

Minutes 1985
Minutes of the GNRHS Officers' Meeting on August 5, 1985 at St. Paul, Minn.

The meeting was opened at 9:20 am with Norman Keyes, Louis Bushfield, William McGinley, and Martin Evoy in attendance. Wolfgang Weber was absent and not represented by proxy, and Charles Wood arrived shortly from the Amtrak station.

The report of the convention committee was given as follows by Jim Chinquist. Copies of the convention schedule were distributed. See attached. It was also given to the hotel management to be presented on their television monitor.

It was noted that at other conventions, unregistered people were allowed to enter the swap meet room, and this caused confusion and unfair advantage in buying. It was requested that this be controlled at this convention. Jim reported that only 3 registrants indicated an interest in a model contest. Thus judging by ballot of registrants would be used. Stan Townsend printed all tickets for the convention.

Jim played a song depicting the Great Northern which he hoped the membership would endorse. The Board expressed no interest in endorsement or promotion of the song.

Ticket cost for the convention steam train ride was discussed because low ticket sales prompted the reduction of sale price from \$30.00 to \$20.00 to late comers. It was decided that the cost to all coach patrons should then be \$20.00 even if the train ride lost money.

Lou Bushfield reported that JMC had contacted him at the NMRA convention on the possibility of using GN films in GNRHS hands to make video tapes for them to sell. They have two payment plans: 1) A flat payment for supplied material. 2) An initial payment of \$500.00 and \$3.00 for each tape sold. Stewart Holmquist reported that Empire on Parade could be put on tape for \$258.00, producing a moderate quality reproduction and then retaped for sale to GNRHS members. Stewart also reported that the Society has films on the Bieber Line construction, Big Sky - a 45 minute promotional on skiing, and a 20 minute promotional on Glacier Park (This may belong to Pat Stafford.) Stewart felt that the Society could sell copies to members for \$15.00 and recoup costs. Lou indicated that JMC may give GNRHS members a discount on the JMC selling price. Also JMC's copies would be of very good quality. Stewart volunteered to get BN to release rights to the films to the Society. Stewart reported that there is a firm in California that is selling tapes of Empire on Parade. Lou will conduct further discussions with JMC on this matter.

Stewart Holmquist presented his ideas and desires for the operation of his office and for the handling of the AFE files. The base ideas were presented in letters mailed to the officers before this meeting. The 1896 to 1915 files were originally stored in 306 file boxes, and they are now stored at the Dakota County fair grounds. The file arrangements were explained. In Stewart's condensation, 2 types of files are being produced - complete, unculled files; and files with unimportant papers removed. The files are indexed by number and also by subject type.

Stewart reported that Dwane Amdahl is helping in the condensation. More help is desired when the 1916 to 1970 files are received. (Note: These files were delivered into GNRHS hands at the fair grounds on August 22, 1985.)

Stewart asked for reactions from officers to his present guidelines for handling 1896 to 1915 AFE files. Lou Bushfield expressed concerns about consistency of work on files when using helpers. Stewart indicated that he

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went thru the first box of files with trainees. If there arises a question whether to discard or retain material, instructions are to retain. Questions are to be directed to Stewart. All blue prints are retained. Helpers have the option of obtaining copies of blue prints at a nominal cost. (to decrease the desire to take the "original".)

Norman Keyes asked how well Stewart is acquainted with the volunteers. Dwane Amdahl is known to the Society. John Cartwright is a second volunteer, is a librarian, and is also known to most officers. It was suggested that volunteers' names be passed among officers before they are used. Concerns were voiced on having material stolen from files, and proper protection was discussed. Some thought was given to not disclosing to the membership the fact that material was being discarded from files.

Last year, Stewart sent material culled from files to Glacier Park for sale or giving. It was not distributed because of concern for jeopardizing the acquisition of the 1916 to 1970 files. Stewart noted that the early files are the only ones with James J. Hill's signature on papers. (Perhaps the give-aways should be checked for his signature and the papers containing it retained.)

