

CONVERSATIONS 2018

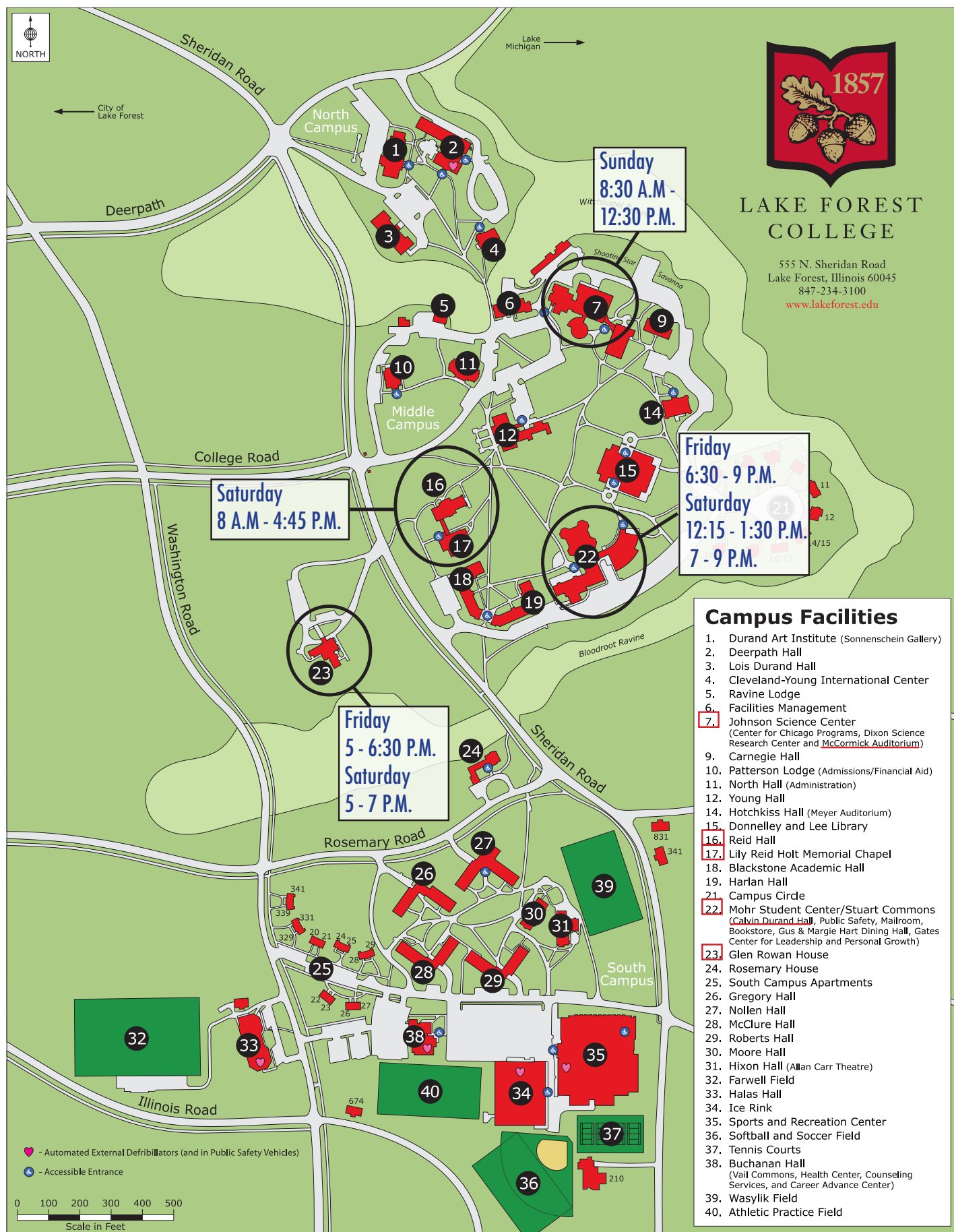
April 13–15, 2018, on the campus of co-host Lake Forest College
The Center for Railroad Photography & Art's sixteenth annual conference



CRP&A | CENTER FOR RAILROAD
PHOTOGRAPHY & ART

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Campus Map



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Conference Patrons

Bob Alkire, Greg Beirise, Bill and Kate Botkin, Murray Bouschlicher, Ed Burkhardt, Norm Carlson, Charlie Castner, Christopher Chadbourne, Dave Corbitt, Kit Courter, Paul Enenbach, Mark Entrop, Larry Evans, Bon French, Dick Gruber, Kimberly Guerre, Todd Halamka, Nona Hill and Clark Johnson, David Kahler, Julie King, Hank Koshollek, Al Louer, Jeff Mast, Brian Matsumoto, David W. Mattoon, John A. Mellowes, Greg Molloy, Peter Mosse, Steve Mueller, Ron Perisho, Don Phillips, Ken Rehor, Michael Schmidt, Tom Szczensiak, Richard Tower, Steve VanDenburgh

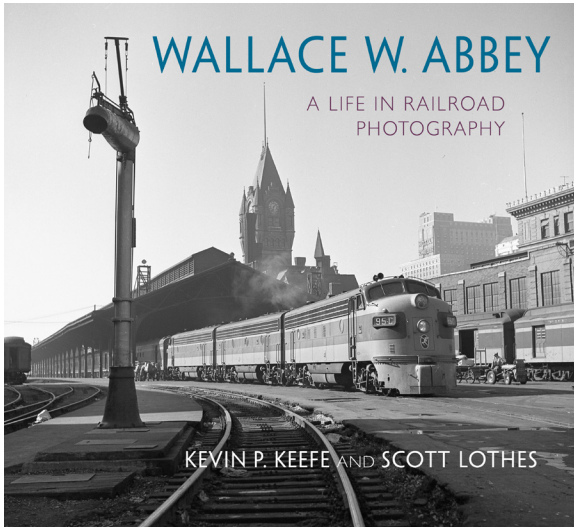
Conference Volunteers

Jeff Brouws, Mary and Norman Carlson, Alexander Benjamin Craghead, Justin Franz, Bon French, Ryan Gaynor, Dick Gruber, John Gruber, Todd Halamka, Nona Hill, Sharon Hill, Will Jordan, David Kahler, Kevin P. Keefe, Hank Koshollek, Al Louer, Jeff Mast, Brian Matsumoto, Peter Mosse, Maureen Muldoon, Johnathan Riley, Michael Schmidt, Alex Silka, Richard Tower, Michael R. Valentine, Otto M..Vondrak

