
CONVERSATIONS 2015

April 10–12, 2015, on the campus of co-host Lake Forest College

The Center for Railroad Photography & Art's thirteenth annual conference



Center for Railroad Photography & Art

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www.railphoto-art.org / www.railroadheritage.org

New Book from the Center

SIGNIFICANT IMAGES OF RAILROADING



From the collections of the Center for Railroad Photography & Art

Significant Images of Railroading is a new book from the Center, showcasing its photography holdings. Those include the collection of Wallace W. Abbey, whose circa 1950 view portraying two Milwaukee Road *Hiawatha* passenger trains in Chicago Union Station adorns the cover. The 8½ in. x 11 in., 78-page, softcover publication will be available for sale at the Saturday reception in the Glen Rowan House for \$20.

Debuting at Conversations 2015 is a new publication from the Center, *Significant Images of Railroading*. Edited by executive director Scott Lothes, the 8½ in. x 11 in., 78-page, softcover book presents, for the first time, a summary of the Center's holdings, which have grown to number close to 200,000 photographs. They come from ten major sources, and a biographical sketch at the beginning of each section gives an overview of each photographer. The sketches follow in the spirit of the exceptionally well-received sketches created for our *Railroaders* catalog and exhibition at the Chicago History Museum.

Significant Images reflects ongoing developments in the Center's programs and growth. Foremost the contents demonstrate the value of proper archival organization of the photographs in our collections. Part of that work occurs at our headquarters in Madison and is spearheaded by our now resident archivist, Jordan Radke. Volunteers including Aviva Gellman, Nona Hill, Jeff Mast, Mike Valentine, and especially John Kelly also deserve no small measure of thanks. Our archival partner, Lake Forest College, houses and processes collections in the Archives & Special Collections of its Donnelley and Lee Library. Be sure to meet their archivist, Anne Thomason, and our two graduate interns, Jim Cascino and Andy Meyer, at this year's conference.

We are proud of the way *Significant Images* looks—in great measure due to Phil Hamilton, our longtime graphics advisor and friend. Its snappy cover, careful use of spot varnishing of photographs, and amazing quadtone reproductions have come about through experience gained over the nearly twenty years of the Center's existence. Design credit is also due to board member Jeff Brouws, whose expertise led to several small but significant changes.

Finally, we thank the donors whose gifts made this publication possible: Fred and Dale Springer, the *Trains* magazine preservation award, the Candelaria Fund, and Bon and Holly French. Their generosity made this possible—the first volume in what we hope will be a series showcasing the Center's increasingly important collections of railroad photography and art.

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Conference Patrons

Jeff Brouws, Norman Carlson, Charlie Castner, Bon French, Todd Halamka, Nona Hill and Clark Johnson, David Kahler, Hank Koshollek, J. Parker Lamb, Al Louer, Jeff Mast, Brian Matsumoto, David Mattoon, John Mellowes, Peter Mosse, Ron Perisho, Don Phillips, David Plowden, Ken Rehor, Michael P. Schmidt, Thomas Szczesniak, Richard Tower, Anonymous

