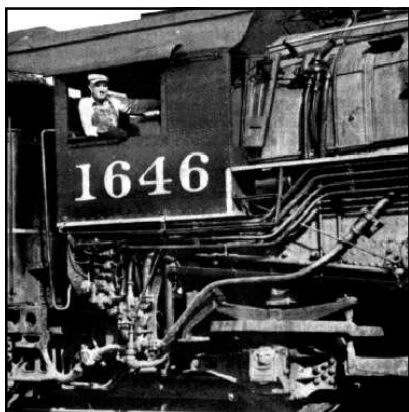


All Aboard!

Spring 2010

The Railroad Evangelist Magazine - Proclaiming the Good News since 1938





Luther S. Harkey 1885 - 1949
Founder of the Railroad Evangelistic Association

- Mission Statement -

The Railroad Evangelistic Association exists to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to the entire railroad community worldwide and to promote mutual Christian fellowship among, though not limited to, those of the railroad industry, the model railroad hobbyists and the rail fan enthusiasts.

WE BELIEVE

1. We believe in the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments as verbally inspired by God, and inerrant in the original writings. They are the supreme and final authority in faith and life.
2. We believe in one God eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is true God and true Man.
4. We believe that man was created in the image of God: that he sinned, and thereby incurred, not only physical death, but also Spiritual death which is separation from God. All human beings are born with a sinful nature, and in the case of those who reach moral responsibility become sinners in thought, word, and deed.
5. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice. In addition that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed Blood.
6. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified Body of our Lord, in His Ascension into Heaven and in His present life there for us, as High Priest and Advocate.
7. We believe in "that blessed hope," the personal, premillennial, and imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
8. We believe that all who receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God.
9. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting, conscious punishment of the lost.

- The Railroad Evangelistic Association

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PLEASE NOTE: If you move or have a change of address please let the Sec/Treas know as soon as possible. It costs us 83 cents for each returned magazine. The middle code number after your name such as 000-0509-1, means your subscription is due the 5th month (May), of 2009. THANK YOU!

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Wilson Riley
President of REA

MAINLINE

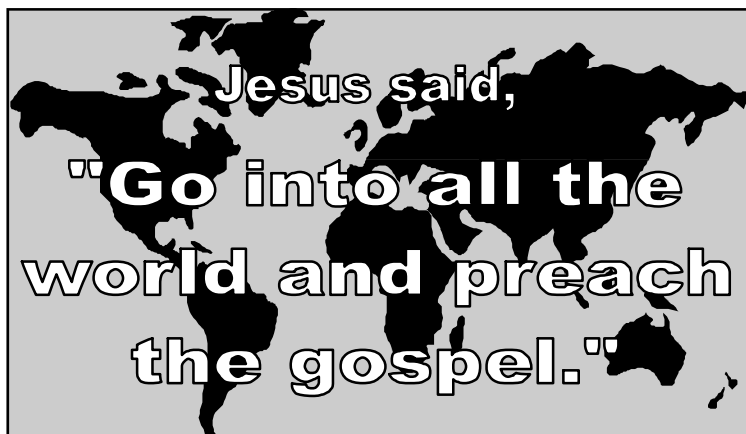
ROAD MAP TO HEAVEN

When we take a trip and get lost what do we do? We take out a road map to get back on the right road. If you do not know Christ as your Savior you are lost also. There's a road map in the Bible called Roman's Road that tells you how to find Christ.

"All have sinned", (Romans 3:23) means each of us has sinned against God. Romans 6:23 tells us **"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is everlasting life in Christ Jesus our Lord."** This means that because of sin we face spiritual death. Say this prayer to yourself, "Christ forgive me for my sins, I believe You died for my sins, come into my heart and show me how to live for You." If you said this prayer and truly meant it you are saved. Next, get into a good Bible based church and begin growing in God's word. For more information do not hesitate to contact me. Let us labor together for the Lord until He comes.

God Bless you.

- Wilson Riley



Your membership, subscriptions and tax deductible donations are greatly appreciated, as they are the only means we have to continue publishing and proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ to the entire railroad community worldwide through the *Railroad Evangelist* magazine. Your financial gifts underwrite the cost and make it possible for us to send the *Railroad Evangelist* magazine out individually and in bulk supply as our home and missionary outreach. We thank God for each and every one of you who have joined with this railroad literature evangelistic ministry with your prayers and finances.

We pray and trust God will abundantly bless you for your sacrificial giving for He **"is able to make all grace abound towards you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, have an abundance for every good work."**

2 Corinthians 9:8

"A LITTLE IS A LOT WHEN GOD IS IN IT"

Luke 9:12-17

All Aboard!

Membership in the Railroad Evangelistic Association is open to all who have a desire to reach the entire railroad community worldwide with the Good News of Jesus Christ. For \$15.00 you will receive your REA Annual membership card (\$5.00) and a one year subscription (\$10.00 - 3 issues) to the **RAILROAD EVANGELIST** magazine. REA has no paid staff, all proceeds go to printing and mailing the Good News. Thank you.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN REA

Please check the appropriate box.

- ☐ I am an active railroad employee.
- ☐ I am a former/retired railroad employee.
- ☐ My spouse is/was an active/former/retired railroad employee.
- ☐ I am a model railroad hobbyist.
- ☐ I am a rail fan enthusiast.
- ☐ My interest in REA is _____
- ☐ Sending \$4.00 for REA membership for one year.
- ☐ Sending \$8.00 for a one year subscription.

How did you learn of REA? _____

Please cut, photocopy or send appropriate information pertaining to the above application form and mail it to:

REA
PO Box 5026
Vancouver, WA 98668

***“More
powerful
than a
locomotive”***



Curtis Anderson - Colonial Heights, Virginia

Remember Superman back in the 1950's and 1960's during the black and white days of TV? Superman was faster than a speeding bullet and able to leap tall buildings in a single bound. What I enjoyed most about watching Superman, realizing my own lack of power and speed, was that TV allowed me to see what Superman saw. Using the video technology of the day, Superman could approach a bank vault or a closed boxcar of a train and the TV viewer could “see” what Superman saw as he focused his eyes on the object. For a moment I could see what Superman saw by using *his* eyes. This brings me to the passage of scripture in Matthew 9:36 when Jesus saw the multitudes, and just like the days of Superman on TV, for a moment the inspired scripture allows the reader to see what Jesus saw: ***“sheep scattered abroad as sheep having no shepherd”***. Reading the Bible can improve our vision by allowing us to use the eyes of Jesus to see what He saw. In Matthew 9:36 can you see His compassion? When you read the Bible, allow the Holy Spirit to improve your vision. This is *more* powerful than any locomotive.