Front Cover:
John Austin
Memories of Lichfield Trent Valley, 2017
36" x 26"
Oil on canvas

Back Cover:
Passengers at LaSalle Street Station in Chicago on a summer day in 1951. New York Central's New England States from Boston exceeds the platform by a few car lengths. Photograph by Wallace W. Abbey

New Books From The Center



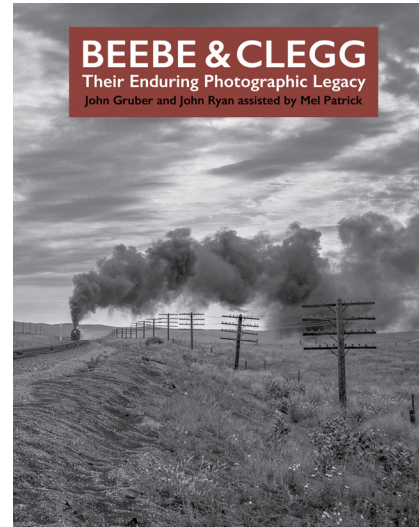
Wallace W. Abbey: A Life in Railroad Photography

Kevin P. Keefe and Scott Lothes

Indiana University Press, 2018

From the late 1940s on, Wallace W. Abbey masterfully combined journalistic and artistic vision to transform everyday moments in transportation into magical photographs. Abbey, a photographer, journalist, historian, and railroad industry executive, helped people from many different backgrounds understand and appreciate what was often taken for granted: a world of locomotives, passenger trains, big-city terminals, small-town depots, and railroaders. During his lifetime he witnessed and photographed sweeping changes in the railroading industry from the steam era to the era of diesel locomotives and electronic communication.

Wallace W. Abbey: A Life in Railroad Photography profiles the life and work of this legendary photographer and showcases the transformation of transportation and photography after World War II. Featuring more than 175 exquisite photographs in an oversized format, *Wallace W. Abbey* is an outstanding tribute to a gifted artist and the railroads he loved. The book will be for sale at *Conversations* for \$50 and copies may be ordered on the Center's website (www.railphoto-art.org/books) to be delivered after the conference. A traveling exhibit will debut on May 11, 2018 at the Grohmann Museum on the Milwaukee School of Engineering campus in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



Beebe & Clegg: Their Enduring Photographic Legacy

John Gruber, John Ryan, and Mel Patrick

Center for Railroad Photography & Art, 2018

Beebe and Clegg: Their Enduring Photographic Legacy, a new book from the Center for Railroad Photography & Art, tells about how partners Lucius Beebe and Charles Clegg introduced railroad photography and the world of railroading to wide popular audiences. Beebe (1902-1966) initially championed the three-quarters or “wedge-of-pie” perspective in his photography. Clegg (1916-1979) introduced a more innovative outlook, boosting creativity for both of them. Their photographs shine in this new book, produced with the best of modern digitization, design, and printing techniques.

Beebe and Clegg: Their Enduring Photography Legacy includes 222 images from the California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives, all scanned from negatives and carefully cleaned and checked, revealing surprises. Many are previously unpublished. In addition to the CSRM collection, thirty-six images come from other sources.

Over the course of eight chapters, the book traces Beebe and Clegg's life and times together; their visual influences, short lines, narrow gauge lines, Nevada and the Virginia & Truckee, and their photography. Authors John Gruber and John Ryan, assisted by Mel Patrick, bring the best of their photographic work together in one book for the first time, using high quality duotone printing. The 224-page book goes on sale for \$60 at *Conversations*. Copies may be ordered on the Center's website and will be shipped immediately after the conference. A traveling exhibit is in the works.

Schedule

Friday

Glen Rowan House, no. 23 on campus map

5:00 P.M. Doors open, reception, exhibition featuring the work of Wallace W. Abbey on display

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

6:30 P.M. Dinner

7:30 P.M. Opening remarks and raffle drawing for Mel Patrick print

7:45 P.M. Railway & Locomotive Historical Society awards presentation

8:00 P.M. Fast & Cheap: Lake Forest College's faculty band

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, *Wood Lounge*

Presentation of photographs by conference attendees on repeat, *chapel*

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

8:45 A.M. James G. Wrinn, *Placeholders for Old Memories: The Railroad Photography of William G. Gordon*

9:30 A.M. McNair Evans, *In Search of Great Men: Portraits with 21st Century American Rail Passengers*

10:15 A.M. Break, *Wood Lounge*

10:45 A.M. John Austin, *Smoke, Steam & Light: A Journey Around the Railways of England, Wales & Scotland in Oil Paintings*

11:30 A.M. George Hiotis, *Towers — The Last Outposts*

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

1:30 P.M. Adrienne Evans, Bon French & Scott Lothes, *Updates on the Center*

1:50 P.M. John Gruber, *Creative Photography Awards Program*

2:00 P.M. Robin Coombes, *A Different View*

2:45 P.M. Break, *Wood Lounge*

3:15 P.M. William Benning Stewart, *Paralleling Paths: Railroad and Commercial Photography Mature Together in the Industrial Age*

4:00 P.M. Kevin P. Keefe and Scott Lothes, *Wallace W. Abbey: A Life in Railroad Photography*

4:45 P.M. Concluding remarks and raffle drawing for David Plowden print

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

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

Wallace W. Abbey exhibition on display

Book and print sales in the library, author signings on the sun porch

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

7:00 P.M. Dinner

Sunday

McCormick Auditorium in the Johnson Science Center, no. 7 on the campus map - enter from west side of building

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

9:00 A.M. Alan Furler with Victor Hand, *Donald W. Furler's Photography: Quiet Monsters Coming to Life*

10:00 A.M. Break, *lobby*

10:15 A.M. Robert Gould and Matt Kierstead, *Getting It Right: The Railroad Art of Illustrator John Fleming Gould*

11:15 A.M. Break, *lobby*

11:30 A.M. Docent panel: Ryan Gaynor, Will Jordan, Samuel Phillips, Johnathan Riley, and Alex Silka, moderated by David Lester

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

Presenters



John AUSTIN, Dawlish, England

Smoke, Steam & Light: A Journey Around the Railways of England, Wales & Scotland in Oil Paintings, Saturday, 10:45 A.M.