Stewart noted that most of his inquiries are post WW II, and a majority come from BN via Pat Stafford. One recent inquiry was from the University of Minnesota, American Historic Buildings Survey, about the Jackson Street Shops. On this project, claims files photographs and actual AFE files were loaned. Stewart had the only files on that construction. The University then produced a quality publication (about 1" thick) on the shops. Stanford University requested information on the dedication of the Cascade Tunnel. Stewart is working to get metal plates of sound recording made at that dedication for that university's collection from BN.

Two problems were presented for the Board's consideration. BN indicated a tacit desire to have 1896 to 1915 files given to the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS), altho they were given to GNRHS without restriction. MHS refused the files when they originally became available and wanted them condensed to 8% of original volume. The State appropriated \$53MM for new MHS buildings which may provide room for the files. As far as we know, MHS will want only files retained intact. Stewart would retain the condensed files. Stewart's files will contain photo copies of cover pages and blue prints in all intact files.

All files on right of way fences and RR crossings are being culled. For each file, the location blue print is all that is being retained. It and the control books contain all pertinent information on the addition. Unique and ornate letterheads are being retained in a separate file.

Martin Evoy voiced concerns with the proposal to give the MHS any files because of possible future loss of material and the resulting permanent division of the files. Four ultimate objectives for the disposition of the files were proposed. 1) All sorted files are to remain accessible to GNRHS members and be kept as one collection. 2) The files are to remain as the Sr. Research Asso., as influenced by the officers of the Society, had sorted them, without further deletions. 3) The GNRHS should be given recognition for having had a major hand in preserving and sorting the files. 4) The files are to be kept in good condition. If the MHS is given the complete files, they could discard some information later without GNRHS control. Also, with split files, what will become of the Sr. Res. Asso.'s files? The chances of having them get lost is great.

Norman asked if the files could be presented to MHS on permanent loan. This has not yet been investigated with Dennis Misner of MHS. General agreement was voiced that files going to MHS should be on permanent loan.

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The position of MHS of not accepting any culled files was discussed. Stewart felt that his work was maintaining the historical integrity of the files. The possibility of alternative repositories for the complete set of files was discussed. Stewart felt MHS was the only museum that could handle the files. Martin asked if having the GNRHS just continue to hold all files, giving none to MHS, might change MHS minds on the partial receipt of files. Stewart felt that this was possible. Charles Wood suggested that for now Stewart continue to hold all files at least until MHS is contacted regarding permanent loan of all examined files.

The written guidelines for the handling of the 1896 to 1915 files prepared by Stewart were examined in detail. Lou pointed out a problem with the section dealing with dissolution of the Society which was out of line with IRS and Illinois requirements, in the rules for Sr. Res. Asso. operation. Lou also mentioned that he would like GNRHS to have future ability to reacquire the AFE files loaned to MHS. An indefinite loan to MHS was suggested as a way to do this. This seemed to be the proper designation.

Martin presented other areas in which Stewart's drafts seemed to be lacking. Copies of Martin's proposed additions and changes to the above guidelines and those for the operation of the office of Sr. Res. Asso. were distributed. Stewart suggested that he and Martin consult on these documents, agree on their provisions, and send the results to Gregory Johnson for comment, and then send the results to Board members for approval. It was agreed to do this.

Chuck asked if Stewart, not sending a letter to BN requesting the second AFE files, was becoming a problem. It was. BN Valuation Dept. and building owner want to get rid of the files. BN Legal Dept. does not want to discard the files. The compromise was to give GNRHS custodial, restricted position of the files for 2 years. When BN is finished with the court case, they will release the files without restriction. The ICC does not require BN to keep the files.

There has been much back and forth in BN about the file movement out of the basement. Stewart has set Aug. 22 as moving day (for his convenience). Stewart lost his initial, official contact, Mr. Parshall, in BN. Dick Jackson, of BN Evaluation Section, is Stewart's unofficial contact and has done most to get the AFE files to GNRHS. The letter Stewart is to send to BN is to go to Mr. Parshall's replacement and to state when GNRHS will accept the files. BN is expressing concerns as not receiving the letter. Martin and Stewart were instructed, together with Greg Johnson to type an acceptable letter to BN for Stewart to mail.