Curtis Anderson, dressed as a conductor, using the payphone that was removed from the N&W RR station in Roanoke, Va. and is now located at the Virginia Telephone Museum in downtown Richmond. Curtis is a retired Verizon data circuit technician, a volunteer Pioneer tour guide at the Verizon Telecom Pioneers' Telephone Museum, and a rail fan. He recently stepped into the telephone booth at the museum and remembered how Superman could utilize a phone booth in his day. From that reflection, he shared the “More powerful than a locomotive” illustration with his bible study class recently.



Right track

Monte Gantka - Vancouver, Washington
"Praise God for His Direction!"

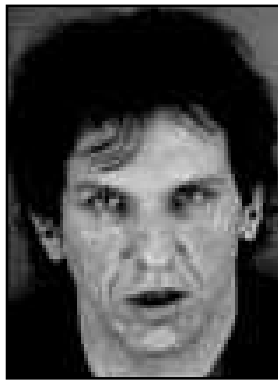
I began to come to the Lord shortly after my mom passed away. There were a few suicide attempts after that, and several trips to the county jail. How-

"each trip to the county jail would bring me closer to God"

ever, each trip to the county jail would bring me closer to God. I would be locked up on "suicide watch" for months, but each time I always managed to have a bible

with me. It was my comforter and I would sleep with it as a child would with his teddy bear. Every time somebody tried to take it, I would throw a fit, just as a child would. Every time I was in jail, I would promise to seek after God's way when I got out, over and over again. Finally I landed in the work center, doing night maintenance with a boss that happened to be Christian. He talked with me a lot and encouraged my faith. God was giving me direction through this janitor.

Upon my release, he directed me to a place called "the Rock", where Friday night meetings of Breaking Free Ministries are held. But, after going to the wrong address, I wound up at the Share House, where I had



◆ The **OLD** Monte Gantka:

- > 30 years addicted to meth, marijuana and alcohol.
- > 3 driving while intoxicated charges
- > Severe depression & suicidal
- > Domestic Violence
- > 3 felonies, including 3rd degree robbery, domestic violence and possession of methamphetamines.

"God was giving me direction through this janitor"



◆ The **NEW** Monte Gantka:

- > Good relationship with Jesus Christ.
- > Nearly 6 years of Recovery
- > Living at Breaking Free Ministries, (Vancouver, WA).
- > Attends New Life Friends Church.
- > Has paid all court fines.
- > Finished treatment and domestic violence classes.
- > Has a good job.

a place to stay for a few months. When my time was just about up there, and with no where else to go, I was again directed to call Bill Robertson, who was with Breaking Free Ministries. This time I went to the right address. The homes they had available were full, but Bill got me a place on a couch until a room opened up. I have been with Breaking Free ever since, over three years, and I thank God for directing me to His family. I finally began to pay attention to His directions.

I have a steady job now, a driver's license, insurance, and a vehicle. I continue to follow God's direction through His Word, His Spirit and His people. I thank God for His direction, for getting me on the "right track". Jesus has saved and changed my life.

Dissociate yourself from Temptation



Kaylene Dongell

A few years ago, I really started to believe that I had a choice. *"Choose you this day whom ye will serve"* (Joshua 24:15) is a choice given to all men by God from the beginning of time. Adam and Eve chose to rebel against God's command not to eat from the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. *"Their eyes were opened and they knew that they were naked"* (Genesis 3:7). Knowledge of evil - "the flesh," as Paul calls it in his letter to the Galatians. *"I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the*

flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do" (Galatians 5:16-26). He goes on to teach us exactly how to recognize the difference between the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit.

Initially, I was excited when it really worked. Negative attitudes, offenses, grudges, and pride - as God revealed these to me, I was able to set my mind on the Spirit. *"For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit"* (Romans 8:5).

Recently though, I felt blind-sided by defeat. I hadn't recognized that the times when I was tired, stressed, worn down, or not feeling well were opportunities for the enemy to tempt me to yield to the flesh. Anything that lures and entices us to yield to the flesh is temptation.

"Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak" (Matthew 26:41).

Not only is our flesh weak, but also the weakness

that defeats us is planned by the evil one. *"Be sober, be vigilant (alert), because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, roams about, seeking whom he may devour"*

(1 Peter 5:8).

Recognizing temptation is the first step to conquering it. Expect to be tempted when you are at your weakest. See it as a well-planned attack by the enemy, and dissociate yourself from the temptation. I've learned that no matter how I feel, I always have a choice. Our love for God always conquers.

"To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life,



In CHRIST we have
A love that cannot be fathomed;
A life that can never die;
A righteousness that can never be tarnished;
A peace that cannot be understood;
A rest that can never be disturbed;
A joy that can never be diminished;
A hope that can never be disappointed;
A light that can never be darkened;
A purity that can never be defiled;
A wisdom that can never be baffled and
Recourses that can never be exhausted.

- Author unknown

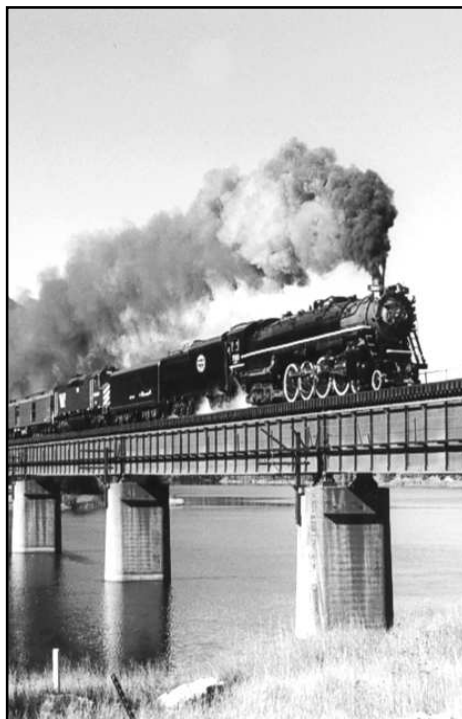
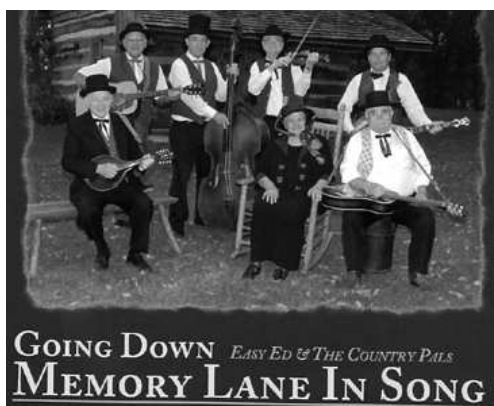


Bob Leidigh, taking a break as operator at the Wabash RR Tower at Adrian, Michigan in the mid 1950's. Looking East.