John Austin has been a professional artist for thirty years. He is the President and a Fellow of the Guild of Railway Artists. He has won the 'GRA Picture of the Year Award' twenty-four times in the past twenty-five years. He currently lives by the coast in the South West of England.



Robin COOMBES, Birmingham, England

A Different View, Saturday, 2:00 P.M.

Robin has a lifelong passion for steam railways and is perhaps best known for his innovative photography for which he has won several awards and been widely published. Robin is currently a Ph.D. research student in Governance of Heritage Railways at the University of Birmingham, Centre for Railway Research and Education. He is also a Director of Vintage Trains CBS, which aims to become the first new public British Main Line Railway Company in one hundred years to run express steam trains.



McNair EVANS, San Francisco, California

In Search of Great Men: Portraits with 21st Century American Rail Passengers, Saturday, 9:30 A.M.

Evans explores themes of shared experiences and identity by photographing the American cultural landscape. Since 2012, McNair has taken Amtrak trips to meet and photograph passengers. He elicits first person, passenger-written journals, often about connection and change. *In Search of Great Men* explores a search for hope that so defines national identity. In 2016 the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation named McNair a Photography Fellow, supporting this continued investigation of contemporary America's culture through its passenger rail system.



Alan FURLER, Cape May, New Jersey

Donald W. Furler's Photography: Quiet Monsters Coming to Life, Sunday, 9:00 A.M.

Furler grew up in Glen Rock, New Jersey. He spent much of his youth trackside with his father from near the end of the regular steam era and continuing with many later special steam excursions. He developed his own love of trains, especially steam. Furler's career in biomedical engineering focused on medical device R&D. He retired in 2011 as a vice president with a GE Medical business. In recent years he has focused on preserving his father's photographic collection, which was donated to the Center in 2017.



Robert GOULD, Chattanooga, Tennessee

Getting It Right: The Railroad Art of Illustrator John Fleming Gould, Sunday, 10:15 A.M.

Gould, son of artist John F. Gould, is a retired high school and college math instructor. Along with his 33-year career in education, he continues to be active in the promotion of his father's art work. In growing up in the art business, Robert and his brothers were models for their father's work and saw how the finished art work was developed. Robert and his wife, Loretta, reside in Chattanooga, Tennessee. He is an active volunteer in the American Red Cross and serves on the Board of the Eastern Tennessee American Red Cross.



Victor HAND, Bar Harbor, Maine

Donald W. Furler's Photography: Quiet Monsters Coming to Life, Sunday, 9:00 A.M.

Hand was born in New York City in 1942 and spent most of his career as a consultant in the transportation industry. He worked on such railroad watersheds as the dismantling of the Milwaukee Road and both the creation and the breakup of Conrail. A globe-trotting railroad photographer, he has been widely published in *Trains* and

George HIOTIS, Clark, New Jersey

Towers — The Last Outposts, Saturday, 11:30 A.M.

Hiotis is a professional photographer who saw the beginning of his career by borrowing the family camera to take pictures of trains. He made his very first picture at the Jersey Central station in nearby Westfield in the mid-1950s, and his interest advanced beyond the hobby stage in the early 1970s. He has nurtured a great passion for railroads, in both their mechanical and human aspects, most often aiming for an unusual representation. He has won two grand prizes and one second prize in the *Trains* magazine photo contests.



Kevin P. KEEFE, Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Wallace W. Abbey: A Life in Railroad Photography, Saturday, 4:00 P.M.

Keefe was born in Chicago in 1951 and graduated from Michigan State University's School of Journalism in 1973. He was a key figure in the effort to restore Pere Marquette steam locomotive no. 1225 and recently authored a book about the locomotive. He worked for daily newspapers in Michigan and Wisconsin, and as an associate editor and editor-in-chief of *Trains*. He became associate publisher in 2000, and, from 2005 to retirement in March of 2017, was vice-president-editorial and publisher of Kalmbach Publishing Co.



Matthew KIERSTEAD, Marlborough, New York

Getting It Right: The Railroad Art of Illustrator John Fleming Gould, Sunday, 10:15 A.M.

Kierstead hails from southern New England where he grew up with changing railroading under Penn Central and Conrail. He earned an M.A. in Public History from West Virginia University where he was exposed to coal mines and steel mills and spent a summer documenting the East Broad Top Railroad for the Historic American Engineering Record. Matt worked in historical preservation and cultural resource management for more than twenty years before moving to the Hudson River valley in 2011 where he started Milestone Heritage Consulting.



David LESTER, Atlanta, Georgia

Docent Panel, moderator, Sunday, 11:30 A.M.

Lester is a transportation writer, historian, and photographer, who lives in Atlanta, Georgia. He is a Correspondent for *Trains* magazine, writes for the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society's *Railroad History*, and serves on the editorial advisory board of the journal. He also writes for *Railroad Heritage*, the Center's quarterly journal. In addition, David contributed eighteen entries to the *Encyclopedia of North American Railroads*, published by Indiana University Press. He is a member of the Lexington Group in Transportation History.



Scott LOTHES, Madison, Wisconsin

Wallace W. Abbey: A Life in Railroad Photography, Saturday, 4:00 P.M.

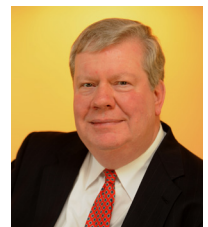
Lothes has been the Center's full-time executive director since 2011 and in 2013 he succeeded John Gruber as president and editor of the Center's journal *Railroad Heritage*. Fascinated with railroads since birth, he turned a hobby into a rewarding and innovative career. To date more than 500 of his photographs have appeared in print, along with more than fifty bylined articles in magazines including *Trains*, *Classic Trains*, *Railfan & Railroad*, and *Railroads Illustrated*, as well as two front-page travel stories in Portland, Oregon's *Oregonian*.



