



KEY LOCK & LANTERN NEWS



Sep/Oct 2025

Issue No.88

The Bi-Monthly Digital Supplement to the Key Lock & Lantern Journal



**Railroadiana
Auction Results**

**Railroad Museum &
Preservation News**

**KL&L News &
Announcements**



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The Bi-Monthly Digital Supplement to Key Lock & Lantern Magazine
WWW.KLNL.ORG

September/October 2025 **Issue #88**

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KL&L News Editor.....David Hamilton

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Key, Lock & Lantern

A non-profit membership corporation dedicated to the preservation of transportation history and railroad memorabilia

The mission of Key, Lock & Lantern is to gather and publish information on the history of the transportation industry, and to support the preservation of railroad artifacts. KL&L members have an interest in all aspects of railroad & transportation history, from research and preservation projects to the conservation and restoration of all types of historical memorabilia. Originally formed in 1966, Key, Lock & Lantern, Inc. was officially incorporated in 1988 as a non-profit, educational, membership corporation in the State of New Jersey, under the provisions of Section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in transportation history and in achieving the goals of the organization.

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From the President's Desk.....



I don't actually remember my first train ride. I was about two years old when we rode the Livonia, Avon & Lakeville steam train outside of Rochester, NY. My parents tell me that I slept through the entire trip. I do remember waving to Penn Central trains on the old Northern Central line when I was three years old, and being thrilled to walk through the cab of the Arcade & Attica Railroad steam locomotive when I was four. Later that year, we visited the big Christmas model train display at a department store in downtown Buffalo, and by then I was pretty well hooked on trains.

The holiday season is right around the corner, and it is filled with toy & train shows, Polar Express rides at museums and heritage railroads, and the opportunity to give model trains as a gift to young family members. As serious historians and collectors, we are more inclined to attend shows such as Gaithersburg or ride behind a mainline steam excursion, but these family-oriented events are perfect for introducing railroading to the next generation.

Several of the articles in this issue feature train rides and shows that will appeal to children and railfans alike, and are perfect for a weekend activity. While there is always the risk that a fellow collector may beat us to something good at an antique shop while we are spending time with the family, it is certainly a worthwhile trade-off. Even those in the hobby who don't have an interest in sharing it with others should appreciate our encouraging new collectors who will buy our stuff when it comes time to sell.

Another article in this issue introduces the opportunity to volunteer as a counselor for scouts who are working on their Railroading Merit Badge. KL&L trustee Bill Roberts has been involved with this program for many years, and has found it to be very rewarding. Several railroad museums offer programs that help scouts meet the requirements for the badge, and that is another avenue to support the program.

Sharing our interest in transportation history with members of our communities and young people is an enjoyable aspect of the hobby, but we also sometimes like to get together with serious historians and collectors and talk about the nuts and bolts that the general public won't understand. The annual Key Lock & Lantern Convention is the perfect venue to show off rare artifacts, discuss the finer points of railroad operations, and share information with others who have similar interests. Mark your calendars now for the May 7th through May 10th weekend and watch for registration announcements soon.

As always, thanks for your ongoing support of KL&L, and the next magazine will be going to press soon!

Dave Hamilton

KL&L President & Editor

Railroad Event Calendar



Upcoming historical society conventions, special events, railroadiana shows & auctions. Listings subject to change. Check show web sites before traveling and visit www.klnl.org for updates. See submission guidelines at the end of the calendar.