The Wabash Railroad's crossing of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern was the busiest of 3 interlocking railroad crossings in Adrian. The Lake Shore had been in place since 1936 when the Wabash Railroad came through town, rerouted from Detroit to St. Louis in 1881.

Tower photo from the Robert Ellis Collection. Michigan's Internet Railroad History Museum.



The Heavenly Railroad

*The road to heaven by Christ was made,
With the Savior's love this track was laid;
From earth to heaven this line extends
To life eternal where it ends.*

*The Bible is our Engineer -
It points the way to heaven so clear;
Through tunnels dark and across the years
It reaches beyond this vale of tears.*

*Come on poor sinner, now's the time,
At any station on this line;
Repent, believe and turn from sin -
This train will stop and take you in.*

*And when we reach that happy land,
We then shall meet at God's right hand;
And on that peaceful happy shore
We'll ride this earthly train no more.*

- Penn's Scrapbook

◀ **Bob Leidigh** today, second one standing from the right, on the fiddle. Bob has belonged to a number of musical groups over the years. Bob is also a gospel track distributor and a subscriber of the Railroad Evangelist magazine "All Aboard!"



> I'm a SENIOR CITIZEN and I think I am having the time of my life!

> Funny, I don't remember being absent-minded.

> Getting a little action means your prune juice is working.

> Goodbye tension. Hello pension.

> I intend to live forever - so far so good.

> You know you're getting older when you bend over in the morning to tie your shoes and realize you didn't take them off the night before.

> The most frustrating thing about getting older is that every time you see an expensive antique, you remember one just like it you once threw away.

> It is hard to understand how a cemetery raised its burial cost and blamed it on the cost of living.

> I'm going to start thinking positive, but I know it won't work.

> Money talks but all mine ever says is "goodbye."

> With proper diet, rest, and exercise a healthy body will last a lifetime.

> Honk if you love peace and quiet.

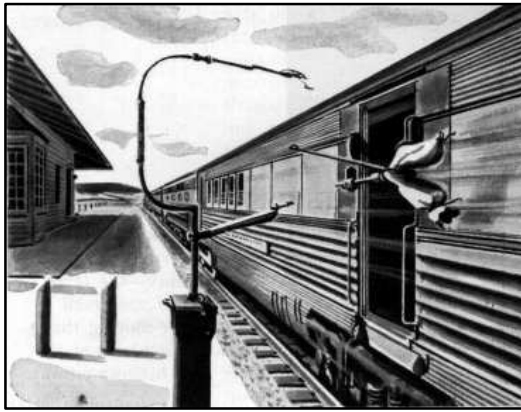
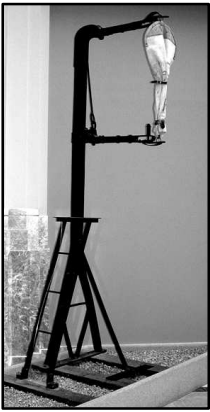
> Give me the strength to change the things I can, the grace to accept the things I cannot, and a great big bag of money.

*"A cheerful heart
does good like a medicine"*

Proverbs 17:22 - Living Bible

SCALE MAIL MOVES ON SCALE RAIL

By Rev. Stephen Seidler



"Neither snow, nor rain, nor heat, nor gloom of night stays these carriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." Normally accepted as the postal workers creed, it is actually an inscription from a General Post Office building in New York City. Its origin is traced to the "Father of History" - Herodotus - in the Fifth Century, BC, when he referred in his writings to horsed messengers in service to Xerxes, King of Persia. While in seminary in the late 60s I tried to uphold this supposed creed as an employee of the Postal Service out of the Oakland California Terminal. It was a great job for a seminarian since I had late afternoons free. I picked up over 5,000 pounds of mail in downtown Oakland over two identical trips back-to-back. On weekends I made Special Delivery pick-ups in the Berkeley Hills along with Air Mail runs to the San Francisco Airport. In this time

frame, 93% of all non-local mail was still traveling by train. A letter traveled via RPO from Boston to Seattle for 3 cents! Fast Mail was sorted aboard specially designed Railway Post Office cars by uniquely trained "mail slingers" (Clerks who in 1968 had a 40 hour work week @ annual salary of \$7,708). Mail picked up "on-the-fly" off a railway crane at one town was "pitched" by hand into city/street/address letter case cubbyholes. Full sacks with fully deliverable mail were thrown out onto the platform at the next station. Amtrak deemed it to be unprofitable and the lone surviving RPO made its last run on June 30, 1977, between New York and Washington. An era of one of the greatest and probably most efficient distributions of mail ended.



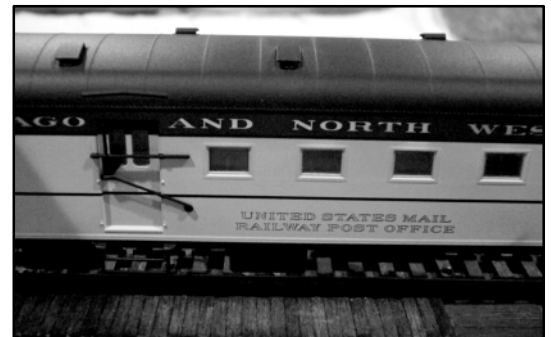
Three examples of RPO cars: ROCK ISLAND fluted stainless steel-sided; NP steel-sided with CalScale mail catcher arm attached; C&NW smooth-sided with REA and baggage space.



REA and POSTAL vehicles from Classic Metal Works. Paint jobs are vintage 1950s. Note the "Air Mail 5c" postage advertised on the mail truck.

