

CONVERSATIONS 2026

The annual conference of the Center for Railroad Photography & Art
April 24-26, 2026, at Noblesville and Indianapolis, Indiana



CRP&A | CENTER FOR RAILROAD
PHOTOGRAPHY & ART

Schedule

Friday

Nickel Plate Express, Noblesville, Indiana

4:00 P.M. Train departs, appetizers and beverages served on board
6:15 P.M. Train returns, dinner on your own

Saturday

Indiana Historical Society, Indianapolis, Indiana

Frank and Katrina Basile Theater of the Indiana History Center

8:00 A.M. Doors open, pastries and drinks available, *Lilly Hall*
9:00 A.M. Welcome and opening remarks
9:15 A.M. Bill Stewart, *Places to Go, People to See: Railroading and the Evolution of Indianapolis*
9:45 A.M. Zach Halama, scholarship recipient: *Chasing the Dream*
10:05 A.M. Micah Mocnik, scholarship recipient: *My Photographic Story*
10:30 A.M. Break
11:00 A.M. Jeff Brouws, *But the Tracks Were Always There... Fifty Years of Photography and Railroads*
11:45 A.M. John Hankey, *Silent Monoliths: The Coaling Tower Project*
12:15 P.M. Lunch, *Lilly Hall*
1:15 P.M. Attendee show
1:30 P.M. Bon French, Scott Lothes, and Al Louer: *Updates from the CRP&A*
2:00 P.M. Jordan Craig, Adrienne Evans, and Natalie Krecek, *CRP&A Collection Updates*
2:45 P.M. Break
3:15 P.M. Robert West, *Passion: The Railroad Art of Robert West*
4:00 P.M. Darryl Bond, *Five Passes: Better Living through Rail Photography*
4:45 P.M. Concluding remarks

5:00 P.M. Reception with appetizers and drinks, *café and terrace*
7:00 P.M. Dinner, *Lilly Hall (separate ticket required)*

Sunday

Frank and Katrina Basile Theater of the Indiana History Center

8:00 A.M. Doors open, breakfast buffet and drinks available, *Lilly Hall*
9:00 A.M. David P. Oroszi, *Dave Oroszi's Photo Collections*
9:45 A.M. Jennifer Al-Beik, *Making My Track*
10:30 A.M. Break (raffle drawing)
11:00 A.M. David R. Busse, *Let Me Tell You a Story*
11:45 A.M. Jeff Mast, *Working with Difficult or Lacking Lighting*
12:30 P.M. Conclusion

List of all-time conference presenters



For a sortable list of all the presenters at every prior Conversations conference (dating back to 2003 and including regional and virtual editions), scan the QR code at left or go to: railphoto-art.org/conferences/#presenters

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Conference patrons

John Atherton, Thomas R. Brown, Chris Burger, Lyn Corder, Dan Cupper, Dana Davis, Dick Dorn, Betsy Fahlman and Daniel Ball, David Foote, Bon French, Richard Garabedian, Ron Goldfeder, Jean Gross, Todd Halamka, Wayne Hansen, Oren Helbok, Nona Hill and Clark Johnson, Sharon Hill, Drake Hokanson, John Kirchner, Hank and Louise Koshollek, Dennis Livesey, Al Louer, Brian Matsumoto, Tim McMahon, Peter Mosse, Eric Powell, Karl Sakas, Chip and Leslie Savoye, Michael Schmidt, Thomas Szczesniak, Rich Tower, and Robin White.

Patrons make additional gifts to support the conference and to help us offer scholarships for young photographers and artists to attend. We have two scholarship recipients this year; read more about them on the following pages.

Conference sponsors

The CRP&A extends our gratitude to the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society for their sponsorship of our Conversations conferences. Learn more at their table and at: rlhs.org

We also thank *Railfan & Railroad*, railfan.com, for their assistance with promotions and partnership on our annual awards program.

And we thank Tom Hoback for his great assistance as a liaison with the Indiana Historical Society in opening the door to use their beautiful space for this year's conference.