Look for Advertisements in this Issue & on the Key Lock & Lantern Website for [Events Shown in Blue](http://www.klnl.org)

- Nov 8-9 Allentown, PA** - First Frost Allentown Train Meet.
Info: www.allentowntrainmeet.com.
- Nov 8-9 Raleigh, NC** - Neuse River Valley Model Railroad Club Train Show
Info: <https://www.nrvcclub.net/>.
- Nov 8-9 Sacramento, CA** - Sacramento International Rail Fair
Info: <https://internationalrailfair.com/>.
- Nov 9 Georgetown, CO** - Railroad Memories - Online & Catalog Auction Closes
Info: www.railroadmemories.com.
- Nov 9 Lansing, MI** - Lansing Model Railroad Club Train Show.
Info: www.lmrc.org.
- Nov 9 Vernon, CT** - Amherst Railway Society Vernon Train Show.
Info: <https://amherstrail.org/vernon/>.
- Nov 15-16 Luxemburg, WI** - JM Hobby Supply Railroadiana Auction
Info: www.jmhobbysupply.com.
- Nov 15-16 Pearland, TX** - Houston, Texas Area Train Show.
Info: <https://houstonttrak.org/>.

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Front Cover: A 1910 Davenport locomotive pulls trains on the Mohawk Valley Heritage Railroad in Rome, NY. Dave Hamilton photo.

Brookline Auction Gallery Introduces New Online Bidding Platform for Fall Auctions

A variety of rare and unusual railroadiana continues to flow through the Brookline Auction Gallery, with several large collections being sold. The latest auction featured a timed online-only format with a new bidding platform, which will also be used in the in-person sales. *Photos, descriptions and prices realized courtesy of Brookline Auction Gallery and do not include buyers premiums and shipping.*



A pair of Lehigh & Hudson River steel locks with matching Fraim L&HR keys went to a new home for \$1800.



An \$1100 bid bought this #39 brass lantern with a green over clear globe with cut wreath & "C.M. Proctor."



A \$375 bid was needed to buy this BR&P Safety & Service logo plate by Jackson with some small cracks.



This 13" Buffalo Rochester & Pittsburgh silverplate tray by Reed & Barton sold for a high bid of \$400.

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Railroadiana Auctions - Spring & Fall - Brookline, NH

Railroadiana Consignment Auctions Held Each Spring & Fall

Brookline Auction Gallery LLC - 32 Proctor Hill Rd, Brookline, NH 03033

www.brooklineauctiongallery.com

Scott Czaja - Sales Manager

Next Sale: December 4, 2025
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New in-house online bidding platform - We also accept absentee bids via: e-mail & mail
Quality consignments are welcome for future sales - email Scott: sczaja@hotmail.com

Railroad Memories Auction Features a Large Selection of Rare Memorabilia

Railroad Memories continues to offer high end railroadiana in its catalog and online auctions, with several well known collections gradually being dispersed to new owners. There is much more to come in upcoming sales, with the usual selection of western material and some from the east coast. *Photos, descriptions and prices realized courtesy of Railroad Memories Auctions and do not include buyers premiums and shipping.*



A Southern Pacific Locomotive Engineer fuel conservation award badge went to a new home for an \$1100 bid.



A Uintah Railway Mesa pattern demi set by Onondaga Pottery with several issues still sold for \$650.



A \$2600 bid purchased this 1900 Florence & Cripple Creek Railroad & Associated Companies annual pass.



A brass Parmelee & Bonnell lantern with a wheel cut presentation globe sold for a high bid of \$2100.



A \$3800 bid bought the AT&SF San Bernardino Shops builders plate from Santa Fe 2-10-2 No.984.

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Railroad Memories

AUCTION CATALOG #123

Bids Begin Closing Sunday November 9, 2025 at 8pm MTN



LOT 116



LOT 270



LOT 119



LOT 286



LOT 117



LOT 115



LOT 328



LOT 114



LOT 333



LOT 118



LOT 476



LOT 509



LOT 384



LOT 161



LOT 152



LOT 189



LOT 388

P.O. Box 415; Georgetown, CO 80444

303-569-5185

email: railroadmemories@gmail.com website: www.railroadmemories.com

JM Hobby Supply Continues Sale of Several Collections and Consignments

The summer auction by JM Hobby Supply & Railroad Artifacts had something for every collector, from top shelf memorabilia to reasonably priced lots. A large collection of model trains rounded out the two day sale. There are more collections on deck for the fall auction, and consignments are still being accepted for upcoming sales. *Photos, descriptions and prices realized courtesy of JM Hobby Supply & Railroad Artifacts and do not include buyers premiums and shipping.*



A Florence & Cripple Creek Railroad uniform button by S.A. French went to a new collection for a bid of \$140.