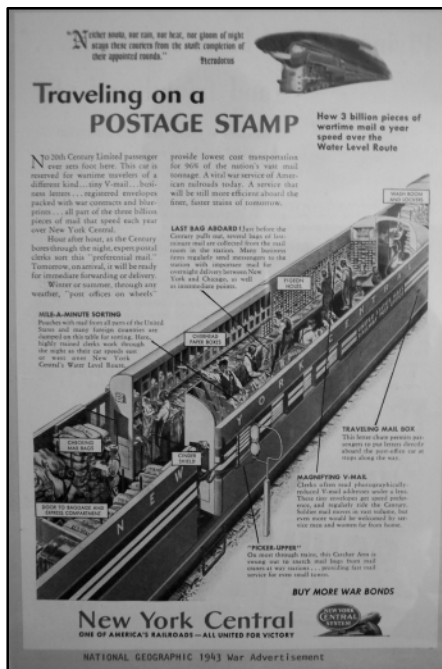
We can continue the swift completion of the appointed mail rounds via our scale model railroad layouts. Nothing should keep us from the proper delivery of mail on our miniature scale rails. There is a wealth of postal equipment available in most scales. Keep in mind the era you model as even clothing color and style changed. Vehicles and mailboxes in the 50s were basic olive green, evolving to red white & blue in the 70s, to basic white with a color stripe and solid blue mailboxes today. Various manufacturers like Walthers and Athearn produce a variety of smooth and steel-sided RPO cars. CAL SCALE makes a brass casting Mail Catcher Arm to detail the car. To hang your miniature mail pouches, locate an IRON HORSE MINIATURES 500 Railway Crane (Model Engineering Works, \$14.99) or an ALEXANDER MODELS crane. Various USPS and REA vehicles, hand trucks, and carts are available from JORDAN, ATHEARN, CON-COR, MODEL POWER, and CLASSIC METAL WORKS. WOODLAND SCENICS and BACHMANN provide all kinds of mailboxes and small details. PREISER shows a fantastic line of postal workers from all eras (PR-10014, 171102, 17112, 12198, 10248 and 281125). A current WALTHERS catalog is probably your best reference source.

You can surf away at two valuable websites to find all kinds of modeling information: www.usps.com/postalhistory and www.postalmuseum.si.edu.



TRAVELING ON A POSTAGE STAMP

By Rev. Stephen Seidler



In the 1950s, the New York Central Railroad ran a clever series of magazine advertisements that featured the unique merits of each individual car in their **Century Limited** passenger fleet. These ads appeared in **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** using graphic titles and images. "Traveling On A Postage Stamp" featured their Railway Post Office car with a cutaway drawing to visually portray the distinct use of this car. This gave me the creative idea to cull railroad-related stamps from a very extensive family collection begun by my late Aunt. Trading stamps worldwide paid for nine family members to attend college. I entered my own nine panel stamp display at the 1982 National Model Railroad Association annual convention in Washington DC. My "Trains on Stamps" won me a "Best of Show" award. The Trainman still proudly displays that award above his layout.



One of my favorite Biblical heroes is the Beloved Apostle John, often referred to as "The Postman of Patmos." While imprisoned on the Isle of Patmos, John delivered seven letters to the Seven Churches of Asia. Nothing stopped these letters from being delivered. They provided admonition, rebuke, chastening, yet admiration and encouragement to the people who received those letters. While I never delivered a letter of this importance, I did work for the Postal Service in the 1960s. Now, I have the directive to share all the letters of the New Testament among fellow believers and to those who need to hear the Gospel of Christ's salvation. Nothing should keep us from our appointed rounds in sharing Christ with a lost and dying world. Our dying, condemned world needs the Gospel Mail message of salvation and it is up to us to DELIVER IT!

One of the highlights of postal delivery was when mail was carried aboard Railway Post Office cars. Mail was picked up "on-the-fly" by iron arms that snatched hanging mail pouches and pulled them into the RPO car. Specially trained mail clerks or "slingers" quickly sorted the mail, packages and papers while in motion. Specific train number sorting bins or letter cases were used pertaining to a given route "scheme." The sorted mail was then left at the next station. Mail by rail was a fascinating chapter in the history of mail delivery. RPO cars and their unique delivery system are on display at various museums around the country – most notably at the National Postal Museum in DC and the Museum of Science & Industry, Chicago, that displays the CB&Q's **Pioneer Zephyr** 30' RPO unit. NP's 15' RPO #1102 (a Triple-Combo Pullman 6-14) often presents mail service in operation on the Osceola & St. Croix Valley RR in western Wisconsin. The RAILWAY MAIL SERVICE LIBRARY, INC. in Boyce, Virginia, honors the RPO's in detail and is an invaluable source from which to learn about this unique rail-mail system.

Check them out at: www.railwaymailservicelibrary.org

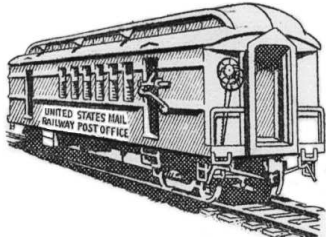


48 Bin LETTERCASE reportedly from the GN RPO car. Wood markers rotate to receive four different city schemes. These seem to indicate a route from Chicago to western Illinois. The cubby holes are currently used to hold various HO parts in Athearn blue boxes.



I know that Dr. Frank R. Scheer, Curator, would be happy to assist you. Three film images on a DVD are available: "Mail In Motion", "Men & Mail In Transit", and "Delivering The Promise." If you have a specific interest in RPOs, visit the RailwayPO group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/RailwayPO>. Many books are available on the subject. If you can find a copy, locate the Fall 2006 issue of **CLASSIC TRAINS**, Kalmbach Publishing. It is the best, recent treatment of RPO's and the "mail slingers" involved.





LETTERS

From our REA MAIL BAG

PO Box 5026 Vancouver, WA 98668 E-mail: rrjoe@comcast.net



Dear REA,

Thank you for your support, I am enclosing a check with the hope of starting a REA chapter in the Twin Cities. I am an engineer at a place called Northtown. I hired out in July 23, 1990 with the BNSF. I felt God was calling me to start a group of rails together for prayer and for the salvation of souls of people who work on the railroad, for their families salvation and of course their safety. I came across a copy of "All Aboard!" magazine left by Rev. Stephen Seidler of Owatoma, MN at the Scale Model Supply store in St Paul and that is where I found out about REA. Railroad people work such crazy hours and it is hard to get together, but if this is God's idea, He will help us out. Your prayers would be appreciated. Thank you.