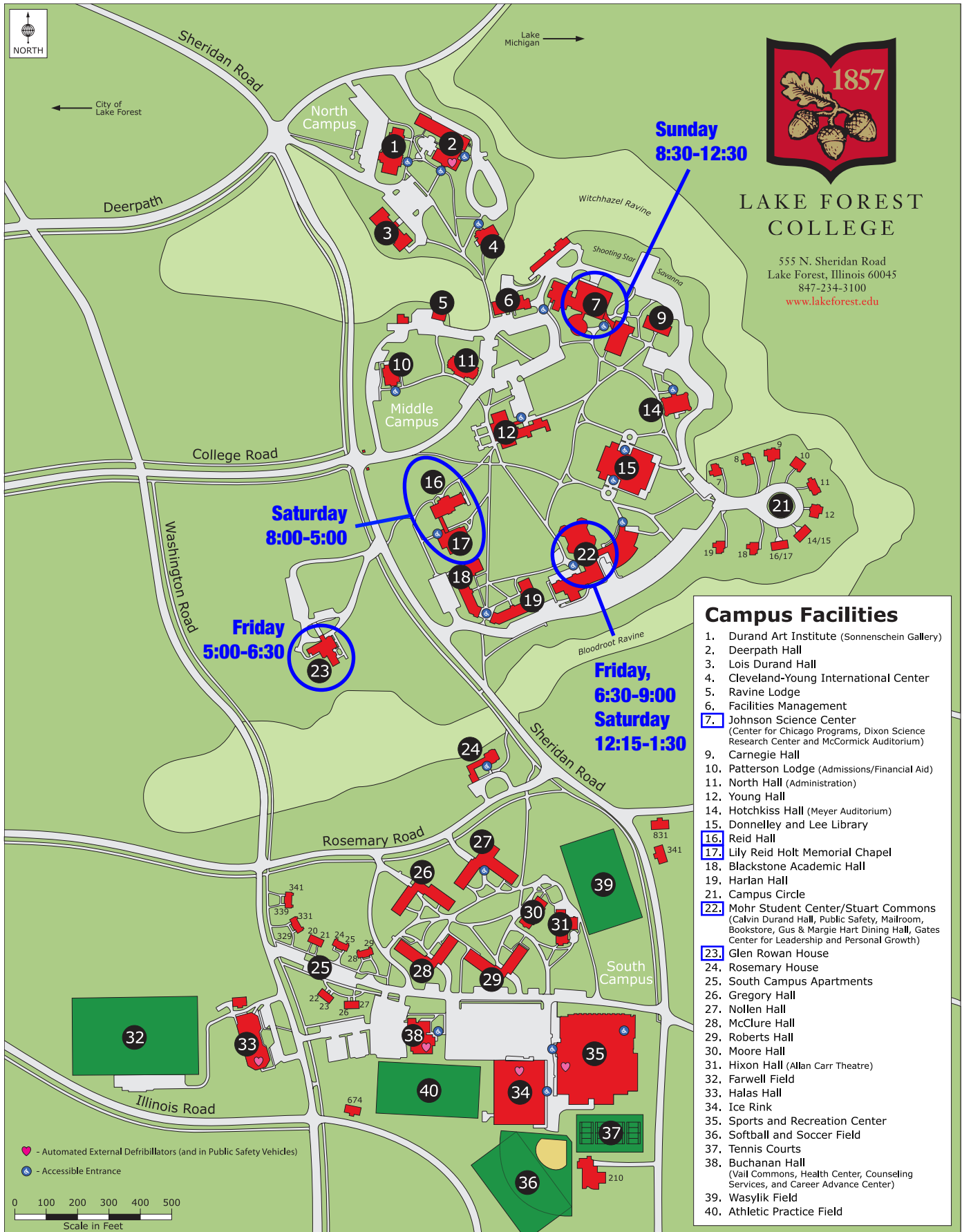
Conference Volunteers

Jeff Brouws, Mary Carlson, Norman Carlson, Jim Cascino, Bon French, John Gruber, Nona Hill, Sharon Hill, Kevin P. Keefe, Hank Koshollek, Jeff Mast, Andy Meyer, John Sanderson, Michael Schmidt, Brandon Townley, Michael R. Valentine, Otto M. Vondrak, Davidson Ward

Front cover: In Axel Zwingenberger’s “Start it Up,” engineer Helmut König lights the fire in a German steam locomotive, as viewed from inside the firebox at Arnstadt, Germany, on December 18, 1995.

Back cover: Employee bridge and hoppers loaded with coal at Norfolk Southern’s yard in Williamson, West Virginia, in February 1995. Photograph by David Kahler

Campus Map



Schedule

Friday *Glen Rowan House, no. 23 on campus map*

5:00 P.M. Doors open, reception, exhibition by David Kahler on display

Move to Calvin Durand Hall, Mohr Student Center, no. 22 on campus map

6:30 P.M. Dinner, with presentation of photographs by conference attendees

7:30 P.M. Opening remarks and raffle drawing for David Plowden print

7:45 P.M. Railway & Locomotive Historical Society announcements

8:00 P.M. Axel Zwingenberger, *Boogie-woogie piano music and its railroad influences*

9:00 P.M. Conclusion

Saturday *Reid Hall and Lily Reid Holt Memorial Chapel, nos. 16 and 17 on campus map*

8:00 A.M. Doors open, pastries and drinks available in the Wood Lounge

Presentation of photographs by conference attendees on repeat in the chapel

8:30 A.M. Welcome, Scott Lothes, Center for Railroad Photography & Art

8:45 A.M. Jeff Mast and Mike Valentine, *A Journey into Photo Charters*

9:30 A.M. Diane Bacha, *Great American Railroad Stories*

10:15 A.M. Break, Wood Lounge

10:45 A.M. Peter Mosse, *The World of Railroad Paintings: 175 Years, 25 Countries*

11:30 A.M. David Kahler, *The Railroad: The Art of Place*

12:15 P.M. Lunch, Mohr Student Center, no. 22 on campus map

1:30 P.M. John Gruber, *Creative Photography Awards Program*

1:40 P.M. Bon French and Scott Lothes, *Updates on the Center*

2:00 P.M. Axel Zwingenberger, *The Magic of Trains*

2:45 P.M. Break, Wood Lounge

3:15 P.M. Ed Bartholomew, *British Railway Photography*

4:00 P.M. Ted Benson, Dick Dorn, Dale Sanders, and Dave Stanley, *72–82: Western Pacific's Final Decade*

4:45 P.M. Concluding remarks and raffle drawing for J. Parker Lamb print

Move to Glen Rowan House, no. 23 on campus map

5:00 P.M. Reception, sponsored by *Trains* and *Classic Trains*

Exhibition by David Kahler on display

7:00 P.M. Conclusion (Dinner on your own; there are many restaurants in downtown Lake Forest.)

Sunday *McCormick Auditorium in the Johnson Science Center, no. 7 on the campus map*

8:30 A.M. Doors open, pastries and drinks available

9:00 A.M. J. Parker Lamb, *Postwar Transformation: 1950–1970*

9:45 A.M. Justin Franz, *Shooting for the story: Approaching railroad photography with a journalistic eye*

10:30 A.M. Break

11:00 A.M. Bill Stewart, *Up and Down the Monon, Everything is Fine*

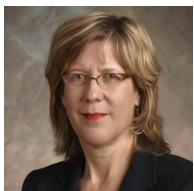
11:45 A.M. James Swensen, *Always on the Go: FSA Photography, Russell Lee, and the Railroad*

12:30 P.M. Conclusion (Lunch on your own; there are many restaurants in downtown Lake Forest.)

2:00 P.M. Optional tour of *Terminal Town* exhibition, led by curator Joe Schieterman

Lake Forest College's Center for Chicago Programs in the Johnson Science Center, no. 7 on map

Presenters



Diane Bacha, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Great American Railroad Stories, Saturday, 9:30 A.M.

Bacha, publisher of *Trains* and *Classic Trains* magazines, grew up in New Jersey and worked for more than twenty-five years as an editor and media executive for newspapers in New York and Wisconsin. She has an English degree from the University of Delaware, is a 2003 USC Annenberg/Getty Arts Journalism Fellow, and serves as a founding board member of the Society for Features Journalism Foundation.



Ed Bartholomew, York, United Kingdom

British Railway Photography, Saturday, 3:15 P.M.

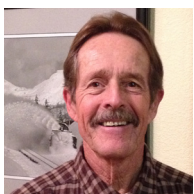
Bartholomew is the Senior Curator of Image & Sound Collections at Britain's National Railway Museum, where he has worked for the past nineteen years. He is particularly interested in the representation of railways in art, photography, and graphic design. His publications have included, with Michael Blakemore, *Railways in Focus*, a history of British railway photography based on the museum's collections.



Ted Benson, Modesto, California

72-82: Western Pacific's Final Decade, Saturday, 4:00 P.M.

Benson has enjoyed a lifelong fascination with railroading. Born in Los Angeles in 1948 and raised in Modesto, California, where he continues to reside, he retired in 2009 following a forty-year career as news photographer for *The Modesto Bee*. Benson has authored (or coauthored) eight books, and his many honors include two prestigious Railway & Locomotive Historical Society awards for writing and photography.