A Delaware Lackawanna & Western brass top bellbottom lantern by Steam Gauge of Syracuse sold for \$850.



A \$160 bid bought this Minneapolis St. Paul & Sault Saint Marie Railway (Soo Line) Station Agent hat badge.



A Chesapeake & Ohio / Baltimore & Ohio Potomac plastic train sign showing Maryland stations sold for \$1500.



A bid of \$120 took home this Grand Trunk Western Railroad uniform cap with enameled GTW Brakeman badge.

Continued on Page 22

JM HOBBY SUPPLY AND RAILROAD ARTIFACT AUCTIONS

OFFERING OUR NEXT RAILROAD ARTIFACT AUCTION

Saturday and Sunday, November 15-16, 2025---Starting at 9AM CST Both Days!

Over 1,000 lots to be sold from several large estates!

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*450 rare railroad passes-most 1860s-1900s, plus 150 rare railroad keys-most from 1870s-1930s.

*100 builders plates from US/Canadian RRs, as well as other metal signs/logos/heralds

*Rare calendars (many with all 12 monthly pages) 1910s-1960s

*Builders photos, timetables, RR maps, silver, posters, depot clocks, step boxes, lanterns, and more!

*100s of brass trains in HO scale, plus 100s of custom painted/decaled HO scale locomotives and freight cars!

*HO, N, O, G. and S scale items!

Model railroad buildings, detail parts, scenery, DCC supplies, power supplies, Tortoise machines, and more!



WHY BUY AND SELL WITH US?

1. We have the lowest seller's fees of any railroad auction service, and even greater seller discounts for large consignments and high dollar items! This puts more money in the seller's pocket!
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****Call us today at 920-857-9670 to discuss consigning your collection!**

We are now accepting consignments for our 2026 and 2027 sales!

EMAIL: jmhobbysupplyandrrartifacts@gmail.com

ADDRESS: PO Box 25, Luxemburg, WI 54217

Send us an email to join our email list and get an announcement for every upcoming sale!

All of our sales are posted on HiBid Auctions! Use this link to get direct access to our railroad auctions at:

<https://jmhobbysupply.hibid.com>

or get a link from our website by clicking on the RAILROAD AUCTION tabs in the menu at: www.jmhobbysupply.com

Rail & Road Auctions Offers High Quality Railroadiana from Several Collections

Rail & Road Auctions is not slowing down, with live online auctions held almost monthly, featuring memorabilia of every sort from all over the country. From higher end artifacts to bargain lots for newer collectors, there has been something for everyone in recent auctions, with plenty to come in upcoming sales. *Photos, descriptions and prices realized courtesy of Rail & Road Auctions and do not include buyers premiums and shipping.*



A \$275 bid took home a deck of St. Louis Southwestern Railway Cotton Belt Route Watermelon Girl playing cards.



A New York Central System club car smoking / drink stand with oval logo on the base sold for a \$2100 bid.



A \$350 bid was needed to buy this Pere Marquette Railroad Conductor uniform cap badge with no hallmark.



A pair of Burlington Cedar Rapids & Northern Railway Adams lanterns went to a new home for a \$700 bid.



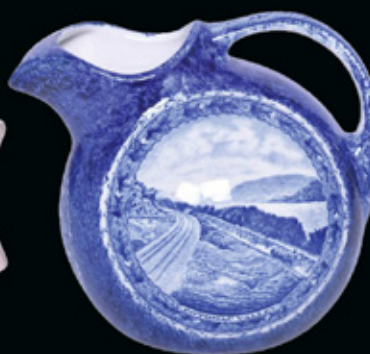
A 7" cast metal spittoon with the Pennsylvania Railroad keystone logo cast on the side sold for a \$675 bid.