Front cover

Railroaders exchange waves as Southern Pacific's Lone Pine Local leaves Mojave, California, circa 1987. Photograph by Jeff Brouws

Rear cover

KiwiRail's *TranzAlpine* passenger train crosses the Staircase Viaduct east of Arthur's Pass on New Zealand's South Island on March 22, 2014. Photograph by Darryl Bond

Presenters



Jennifer AL-BEIK, North Grafton, Massachusetts

Making My Track, Sunday, 9:45 A.M.

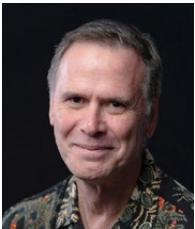
Jennifer Al-Beik has been an artist for nearly all her life and a railfan and railroad photographer for the past seven years. She is a doctor of veterinary medicine who specializes in surgical and medical research; trains and photography have become her creative outlet. She also volunteers at the Saratoga Corinth & Hudson Railway in Corinth, New York. Her photography interests extend beyond railroads to include airplanes, animals, nature, and her ten-year-old son's soccer games.



Darryl BOND, South Hill, New Zealand

Five Passes: Better Living Through Rail Photography, Saturday, 4:00 P.M.

Born in New Zealand, Darryl Bond spent most of his career working for an American software company, spending twenty years in Australia, the United States, and Europe before returning home ten years ago. Since starting a New Zealand railway magazine in 2020 as a pandemic lockdown project, he has made zero progress on restoring his 1955 six-axle diesel-electric locomotive. He has been attempting to take pictures of trains since he was eleven, with mixed results.



Jeff BROUWS, Stanfordville, New York

But the Tracks Were Always There...Fifty Years of Photography and Railroads, Saturday, 11:00 A.M.

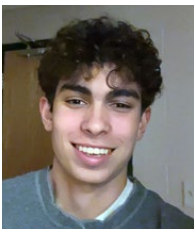
Jeff Brouws was born in San Francisco in 1955 and has pursued photography since age thirteen. He has compiled a visual survey of not only America's railroads but our country's cultural landscape. His photographs can be found in numerous permanent collections, and his seven books include monographs on the works of Richard Steinheimer and Jim Shaughnessy. His latest effort is *Silent Monoliths: The Coaling Tower Project*, which was just published by the MIT Press. He lives with his wife, Wendy Burton, along with two cats and one dog. *Portrait by Cara Howe*



David R. BUSSE, Columbia Falls, Montana

Let Me Tell You a Story, Sunday, 11:00 A.M.

David R. Busse grew up in suburban St. Louis fascinated by railroads. He earned his first photographic credit in *Trains* magazine as a high school senior and has contributed to many railroad publications and video programs over the years. Professionally, he spent four decades in local and network broadcast journalism covering everything from Olympics and politics to natural disasters, war, civil unrest, and big court cases. He lives in Northwest Montana and maintains a winter home in Southern California.



Zach HALAMA, Riverside, California

Chasing the Dream, Saturday, 9:45 A.M.

One of two scholarship recipients at Conversations 2026, Zach Halama is a railroad cinematographer from Riverside, California, and he is currently enrolled in Penn State Altoona's railroad transportation engineering program. He has been fascinated with railroad stories for his entire life, and by age twelve, he began wondering what would happen if railroad photographs could be brought to life. That led him to begin making railroad-themed films and to launch his YouTube channel, Modern Line Studios, during his junior year of high school.



John HANKEY, South Thomaston, Maine

Silent Monoliths: The Coaling Tower Project, Saturday, 11:45 A.M.

John Hankey is a historian and curator whose work has focused on American railroading. He has been active in the fields of history and preservation for more than fifty years and served stints as a locomotive engineer on the B&O Railroad and curator of the B&O Railroad Museum. He wrote the introduction to Jeff Brouws' new book, *Silent Monoliths*, and will follow Jeff's presentation with a look at the history of coaling towers, particularly as architectural forms. He lives on a small island off the coast of Maine.

Jeff MAST, Canton, Michigan

Working with Difficult or Lacking Lighting, Sunday, 11:45 A.M.