Dick Dorn, Yuba City, California

72-82: Western Pacific's Final Decade, Saturday, 4:00 P.M.

Dorn was born in Berkeley, California, and grew up in the Bay Area. He moved to Yuba City in 1971 where he began a thirty-five-year teaching career. He has been photographing railroads for more than fifty years, coauthored *Diesels Over Donner* with Dick Steinheimer, and has written nearly forty magazine articles. He is a collector of railroad signal equipment and has constructed a full-scale depot on his property.



Justin Franz, Whitefish, Montana, www.justinfranz.com

Shooting for the story: Approaching railroad photography with a journalistic eye, Sunday, 9:45 A.M.

Franz is a writer and photographer based in Whitefish, Montana. Born and raised in Augusta, Maine, he grew up railfanning with his father, Tim Franz, and recorded the rapidly changing rail scene in northern New England in the 1990s and early 2000s. After graduating from the University of Montana in 2011 with a print journalism degree, he was hired by a weekly newspaper, the *Flathead Beacon*, in Kalispell.



David Kahler, Pittsboro, North Carolina

The Railroad: The Art of Place, Saturday, 11:30 A.M.

Prior to his thirty-six-year career as an architect in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Kahler spent his childhood watching steam freight trains in Pennsylvania. From 1992 to 1997, he journeyed to West Virginia six times to photograph the last vestiges of the Norfolk and Western Railroad with the intended purpose of capturing the art of place. Kahler has served as Vice-President of the Center since its incorporation in 1997.



J. Parker Lamb, Austin, Texas

Postwar Transformation: 1950–1970, Sunday, 9:00 A.M.

Lamb retired in 2001 after a distinguished tenure in the engineering faculty at the University of Texas in Austin. His hundreds of published images display a talent that is at once journalistic and artistic, as seen in *Steel Wheels Rolling*, a portfolio of his work, and his several other books. In 1991 he received the Fred A. and Jane R. Stindt Photography Award of the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society.



Jeff Mast, Canton, Michigan, www.jeffmastphotography.smugmug.com

Journey into Photo Charters, Saturday, 8:45 A.M.

Born in Detroit, Michigan, in 1956, Mast has spent his career working in municipal civil engineering in Royal Oak, Michigan. Photography started with railroads and a 4-H club project at age eight, and it blossomed to include Great Lakes "Lakeboats" and airplanes. He has authored a number of articles in *Trains* magazine, and his photography has appeared in numerous railroad magazines and books.



Peter Mosse, New York, New York

The World of Railroad Paintings: 175 Years, 25 Countries, Saturday, 10:45 A.M.

Mosse was born in 1947 and grew up in England where he witnessed the final years of regular steam. He has since photographed steam operations in more than fifty countries. He received an MA from Oxford and an MBA from Penn's Wharton School, and he worked for the Rothschild banking group in London and Malaysia before moving to New York City in 1977. He purchased his first railroad painting in 1980.



Dale Sanders, Ferndale, Washington

72-82: Western Pacific's Final Decade, Saturday, 4:00 P.M.

Sanders was born in Oroville, California, in 1957 and earned a bachelor's degree in visual communication from California State University, Chico. He has worked as a professional photographer, graphic designer, production artist, and pre-press quality controller. He is the past editor of *CTC Board: Railroads Illustrated*, and he has authored or coauthored five books of railroad photography, with many more in the works.



Dave Stanley, Stockton, California

72-82: Western Pacific's Final Decade, Saturday, 4:00 P.M.

Stanley, born in 1953, grew up next to the Central California Traction Company tracks in Sacramento, California, where he developed a lifelong interest that led to a career in railroading. Currently a locomotive engineer for Union Pacific, he has worked under four corporate flags during the past forty years. He has coauthored two other railroad books, and he created the Winterail photography exposition in 1978.



William Benning Stewart, Indianapolis, Indiana

Up and Down the Monon, Everything is Fine, Sunday, 11:00 A.M.

An Indiana native and veteran corporate communications executive, Stewart has been a lifelong student of transportation history. He is the author of twenty-five articles on the topic in national magazines including *Trains* and *Classic Trains*. He spent fifteen years at the Chrysler Corporation in Auburn Hills, Michigan, and from 2005 to 2008 he was curator of the company's Walter P. Chrysler Museum.



James Swensen, Ph.D., Salt Lake City, Utah

Always on the Go: FSA Photography, Russell Lee, and the Railroad, Sunday, 11:45 A.M.

Swensen is an assistant professor of art history and the history of photography at Brigham Young University. His research interests include the art and photography of the great American surveys of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. He has recently completed two books on photography: *Picturing Migrants: New Deal Photography and The Grapes of Wrath* and an investigation of Dorothea Lange and Ansel Adams.



Michael R. Valentine, Ferndale, Michigan

Journey into Photo Charters, Saturday, 8:45 A.M.

Valentine is Manager, Training Product Group, Leoni Engineering Products & Services, Inc. He previously worked for the BNSF Railway, and he has lived and studied at the University of Innsbruck, Austria. He is an avid photographer in the U.S. and abroad, with more than two hundred photographs published in *Trains* and other periodicals and books in the U.S. and Europe.



Axel Zwingenberger, Ahrensburg, Germany

Boogie-woogie music and its railroad influences, Friday, 8:00 P.M.; *The Magic of Trains*, Saturday, 2:00 P.M.

Zwingenberger, born in 1955 in Hamburg, Germany, is a blues and boogie-woogie pianist, and songwriter. He received eleven years of conventional piano training and is one of the finest boogie-woogie musicians in the world. He is also a talented and creative photographer, beginning at age ten with German steam locomotives. Inspired by O. Winston Link, he has been making night action photographs since the 1990s.