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RAIL & ROAD AUCTIONS

Now Accepting Consignments for
2026 Railroad & Transportation Auctions

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On the Road to Nowhere

No Mainline Track? No Problem for Railroad Museums



The mission of most railroad historical groups is to preserve and share the history of this fascinating industry, and a key to achieving this goal is the participation of the general public. Community involvement is not only essential to the growth and success of these organizations, but also provides financial support from outside of the membership rolls. Special events and programs are great ways to spark interest, but the best way to connect with the public and generate revenue is to operate train rides.

The Mohawk Valley Heritage Railroad operates on a short dogbone route along the Erie Canal in Rome, NY.

Some groups have been fortunate enough to partner with nearby shortlines, or operate their own heritage railroads, but running mainline excursions is largely a thing of the past. And, although most railfans look forward to a trip that takes all day and covers rare mileage, the casual rider usually prefers an experience that lasts for an hour or two, and has a more reasonable ticket price.

Following the success of the Polar Express and other holiday theme trains on heritage and tourist railroads, many groups have come up with creative ways to bring those activities to their museums. With a typical family simply looking for a fun activity, the entertainment aspect of the train ride is more important than the actual trip. As a result, a short ride to nowhere is just as enjoyable to the general public as a mainline steam excursion is to railfans.

Museums such as the National Railroad Museum in Green Bay, WI and the North Carolina Transportation Museum offer half-hour rides on a mile or two of trackage around the grounds. The B&O Railroad Museum in Baltimore runs a "Mile One Express" over the first mile of the Baltimore & Ohio's pioneer line, and trains at the Galveston Railroad Museum venture out on a short stretch of industrial trackage adjacent to the Texas museum.



Children board the Polar Express train at the Galveston Railroad Museum, which travels for a short distance over adjacent industrial tracks. Galveston RR Museum photo.

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Trains to Nowhere

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A lack of existing railroad isn't necessarily a show stopper either, with some museums constructing new trackage for short rides. Decades ago, the Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum laid tracks to the adjacent New York Museum of Transportation and began to offer short motor car rides. In recent years, museum volunteers have upgraded the line and today restored diesels haul holiday theme and summer excursion trains. The families who ride the sold-out trips don't mind that they are only traveling for a few miles through the woods.



Nevada State Railroad Museum trains operate on a loop around the museum. Nevada State RR Museum photo.



A Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum train arrives at the pumpkin patch. R&GVRRM photo.

Farther east in the Empire State, steam has returned to the site of the now-closed Erie Canal Village in Rome. A train ride along the original canal was once an attraction at the park, and several railroad enthusiasts have revived the run this year, featuring a 1910 narrow gauge Davenport locomotive. Kids and families can enjoy the short trip on a dogbone route reminiscent of a model railroad layout, and railroad history buffs can ride behind one of only two operating steam locomotives in the state.



The Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum Santa Claus train arrives at the North Pole. R&GVRRM photo.

Of course, most heritage and tourist railroads run a variety of holiday trains, from Easter Bunny specials to the famous (and officially licensed) Polar Express. Beer and Wine trains are popular with the adult crowd, who in many cases would

not even mind if the train never left the station. Once again, it is the entertainment value, not the trip itself that makes these trains popular.

While most volunteers at railroad museums and historical groups are primarily interested in preserving artifacts and conducting research, they always seem to be willing to put on another hat and share their enthusiasm with the public. Whether it is wearing a red suit or setting up a pumpkin patch, serving as a museum or heritage railroad volunteer now often includes the role of entertainer. While interest in other areas of history often waxes and wanes, perhaps that is the reason that everyone always loves trains!



The Polar Express conductor & Santa Claus on the Adirondack Railroad. Photo courtesy of Bill Moll.

Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad Celebrates Its 45th Anniversary!

Duluth, MN Tourist Train Continues to Be a Shining Jewel of the Upper Midwest

By John DeBeck

LS&M RR Photo.