Jeff Mast last presented at Conversations in 2015. He was born in Detroit, grew up in suburban Royal Oak, and has been actively photographing for nearly fifty-five years. He has retired twice: from municipal engineering in 2012 and from an engineering consulting firm in 2024. He has written numerous articles, and his images have won numerous awards and populate many books. His favorite subjects are steam locomotives, Great Lakes freighters, and lighthouses. He and his wife Cathy have two children, Jacqueline and Grant.



Micah MOCNIK, Athens, West Virginia

My Photographic Story, Saturday, 10:05 A.M.

Micah Mocnik is a conference scholarship recipient and a sophomore double-majoring in English and history at Concord University in Athens, West Virginia. Growing up along CSX’s former Chesapeake & Ohio territory in the complex terrain of southern West Virginia led him to favor documentary railroad photography that prioritizes clarity, honesty, and place over drama. He is also a writer, working primarily in creative nonfiction and technical writing, which strongly informs how he thinks about photography as documentation rather than spectacle.



David P. OROSZI, Dayton, Ohio

Dave Oroszi’s Photo Collections, Sunday, 9:00 A.M.

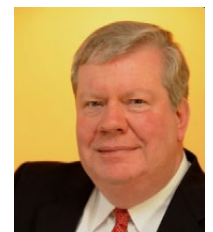
David P. Oroszi was born in 1948 in Dayton, Ohio, where he was raised and still resides. He has always liked trains and became serious about taking photographs of them in college. That’s also where he met his future wife, Jill, while playing in a rock band; they have been married since 1972. He has co-authored more than fourteen books about railroads and co-edited *CTC Board: Railroads Illustrated*. He has been running the Summerail multimedia show since 1996 and has co-chaired the Rail Festival at Carillon Park in Dayton since 2005.



William Benning STEWART, Greenwood, Indiana

Places to Go, People to See: Railroading and the Evolution of Indianapolis, Saturday, 9:15 A.M.

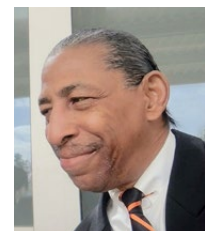
Bill Stewart is an Indianapolis native and grandson of William Frederick Benning, an official with the Big Four / New York Central. Stewart has been associated with railroad preservation and publishing projects since age fourteen. He earned degrees from Indiana University and Ball State University and served with the United States Air Force as a broadcast journalist. Now retired, he was formerly senior manager—executive communications at the Chrysler Corporation and curator of the company’s corporate museum.



Robert WEST, College Park, Georgia

Passion: The Railroad Art of Robert West, Saturday, 3:15 P.M.

Born in Great Falls, Montana, Robert West is a full-time railroad artist who has dedicated forty-seven years to painting vivid, highly detailed portraits of North American railroading. As a direct descendant of Pullman porters and gandy dancers, he brings a deep understanding of railroading and the hardworking individuals who built its legacy. He shares these stories through his art and lectures, traveling extensively across the United States. In addition to painting, he is currently working on several books.



Additional presentations from the CRP&A

Updates from the CRP&A, Saturday, 1:30 P.M.

CRP&A Collection Updates, Saturday, 2:00 P.M.

Additional presenters on Saturday include several members of the Center for Railroad Photography & Art’s board of directors and staff. Bon French, Scott Lothes, and Al Louer will share updates about CRP&A activities and finances, followed by collection updates from staff members Jordan Craig, Adrienne Evans, and Natalie Krecke. Read about them on p. 16-17.

See p. 16-17
for photos
and bios

Images from presentations



Above: *The American Dream, 1957*, by Robert West

Opposite, above: CSX 911, a locomotive commemorating first responders, leads mixed freight train Q346 along the Quoboag River at West Warren, Massachusetts, on March 3, 2022. The 1890 dam provided waterpower to the Wrights Mill complex at right, a knitting mill that produced cloth and industrial material. Photograph by Jennifer Al-Beik

Opposite, below: Jacki Bachrach, chair of the Metrolink board of directors, smashes a bottle of champagne over the commuter railroad's first F59PH locomotive at Los Angeles Union Passenger Terminal in 1992 to commemorate the beginning of Southern California's heavy rail commuter operation. Photograph by David R. Busse