John Stewart - Engineer BNSF
North ST Paul, MN

Editors Note: For those of you in the North St Paul area you can email John at: JYG STEWART@HOTMAIL.COM

Dear Christian,

Thank you for the railroad gospel tracts. We hand them out in Malls, Fairs as well as other places. I worked for the NYC railroad in the 1950s. I am familiar also with Highway Evangelism. My wife Carolyn and I have visited some of the railroad museums at Union, ILL, Sacramento, CA and Altoona, PA, a must see when you come to the East. I also play in a number of musical groups such as the "Harmony Friends", "County Pals", "Glory Bound" as well as others as we go to Rest Homes, Senior Centers are among the many places we play. Carolyn and I may be coming your way this summer and would like to stop by for a cup of coffee since we will be out to Wenatchee, WA which is not too far from your place. The Lord bless you.

Robert Leidigh
Bryan, OH

Editors note: See Robert Leidigh photos on page 7.

Greetings REA!

Thank you for sending me the extra copies of "All Aboard!". I was pleased you used the story on the Railroad Chaplains of America. Praise God. May God continue to bless you and your work for souls.

Your friend,
Gil A. Stricklin
Dallas, TX

Greetings REA,

Happy New year. Wishing REA all the best.
Love in the Lord
Shirley Zurek
Alexandria, VA

Dear REA Friends,

What a joy it is to greet you all in the wonderful name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Janet and I wish so very much we could have been with you at the last REA convention to celebrate the 68th anniversary of REA. We have so many fond memories of times spent with you in the past. We remember especially those special moments of prayer, singing and digging deep together into the Word of God. Those are precious memories and they will live forever in our hearts,

As you can imagine, I miss my father very much. Even though I know he is at home in glory, I long for one more hug, to hear his voice one last time. Maybe you can relate. Perhaps you too have someone waiting for you just inside the Eastern Gate at the "new Jerusalem". If so, remember this. A great day is coming; a day of celebration, reunion and never ending praise. Can you imagine what that day will be like? Well get ready because it's coming and it will be glorious. Until then, let us stand firm in our calling. All around us there are lost and hurting people who need someone who will take the time to lead them to Jesus. When my grandfather Luther S. Harkey heard the call, he was working for the railroad. He had never been to seminary. He didn't have a college degree or even a high school diploma for that matter. But he did have something else that was far more important. He had a call from God to proclaim the Good News of the Gospel up and down the line wherever that old train engine would take him. And now 68 years later it's our turn. People still need the Lord. They still need His word. They still need salvation.

That's our calling and what a calling it is!

Please pray that Janet and I can be with you next year. In the meantime you will be hearing more from us. REA has a great future and we want to be part of it!

Your coworker in Christ,

Alan L. Harkey
Simpsonville, SC

Keep up the good work for the Lord.

Harry Foreback
Cumberland, MD
NARVRE

47th Biennial NARVRE National Convention

La Crosse, Wisconsin

May 9, 10, & 11, 2010

Radisson Hotel - 200 Harbor View Plaza

www.narvre.org (412) 563-5611

Greetings,

Enclosed dues and subscription for 2010. No problem with the increase. Looking forward to another year of blessings.

Regards,
N.R. Seidelmann
Pennsauken, NJ



Union Pacific Railroad, "Challenger" type, 4-6-6-4, No 3985 built by American Locomotive Company, Schenectady, New York, June 1943. Fastest, most versatile freight locomotive for the UP. Sent in by N.R. Seidelmann.



John Lunn

United Kingdom

“Journey of Faith”

Where and how do I start this? My journey began in a little church in Heston Middlesex, England where, starting at the age of 7, my parents enrolled me in Sunday school. From there, I attended a number of Anglican churches in both the U.K. and Canada, as often as I could. Although I didn't realize it until many years later, I learnt quite a bit about the bible through the many, many sermons I had sat through. What I never had, though, was a close relationship with God, and this was reflected in the way I lived. Once I started to work in 1969 I learned how to swear, and then later how to drink, along with a host of other things. They all managed to squeeze the chances of a relationship with God out of my life, except for an hour or so on Sunday mornings.

Susan and I were joined in Holy matrimony in August of 1971. Although I was a believer and she wasn't, Susan could detect a presence in the church that I could not. After the honeymoon period our lives settled down into the routine of work, and then later children and more work as a driver on British Rail during the 1970s and 80s. With rampant inflation, a mortgage, and a family to bring up I had little option but to work. For me that meant a 13 day fortnight and all the overtime I could get. My social life centered on my work mates and the pub until 1992, when Susan, in utter despair at the life I was leading, cried out to the Lord "If You are there, then show Yourself!". He did, like Paul on the road to Damascus. Susan was cycling home on the Smallfield Road and was almost knocked off her bicycle by a force she did not understand - she had been touched by the Holy Spirit. It was then that all the pent up bible knowledge within me came to the forefront. I can still remember how, when Susan described what had happened to her, I was able to tell

her quite matter of factly that she had been touched by the Holy Spirit. Susan was changed in an instant, but this was also the starting point for my change.

My way of life changed little by little until in 1999, when the Lord cleared a way for me to attend an Alpha course on the Holy Spirit at our local church. That day I went down face first in the power of the Holy Spirit and gave my life totally to the Lord. To many this is looked upon as the arrival of one's spiritual journey, but nothing could be further from the truth. This is only the beginning of a journey, which is as much in your own hands as it is in God's. This is where you start to seek God with more and more passion. Since my coming of faith in 1999, my love for the Lord and all His works has grown with a passion that I could not have believed possible. The Lord has a plan for each of us, which is revealed only in part as we journey with Him.

Perhaps the most significant part of my journey, was the week at the Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship in January 2004. I was invited, in fulfillment of a prophesy I had a year earlier, to join with a group from our church to attend the Pastor & Leaders' conference at TACF. What a week! The speakers were very good, and I was healed of arthritis. But, most importantly, I received an almighty anointing from God. The week we attended the conference was the 10th anniversary of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Toronto, and God's presence may have been all the greater for this. I spent most of three and a half days on the floor rejoicing and receiving God's anointing, which has been at the very heart of my journey and in all of God's work that I do. Without this anointing I would be so much weaker spiritually. From then I have seen a steady growth and encouragement in the things and ways of God in all that I do. My passion for Christ, and all the ways of God, burns within me as an unquenchable fire.