I recently went to Duluth, MN, after spending a day at a railroad auction in Minnesota and picking up an estate for our next JM Hobby Supply and Railroad Artifact Auctions sale. Part of the trip was to bring back barbecue ribs and sauces from OMC Smokehouse, per the demands of my family, and also some pasties from Carlson's Pasty and Sausage Kitchen in Biwabik, MN. However, my main interest in going to Duluth was to continue my support for the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad and the tourist train that is celebrating its 45th anniversary in 2025.

This railroad dates back to 1870, as it was the first railroad to arrive in Duluth. The railroad was short-lived, being reorganized as the St. Paul and Duluth Railroad in 1877, and then becoming part of the Northern Pacific in 1900. The railroad connected the Twin Cities of Minnesota; specifically St. Paul, with Duluth, and replaced an old stagecoach line that took many days to make the trip, unlike the first train, which took only 16 hours to cover the 140 mile jaunt!

As railroad mergers and abandonments took place over time, the present LS&M was organized by a group of volunteers from the Lake Superior Transportation Club in 1980, who took the name of Duluth's first railroad, upon which a portion of the original track along the St. Louis River is now used for this excursion line. You can tell that some of the original post-1900 rail remains, too, and the conductor was quick to point it out to me, though I could feel it as we traveled the route! Well maintained, it adds to the nostalgia of the route.

Many people, when thinking of train rides near Duluth, always think of the North Shore Scenic Railroad, which travels through great scenery, running north out of Duluth, along Lake Superior, past the iron ore yard of the Duluth Missabe and Iron Range Railroad (now Canadian National), terminating at the old Duluth and Iron Range depot in Two

Harbors, MN. It is most certainly a fine ride! However, the LS&M offers some things that "bigger lines" do not offer, though recent events almost caused the termination of the line as a whole!

Way back in 2015, I wrote a letter that was published in the *Duluth News Tribune*, was sent to the mayor's office, and was also used by the LS&M in their efforts to preserve their railroad from becoming "extinct!" U.S. Steel had a large facility on what would be the southwest end of the LS&M line, dating back over 100 years, and it was designated as a



All Aboard the Lake Superior & Mississippi! Author's photo.

Superfund clean-up site. While the railroad understood that when this cleanup occurred, they would either be temporarily out of business, or have a much-abbreviated route, the city, as well as those involved in the cleanup, had no interest in replacing the tracks and making the railroad whole once the cleanup was completed.

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The city just wanted to make the route into a trail! Thousands of signatures were gathered from passengers on the train. Letter writing campaigns took place. The media became involved. The “powers that be” in the City of Duluth had no idea about the millions of dollars in revenue that would be lost from the thousands of people who came from out of the area each year to ride the train!

However, after a lengthy fight, common sense prevailed, and in July of 2019, the railroad was designated as a local preservation heritage landmark. Though the railroad would



The U.S. Steel Superfund clean-up site has been returned to its natural state, as seen from the train. Author's photo.

need to be closed for three seasons, following the conclusion of the cleanup, it is now back in operation, and stronger than ever! On the positive side, the city was still able to install a hiking trail, and the success of the cleanup can readily be seen on the current train excursions.

On a positive note, being closed from 2020-2022 gave the LS&M the opportunity to restore locomotive #46, a General Electric 44 tonner, originally built in 1946 for the Flambeau Paper Company in Park Falls, WI. Acquired in



The former Flambeau Paper Co. 1946 General Electric 44-tonner prepares to tie on to the train. Author's photo.

1985, the restoration should allow it to remain in service for years to come. They also rebuilt what is referred to as their “safari car,” which is an open-air flat car, with new fencing, posts, and flooring.

Two coaches from local railroads were preserved and are used by the LS&M. Coach 29 was built in 1912 for the Duluth and Iron Range Railroad by American Car and Foundry, and though it was remodeled in 1939, many of the original fittings remain. Coach 85 was also built by AC&F in 1912, but went to the Duluth Missabe and Northern. Later converted to a crew bunk car in a wrecking train, it was rebuilt and fitted with seats from a 1950s coach.