Stewart was instructed to use any of 3 modes to move the files: BNRR, the Dakota County Vocational School, or a commercial moving company.

Stewart has written the Dakota County Fair Board a letter thanking them for use of their depot for storage. He has contacted Tom Harmony of BN's committee for donations in an attempt to get the fair grounds a caboose, which would cement GNRHS relations with fair grounds directors.

The payment for supplies for the AFE project (3 ring binders, boxes, file folders, etc.) was questioned. Stewart indicated that he has purchased all (2,000 file folders) new supplies. Boxes are second hand file boxes. Martin noted that these expenses are part of the reason why the Society should be selling material from the files, at a rate of speed to maintain their price, to give the Sr. Res. Asso. an income. Norman said that such sales would have to be made such that all members would have access to items sold.

Stewart indicated that he hoped that the GOAT editorship would give him space in upcoming issues in which he can talk about the AFE files and

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subjects that are coming up in the files. He is composing the first of the series now.

Stewart has not yet received a letter from the Dakota County Fair Grounds Board, acknowledging GNRHS ownership of the files stored in their depot. Such a letter should be obtained soon.

The 1916 to 1970 files are stored in 206 - 4 drawer, legal file cabinets. About 2/3 of these are composed of low, single drawer, stackable components, which could be stacked 5 or 6 high in GNRHS storage. Some of these could eventually be sold.

Louis Bushfield reported on his progress with filling IRS tax reports for past years. He also reported that the Society has received acceptance from IRS that GNRHS is not a private foundation within section 509 (a) of their code, and our 501(c)(3) status is fully in effect. The Secretary has a copy of this letter, and it is to be retained in the permanent file. Copies of this letter and the previously received letter should go to Ray Chappell for his use in obtaining mailing permits.

Lou reported that he is receiving better accounting of printing costs from Hubbard so that he can determine costs of printing individual issues of the GOAT more easily. March's cost was \$4,024.74. The Westinghouse book cost \$1,000.

Lou brought up the idea of selling reprints such as the Westinghouse and the Baldwin reprints outside the GNRHS, for consideration. He reported that he is considering using a membership card containing dues renewal form and window envelopes to streamline the dues renewal process. He would like to get a second bulk permit for Lafayette to also uncomplicate dues renewal. He is going to investigate this.

Norman Keyes reported on the Spokane convention efforts: Mike Denuty was unable to find a convention chairman. David Duncan, of Portland, has taken over the effort. The convention dates will be July 15 to 17 (Tues. thru Thur.). The Redpath Hotel will be the focal point. A fan trip on the Pend Oreille Valley RR out of Newport, Wash. is a possible activity.

Seattle was suggested as a convention location since Spokane does not have significant rail subjects and the chairman is not local to Spokane. However conditions indicated that the convention location should stay at Spokane, and this was so voted.

Norman reported on the Sioux City situation. They think they will be running steam in the spring of 1987. Norman thinks it will happen sooner. They have equipment to run diesel excursions, starting this fall. Norman indicated that he feels that the GNRHS convention should be in Sioux City in 1987. Having the steam locomotive running for the convention is a prerequisite. Norman requested that the Society continue its membership in the Siouxland Railroad Historical Association. There was agreement on this.

Norman reported on NMRA Special Interest Group potential changes. The NMRA board felt that SIGs were taking members from NMRA. At the NMRA convention, the problem was discussed; and the final result seemed to be that any change in regulation of SIGs would not occur for at least a year.

Norman reported that Charles Martin was at the NMRA convention but did not speak to GNRHS members. Betty Girvin (wife of John, 78-425) won a handfull of awards, including Best of Show, at the NMRA convention and seemed to be the only GNRHS member to have been awarded. Dan Mitchel presented his slide clinic on GN on two occassions. Ten new members were recruited for GNRHS at the convention. Revised information brochures were

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printed and are on hand for distribution, with current secretary's name and address on them.