Print Program



This 2015 Print Program offering shows a Cumbres & Toltec photo freight climbing Cumbres Pass in New Mexico in 2012. Photograph by Jeff Mast

The Center is debuting two new, limited edition prints at Conversations 2015: Ted Benson's 1982 photograph of the Tidewater Southern in Modesto, California (opposite page), and Jeff Mast's 2012 photograph of a Cumbres & Toltec photo freight on Cumbres Pass in New Mexico (above). Benson's is a silver gelatin print on 11×14 paper. Mast's is a 10×15 archival pigment print on 13×19 paper. Each one is available in an edition of ten, signed on the back in pencil by the artist. They will be sold at the conference for the one-time price of \$225 each; any prints still available will be offered for sale through the Center's website, www.railphoto-art.org, at the regular price of \$250 plus shipping.

About the Print Program

Begun in 2009, the Center's print program offers opportunities to collect important railroad photographs at affordable prices, while providing financial support for the Center's ongoing programs. As with other art-based nonprofits that sell prints from well-known photographers, the Center prices its photographs well below the gallery rates of San Francisco, New York, and Chicago. The selection and prices give incentives to collectors to purchase artwork they like while helping an organization they believe in.

To put the Center's offer in context, consider that fine-art photography prints from major artists now range from \$2,000 to \$3,000 (Richard Stein-

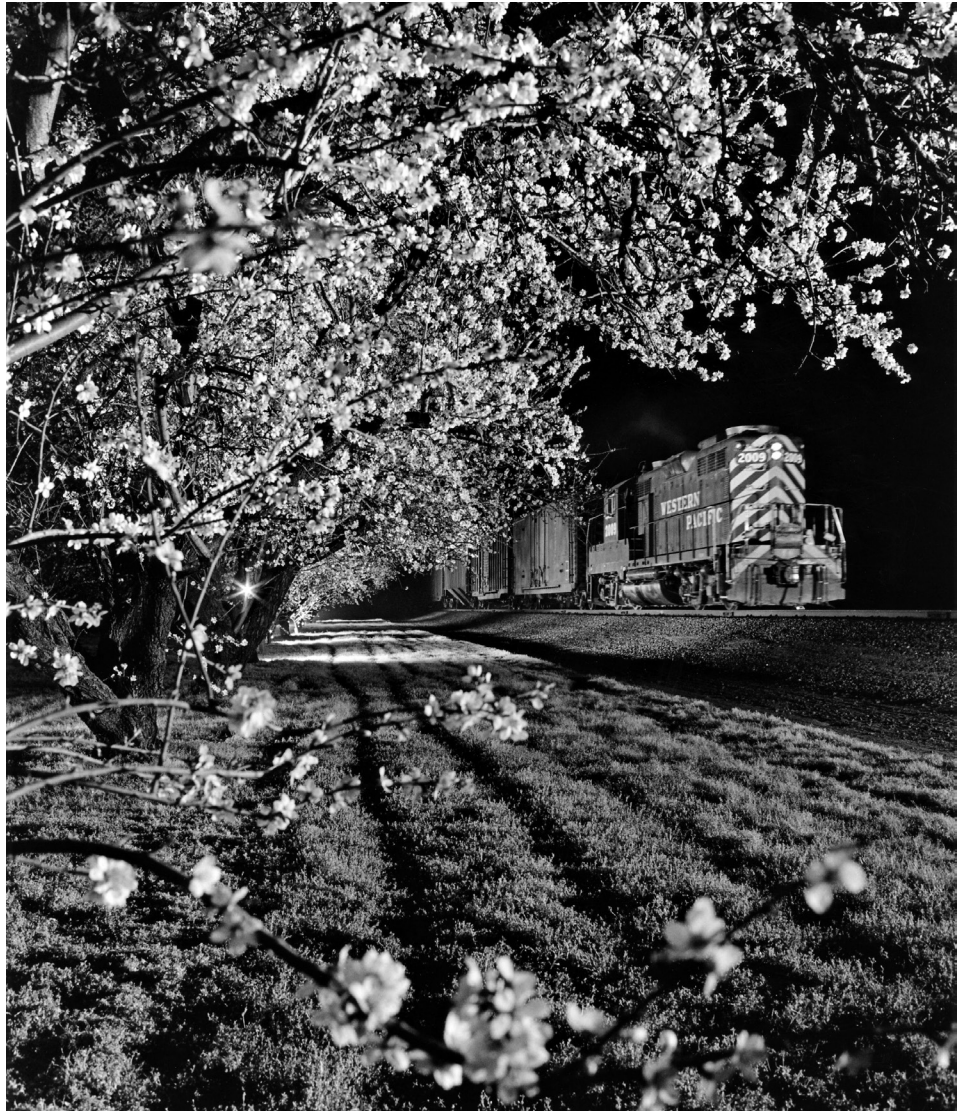
heimer prints, for example), \$3,000 to \$7,500 (David Plowden), and up to half-a-million dollars for artists such as Andreas Gursky. Photographs by Mel Patrick, Howard Pincus, Wayne Depperman, John Gruber, and Richard Steinheimer (again) that appeared in the *Starlight on the Rails* show at the Robert Mann Gallery in 2000 brought \$750 to \$1,500 each. Plowden prints once sold for \$125; the asking price today regularly exceeds \$3,000.

Collecting photography is fun and rewarding. Foremost, it brings aesthetic pleasure; secondarily, it can prove a better investment than many stocks. You can see the prints themselves on display at this year's conference, and they will be available until the editions sell out. We will continue to unveil new selections in the same price range each year, featuring them also on the website. If you have suggestions for future participating photographers, please let us know.

Additional Prints Available

In addition to the two images from this year's print program, you may peruse and purchase past works from previous years.

Ted Benson's 1982 night photograph of the Tidewater Southern in Modesto, California, is one of two prints being offered by the Center in the 2015 Print Program.



Print Raffles and Book Sales

As in recent years at the conference, two photographers have donated prints that the Center has framed and matted for raffles.

J. Parker Lamb's photograph (opposite) shows Illinois Central 4-8-2 steam locomotive no. 2613 next to the icicle-covered water tank in Cairo, Illinois, waiting for the *Creole* passenger train before heading north back to Carbondale in January 1959. The 16×20 archival pigment print was made by print program coordinator Jeff Brouws and is matted and framed in black metal to 24×30 inches.

In addition to Lamb, renowned photographer David Plowden has again donated a photograph for the raffle. His archival inkjet print is 11×14 inches, made by the photographer, matted, and framed in black metal to 20×24 inches.