On a personal level, I love this ride for many reasons. First, how close it takes you to the St Louis River, and when I say you are close enough at times to jump out a window and take a swim, it is not an exaggeration! This adds to the amount of wildlife seen on almost any trip. Deer (two), otters (two), seagulls (hundreds!), ducks (many!), loons (six), geese (many!), and eagles (two!) are just some of many species you will have encounters with along the route.



The LS&M “Safari Car” provides passengers with an unobstructed view of the scenery. Author's photo.

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A Bald Eagle casually observes the passing of the Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad excursion train. Author's photo.

Duluth is built on the side of a hill, and is about 24 miles in length and four miles wide, so you'll see plenty of beautiful scenery, not to mention fall foliage! Crossing the Mud Lake causeway puts water on both sides of the train, and the narrator gives great info about the history of the area on the outbound trip.

I also have been a big fan of bridges all my life, and the far end of the trip takes you close to the Oliver Bridge, which

is a double-deck bridge with a two-lane highway on the bottom, running between Oliver, WI and Gary/New Duluth, MN, plus a railroad track on top. Originally built for the DM&IR, it is now used by the Canadian National.



Canadian National power crosses the former DM&IR Oliver Bridge across the river. Author's photo.



The Lake Superior & Mississippi RR excursion train crosses the Mud Lake causeway. Author's photo.

To emphasize the positives of this railroad even more, they really cater to their customers. I spent most of the excursion on the safari car, hoping to take some good photos, and enjoy the fall weather. A young lad of about 10 years attempted

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to get the attention of the engineer, while the crew reversed the engine and coupled to the train for the return trip. The engineer and one of the train staff had a quick conversation, and the boy and his mother were invited into the engine, where they spent the entire return trip, and at no additional charge!



Friendly volunteers operate the Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad excursion trains. Author's photo.

This is just one of many things that make this trip special, not to mention that the staff and offices are 100 percent volunteer. Not a single soul gets paid to run or operate the trains, or manage the business side of the firm!

If you get to the Duluth-Superior "Twin Ports" area of Minnesota/Wisconsin, I would urge you to put this train excursion on your "to do" list. They run on Saturdays and Sundays out of a small ticket office at 6930 Fremont Street in Duluth, MN, with excursions at 10:30AM and 1:30PM, from late spring until mid-to-late October. They are almost directly across the street from the Lake Superior Zoo as well. Veterans ride free on Sundays, and children under age four are free with a paid adult. Tickets are available online in advance, which is highly recommended due to sell-outs, at www.duluthrivertrain.com.



One of the scenic views from the Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad excursion trains. Author's photo.



Former Duluth & Iron Range RR and Duluth Missabe & Northern RR coaches are used on Lake Superior & Mississippi Railroad excursion trains. Author's photo.

Railroad Museums & Historical Societies

Send in news & photos to

KEY LOCK & LANTERN

E-mail: transportsim@aol.com

Share Success Stories & Promote Events!

Scouting America's Railroading Merit Badge



By William Hadyn Roberts Jr.

The Key Lock & Lantern organization has a vast wealth of knowledge and experienced individuals. One way to leave a legacy and pass on your passion for railroading is to become a Scouting America Merit Badge (MB) Counselor. However, you must have some minimum computer skills! So, if you do not own a computer you can stop reading right now!!

Most people are familiar with the traditional Boy Scout practice of earning merit badges, which still continues today under the current Scouting America organization. Scouts explore an area of interest, complete activities, and demonstrate their knowledge of the subject in order to receive a patch that is displayed on their uniform. One of the awards that scouts can choose to pursue is the Railroading Merit Badge.

To earn this merit badge, scouts study railroad operations and history, review types of equipment and how they work, and learn about railroad safety. Activities include visiting railroad facilities or museums, meeting with members of railroad historical groups, interviewing railroaders, and taking a trip by train. A guidebook is provided to the scouts, but earning the badge requires more in-depth study and guidance from knowledgeable MB Counselors. This is where KL&L members can help!

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A scouting group participates in a Steamtown program for completing merit badge requirements. NPS photo.