William Benning STEWART, Greenwood, Indiana

Paralleling Paths: Railroading and Commercial Photography Mature Together in the Industrial Age, Saturday, 3:15 P.M.

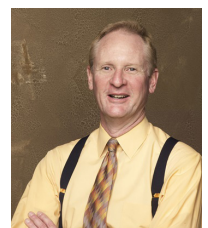
Stewart is a semi-retired corporate communications manager, for many years an executive speechwriter for the Chrysler Corporation in Detroit. Grandson of a New York Central official, son of an educator father and newspaperwoman mother, he soon blended writing and photography with his boundless study of railroading. Over the past four decades his articles on railroad history have appeared in *Trains*, *Classic Trains* and other publications.



James G. WRINN, Waukesha, Wisconsin

Placeholders for Old Memories: The Railroad Photography of William G. Gordon, Saturday, 8:45 A.M.

Wrinn has been editor of *Trains* since October 27, 2004. A native of Franklin, North Carolina, he graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a degree in journalism and political science. He worked at newspapers in Durham, Gastonia, and Fayetteville before joining *The Charlotte Observer* in 1986. He has worked as editor and writer for more than six publications, as well as authored several books. Jim is a lifelong steam fan, and he is a qualified locomotive engineer at the North Carolina Transportation Museum in Spencer.



Print Program



Above: Steam from the train's heating line envelopes the Skytop parlor-observation car of the *Afternoon Hiawatha*, standing beneath the Minneapolis train shed ready to depart for Chicago on October 24, 1969. Photograph by Wallace W. Abbey

Below: Buffalo Creek & Gauley steam locomotive no. 14 pulls through Swandale, West Virginia, in March 1961. Photograph by William G. Gordon

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 Steinheimer 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.

Print Raffles

As in recent years at the conference, two photographers have donated prints that the Center has framed and matted that you can win in raffle drawings.

Renowned photographer David Plowden has donated a photograph for the raffle. His archival pigment print shows the Erie Lackawanna's westbound *Phoebe Snow* passenger train making a stop in Scranton, Pennsylvania, in 1964, just two years before the railroad discontinued the train. The image was included in Plowden's book *Requiem for Steam* (W. W. Norton & Company, 2010). The 12x11 archival print is matted and framed in black metal.

Mel Patrick's photograph features the *Broadway Limited*, Pennsylvania Railroad's train no. 26, awaiting departure from Chicago Union Station in 1966. The image was included in the book *Starlight on the Rails*, edited by Jeff Brouws and Ed Delves. The 16x20 archival pigment print is matted and framed in black metal.

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

Raffle Tickets

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



Docent Program



An Illinois Central 6253 and three more SD40s move southbound on Canadian National's Iron Range subdivision through Gilbert, Minnesota, on January 10, 2016. With the temperature hovering right at zero degrees Fahrenheit, the fresh taconite loads put on an impressive show. Photograph by Alex Silka

For the past several years, the Center for Railroad Photography & Art has been offering scholarships for emerging photographers and visual artists to attend our *Conversations* conference at Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, Illinois. Scholarship recipients serve as docents during the conference and, new in 2018, will take part in a panel discussion on its final day. We're pleased to present this year's recipients: Ryan Gaynor, Will Jordan, Samuel Phillips, and Johnathan Riley. In addition, we're also happy to introduce Alex Silka, who will join the recipients for the panel discussion, which will be moderated by David Lester. *Conversations 2018* attendees will have the opportunity to meet these talented young photographers in person, see examples of their work, and hear their perspectives on 21st century railroading.

Alex Silka is a twenty-two-year-old photographer and railroader from Eau Claire, Wisconsin. Since graduating from Lincoln High School in Wisconsin Rapids in 2013, Silka has served as both a conductor and engineer for the Union Pacific Railroad,

mainly working on the former Chicago & North Western routes out of Eau Claire. Silka's photography features shortline and mainline railroads traversing stark landscapes in Wisconsin and Minnesota. He produces many of his photographs as high contrast black-and-white images, heightening the natural drama of rail transportation. This will be Silka's first time attending *Conversations*.

Ryan Gaynor, a fourth-year student at Ryerson University's School of Media, joins us from Toronto for his second time at *Conversations*. Gaynor counts his first trip to the conference as a benchmark in his young photographic career; attending enabled him to experience new approaches to photography as well as pursue professional opportunities. His first published photograph appeared in *Trains* only a few months later. Since that time, Gaynor's photographs and videos have been featured in a variety of magazines, newspapers, and web publications including the NBC Nightly News and the Marilyn Denis Show. When he's not at school or photographing trains, Gaynor is a videographer for Habitat for Humanity and a content partner for YouTube.

Second-time attendee Will Jordan is a sixteen-year old high school sophomore who lives in upstate South Carolina. His interest in trains has been existent for as long as he can remember. After getting his hands on a point-and-shoot digital camera at age eight, he has loved photographing railroads ever since. Fascinated by the historic aspects of railroading, Jordan favors old equipment, historical structures, and dramatic scenery in his photography. His current focus is on documenting and preserving iconic and rapidly disappearing railroad signals. Jordan has had work published in *Trains* magazine, Greenville & Western Railway calendars, and various travel booklets.

Samuel Phillips is a twenty-one-year-old photographer who resides in Radford, Virginia. Growing up in the Appalachian region of the state, Phillips's earliest railfan memories are of seeing coal trains rolling over former Norfolk & Western and Virginian trackage. To this day, he counts the Clinchfield and Virginian Railways among his favorite railroad subjects. Over the past few years, Phillips has written several feature articles about railroading, and his photographic work has appeared in various publications including *Trains*, *Railfan & Railroad*, *Railpace*, *Railroad Explorer*, and *Railroads Illustrated*. This will be Phillips's second time attending *Conversations*.