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Opposite, above: Two R.J. Corman SD70M-2s lead an empty coal train over Dunloup Creek near Harvey, West Virginia, on January 9, 2026. CSX delivered the empty hoppers to Thurmond, and the Corman train is taking them to a mine at Pax. This track was once the main stem for a web of Chesapeake & Ohio coal branches. Photograph by scholarship recipient Micah Mocnik

Opposite, below: Scholarship recipient Zach Halama runs an active YouTube Channel called Modern Line Studios; view his railroad videos there at: youtube.com/@ModernLstudios

Above: Vermont Railway RS3 diesel locomotives 602 and 601 haul a freight train with piggyback trailers north across the Brooksville Trestle over the New Haven River in Brooksville, Vermont, north of Middlebury, on August 9, 1971, as a Frisbee game takes place in the river. This Jim Shaughnessy photograph is part of the CRP&A's Collections Updates presentation. Natalie Krecek will share more of Jim's color work, with additional updates about other collections initiatives from Jordan Craig and Adrienne Evans. Shaughnessy-S-TEMP-004-01-09

Right: Detroit, Toledo & Ironton Railroad steam locomotive 801, a 2-8-2 built by the Lima Locomotive Works in 1940, leads a freight train south at St. Paris, Ohio, on July 5, 1951. Photograph by R.D. Acton Sr., collection of David P. Oroszi

Below: Steelwork was still being placed for the new Indianapolis Union Station trainshed when more than 300 members of the Murat Temple Nobles of the Mystic Shrine boarded a special train for the 1920 Imperial Council in Portland, Oregon. Monon Class K-4 Pacific 430, built by Alco in 1911, had been well-polished for its starring role at the head of the train. The unattributed photograph is from Bill Stewart's presentation and is part of the collection of panoramic photographs at the Indiana Historical Society. Item ID: PAN_P0062_P_10X30_PAN0806

Opposite: Steam envelops former Chesapeake & Ohio locomotive 1309 on the Western Maryland Scenic Railroad at Cumberland, Maryland, on February 27, 2022. Photograph by Jeff Mast





Print raffles and book sales

TWO MATTED AND FRAMED archival pigment prints are available in this year's raffle, one from Jeff Brouws and another from the CRP&A's Kalmbach Art Collection. Drawings will take place at the end of the morning break on Sunday. Please note that you must be present to win, and any shipping needs are the responsibility of the winners.

Raffle tickets

Prices for each raffle are \$10 for one ticket, \$25 for three, or \$40 for five. You may purchase tickets from our staff anytime on Saturday or Sunday before the drawings.

Book sales

Books will be available at our sales table on Saturday and Sunday while supplies last. We can accept cash, check, and credit card payments. Most of these books, along with several others, are available to order on our website: www.railphoto-art.org/books

Books published by the Center

Burlington's Spectacular Steam Program, essays by Norm Carlson and Justin Franz and photographs by John Gruber, 2024, **\$30**

The Kalmbach Art Collection: Pairing Words and Imagery, with an essay by Kevin P. Keefe and additional text by Adrienne Evans, Lisa Hardy, James R. Kieselburg, and Scott Lothes; 2025, **\$30**

The Railroad Photography of J. Parker Lamb, with essays by Fred W. Frailey and Kevin P. Keefe, 2019, **\$60**

Rio Grande Steam Finale: Narrow gauge railroad photography in Colorado and New Mexico, edited by Scott Lothes and Elrond Lawrence with essays by Don L. Hofsommer and Karl Zimmermann, 2023, **\$60**

Significant Images of Railroading, 2014, **\$20**
\$10 special price with any other book purchase