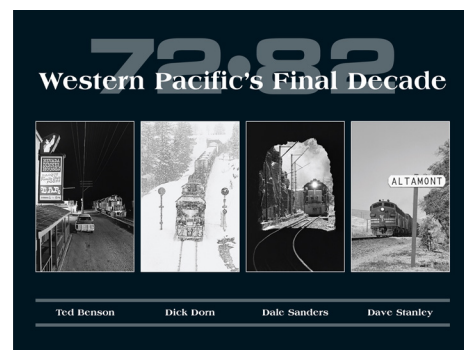
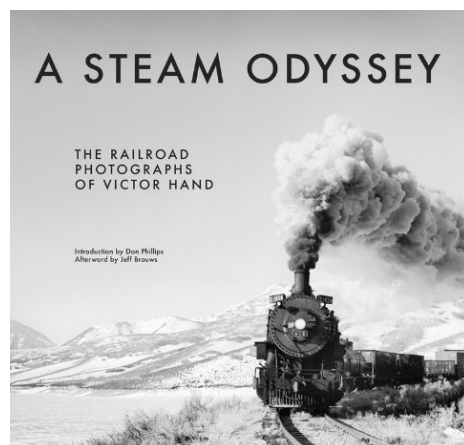
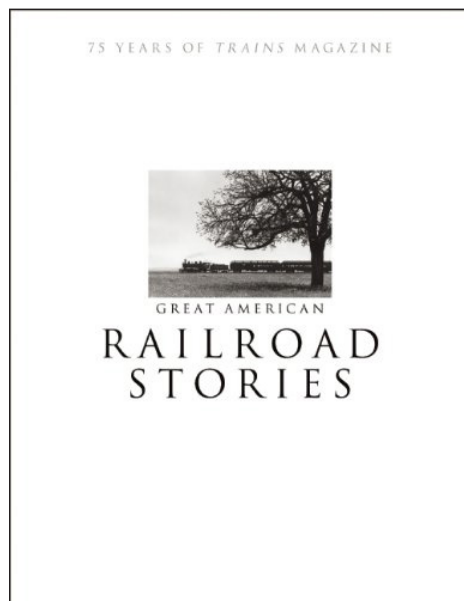
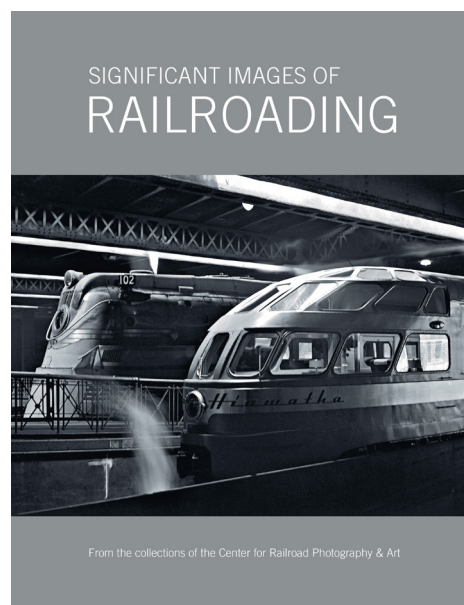
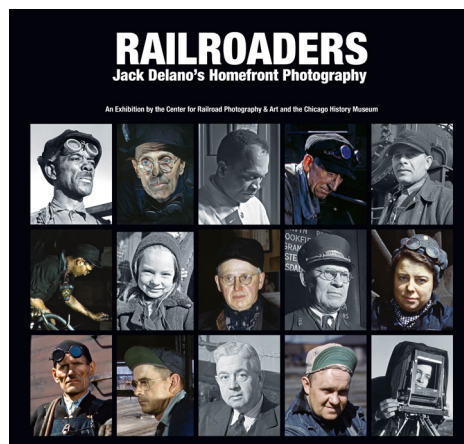
The drawing for Plowden's print will be held at dinner on Friday; Lamb's will be drawn on Saturday.

Tickets for each raffle are \$10 each, \$25 for three, \$40 for five. You may purchase tickets on Friday evening for both raffles, and on Saturday morning for the Lamb raffle.

Book Sales and Signings

Several books will be available for purchase at the Saturday reception, and authors will be available to sign many of them. On sale will be:

- 72-82: *Western Pacific's Final Decade*, \$80, by Ted Benson, Dick Dorn, Dale Sanders, and Dave Stanley, published by White River Productions in 2014.
- *Significant Images of Railroading*, \$20, published by the Center in 2015 and edited by Scott Lothes.
- *Great American Railroad Stories*, \$25 softcover, \$40 hardcover, published by Kalmbach Books in 2014.
- *Railroaders: Jack Delano's Homefront Photography*, \$50, published by the Center in 2014 and edited by John Gruber.
- *Steam Odyssey: The Railroad Photographs of Victor Hand*, \$75, published by W.W. Norton in 2013.



These five books, along with the prints shown on p. 8-9, will be available for sale during the reception on Saturday from 5:00 to 7:00 P.M. in the Glen Rowan House. Cash, checks, and credit cards will be accepted. Many of the authors and photographers will be available for signings in the sun porch at the rear of the Glen Rowan House.



