife of 64 years, Theresa, survives.

Our condolences go out to all the family members of these fine gentlemen. Markers.

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.