Books from other publishers

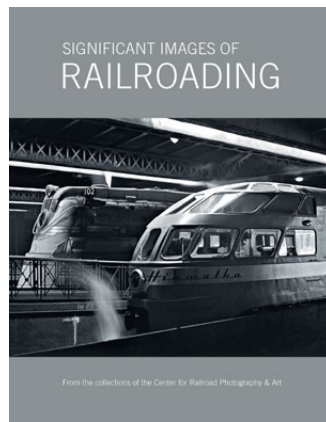
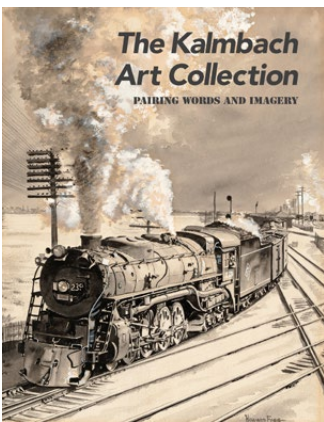
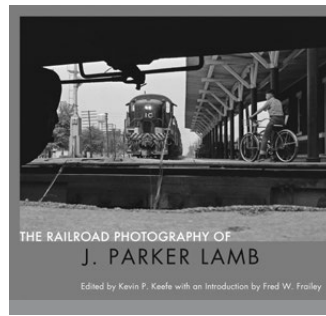
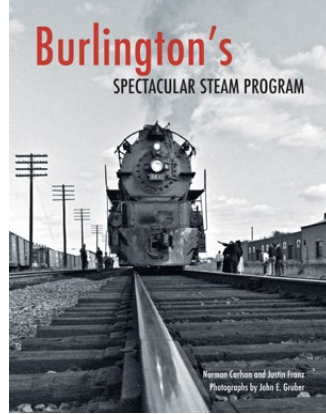
Silent Monoliths: The Coaling Tower Project, with photographs by Jeff Brouws, a foreword by Marcella Hackbardt, and an introduction by John P. Hankey, MIT Press, 2026, **\$40**



Top: Former Chicago & North Western coaling tower at Nelson, Illinois, in 2015. Photograph and 11x11-inch archival print by Jeff Brouws

Above: *Roaring through Rondout* by Gil Reid shows Milwaukee Road's *Hiawatha* passing under the Chicago North Shore & Milwaukee at Rondout, Illinois. 11x15-inch archival pigment print by the CRP&A

Save the date for Conversations Colorado



REGIONAL CONFERENCES RETURN with Conversations Colorado on August 22, 2026, at the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden. Save the date and plan to join us there.

Activities will begin with a special reception on the evening of Friday, August 21, for members of both organizations. Jasmine Robertson and Paul Hammond from the museum's staff will share their *traqueros* exhibition, and the Center's Scott Lothes will present photographs from the Ted Rose Collection featuring Mexican railroads and railroaders.

Saturday will feature a full day of Colorado-themed presentations about railroad photography and art. Attendees will also have full access to the museum throughout the day, including hourly train rides behind one of its diesel locomotives. Look for details in May at: www.railphoto-art.org/conferences

Above: The Denver & Rio Grande Western's Rio Grande Zephyr rolls west between Rollinsville and Tolland, Colorado, in April 1979. Lead locomotive 5771 now resides at the Colorado Railroad Museum. Bill Botkin will share his photography of the train in one of the presentations at Golden. Photograph by Bill Botkin, Botkinw-008-WT-00568

Books for sale at Conversations 2026:

Silent Monoliths: The Coaling Tower Project, \$40
Burlington's Spectacular Steam Program, \$30

Rio Grande Steam Finale, \$60
The Railroad Photography of J. Parker Lamb, \$60

The Kalmbach Art Collection: Pairing Words and Imagery, \$30
Significant Images of Railroading, \$20
(or \$10 with any other purchase)

List of attendees

Rick Ahern Hockessin, DE blades1953@comcast.net	Darryl Bond South Hill, New Zealand db@kiwibonds.com	Jordan Craig Madison, WI jordan@railphoto-art.org	Betsy Fahlman Tempe, AZ fahlman@asu.edu	Jean Gross Centennial, CO wcproductions@aol.com	Don Hofsommer Cedar Rapids, IA klhofsommer@hotmail.com
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Scott Lothes Madison, WI scott@railphoto-art.org	Grant Mitchell Westfield, IN ggrantmitch@sbcglobal.net		Darrell Sherrod Kokomo, IN atsf616@netscape.net		

Directors, officers, and staff



Ronald L. Batory, Santa Fe, New Mexico, retired as the fourteenth administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration. His prior career spanned forty-five years in the rail industry, including as president of both The Belt Railway Company of Chicago and Conrail.