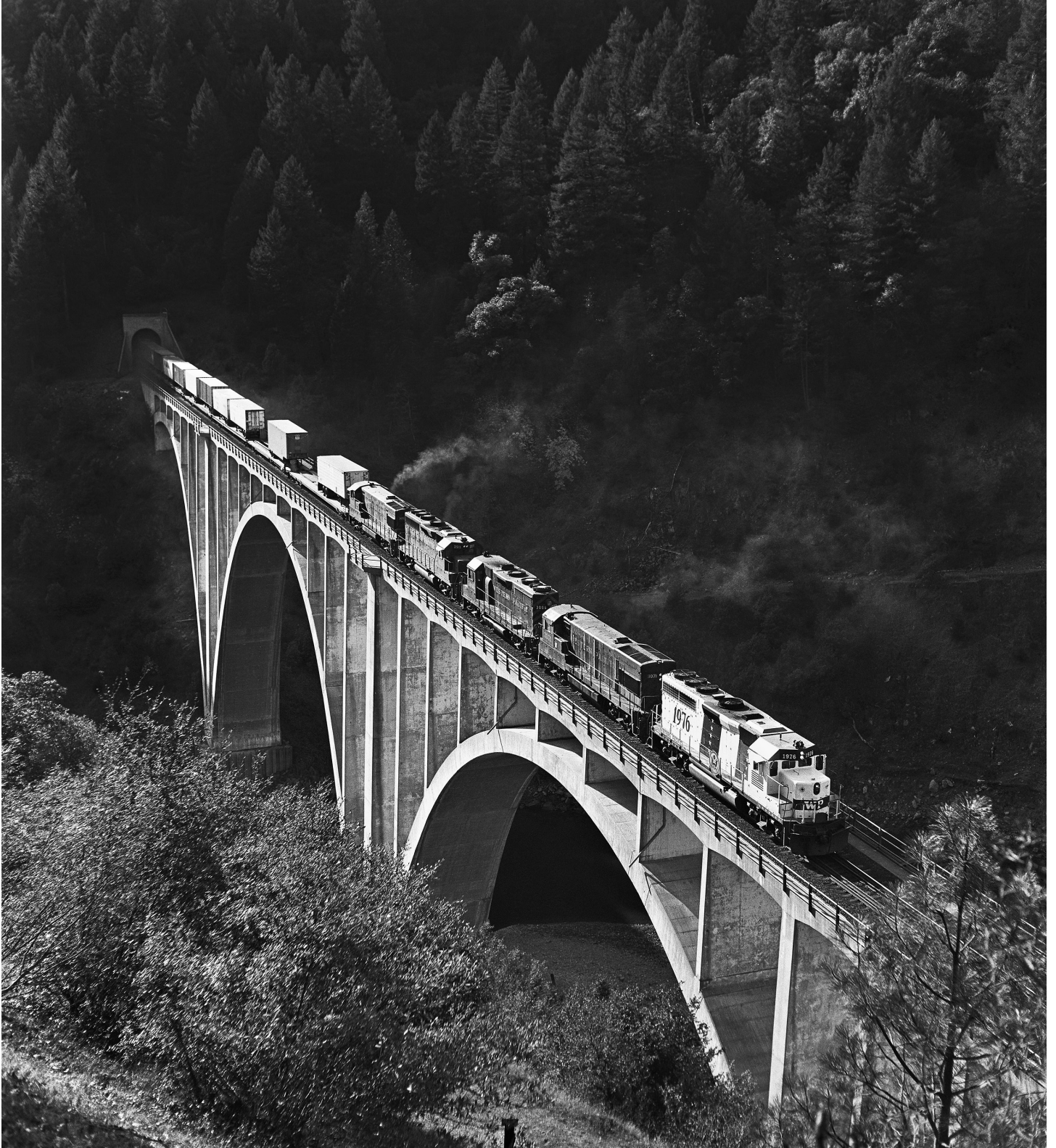
Illinois Central 4-8-2 steam locomotive no. 2613 next to the icicle-covered water tank in Cairo, Illinois, waiting for the *Creole* passenger train before heading north back to Carbondale on January 29, 1959. Photograph by J. Parker Lamb. Lamb has donated a 16×20 archival pigment print of this photograph, which the Center had framed and matted, to be raffled on Saturday. David Plowden again donated a print, which will be raffled on Friday.

Images from Conference Presentations



Above: Light streaming through the Gothic windows of St. Pancras station as it nears completion in 1868, by an unknown photographer, possibly John Ward or J.B. Pyne. Collection of Britain's National Railway Museum

Opposite: Western Pacific train TOF, led by specially-painted Bicentennial GP40 no. 1976, exiting Tunnel 8 and crossing the North Fork Bridge east of Oroville, California, on November 25, 1976. Photograph by Dale Sanders





Above: Bus riders wait for Nickel Plate Road 2-8-4 steam locomotive no. 765 to pass during an October 2009 photo charter. Photograph by Michael R. Valentine

Right: Railroad workers and track maintenance equipment in Port Barre, Louisiana, in October 1938. Photograph by Russell Lee and courtesy of the Library of Congress, LC-DIG-fsa-8a24699

Opposite: Hawley Riley (American), *For the Public Service* (in the manner of Leslie Ragan), 1948, oil on board, 23½ in. x 17½ in. Collection of Peter Mosse





Right: Monon's *Thoroughbred* passenger train rolling through Gosport Junction, Indiana, in the 1950s. Photograph by Bill Stewart

Below: Volunteers work on Shay no. 4 at The Heritage Museum in Libby, Montana, in 2012. Photograph by Justin Franz



Docent Program



We are excited to welcome five docents to Conversations 2015. They are photographers Brandon Townley, Davidson Ward, and John Sanderson, and archival students Jim Cascino and Andy Meyer. The docents are attending the conference at no charge, and they will be assisting the Center's staff members, volunteers, and presenters throughout the weekend.

Townley, of Sunbury, Ohio, is a talented professional photographer and first-time attendee; his clients include CSX Transportation. Ward, from Nashville, Tennessee, is a transportation consultant and attending his third conference—his first as a docent. Sanderson is returning for his second tour as a docent and brings a wealth of photography exhibition knowledge from his extensive work in New York City galleries.

Cascino and Meyer are both first-time attendees and currently working with archivist Anne Thomason as

graduate student interns on the Center's photography collections at Lake Forest College. Meyer is working on a master's degree in library information science at the University of Illinois, while Cascino is a student in the graduate school of library and information sciences at Dominican University in River Forest, Illinois.

Support from the 2014 conference's patrons provided funding for this year's docents. Last year's patrons are: Jeff Brouws, Norman Carlson, Bon French, Aaron Gellman, Phil Gosney, Todd Halamka, Victor Hand, Nona Hill and Clark Johnson, David and Cynthia Kahler, Julie King, Hank Koshollek, Mitch Markovitz, Jeff Mast, David Mattoon, Robert J. Orr, Ron Perisho, David Plowden, Ken Rehor, Michael Schmidt, Jim Shaughnessy, Thomas J. Szczesniak Jr., Anonymous.