Hailing from Baltimore, Maryland, seventeen-year-old Johnathan Riley has been photographing for the last three years. Two-and-a-half years ago, Riley began to shoot *Smoke in the Sky*, a photographic series that depicts the last American steam engines. Riley followed up this project with *Rough around the Edges*, a series focused on documenting railroad workers. Riley is a volunteer at the Wilmington and Western Railroad and the Jarrettsville Volunteer Fire Department in Maryland.

Gifts from the conference's many patrons provide the funds that make these scholarships possible. Sign up now at: www.railphoto-art.org/conferences



Above: Brent Lefever of the Strasburg Railroad cleans the locomotive bell near Strasburg, Pennsylvania, on January 31, 2017. Photograph by Johnathan Riley



Left, top: The foundry at Atlas Steel provides a vibrant backdrop for Trillium Railway locomotive no. 108 on December 9, 2016 in Weiland, Ontario. Photograph by Ryan Gaynor



Left, middle: A thunderstorm and an eastbound freight train roll across the prairie along the BNSF Chillicothe Subdivision near Edelstein, Illinois, on a gloomy late August night in 2017. Photograph by Will Jordan

Left, bottom: A westbound Norfolk Southern locomotive no. 9249 leads an empty coal train across a trestle near Garwood, West Virginia. Photograph by Samuel Phillips

Images from Conference Presentations



John Austin
North Sea Night Hawk, 2013
30" x 24"
Oil on canvas



Above: Erie Railroad 2-10-2 steam locomotive no. 4217 travels west-bound with an auxiliary tender in Tuxedo, New York, on October 22, 1944. Photograph by Donald Furler



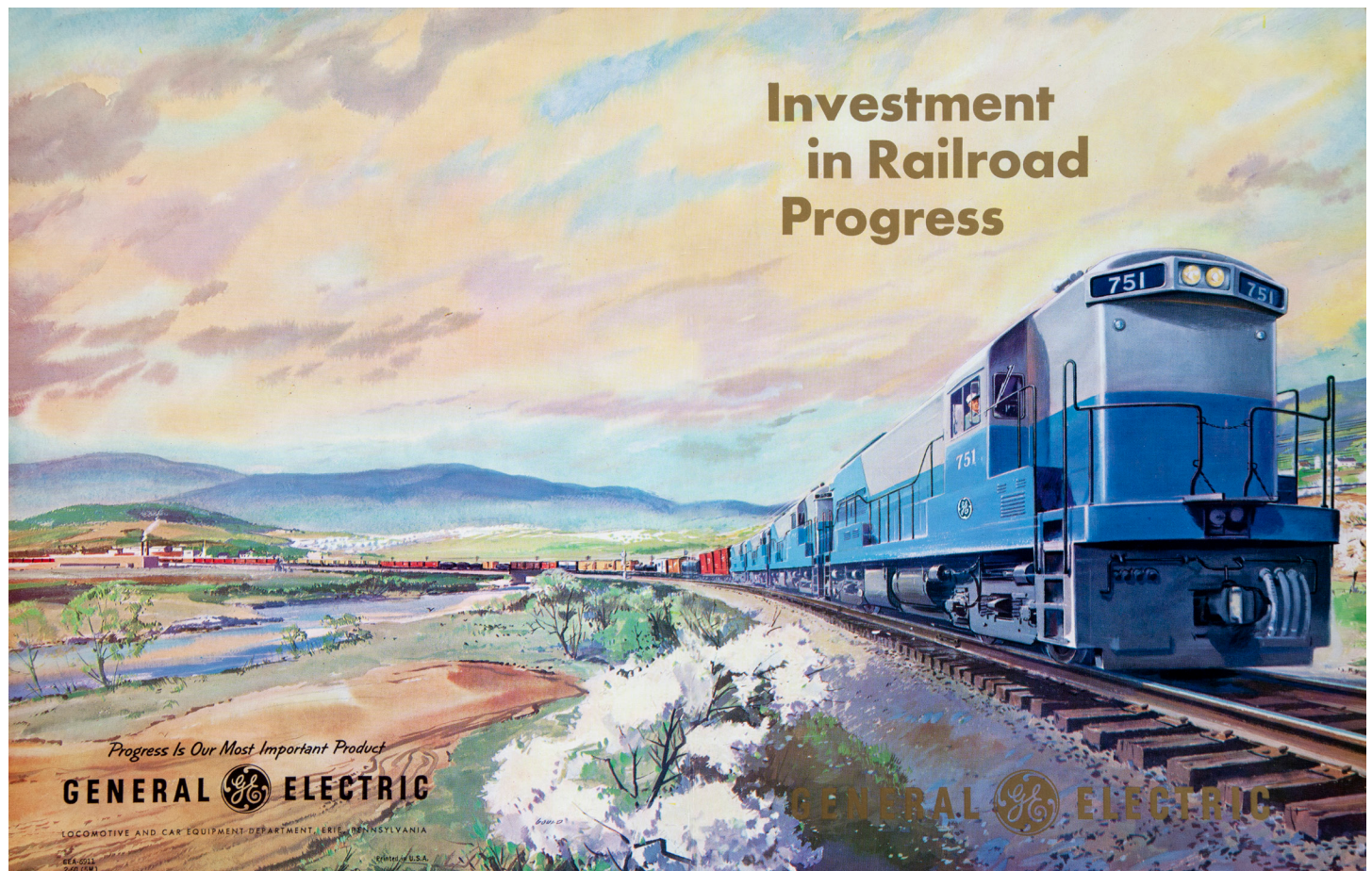
Below: Crescent Limited, northbound to Atlanta. Photograph by McNair Evans



Two SD40-2 diesels lead westbound freight train no. 211 across the snow-covered fields near Lanark, Illinois, on February 8, 1980. This is the Milwaukee Road's main line west from Chicago, crossing the Mississippi River at Savanna, Illinois, and ending at Council Bluffs, Iowa, where it connected with the Union Pacific. From 1955 until the creation of Amtrak in 1971, the Milwaukee handled UP's cross-country passenger trains on this route. Photograph by Wallace W. Abbey

Right: Newly completed terminal throat and signals stretch out at Washington Union Station in 1907. Photograph courtesy of Library of Congress / Detroit Publishing Company