Betsy Fahlman, Tempe, Arizona, is a professor of art history at Arizona State University. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Delaware and specializes in American Art, and she has interests in public art, American modernism, the New Deal, and industrial archeology.



Eric Baumgartner, Redding, Connecticut, is the Senior Vice President of Hirschl & Adler Galleries in New York City, having joined the firm in 1993. He holds a B.A. degree with honors in the history of art from Dickinson College, and he is also an avid rail enthusiast and photographer.



Justin Franz, Columbia Falls, Montana, has a degree from the University of Montana's School of Journalism and is the associate editor of *Railfan & Railroad* magazine. His work has appeared in numerous publications, including the *Washington Post*, *New York Times*, and *Atlas Obscura*.



Jeff Brouws, Stanfordville, New York, brings the Center knowledge of nineteenth and twentieth century photography and a broad background in publishing, with seven photography books to his credit. His photographs can be found in numerous public and private collections.



T. Bondurant French (chair), Glen Ellyn, Illinois, is chairman of Adams Street Partners, one of the largest and oldest managers of private equity investment in the world. A lifelong rail enthusiast, Bon has photographed more than 700 different railroads in the U.S. and Canada.



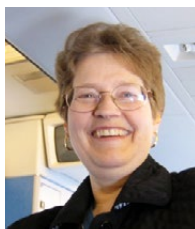
Norman Carlson, Lake Forest, Illinois, spent thirty-four years with Arthur Anderson where he led the transportation industry practice for eleven years. He is president of the Shore Line Interurban Historical Society and managing editor of its quarterly publication, *First & Fastest*.



Todd Halamka, Western Springs, Illinois, is a practicing architect and founder of Todd Halamka + Partners in downtown Chicago. His focus on railroad photography began in 2011, combining his lifelong love of trains and the outdoors with his fascination for image-making.



Jordan Craig (digital archives manager), Madison, Wisconsin, has spent a decade managing multimedia collections and metadata. She holds a bachelors degree in history and a masters degree in library and information studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Nona Hill (treasurer), Madison, Wisconsin, is a lifelong rail enthusiast and advocate. She and Clark Johnson, her husband, managed High Iron Travel, operator of the *Caritas*, the most widely traveled private car in America. She helps lead multiple passenger rail advocacy groups in Wisconsin.



Adrienne Evans (director of archives and collections), Madison, Wisconsin, received a master's degree from UW-Madison's School of Library Information Studies in 2014. She worked at History Colorado for two years before coming to the Center in 2017.



David Kahler (vice-chair), Pittsboro, North Carolina, practiced architecture for more than thirty years and has been recognized as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. He is active as a consultant and advisor, and he authored *The Railroad and the Art of Place*.



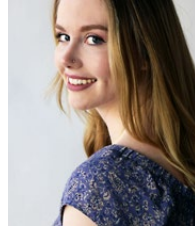
Kevin P. Keefe, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is the retired vice-president-editorial for Kalmbach Publishing Co. He served as editor of *Trains* from 1992 to 2000. As a student at Michigan State, he worked on Pere Marquette steam locomotive 1225 and later authored a book about it.



Michael P. Schmidt (secretary), Owosso, Michigan, is an orthopedic surgeon and a collector of railroad photographs and paintings. He is vice chief of staff, chief of surgery, and serves on the board of trustees of his hospital. He grew up in Los Angeles where he biked to LAUPT.



Natalie Krecek (processing archivist), Madison, Wisconsin, joined the Center in 2018. She received a B.A. degree in anthropology from North Central College in Naperville, Illinois, in 2017. Her past work experience includes an internship at Chicago's Field Museum.



Shelby Shull (program manager), Madison, Wisconsin, joined the Center in April 2025 as administrative assistant and took on her current role in February 2026. She holds bachelor degrees in music and English with a writing concentration from Edgewood College, in Madison, Wisconsin.



Arik Kriha (administrative assistant), Madison, Wisconsin, joined the Center's team in April 2026. He has a master's degree from UW-Madison's School of Library and Information Studies and spent a decade with the Wisconsin Historical Society in a variety of archiving roles.