The Center and the docents thank the patrons for their support, which makes this program possible.



Clockwise from left:

Headlights of a CSX locomotive shine through fog and a bridge over the Olentangy River in Caledonia, Ohio, on January 10, 2014. The bridge on the left is the removed Erie Railroad, while the existing track is the former New York Central. Photograph by Brandon Townley

Andy Meyer working on the Center's Fred M. Springer Collection at Lake Forest College. Photograph by Anne Thomason

Jim Cascino working on the Center's Hal Lewis Collection at Lake Forest College. Photograph by Anne Thomason

Directors, Officers, Staff



T. Bondurant French (Chair), Glen Ellyn, Illinois, is the CEO of Adams Street Partners, one of the largest and oldest managers of private equity investment in the world. A life-long rail enthusiast, Bon has photographed more than 650 different railroads.



Scott Lothes (President and Executive Director), Madison, Wisconsin, joined the Center's staff in 2008. He is a regular contributor to *Trains* and other railroad publications, with more than forty bylined articles and more than 300 photographs in print.



David Kahler (Vice-President), Pittsboro, North Carolina, has practiced architecture for more than thirty years and has been recognized by his peers as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. He remains active as a consultant and advisor.



Jeff Brouws, Stanfordville, New York, brings the Center knowledge of 19th and 20th 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.



Kevin P. Keefe, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, is vice-president-editorial for *Trains* magazine's parent, 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 no. 1225.



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 publication *First & Fastest*.



Albert O. Louer, Williamsburg, Virginia, is Director of Principal Gifts at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. He has worked in museums for fifty years and has a research and collecting interest in Midwestern railroads and The Pullman Company.



H. Roger Grant, Clemson, South Carolina, is a professor of history at Clemson and an active writer of railroad history. His dozens of book include company histories of several railroads. He is a native of Albia, Iowa, and previously taught at the University of Akron.



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.



John Gruber (Past President), Madison, Wisconsin, is the author or coauthor of seven railroad books. He received awards from the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society for photography and an article about Lucius Beebe and Charles Clegg's photography.



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



Nona Hill (Treasurer), Madison, Wisconsin, and Clark Johnson, her husband, operate 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.



Michael R. Valentine, Ferndale, Michigan, is Manager, Training Product Group, Leoni Engineering Products & Services, Inc. He has had over 200 photographs published in *Trains* and other periodicals and books in the U.S. and Europe.



Jack Holzhuetter (editorial consultant), Mazomanie, Wisconsin, has consulted for the Center since 2006. He spent thirty-seven years on the editorial and research staff of the Wisconsin Historical Society and currently serves on its board of curators.



Jordan Radke (Archives Manager), Madison, Wisconsin, received a master's degree from UW-Madison's School of Library Information Studies in 2014. He has worked in the archives of Wisconsin Public Radio and UW's engineering department.

About the Center for Railroad Photography & Art

Founded in 1997, the Center for Railroad Photography & Art is a national non-profit arts and educational organization based in Madison, Wisconsin. As its mission the Center “preserves and presents significant images of railroading, interpreting them in publications, exhibitions, and on the Internet.”

The Center conducts its programs in-house and throughout the country, with the aid of numerous partners. Foremost is its recent collaboration with the Chicago History Museum on the major exhibition, *Railroaders: Jack Delano's Homefront Photography*, and an accompanying 200-page catalog prepared by the Center. They tell the stories of forty-nine Chicagoland railroad workers during World War II and serve as a prime example of the kind of work that can be created from a significant, well-preserved collection of rail photography. As museum president Gary Johnson said, “Museums with photographic archives, take heed!”

The Center also prepares traveling exhibitions about railroad workers and individual photographers such as David Plowden and O. Winston Link. Venues have included Grand Central Terminal, the California State Railroad Museum, and Milwaukee's Grohmann Museum. Support from the North American Railway Foundation (NARF) led to the long-running “Representations of Railroad Work” program. All told, the Center has brought some twenty unique exhibitions of significant railroad photography and art to sixty venues throughout the country.

Efforts to preserve railroad photography and artwork have led to the Center's amassing some 200,000 images, principally the ten collections featured in its recent publication, *Significant Images of Railroading*. The Center conducts many of its preservation activities in concert with the Archives & Special Collections

of the Donnelley and Lee Library at Lake Forest College.

Publication of the Center's journal, *Railroad Heritage*, occurs quarterly. Each issue features work by historic and contemporary photographers and artists plus news of developments in the field. With NARF's help, special issues have honored workers, women in railroading, and individual photographers, and have concisely explained railroad history and preservation.

Each spring going back to 2003, the Center hosts this conference, and all but one have been held on the campus of Lake Forest College. The conference provides a forum for veteran and young photographers alike—as well as artists, historians, editors, and railroaders—to mingle both socially and formally, present and discuss their work, and address photographic and artistic issues. Thanks to the generosity of several conference patrons, the Center recently began offering scholarships to enable young or developing photographers and artists to attend the conference.

The annual John E. Gruber Creative Photography Awards Program recognizes recent work by railroad photographers in the United States and abroad. Named for the Center's principal founder, the awards program includes an exhibition at the California State Railroad Museum and publication in *Railfan & Railroad* magazine.

Internet sites www.railphoto-art.org and www.railroadheritage.org expound on the Center's activities and provide an online image archive with detailed descriptions. The Center maintains many additional online resources at Facebook, Flickr, Twitter, LinkedIn, Amazon, Youtube, RailPictures.net, and at Trainsmag.com. Follow them to stay abreast of current events and trends in railroad photography and art as well as the Center's research and acquisitions.



The Center's biggest project is *Railroaders: Jack Delano's Homefront Photography*, a collaborative exhibition with the Chicago History Museum that opened in April 2014. Among its 190,000 visitors in its first year were Gary Sinise, the famous actor, whose grandfather was an Indiana Harbor Belt conductor who is featured extensively. *Railroaders* will be on display at the museum through August 2016.