Below: Vintage General Electric Railroad Advertisement featuring a U25B diesel locomotive. Painting by Robert Gould



Progress Is Our Most Important Product
GENERAL ELECTRIC
 LOCOMOTIVE AND CAR EQUIPMENT DEPARTMENT, ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA
© 1928 GE
 2-100 (10M)

GENERAL ELECTRIC



Shot in 1960, Kentucky & Tennessee steam locomotive no. 10 and its crew cross a bridge over Roaring Paunch Creek in McCreary County, Kentucky. Photograph by William G. Gordon

Above: London, Midland and Scottish Railway 7P Class 4-6-0 steam locomotive no. 46115, *The Thames-Clyde Express*, glides through a snowy landscape between Settle and Carlisle, England on January 9, 2011. Photograph by Robin Coombes



Below: The West Cumbo tower near Martinburg, West Virginia, glows softly at dusk. Tower operator Paul Swain is visible through the window of the building. Photograph by George Hiotis



Book Sales and Signings

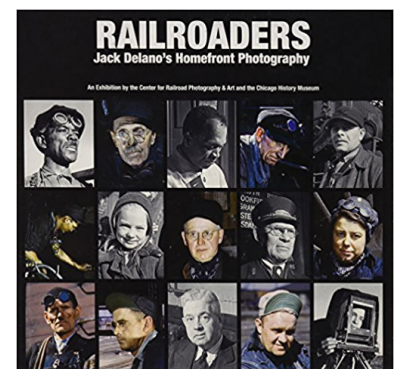
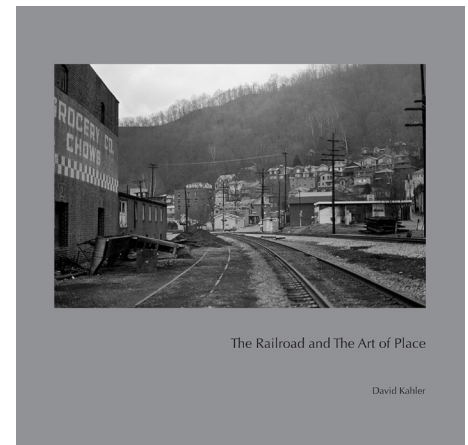
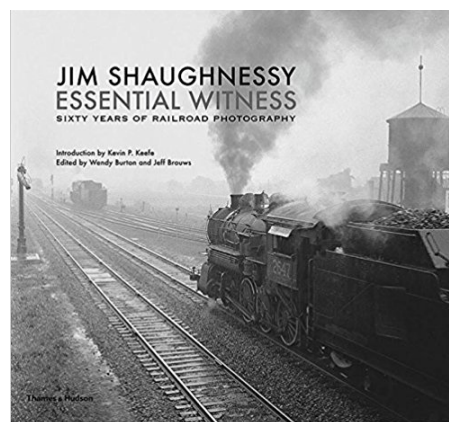
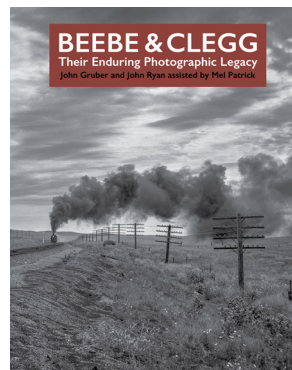
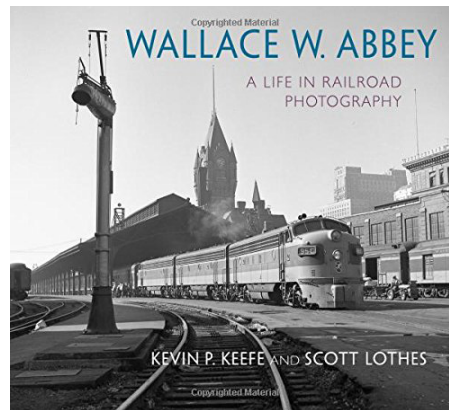
Several titles will be available this year at the Saturday reception. As in the past, sales will take place in Glen Rowan House's library (the large room on the left immediately upon entering), while the authors will be seated in the sun porch at the rear of Glen Rowan for signings.

If you previously reserved a book by mail, simply show your nametag to a staff member at the sales table, who will verify your name on the pre-order list and provide you with your book.

Please note that all books are available in limited quantities and will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

The Center can accept cash, check, and credit card payments. On sale will be:

- *Wallace W. Abbey: A Life in Railroad Photography*, by Kevin P. Keefe and Scott Lothes, published by Indiana University Press in 2018, **\$50.00**
- *Beebe & Clegg: Their Enduring Photographic Legacy*, by John Gruber, John Ryan, and assisted by Mel Patrick, published by the Center for Railroad Photography & Art in 2018, **\$59.95**
- *Jim Shaughnessy Essential Witness: Sixty Years of Railroad Photography*, by Jim Shaughnessy and Kevin P. Keefe, published by Thames & Hudson in 2017, **\$60.00**
- *A Transportation Miracle*, edited by Norman Carlson, published by Shore Line Interurban Historical Society in 2016, **\$25.00**
- *Smoke Over Steamtown*, by Dennis A. Livesey, published by Schiffer Publishing in 2016, **\$35.00**
- *The Railroad and the Art of Place*, by David Kahler, published by the Center for Railroad Photography & Art in 2016, **\$60.00**
- *Railroaders: Jack Delano's Homefront Photography*, by John Gruber (ed.), published by the Center for Railroad Photography & Art in 2015, **\$50.00**



These books, along with the prints shown on p. 8, 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.

Take advantage of a special offer to purchase our newest book, Beebe and Clegg: Their Enduring Photographic Legacy, along with either Wallace W. Abbey, Railroaders, or The Art of Place for \$90.

In Memoriam: William G. Gordon



William G. Gordon passed away on March 16, 2018, after a brief but difficult battle with cancer. He was to be a presenter at this year's *Conversations* conference. Jim Wrinn, editor of *Trains* magazine, will present Gordon's exceptional photography. His daughters Leslie Gordon and Michelle Lenox.