A Railroading Merit Badge program at Green Bay's National Railroad Museum. National RR Museum photo.

Railroading Merit Badge

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It is not difficult to register as a Counselor, and it will take less than two hours of your time. You will need to take a few minutes to fill out the Adult Volunteer Application and spend about 30 minutes on four online MB courses. You will also spend about 40 minutes taking the Safeguarding Youth Training (SYT) required of all volunteers and staff of Scouting America.

The Application can easily be found on your web browser by typing in Scouting America Adult Volunteer Application, or at <https://filestore.scouting.org/filestore/pdf/524-501.pdf>. You will need to pay a \$25 fee, which is often reimbursed by the Scouting Unit looking for your experience, or you could just consider it a donation for the cause! The form must be printed out and signed, which authorizes a background check. These typically take up to thirty days.

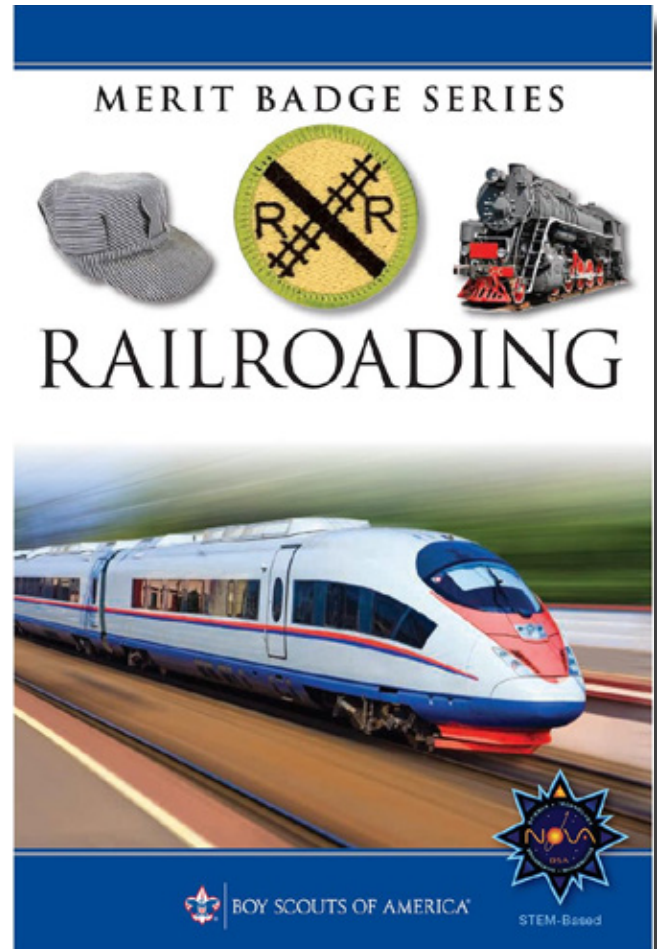


Scouts are given a tour of equipment at a Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania program. RR Museum photo.

In the meantime, you can go to my.scouting.org and create an account. There is some training you will need to take. Go to "Requirements" and see the "Merit Badge Counselor Orientation Classroom." These are the 4 courses you will need to take: SCO_471 Advancement; SCO_472 Aims and Methods of Scouts BSA; SCO_474 Introduction to Merit Badges; SCO_486 What is a Merit Badge Counselor?

After you have done all of the above you will be a registered MB Counselor at your local Scouting America District & Council. You will need to reach out to the Scouting Units in your area and let them know you are available for Railroading MB so they can add you to their Scoutbook profile.

For an overview of the Railroading Merit Badge program, see <https://www.scouting.org/merit-badges/railroading>. The full Railroading Merit Badge pamphlet may be downloaded in PDF format from that page, along with other resources. Being a part of Scouting is a great way to introduce the world of railroading to young people, and share our enthusiasm for the hobby. Have fun - I know that I do!