Technical Committees Report: In addition to chairmen listed in the June 1985 GOAT, Pete Beckman of Sultana, Wash. was selected for Motor Cars. Norman is still looking for chairmen for Freight Cars, History, Electric Locomotives, Operations, and Signalling. Jeff Lemke is a problem in his not sticking to protocol, and Norman thought that he should talk to Jeff on that problem. Other committees have reference sheets in the works that should be complete soon.

Based on a trial run on one reference sheet from Structures, it seems that the best way for such material to travel thru the system is as follows: Committee Member to Chairman. Chairman to Norman Keyes with some cover letter. Norman to correct as needed and return to author with cover letter and note to chairman (if not the author) saying "yes" or "no" on acceptability. The author would make or OK corrections and send draft to the editor. Lou noted that an author could be corrected on a fact but choose not to send that correction to the editor. After some discussion, Norman agreed to write a set of guidelines for this particular part of the Technical Committee activity.

Martin Evoy reported the activities of the Secretary's office for the year between convnetions: New members - 171. Total current membership - 1178. Changes of address - 54. Non-receipt of GOAT mailings - 51. Calendar orders - 6. Returned checks to prospective members members because of insufficient funds - 25. Miscellaneous inquires - 115.

One inquiry involved a reproduction of a Fisher painting of a GN steamer being distributed by Automatic Switch Co. of Floram Park, N.J. as a sales promotion. Upon inquiry, Automatic Switch sent the Society 100 copies which should be distributed to convention attendees.

C.C. Crow is manufacturing and selling models of the GN Bellingham, Wash. depot.

Darwin Publications was contacted on progress of the Pat Dorin GN book. They indicated that the book would be completed "as soon as feasible, but no firm schedule has been set for release".

A letter from Ronald Rumer, of Philadelphia, Pa., expressed his desire to obtain tapes of steam locomotive sounds in revenue service. It was planned to present this desire to the membership. A copy of the book, "The Izaak Walton Inn" was displayed.

Preservation of BN 6430, ex-GN 400, Hustle Muscle: Bob Johnston requested that the question of its preservation be put on the meeting agenda. The Secretary contacted Robert W. Downing on this matter, and he contacted Mr. R.C. Grayson of BN Inc. on the matter. There was positive response, so Tomas J. Lamphier was contacted to get approval of the Lake Superior Museum of Transportation to maintain the locomotive. That museum's agreement to be custodian was received. It was moved and seconded that BN be asked to donate BN 6430 to GNRHS with provision that the locomotive be housed and maintained at the LSM of T. Passed.

Other items of unfinished business were listed as follows: Calendar sales, completion of production of reference sheets on building colors and on steam locomotive colors, video taping of Society owned movies by the Society, recontacting Hedrick-Blessing to gain access to their GN photographs, changing of the Society's Illionois agent. (Earnest Layman was suggested as a possible replacement.), producing a patch and/or pin for sale to members.

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The Board decided that the song on the Great Northern, produced by Jim Chinquist, could not be sponsored or sanctioned by the Society.

Martin reported that the Editor Search Committee had received a number of offers from members to work as editor. A summary (attached) of these persons qualifications had been sent to officers or given to them at this meeting. Three were judged to be real contenders by the Secretary.

Bill McGinley felt that the following areas would have to be cared for by the new editor. The ability to get along with a number of people, collecting, verifying, receiving, sensing if a piece is reasonably ready for publication. The Technical committees will now do much of this. Loose ends will have to be tied together, such as photo sources for the cover page, writing of all the connectors.

After considering the candidates, it was suggested that Russel Wilcox be asked to assume the editorship of the GOAT for a relatively short time and to develop a successor editor for himself from the other candidates. This choice was made because of Russ' work as publisher of the PRR Hist. Soc. publications.

Lou noted that Ron Burkhart has agreed to produce the calendar. He advanced the idea that the new editor could start constructing the March 1986 issue in a few weeks from the meeting. A photo album could be published in the March issue.

The suggestion that Russ be asked to assume the editorship was generally agreeable to the Board, but there was some feeling that a face to face discussion with Russ was in order, since he was in the hotel. He was asked to come to the meeting. Norman excused himself from the meeting because of his close friendship with Russ.