There is so much more that I could say about how God has used me in the prophetic prayer and encouragement ministry, such as the four years I spent visiting the Railway Mission chaplains here in England. There were occasions where God had brought me into contact with total strangers to help them back onto God's path. The words of knowledge that He feeds and guides me with are for my benefit and that of others.

I love this work, but I love *all* of God's works. What I have shared with you is only a fraction of what my God and Savior Jesus Christ is doing in me and has done in the past ten years. Greater things than these no man could conceive of, and this is only a shadow of what my Lord has planned for me and all those who have a burning passion to serve the Lord Jesus Christ.

International Railway Missions

Invites you to attend their 2010 Conference/Vacation
Turku, FINLAND July 29 - August 6, 2010

Turku is about one hundred miles West of Helsinki on the Southwest coast of Finland. For more information you can view the IRM web page at: www.railway-mission.eu The cost of the Conference is about \$525.00 per person plus airfare.

“A vacation with a purpose”

Celebrating 69 yrs of Railway Ministry



www.RailroadEvangelist.com

Begin planning to attend the 68th National
Railroad Evangelistic Association
 Convention - Everyone is Welcome!
September 13 - 17, 2010

Located in the peaceful hills of Pennsylvania at the
 Philip Bongiorno Conference Center
 430 Union Hall Road Carlisle, PA 17013

Room rate for the week - including meals:

Double occupancy...\$181.50 (each)

Single Occupancy....\$196.50 (each)

Please send in your \$20.00 (non-refundable)
 deposit as soon as possible to:

REA Registrar

Mrs. Beverly Salloum

720 W. Thomas Street

Rome, NY 13440

(315) 525-4787 (cell)

E-mail: revsalloum@cheerful.com

If at all possible please have your convention expense paid
 in full two weeks prior to the convention. Thank you!

REGISTRATION to receive name tag and room key is on
Monday Sept 25th from 2-5 PM. Dinner at 5:00 PM.

AREA ATTRACTIONS

Located on the conference grounds: golf, tennis, basketball, hiking,
 volleyball, playground equipment plus a whole lot of peace and
 quiet and wonderful Christian fellowship.

Located within driving distance is:

- >Historic Carlisle - US Army War College - 10 minutes.
- >Gettysburg - About a 30 minute drive.
- >Hershey - About a 45 minute drive.
- >Strasburg RR community - A little over an hour drive.
- >Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster - A little over an hour.
- >The heart of the Amish in Lancaster - A little over an hour.
- >National Civil War Museum - Harrisburg - About 30 minutes.
- >Washington D.C. - About 2 1/2 hour drive.
- >Valley Forge / Philadelphia - About 3 hours

-PLUS A WHOLE LOT MORE! -

Jesus said...

"I AM the way, the truth and the
 life. No one comes to the Father
 except through Me." John 14:6

"I AM the light of the world. He
 who follows Me shall not walk in
 darkness, but have the light of life."
 John 8:12

"I AM the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger,
 and he who believes in Me shall never thirst." John 6:35

"I AM the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved..."
 John 10:9

"I AM the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the
 sheep." John 10:11

"I AM the true vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me
 and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."
 John 15:5

"I AM the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me,
 through he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes
 in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?." John 11:25,26

Think about this for a moment; either Jesus was a complete
 fool or He was in total deception, believing a lie, telling people
 He was the only way to God. Or, He was who He said He was.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son,
 that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting
 life. He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who
 dose not believe is condemned already, because he has not be-
 lieved in the name of the only begotten Son of God." John 2:16,18

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My words and believes
 in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into
 judgment, but has passed from death into life." John 5:24

"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the
 world, but that the world through Him might be saved." John 3:17

The Bible says:

"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins
 and to clean us from all unrighteousness." I John 1:9

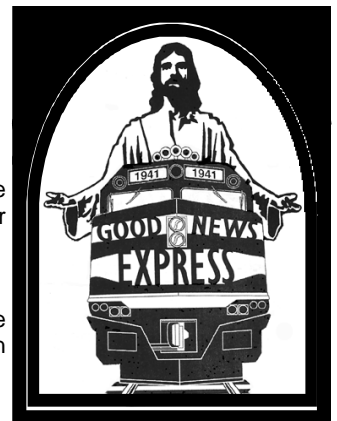
"That if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in
 your heart that God raised Him form the dead, you will be saved."
 Romans 10:9

"God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. He who
 has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does
 not have life." I John 5:11,12

"For the wags of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal Life in
 Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 6:23

Please consider the words of Jesus carefully as your ultimate
 conclusion and decision will have eternal consequences.

*"God be merciful to me a sinner. Jesus come into my life and
 make Yourself real to me, fill me with Your Holy Spirit to help
 me live for You all the days of my life. In Jesus name. Amen."*





CROSS OVER



For a donation of any amount the Cross Over Memorial page is a place where both God and your loved ones will be remembered and will help us to continue publishing the Good News of Jesus Christ to the worldwide railroad community through the Railroad Evangelist magazine. All donations are tax deductible.

"Well done, good and faithful servant . . . enter into the joy of the Lord"

Thelma Rose by her REA family
Lola Blackmen by Ann Grissom
Lola Blackmen by Roy & Jeanie Shelton
Bill Kobayashi by Joe Spooner

*"Weeping may endure for a night,
but joy comes in the morning."*

Psalm 30:5

*Thank you
for your
on going support in
helping to keep the
gospel of Jesus
Christ be published
and proclaimed
through the printed
page.*

I'm Going Home on the Morning Train

A Collection of Railroad & Gospel Songs
Sung by Paul Campbell



"I'm Going Home on the Morning Train" featuring Paul Campbell is a collection of 12 Railroad and Gospel songs recorded in the southern gospel bluegrass style. The CD cover photo of Paul was taken in the mid 1970's while he was working as a Conductor for the Southern Railway.

