Anniversary of Note
August 10 again marked the anniversary of the merger of the GM&O with the IC, in 1972. Much has been said and written about this merger over the 46 years since. Where were you when you heard the news?

It is also worth noting that our Society was incorporated that same year, so that means GM&OHS marked its 46th anniversary this year. We have survived 14 years longer than the GM&O Railroad itself. As time goes by it seems more and more people get interested in the always-fascinating GM&O Railroad.

Elections - Year 2019 Officers and Board Members
Please cast your vote for next year’s society Officers and Board Members using the enclosed paper ballot. Ballots will be accepted only at this year's annual meeting, so be sure to bring your completed election ballot when you come to Union City Nov. 10th. Your participation is important, so please vote!

Upcoming Anniversary of Note
The year 2020 will mark 80 years since the startup of the GM&O Railroad Sept 13, 1940. GM&O’s predecessor companies could trace their histories back more than 80 years before that. We are planning a series of historical articles for the GM&OHS NEWS to note that event.

We Need Your Help!
GM&OHS is a member-run organization. We cannot continue operating without active member participation. The officers and directors conduct society business from their homes, via phone, email, and sometimes face-to-face meetings, if possible. In recent years it has been difficult to recruit new volunteer leaders to help run the society. Meanwhile, those who have been serving for several years want/need to step aside. Can you help us? Please contact Gary Osing or David Johnston (see contact info at end of this newsletter.)

Annual Meeting
The 2018 Annual Meeting of the GMOHS will be held at Union City, Tennessee the weekend of November 9-11.
The location will be the Quality Inn Hotel (choicehotels.com) 2201 Reelfoot Ave. Union City, TN 38261 phone 731-885-8850. A block of rooms has been allocated for our meeting guests at a discounted rate. Make your reservations soon. Call Andy Sisk for more info at 314-484-1592.
2019 Calendars on Sale now
We are accepting orders for the 2019 GM&OHS calendar, which is available now. See the sales flyer / order form included with the recently-mailed issue 148 GM&OHS NEWS magazine. REMEMBER: Sustaining and Benefactor members will receive a free calendar as a benefit of their higher-level membership.

Membership Renewal for year 2018
We would like to thank all members who have re-newed their membership for year 2018. Your support helps keep our organization going. Secretary Gary Osing has been contacting those members who have not paid 2018 dues. The mailing label on all issues of the GMOHS NEWS bear the date of expiration date of your membership and your Membership Number. Life Members are asked to submit a Renewal Form so we can keep our records straight about where our members are.

New Senior Memberships Discontinued
Effective January 1, 2018 Senior Membership status was discontinued, WITH THE EXCEPTION THAT ALL WHO CURRENTLY HOLD THAT STATUS WILL BE ALLOWED TO RE-NEW THEIR MEMBERSHIP AT THAT STATUS AS LONG AS THEY REMAIN MEMBERS. PLEASE NOTE THIS GRANDFATHER CLAUSE FOR ALL CURRENT SENIOR MEMBERS.

Articles
We need articles, authors and topics of interest to our Membership. We now have an entire generation of members who are not familiar with many aspects of the GM&O history and operations. Providing articles of interest to those newer members requires that those with information share that with others. Publication Chair Andy Sisk or Editor, Mike Schafer will polish any article submitted to make it suitable for publication. Contact us by phone, regular mail or e-mail. Contact Andy at: asisk@sbcglobal.net and phone no.314-484-1592.

Photographs Wanted
We are looking for photographs to be used with future publishing projects. It seems hard to believe, but some places on the GM&O system apparently did not get photographed, or if they did, those photos have not surfaced, and are still filed away somewhere. PLEASE HELP US, and share with your fellow society members. Contact us and let us know what you have in your collection. We would like to borrow some good quality photos to help illustrate some planned articles and/ or booklets.
If you have these items and could loan them to us for scanning, please contact the society Secretary at the address shown at the end of this newsletter.
We are looking for good-quality photos of the following:
* GM&O (or IC, ICG) trains on the Corinth- Birmingham route through northeast MS and northwest AL (GM&O's original route to Birmingham).
Line-side structures, photographed during the 'GM&O era' (1940-1972):
* Okolona, Mississippi station (track side view)
* Walnut Grove, Mississippi station (track side view)
* Reform, Alabama station (original, as-built, with turret over bay window)
* Government Street Station, Mobile, Alabama
* GM&O trains in Jackson, Mississippi (any location, including either Capitol Yard or at station)
Freight Revenue Equipment
Wood Boxcar 3516 Chicago & Alton (Home built) 1906
GM&O Flatcar 70528 General this is sitting on GM&N Friction trucks
3M&O Flatcar 70557 General this is sitting on M&O trucks
GM&O Covered 2Bay Hopper 80129 blt 1959 (recently restored)

Non Revenue
Caboose 2954 blt 1968 Int'l Car Co. Ext Vision type

Locomotive
SD40X no.950
prototype SD40, built on SD35 frame, ex-EMDX to GM&O 950 to ICG 6071

Thanks to Dwaine Hubbell for providing this information.