All-Time List of Conference Presenters

February 22, 2003, Lake Forest College

- John Gruber
- Don Horn
- David Plowden
- Brian Solomon
- Matt Van Hattem

March 20, 2004, Lake Forest College

- Mark Hemphill
- Joel Jensen
- Anne M. Lyden
- Bill Middleton
- Mel Patrick
- David Plowden and John Gruber

March 19-20, 2005, Lake Forest College

- Shirley Burman
- Steve Crise
- Tom Garver
- Robert Harr
- Sayre Kos
- Michael Ross Valentine
- Jim Wrinn

March 25, 2006, Marquette University

- Jeff Brouws
- Kevin P. Keefe
- Sayre Kos
- Greg McDonnell
- Gil Reid
- Michael Ross Valentine
- Bill Withuhn

March 24, 2007, Lake Forest College

- Steve Barry
- Simpson Kalisher
- Sayre Kos
- Miško Kranjec
- John Roskoski
- Jim Shaughnessy
- Walter E. Zullig Jr.

April 12, 2008, Lake Forest College

- Jeff Brouws
- Victor Hand and Don Phillips
- Don Horn
- Scott Lothes
- David Plowden
- Tony Reevy

April 17-19, 2009, Lake Forest College

- Mark Hemphill
- Kevin P. Keefe and John B. Corns
- Stuart Klipper
- Scott Lothes, panel with Steve Barry, Mike Schafer, and Matt Van Hattem
- Kelly Lynch
- Kevin Scanlon
- Don Sims

April 23-25, 2010, Lake Forest College

- Frank Barry
- Ted Benson and Tom Taylor
- Jeff Brouws
- Jim Brown
- Ian Kennedy
- Linda Niemann and Joel Jensen
- David Plowden
- Alex Ramos

April 15-17, 2011, Lake Forest College

- Lewis Ableidinger
- Lina Bertucci
- John Gruber
- Olaf Haensch
- Clark Johnson and Richard Solomon
- Stan Kistler
- Joe McMillan
- Gordon Osmundson
- Karl Zimmermann

April 13-15, 2012, Lake Forest College

- Bill Botkin
- Shirley Burman Steinheimer
- Steve Crise
- Tom Fawell
- Christian Goepel
- Drake Hokanson
- Joel Jensen
- Clark Johnson and Richard Solomon
- Henry Posner III
- Chris Starnes

April 12-14, 2013, Lake Forest College

- Wes Carr
- Pablo Delano
- Michael Froio
- Matthew Kierstead
- Cate Kratville
- Mitch Markovitz
- Tony Reevy
- Casey Thomason
- Steve VanDenburgh
- Jim Wrinn, panel discussion with Steve Barry, Alexander Craghead, Marc Entze, Don Phillips, and Matt Van Hattem

May 16-18, 2014, Lake Forest College and the Chicago History Museum

- Jeff Brouws
- Mike Danneman and Ron Flanary
- Travis Dewitz
- John Gruber
- Victor Hand
- Kevin Keefe
- Blair Kooistra
- Kathi Kube
- Glenn Willumson

April 10-12, 2015, Lake Forest College

- Diane Bacha, with Ron Flanary, Don Hofshommer, Joel Jensen, Don Phillips, and Jim Wrinn
- Ed Bartholomew
- Ted Benson, Dick Dorn, Dale Sanders, and Dave Stanley
- Justin Franz
- David Kahler
- J. Parker Lamb
- Jeff Mast and Mike Valentine
- Peter Mosse
- Bill Stewart
- James Swensen
- Axel Zwingenberger

Next conference:

April 8-10, 2016, Lake Forest College

Sponsors

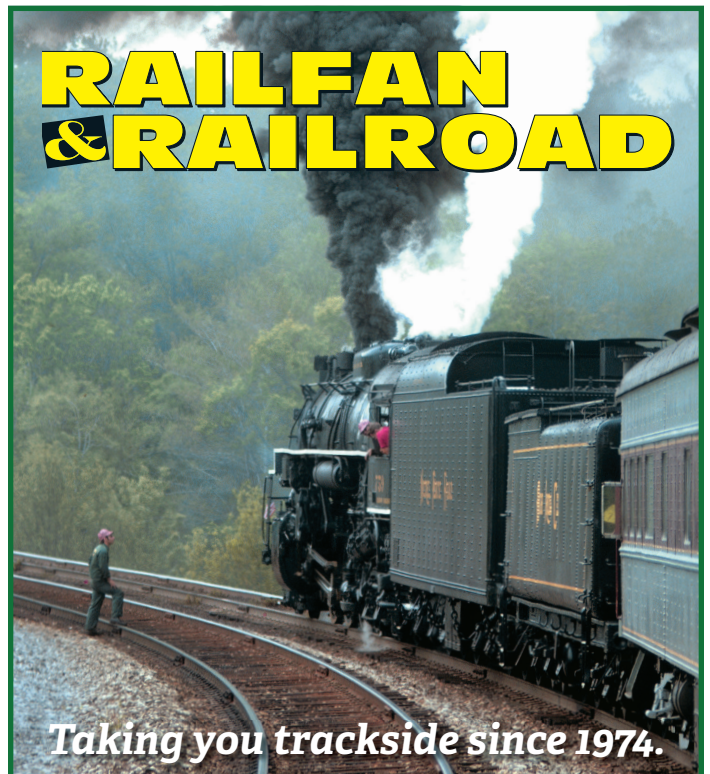


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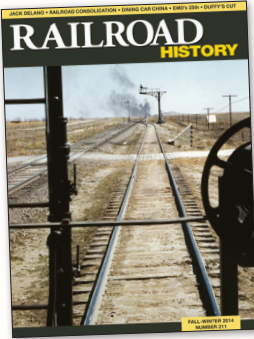


As the oldest railroad historical society in North America, founded in 1921, the R&LHS is proud to support the programs of the Center for Railroad Photography & Art.

The award-winning R&LHS journal *Railroad History* combines scholarly writing and in-depth book reviews with a vibrant format, and is one of the world's premier publications devoted to the history of technology.

Many conference participants are R&LHS members already. We urge you to join their ranks as we explore the history of the railroad industry.

Please visit the R&LHS table and take advantage of bonus copies of *Railroad History* for those who become members at the conference. Current R&LHS members can also renew and purchase back issues.



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