To order your CD of
"I'm Going Home on the Morning Train"
send \$15.00 (plus \$3.00 for postage and handling) to:

Paul Campbell
603 Aylor Road
Stephen City, VA 22655
(571) 331-2807

E-Mail: campbellrev.paul@yahoo.com

September 2009
Sherman Sanders *
Carl Hanks
William Stuhldreher *
Sara Harkey
Carol Clifton
Mary Clifton
Robert Grove *
James Aiken *
Robert Grove, Jr *
Edward F. Griffith
Don & Doris Robey
Dorothy Steffen
Malaga Chapter
Alexandria Chapter
Paul &
Geneva Campbell
Jane Hessler
Lorraine Creamer
Ann & Bob Grissom

October 2009
Truitt Andress
D.J. Watts
Sara Harkey
Dorothy Steffen
Edward F. Griffith
Malaga Chapter
Alexandria Chapter
Paul &

Geneva Campbell
Jane Hessler
Ronald Batdorf *
Hubert Farrell *
Robert Wecht *
Paul Verlander *
Ann & Bob Grissom
Stephen Seidler
David Barnes *
Lester Hack *
Jane & Grace
Barnes *
Bill & Lynne
Trimborn *

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Sara Harkey
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Jane Hessler
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Malaga Chapter
Alexandria Chapter
Rev. Paul &
Geneva Campbell
William Cagle
David Barnes
Shirley Zurek
Bob Boltz
Gil Stricklin

Karen Swain
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Wilson Jacobs, Jr
Sara Harkey
Joseph Schell
Ray & Renee Grosser
George & Marlene
Sampson
Steve Nutter
Wayne Barkley
Lorraine Creamer

December 2009
Rocky & Jeanne
Agrusti
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Jane Hessler
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Rev. Paul &
Geneva Campbell
Carol Clifton
Mary Clifton
Paul Myhre
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Stephen Seidler
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James *
Shirley Zurek
H.J. Foreback
Richard MacCarsey Jr
Dorothy Steffen
John Stewart *
Richard Kalmbacher
Ann & Bob Grissom
Alma Camp

* Indicates new members




FEBRUARY

is Black History month. We honor our black brothers and sisters who have worked or are currently employed by the railroad industry.

Statue to the left is of John Henry outside the town of Talcott, West Virginia



Rev. Paul Campbell, REA National Chaplin installing the new REA officers for the year 2009-2010. Pray for us as we commit ourselves to do the work God has called each of us to do as faithfully as we can.



Chapter News

Please send your REA news to: (E-mail) rrjoe@comcast.net
 REA PO Box 5026 Vancouver, WA 98668

REA ALEXANDRIA CHAPTER NOVEMBER 2009

With 38 people present Rev. Paul Campbell opened our Thanksgiving meeting with all singing "I Need Thee Every Hour". Then he prayed over the food. We all enjoyed a great Thanksgiving dinner. Bro. Campbell led all in singing "This is my Story". Bro. Wilson Riley spoke, introducing how we are going to try to have more in the chapter. Bro. Campbell shared how the different people are starting home churches in their homes.

There are a number of birthdays and we sang to them. Offering was taken by Fento and Bryon. Don Robey shared about the poem called the "Station". Then Wilson led all in prayer.

Brother Arulraj, our speaker from India and International Railroad Evangelist helped us to move forward with Jesus. He said 2.6% of the people in India are Christian, with freedom to worship. India is one of the largest countries in the world. He said many people in India get Railroad Evangelist magazine and he mentioned the different places that get this publication.

All sang "When we been there ten thousand years". Bro. Campbell closed in prayer at 8:30 pm.

MALAGA, NJ For more information call Marlene Sampson at (609) 561-6922.

SPOKANE, WA

Contact Paul Myhre as he distributes the Railroad Evangelist in the Spokane area. Call (509) 922-4025.

TALLAHASSEE, FL.

The Railroad Evangelist is distributed to the "Golden Railroaders" at their monthly meeting by Sara Harkey. For more information call: (850) 574-3271.

PORTLAND, OR / VANCOUVER, WA

The Railroad Evangelists are distributed around local railroad shops and yards. Call Joe Spooner at: (360) 699-7208.

SYRACUSE, NY

For more information, contact: Mrs. Rosalind Ragonese at: (315) 487-9293.

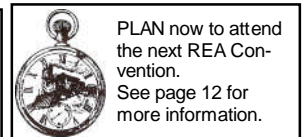
For information on how to begin a
 REA Chapter or a REA Fellowship in your area see our web
 page www.RailroadEvangelist.com or write the Editor.



Two long time REA Saints home with the Lord

Lola J. Blackley passed away on January 6, 2010 at the age of 94, at her home in Raleigh, NC. She and her husband Lonnie, a Seaboard Railroad engineer, had been members of the REA since the early 1950's. The met Herman Rose (former Editor of the RE magazine) in Wilmington, NC where they both had beach homes. They enjoyed the Wilmington REA Chapter and began attending the annual REA conventions. Lonnie passed away in 1982 but Lola continued to attend the conventions with her daughter, Ann Grissom. To honor her father's memory, Ann became a member of the Indianapolis REA Chapter and later its President and the only woman President of the National REA organization. Ann was also the National REA Secretary-Treasurer for 15 years. The highlight of Lola and Lonnie's years was to attend the REA convention. They met many wonderful Christian friends over the years. Lola looked forward to receiving her Railroad Evangelist magazine and was elated that Joe Spooner was the editor now. Lola will be greatly missed by her family.

Thelma Rubush Rose went home to be with the Lord December 8, 2009. She was 103 years of age. She was born April 15, 1906 in Indianapolis to Guy William and Gertrude (Prescott) Rubush. She graduated from Butler College and later played for the Indianapolis Symphony as a violinist. She was a member of Sigma Alpha Iota Sorority, Alpha Delta Pi Chapter at Butler and the Assembly of God church in Spencer. Thelma was married to Herman R. Rose, long time editor of the Railroad Evangelist magazine. Thelma was REAs Bookkeep and Assistant Secretary for many, many years. Thelma and Herman are now together with their Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to whom they faithfully served.



PLAN now to attend
 the next REA Con-
 vention.
 See page 12 for
 more information.

In the photo to the left are
 members of the REA
 Malaga NJ chapter. Left
 to right is Cassie Pollakis,
 Ruth Lounsberry, Mary
 Clifton and Carol Clifton.

In the photo to the
 right are members of
 the Alexandria REA
 chapter, Doris Robey,
 Rev. Paul Campbell
 and Don Robey.



When the unexpected happens



The train & car photo was sent to me from somewhere in cyberspace.

Life happens - one day, one hour, one moment at a time. From the time we get up in the morning we simply do not know what today will bring forth, let alone tomorrow. Most of us get up, go to work, and look forward to the weekend and that day when we can retire and do all the things we had planned.