Russ noted that he published the Keystone, a 40 to 52 page publication, for the PRR Hist. Soc. but was not its editor. He had the printing done about a mile from his home and would continue to use that service if he handled the GOAT. The printer prepared cost estimates for GOAT production (copy attached). For the Keystone, the post office was given \$500.00 at the beginning of a year, and they deducted quarterly charges as they were incurred.

From the printer's estimate, it was figured that an issue containing wrapper, 1 - 12 page ref. sh., 1 - 8 page ref. sh., and 1 - 4 page Ref. sh. would cost \$3855 plus \$100 for envelopes. (Addition on quote seems to be in error.) The printer employs a total of about 15 people. It was noted that Bill writes captions from basic data where as Russ has had captions sent to him. It is hoped that the Technical Committees will produce finished captions and other parts of reference sheets.

Russ noted that he was the editor of the Snapper (Keystone news supplement) where in he had to do considerable writing.

When asked about his feelings on working under an advisor, Russ indicated that he was not really seeking the job of editor. He is 69 years old and feels that a younger person should be groomed for the job. Proof reading time is a problem for Russ. He would like to see Norman and Helen Keyes volunteer to do this job. Russ felt that he could do the editor's job for 1 - 1½ years, and he suggested developing a back up. This appears mandatory.

A number of technical printing matters were discussed, and these matters will have to be covered again by Bill with Russ as he begins his job. Russ expressed concern about his checking accuracy of material and filling in details on submitted material. It was noted that Bill is going to have to set up mechanisms to provide the editor with such things as front page photos. The fact that Bill shifts type size to produce full pages was

discussed briefly and will have to be covered with Russ more fully.

After Russ left the meeting, some discussion on how to use the talents now available to us developed. It appears that, in addition to the actual editor's contribution, persons to read and check galley proofs seem to be the biggest need. The Leonard Springers could do this by sending material thru the mails. The problems of waxed-on-papers can be overcome by proper packing or perhaps photocopying of the proofs.

There was concern voice about Russ' ability to do "creative editing". It was suggested that Joe Mennich and the Springers could be used to develop reference sheets, ready for shooting to aid this potential deficiency and to show their abilities in producing the publication. Bill may contact these people to sound them out on doing this.

Another topic touched upon was the printing of photos taken by one person but contributed by another person for publication. Proper credit is being given in print, but having correct clearance to print is uncertain. Rules on how this correct clearance should be handled should be constructed, along with other rules governing the functioning of the publications dept.

Arnold Anderson of Junction City, Ore. owns some Lee Pickett photographs. How to utilize this resource was discussed. It was suggested that Bill ask Arnold to send him photocopies of the photos so the photos could be worked into a photo album for publication.

The development of a style guide for authors and contributors was discussed. The NRHS style guide was given to Bill for him to rearrange into one suitable for the GOAT.

Ray Chappell reported that he has approximately 13 - 1982 calendars left. It was agreed that the calendar, with both covers would be reprinted as a photo album without the date containing pages for future back issue sales when the supply of regular calendars was exhausted.

It was agreed that the Society will give Montana Historical Society a set of back issues.

Ray reported that he had obtained a 3 color, enamel pin from the Great Northern Goat Club. Its motif might be a model for pins produced by the Society in the future.

Ray reported the results of the nominating committee's work for the upcoming elections as: President - Peter Thompson; Vice President for Technical Services - Norman Keyes; Vice President for Publications - William McGinley; Vice President for Overseas affairs - Wolfgang Weber; Secretary - open (later filled by Harold Hall); Treasurer - Louis Bushfield. Bill was given a ballot for publication in the September GOAT.

It was suggested that the Society needs and should obtain a permanent convention coordinator. Also there was some feeling that a model railroad industry liaison type person in the Society was needed. It was suggested that a strong selling job, as used to get an editor replacement, would get results in obtaining these people.

The idea of producing a supplemental publication, as part of the GOAT, on modeling items was discussed. The fact that volunteers are hard to get to produce continually was voiced.