Heather Sonntag (associate archivist), Madison, Wisconsin, joined the Center in 2020 and is now processing the Steinheimer Collection of color slides. Originally from New Mexico, she holds a Ph.D. in cultural history and a Master's in Library and Information Studies from UW-Madison.



Elrond Lawrence (acquisitions and marketing manager), Salinas, California, joined the Center in 2021. He grew up in Southern California and is a widely published author, photographer, and publicity veteran. His book *Route 66 Railway* follows the Santa Fe/BNSF and the "Mother Road."



Gil Taylor (reference and processing archivist), Madison, Wisconsin, joined the Center in 2021 and handles image requests and collection processing. He holds a bachelor of arts from Bates College in Maine and a Master's in Library and Information Studies from UW-Madison.



Scott Lothes (president and executive director), Madison, Wisconsin, began working for the Center in 2008. He grew up around trains in West Virginia, and he is an avid traveler as well as a widely published author and photographer. He also edits the Center's journal, *Railroad Heritage*.



Richard Tower, San Francisco, California, has spent much of his career in the railroad industry with Southern Pacific and Amtrak, and as a consultant. Along with his wife Caroline, he manages the Candelaria Fund, which supports many community and nonprofit organizations.



Albert O. Louer, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, retired as the director of principal gifts at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. He worked in museums for fifty years, and he has research and collecting interests in the Pullman Company and Midwestern railroads.



Inga Velten (director of development and operations), Madison, Wisconsin, joined the Center in 2017 and has more than twenty years of experience in nonprofit fundraising and administration, with expertise in data management, prospect research, and major giving.



Peter Mosse, New York, New York, grew up in England and moved to the U.S. in 1977 to set up a precious metals trading subsidiary for the UK Rothschild banking group. He began collecting railroad paintings in 1980 and now owns more than 200 original works.



Davidson Ward, Duluth, Minnesota, is president of FMW Solutions, LLC, a railroad consulting firm he founded in 2016 that now employs more than twenty industry professionals. He holds a B.S. degree in architecture from the University of Minnesota.

About the Center for Railroad Photography & Art

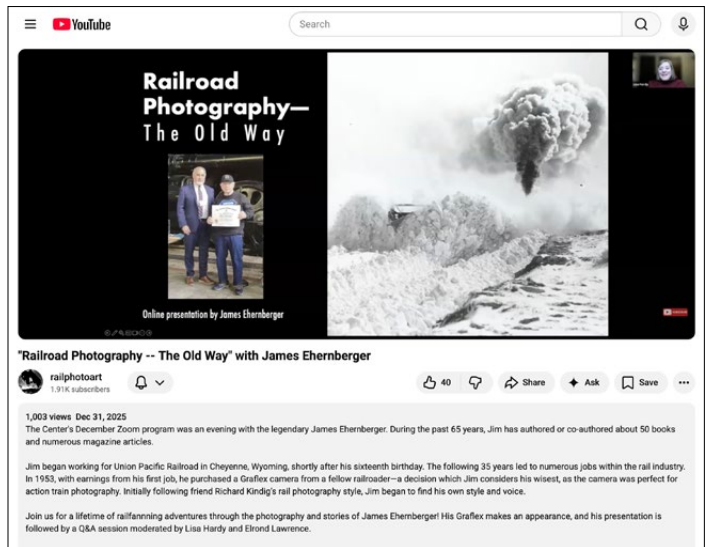
THE CENTER FOR RAILROAD Photography & Art preserves and presents the visual heritage of railroading. Founded in 1997 and based in Madison, Wisconsin, we are a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that focuses on collecting, digitizing, and making historic and artistic imagery accessible to the public.

We safeguard an archive of more than 600,000 photographs as well as several hundred paintings, drawings, and other items. Current commitments will push the number of photographs above 1,000,000 in the coming years. Our professional archivists digitize these historic records, ensuring access through a searchable online database (railphoto.historyit.com) and by assisting individuals with research requests. Each new acquisition is approached with care, in order to ensure that the materials added to the archive receive the professional attention and long-term stewardship they deserve, in balance with physical capacity and staffing resources.