GM&OHS Officer Contact Information:

Secretary:
Gary Osing, 9896 Blair Place, Germantown TN 38139
gaosing@gmail.com  901-326-6737

Treasurer:
David Johnston, 7820 Walking Horse Circle Apt 245, Germantown TN 38138
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www.gmohs.org

REGISTRATION FORM-  2018 ANNUAL MEETING

MEMBER NAME________________________________________

GUEST NAME________________________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________________________

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE ______________________________

MEMBER  ________ @ $30.00 _________

GUEST  __________@ $30.00 ________

VENDOR TABLE RENTAL  ______ TABLES @ $20 _______
(Round Tables only)

TOTAL ENCLOSED __________________________________

Please return with payment to:
GM&OHS Secretary,   P.O. Box 382303, Germantown, TN 38183
We can scan original photos and return them to you within one week. Preferred formats are color slides, 8x10" black & white prints, color or B&W negatives. Photos must be sharp and well exposed. Small 3x5" prints are usually not acceptable, as those do not reproduce well. We can also accept high-resolution digital scans. (See our guidelines for digital files on page 3 of issue no. 140 of GM&OHS NEWS)

We get Questions from Members
Sometimes Society members call or write to us asking for clarification about something printed in our magazine, the GM&OHS NEWS. Things like locomotive types and designations, train names and schedules/routes operated. We always do our best to explain things, but this is a situation that has plagued the rail hobby publishing industry, and we think, railroad historical societies for years. It's the assumption that "everybody knows all that stuff". Well, the truth is, everybody doesn't know all that stuff! We are currently developing some basic-information type articles for future publication. All you 'experts' need not worry- There will be plenty of good material included that will satisfy even the most jaded 'know-it-all' fan.

Memorabilia
We continue to hear from members, former members and families about memorabilia. Several years ago the Society opened an archive at the St Louis Mercantile Library at UMSL. Other than this we do not have a storage facility, nor any means of housing keepsakes and mementos. There are nearly always GM&O items for sale on eBay, and this may be the best source for determining the value of items. The best way to share your items with others would be donating them to railroad-themed museums. The GM&OHS Board will consider a proposal this November to create a memorabilia/artifact archive at Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum (TVRM). If and when that happens, we will make an announcement.

Administrative Changes Now In Effect
The Society's Board has approved the outsourcing of our secretarial and membership record keeping. White River Productions is now handling this work for us.

Preserved Equipment
For those of you wanting to see preserved GM&O rolling stock we recommend the Monticello Railway Museum at Monticello, IL

Monticello Railway Museum, mmyr.org Monticello, IL

If you are looking for a pleasant day trip to view and take a leisurely train ride some weekend from May through October. The museum is located 20 miles southwest of Champaign, Ill on interstate 72. You would have to check their schedule to see whether it is a steam or diesel weekend. They also have a nice collection from 45 different railroad corporations with many pieces being owned by individuals.

The following is a list of GM&O/C&A equipment preserved there.

Passenger Equipment
Sleeper Timothy B Blackstone ACF blt 1950 in Amtrak colors being restored to GM&O colors as money allows.
Baggage 405 ex D&H/GM&O ACF blt in D&H colors
Baggage 827 Chicago & Alton (Home built) 1909 with wood beam trucks
Diner 903 Chicago & Alton (Home built) 1903 with wood beam trucks
Passenger/Baggage/RPO Chicago & Alton (Home built) 1903 with wood beam trucks
**Elections - Year 2019 Officers and Board Members**

Please cast your vote for next year's society officers and Board Members using the  **paper ballot printed below**. Your participation is important, so please vote!

We will accept votes for officer and board member candidates AT THIS YEAR'S ANNUAL MEETING **ONLY**. Please bring your ballot to the Union City meeting, and give it to us as you enter the banquet room Saturday evening. Election results will be announced later that night.

The following list of nominees were received by the society Secretary:

=================================================================

**GM&OHS 2019 ELECTION BALLOT**

**President**

----- Joe Hunt (Trenton, TN)

----- Billie Hubbell (Mt. Vernon, IL)

_____ (write in) _____________________________________________

**Vice President**

----- Jason Parham (Helena, AL)

_____ (write in) _____________________________________________

**Secretary**

----- Gary Osing (Germantown, TN)

_____ (write in) _____________________________________________

**Treasurer**

----- David Johnston (Germantown, TN)

_____ (write in) _____________________________________________

**Directors**

----- Bill Strong (Germantown, TN)

----- Andrew Sisk (St. Louis, MO)

----- Tim Hubbell (Mt. Vernon, IL)

_____ (write in) _____________________________________________

Please make your selections by marking **X** and bring this ballot to the Society's annual meeting Nov. 10, 2018.