The essay "The Station" illustrates this very idea. Many are always looking forward to "that day" when things will be better, when in reality we need to enjoy today, as "that day" will come soon enough. It goes on to say that there are two thieves that rob us of the joy of today, and those are the regrets of yesterday and the fears of tomorrow. It reminds us of Psalm 118:24 ***"This is the day the Lord has made; well rejoice and be glad in it."***

In the latter part of December a co-worker of mine by the name of Bill Kobayashi told me that his shoulder had been bothering him. A few days later he went to see his doctor. While diagnosing the shoulder pain, the doctor discovered that Bill had advanced liver cancer. Bill was told that he had 8 to 12 days to live, and I never saw Bill again.

Bill and I were the same age. At work his locker was about five down from mine, and we had worked together in the same department for three years. We were friends.



Bill Kobayashi
1946-2009

At Bill's memorial service all the testimonies from his family and co-workers were the same: Bill was a warm, genuine, kindhearted, generous, hard working individual with a unique sense of humor who got along with everyone.

The "highpoint" in the memorial service for me was when our supervisor spoke and shared how he had the opportunity during one of his visits with Bill to pray with him. Bill prayed to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as his Savior.

It brings my heart great joy and peace in knowing that Bill is at his eternal home with his Savior enjoying all the blessings of Heaven, now and forever.

The death of a loved one or a friend brings into sharp focus the certainty of our own mortality. The unexpected can happen to any of us at anytime. When it does, let our hearts be right with God, for the scripture is clear: ***"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."*** (Romans 6:23)

This editorial is dedicated to the memory of my friend and co-worker Bill Kobayashi.

- Joe Spooner

Publication Guidelines for the Railroad Evangelist magazine

We are always looking for original railroad related photos, drawings or paintings. We also are looking for stories, articles, personal testimonies (300 - 800 words) or poems that would be of interest to our readers of the **Railroad Evangelist** magazine. Currently the **Railroad Evangelist** magazine is published three times a year. Typed material is appreciated. Material sent in will be returned upon request. For further information or questions contact the editor.



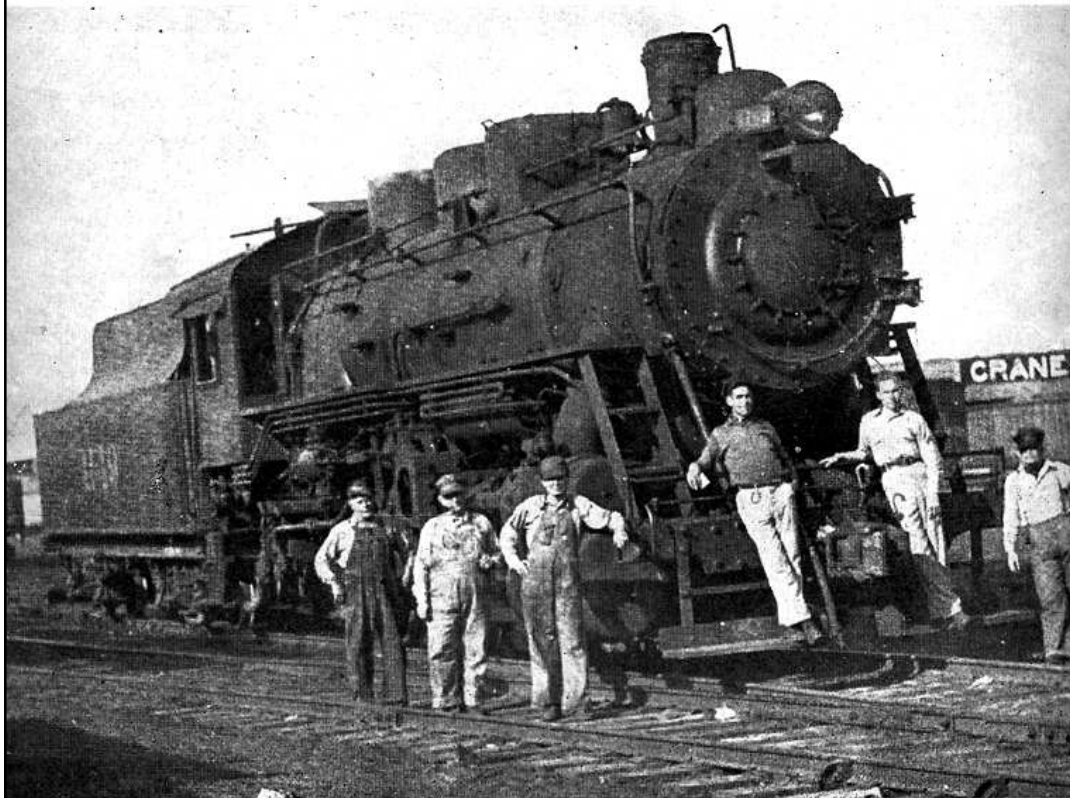
Two Safest Ways to Travel, The Bible Way and the Railroad Way

VOL. 25, NO. 1

INTERDENOMINATIONAL and NON-PARTISAN

DECEMBER, 1963

NON-PROFIT
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U.S. POSTAGE
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Vancouver, WA
PERMIT No. 46



OLD SEABOARD AIRLINE RAILROAD ENGINE AND CREW

Ben Yates, 702 W. Idlewild, Tampa, Florida is conductor seen on extreme right in picture. Some who make the most money out of "Christmas Holiday" are trying to outlaw from our schools the teaching of our Lord Jesus Christ. Blinded souls, do they not know if God had not loved us so much Jesus would not have been born and we would not have had a "Christmas Holiday."

Railroad Evangelistic Association
PO Box 5026
Vancouver, WA 98668

Address Services Requested

Local Contact:

"LOOKING BACK". The Railroad Evangelist cover from December 1963 depicting the Seaboard Airline Railroad engine and crew. REA's Ben Yates pictured on the extreme right of the engine is the Conductor. Ben was also on the Advisory Board of REA at this time as well. When this 1963 issue was printed your current editor was a junior in High School. We just never know what God has planned for our lives as I would have never dreamed at that time what I would be doing some 57 years later. The REA is important to God, just as you are important to God. He has a plan and purpose for each individual who is reading this. God knew you and the plans He has for you even before you were born, (boggles the mind, doesn't it). God loves you with an everlasting love. Do you know the plans He has for your life? Give your life to Him and He will show you, lead you and teach you in the way you should go, (Psalms 25:4&5). It just doesn't get any better than that.