Gordon worked as a steam power mechanical engineer after graduating from the University of Virginia with a degree in mechanical engineering. He loved railroading since watching the main line of the Baltimore & Ohio pass by his dad's business in Wilmington, Delaware, as a kid. A subscription to *Trains* magazine and scores of weekend trips across the backcountry of Virginia cemented a lifelong love for the hobby. Between the years 1957 and 1962, Gordon made dozens of trips across the Appalachian landscape capturing the honest character of the region. Gordon shared his passion for railroading with his children throughout their lives. In preparing for his presentation at this year's conference, Gordon and his children found the opportunity to look back on his photographs as "placeholders for old memories" and, in the process, they created new ones together. Gordon will be deeply missed at this year's *Conversations*, and we carry his memory with us.

Center for Railroad Photography & Art

The Center for Railroad Photography & Art is a national nonprofit arts and education organization founded in 1997 and 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.

Efforts to preserve railroad artwork and photographs have led to the Center's amassing an archive of more than 200,000 images, including the complete works of several well-known photographers. Full processing of these collections includes housing them in archival-safe storage materials and digitizing the images as well as their captions, or metadata. The Center is actively adding to its archive and conducts these preservation activities both in house and in concert with the Archives & Special Collections of the Donnelley and Lee Library at Lake Forest College.

The Center also collaborates with partners across the country on its presentation work. Foremost is *After Promontory*, an exhibition developed in anticipation for the impending sesquicentennial of the first transcontinental railroad completed in 1869. A photography exhibition featuring images from the 1860s to the present, the show examines the significance and lasting impact of the transcontinental railroads on the American West. The exhibition will debut in conjunction with the release of *After Promontory: One Hundred and Fifty Years of Transcontinental Railroading*, a book of essays and photographs that tells the same narrative of the altering American landscape amidst 150 years of railroads.

The Center prepares other 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 signifi-

cant railroad photography and art to more than eighty venues throughout the country.

Publication of *Railroad Heritage*, the Center's journal, occurs quarterly. Each issue features work by historic and contemporary photographers and artists plus news of the field. 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. A regionally-themed northeastern conference was held at the University of Connecticut on October 29, 2016, and its success points the way towards more regional conferences. September 2018 will mark the Center's second regional conference to be hosted at the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento, California.

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.

Learn more about the Center's work at www.railphoto-art.org, which features images from the archives and includes links to other online platforms at Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Flickr, and Instagram. Follow them to stay abreast of current events and trends in railroad photography and art as well as the Center's research and acquisitions.

All-Time 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 R. Valentine
- Jim Wrinn

March 25, 2006

Marquette University

- Jeff Brouws
- Chris Burger
- Kevin P. Keefe
- Sayre Kos
- Greg McDonnell
- Gil Reid
- Michael R. Valentine

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 Reeve

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 Reeve
- Casey Thomason
- Steve VanDenburgh
- Jim Wrinn, panel with Steve Barry, Alexander Benjamin Craghead, Marc Entze, Don Phillips, and Matt Van Hattem

May 16–18, 2014

Lake Forest College

Chicago History Museum

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

April 10–12, 2015

Lake Forest College

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

April 8–10, 2016

Lake Forest College

- Steve Barry
- Wendy Burton and Kevin P. Keefe
- Charlie Castner and Ron Flanary
- John Gruber and John Ryan
- Todd Halamka
- Ronald C. Hill
- Emily Moser
- Steve Patterson
- Tony Reeve
- John Sanderson
- Alan Shaw
- J. Craig Thorpe

October 29, 2016

University of Connecticut

- Mark Aldrich
- Robert Joseph Belletzkic
- Victor Hand
- Matt Kierstead
- Shaun O'Boyle
- Jim Shaughnessy
- J.W. Swanberg

April 28–30, 2017

Lake Forest College

- Drayton Blackgrove
- Katherine Botkin
- Jean Bubley and James J. Reisdorff
- Alexander Benjamin Craghead
- Dan Cupper
- Nicholas Fry
- Eric E. Hirsimaki
- John P. Kelly
- Kevin P. Keefe
- Dennis Livesey
- Alan Miller
- Adam Normandin
- David Styffe
- Paul Wertico with David Cain and John Moulder

April 13–15, 2018

Lake Forest College

- Jim Wrinn
- McNair Evans
- John Austin
- George Hiotis
- Bill Stewart
- Robin Coombes
- Kevin P. Keefe and Scott Lothes
- Alan Furler with Victor Hand
- Robert Gould and Matt Kierstead

*Next conference:
September 22, 2018
California State
Railroad Museum*

Directors, Officers, and Staff



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.



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*.



Adrienne Evans (Archives Manager), 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.



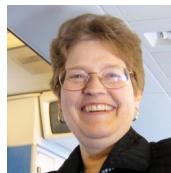
T. Bondurant French (Chair), Glen Ellyn, Illinois, is the executive chairman of Adams Street Partners, one of the largest and oldest managers of private equity investment in the world. A lifelong rail enthusiast, Bon has photographed some 700 different railroads.



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.



John Gruber (Past President), Madison, Wisconsin, is the author or coauthor of eight railroad books, including the recently published *Beebe & Clegg: Their Enduring Photographic Legacy*. He received awards from the Railway & Locomotive Historical Society for photography and an article about Beebe and Clegg's photography.



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



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, and he is the author of *The Railroad and the Art of Place*.



Kevin P. Keefe, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, recently retired as 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 no. 1225, and later authored a book about it.



Scott Lothes (President and Executive Director), Madison, Wisconsin, joined the Center's staff in 2008. He is a regular contributor to *Trains*, *Railfan and Railroad*, and other railroad publications, with more than fifty bylined articles and some 500 photographs in print.



Albert O. Louer, Williamsburg, Virginia, recently retired as Director of Principal Gifts at the Colonial Williamsburg Foundation. He worked in museums for fifty years and has research and collecting interests in the Pullman Co. and Midwestern railroads.



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 150 original works.



Hailey Paige (Exhibitions and Event Coordinator), Madison, Wisconsin, received a master's degree from Eastern Illinois University in Historical Administration in 2017. She has held several positions in the museum field before coming to the Center in 2017.



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.



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.