The meeting was adjourned prior to 6 pm.

Respectively submitted by Martin Evoy III
Secretary, GNRHS

July 1985

Report on Responses to Advertisement for New GOAT Editor

The following persons responded to our request for editorial help with the indicated qualifications. Their names and information are listed in the order of receipt.

Joseph E. Minnich 77-360 of Denver, Colo.

Joe edits and publishes a glossy, 6 page, 8½x11 (one sheet 11x25½, printed on 2 sides, folded in three) publication for the Tourist Railway Asso. - a composite of tourist RR owners, 6 times per year. We have received several copies, and quality is comparable with our publication. Photographs appeared in every issue we saw. Joe said that he uses a printer who is familiar with RR terminology. Publication is called TRAINLINE. He is ready to expand his editing work.

Roxanna & Leonard Springer 85-1523 of San Diego, Calif.

Leo and Roxanna are working on masters degrees and plan to do freelance writing and photography, produce magazines and newsletters, and teach journalism. They do model RRing, with Roxanna starting things with a gift of a GN 0-6-0.

Leo says,

"My wife and I are accomplished writers and photographers. We have a word processor (Apple IIe), and our photographic equipment includes medium format and Canon 35 mm cameras, and a variety of lenses. I have experience in the production side of publishing, including layout and paste-up. At one time, I was responsible for the purchase of all typesetting, printing, and related graphic services for the technical publications department of the Convair Division of General Dynamics."

Robert D. Hughes 82-906 of Omaha, Neb.

Bob said that he thinks that he might be interested in production of the annual calendar or other miscellaneous printed material for the Society. He apparently has no publishing experience, but he is willing.

Thomas F. Tennessen 83-1263 of Minneapolis, Minn.

Tom recently graduated from a computer typesetting program and is looking for ways to begin to utilize his education. His background seems to be limited to the mechanics of typesetting.

Robert Hundman 79-546 of Seattle, Wash

Bob began his telephone conversation with the statement that obviously he could not take over the job of GOAT editor; but he offered to be a consultant to a new editor located in his area. (No qualifications on what his area was.)

Jeffrey H. Lemke 78-413 of Crystal Lake, Ill.

Jeff's call started out covering other matters of mutual interest and drifted to the editor's job. I told him that we were having positive responses to our quest, and this seemed to diminish his interest in the job. He is active in other efforts for the Society, so his time is probably fairly well taken up with current commitments.

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Ernest A. Lehmann 81-714 of Elgin, Ill.

Ernie called me and talked a bit about his background, which is not in the publishing field, and I suggested that he put some thoughts together and send them to me. His education is in business and he has training in engineering drawing. He has a brother-in-law who is involved in the printing field. He (they) discussed printing GOAT type material with the estimator at the brother-in-laws company (brother-in-law being an employee) and a price of \$45/page was quoted. There must be more to the job than what they discussed.

Lorene K. Jones 83-1280 ? of Vancouver, Wash.

Lorene is the widow of Walter B. Jones, who died June 10, and who was Executive Secretary of the BN Veterans Association. Chuck, this may come as a bit of a shock.

Lorene said, in part, "My training and experience would qualify me to edit the material for the newsletter, and I could do the work on a word processor if you wish. The choice of articles and details of working with the printer would be a slightly new area, but one that could certainly be learned quickly."

Russell L. Wilcox 73-108 Of Lutherville, Md.

Russ edited and published the Pennsylvania RR Hist. Soc.'s KEYSTONE for 6 years, from 1978 to 1983. This publication ran in the 40 -54 page range. He received typed text, photographs, and captions from the "editor", who lives in Pennsylvania. He proofed and edited the material, worked with his local printer who did the type setting, and then printing, binding, stuffing, and mailing.

Russ is 69 years old. He expressed some reservations on taking the editor's job because of his longevity and the fact that he has no spare time now. He is sure that he would be able to do the job if useable material was sent to him. He feels that he does not have the resources to add to material sent from his private collection. (All candidates are in this position, and it will have to be the responsibility of the inner organization to insure that the new editor has material to publish, regardless of who we pick as editor.)