Our exhibitions, made possible in partnership with museums and other venues, bring railroad history to life. Our traveling shows have reached communities across the United States at institutions including the Chicago History Museum, the Grohmann Museum, the Brigham Young University Museum of Art, as well as many regional railroad museums, libraries, and non-traditional venues. Recent projects, including *After Promontory: 150 Years of Transcontinental Railroading* and *The Kalmbach Collection: Pairing Words and Imagery*, demonstrate our commitment to sharing the legacy of railroading through engaging, accessible storytelling, featuring images from our archival collections.

We foster a global community of enthusiasts and artists through regular outreach and an active social media presence (follow @railphotoart on most of the major platforms). Our quarterly journal, *Railroad Heritage*[®], and thematic books provide a bridge between the archive and the public, reinterpreting collections for contemporary audiences. We host the annual Conversations conference, regional gatherings, and free monthly online presentations (recorded and available at youtube.com/railphotoart) to keep our community connected. The John E. Gruber Creative Photography Awards program honors excellence and pushes the boundaries of railroad photography.

Your membership is the engine that drives these initiatives. Our community of more than 1,300 members provides nearly seventy percent of our annual funding. Join us in preserving the visual legacy of the rails at: railphoto-art.org



Top: The Center for Railroad Photography & Art's Conversations 2025 conference began with the opening of *The Kalmbach Art Collection* at the Grohmann Museum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. A traveling version of the exhibition will debut at the Colorado Railroad Museum in Golden later this year. Photograph by Elrond Lawrence

Above: The Center hosts monthly online presentations like "Railroad Photography--The Old Way" by James Ehernberger, delivered live via Zoom and available for later viewing at youtube.com/railphotoart; follow @railphotoart on social media for news and updates.

Do you have orders for us?

Support a sustainable future by joining our Legacy Society

THE CREATIVE IMAGERY that captures the railroad landscape has the power to ignite imaginations around the world and across generations. At the CRP&A we believe these stories should live on forever. Your passion can be a part of that enduring legacy.

Named for the historic train orders that kept the railroads moving, the Form 19 Legacy Society is a community of supporters dedicated to the future of railroad photography and art. Since 2019, forty-four members have thoughtfully included the Center in their long-term plans, at no cost to them during their lifetimes. These visionary gifts help build the Center for Railroad Photography & Art Endowment, providing a solid financial foundation to preserve, present, and celebrate railroad photography for generations to come.

Create Your Legacy

Your commitment ensures that the photographs and artwork you love today will continue to inspire others long into the future. To learn more about how a future gift can sustain the Center's mission beyond your lifetime, please reach out for a confidential conversation: Inga Velten, director of development and operations, inga@railphoto-art.org, 608-251-5785, ext. 2.



The operator at Martinsburg, West Virginia, holds up orders for the crew of Amtrak's *Capitol Limited* on September 3, 1982. Photograph by Karl Zimmermann, Zimmermann-08-168-08

FORM 19	CENTER FOR RAILROAD PHOTOGRAPHY & ART <i>To preserve and present significant images of railroading</i>	FORM 19
Legacy Society Commitment No. _____		
Dated: _____, 20____		
To: CHAIRPERSON AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	At: MADISON, WISCONSIN	
Printed Name: _____ Signature: _____		
IN ACCORDANCE WITH MY WISHES TO HONOR THE PROFOUND IMPACT OF RAILROADING THROUGH ITS RICH VISUAL CULTURE AS PART OF MY LASTING LEGACY, I INTEND TO DESIGNATE THE CENTER FOR RAILROAD PHOTOGRAPHY & ART ENDOWMENT (EIN 47-7373395) AS A BENEFICIARY OF MY ESTATE.		
Both the issuer and the recipient shall keep a copy of this commitment		
Title	Signature	Date
Chairperson		
Executive Director		

Sample bequest language

I commit _____% and/or \$_____ of my estate to the Center for Railroad Photography & Art Endowment (EIN 47-7373395), 1930 Monroe Street, Suite 301, Madison, Wisconsin, 53711, to provide funding for _____ at the Center for Railroad Photography & Art or the program(s) most in need as determined by the administration of the Center and its board of directors, and by the trustees of the Center's endowment fund.



CRP&A | CENTER FOR RAILROAD
PHOTOGRAPHY & ART

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