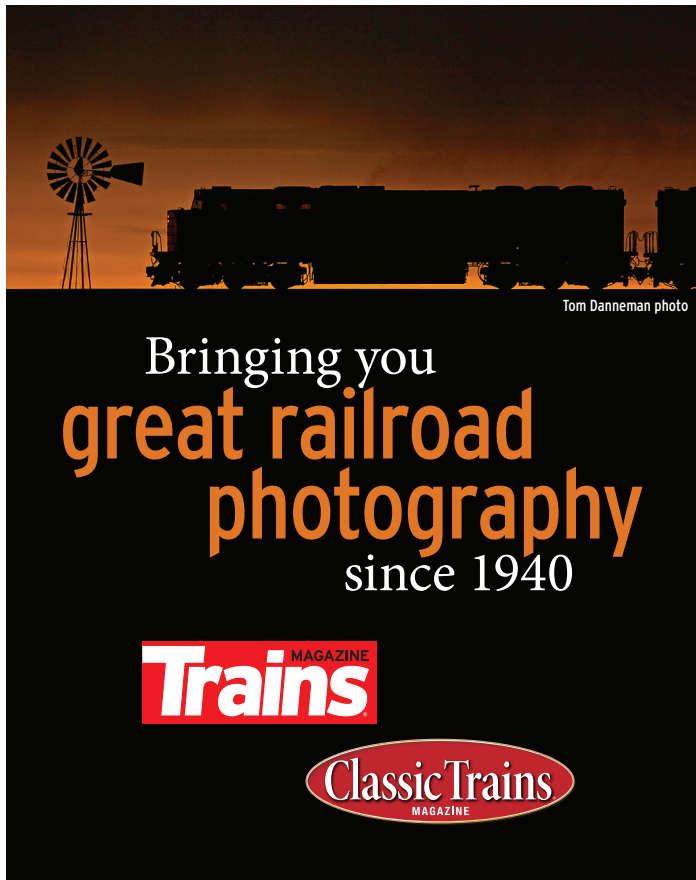


Michael R. Valentine, Ferndale, Michigan, is the manager of Training Product Group at Leoni Engineering Products & Services, Inc. He has had more than 200 photographs published in *Trains* and other periodicals and books in the U.S. and Europe.



Inga Velten (Development Associate), Madison, Wisconsin, joined the Center in 2017 and has more than seventeen years of experience in nonprofit fundraising and administration, with expertise in data management, prospect research, and major gift fundraising.

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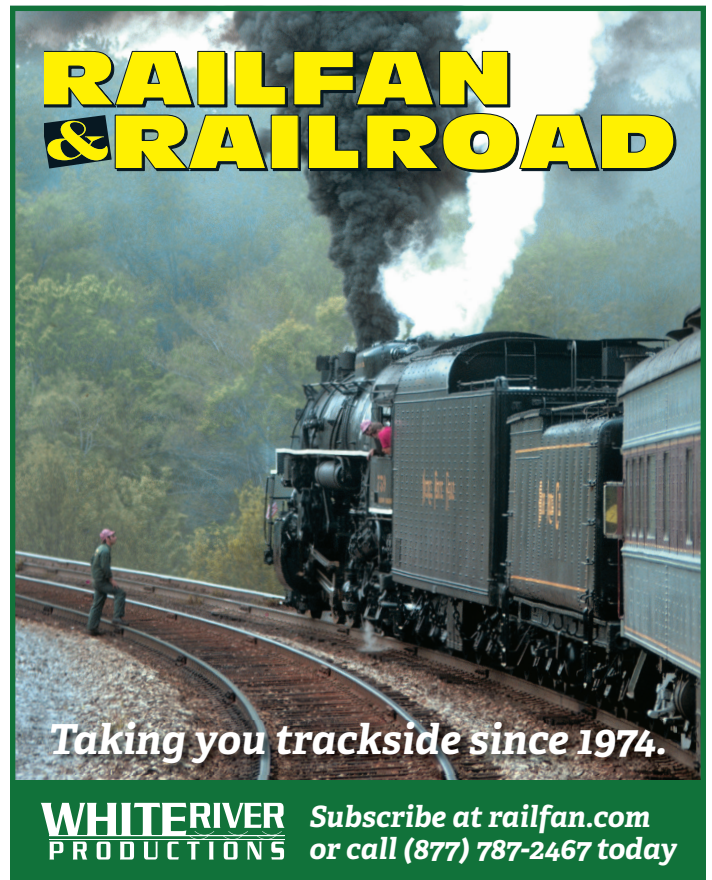


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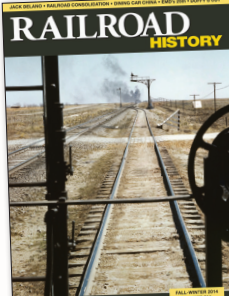
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Support the Center's Endowment Fund

by making a gift through your estate

To help secure a bright future, and to ensure long-term care for our growing collections and exhibitions, the Center has created an endowment fund. A gift to the fund, established through your estate, can make a lasting impact on the work of the Center for Railroad Photography & Art while costing you nothing during your lifetime. Leaving a legacy in our railroad heritage community is easy. Just ask your attorney or financial advisor to include the boxed language in your will, trust, insurance policy, or other beneficiary designation forms.

Your legacy gift can be directed to support any of our specific programs where you have a particular interest or to provide general support for all of the activities of the Center. In your estate

plan, it is important to use the endowment's full and exact name: "Center for Railroad Photography & Art Endowment" (EIN 47-7373395). As a 509(a) (3) nonprofit organization, gifts are tax exempt to the fullest extent permissible by law.

To ensure that your legacy will be established according to your wishes, please get in touch with Scott Lothes, president and executive director, at 608-251-5785 or scott@railphoto-art.org. Your commitment will remain fully confidential.

In addition to estate gifts, we welcome current gifts of cash or securities to the endowment, which will be fully matched by Bon French's challenge.

I give _____% and/or \$_____ of my estate to the Center for Railroad Photography & Art Endowment (EIN 47-7373395), 313 Price Place, Suite 13, Madison, Wisconsin, 53705-3262, to provide funding for _____ at the Center 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.



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