A Brief History of American Railroading

At the turn of the 19th century, travel over land in the United States was slower than it had been in ancient Rome. The Romans had surfaced most of their roads with stone and other hard materials to make travel by horse-drawn wagon and chariot much easier. The dirt roads of Colonial America were far more primitive and filled with mud each time it rained. The lack of bridges forced people to go out of their way to cross rivers. Vehicles drawn by animals traveled about as fast as a human could walk. But the coming of the railroad changed all this.

On July 4, 1828, Charles Carroll—the last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence—laid the foundation for what would become the Baltimore and Ohio Rail Road. Passengers could ride a horse-drawn railcar for 13 miles to Ellicott's Mills, Maryland. This was the nation's first common carrier, or public transportation, of freight and passengers by rail on a regular schedule.

Soon it became evident that steam was a more practical form of power than animals. Economics and the Industrial Revolution triggered and quickly stimulated the infant railroading industry. From the mines, forests, and farms to factories and markets, railroads hauled all kinds of products: coal, iron ore, timber, cattle, grain, and finished goods.

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sor, completed work on his invention for replacing horsepower with steam, an experimental steam locomotive that he called the "Tom Thumb."

It got beyond the test stage, but it was not a success.

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MODERN RAILROADS



Highway truck trailers are crated in piggyback formation on flatcars, much like the way circus and farm wagon trains had traveled in earlier years.



Greenbrier Maxi-Stack 30", an all-purpose double-stack car



For containerized cargo, flatcars are frequently loaded and unloaded by an intermodal crane, which straddles the train.

SAFETY FIRST

SAFETY SIGNALS BEFORE THE RAILROAD CROSSING

Advance warning signs are placed at least 150 feet before the crossing. They warn drivers of the crossing ahead. Advance warning signs are placed at least 150 feet before the crossing. They warn drivers of the crossing ahead.

A Quiet Zone has been established and the train will not sound its horn. The locomotive engineer can still sound the horn in emergency situations if flatcars are near the tracks.

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An Adams & Westlake presentation lantern with green over clear ornate globe sold for a high bid of \$950.



A Buffalo Rochester & Pittsburgh Railway 1931 calendar went to a new collection for a \$950 high bid.



A \$350 bid purchased this Maine Central baggage tag set by John Robbins with cardstock routing tag.



A \$375 bid took home this BR&P engine lantern by CT Ham with red cast globe including a cast "E."



A Union Pacific blue threadless insulator by Mulford & Biddle with a few chips & cracks sold for \$1500.



An \$1850 bid took home this Santa Fe enameled logo Watchman hat badge with no makers hallmark.



The Santa Fe drumhead from the Chicagoan that ran between Chicago and Kansas City sold for \$3800.



A \$3500 bid purchased this 23" Santa Fe Kachina plaque from coach No. 2844 in its fleet built by Budd.



A Northern Pacific Railroad U.S. Customs lock went to a new collection for a high bid of \$2350.

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An Atlantic Coast Line glass pitcher made by International Silver went to a new collection for a \$120 high bid.



A \$60 bid took home this 1911 Fort Worth & Denver City Railway horseblanket style employee timetable.



A shop electrified Chicago Milwaukee & Puget Sound Adlake semaphore lamp sold for a \$325 bid.



A \$325 bid bought this Handlan Missouri Pacific Railroad lantern with red cast MP and Safety First globe.



A pair of brass parlor car corner light fixtures from the Chicago & Northwestern Railroad sold for \$300.



An \$80 bid bought the ticket validator with die from Chicago & Northwestern Railway Marathon City Wisconsin station.



A Pennsylvania Railroad keystone logo & eagle police hat badge by EBY Co. of Philadelphia sold for a \$475 bid.



A \$140 bid purchased this 11" porcelain Railway Express Agency logo baggage cart end sign.



A Norfolk & Western Railroad 1938 Centennial service plate by Lamberton Scammell sold for a \$225 bid.



A Pennsylvania Railroad fancy cast brass heart lock by Frain with knobby PRR key sold for a \$190 bid.



A \$500 bid purchased this San Antonio & Arkansas Pass Railway cast iron spittoon with some condition issues.



A \$775 bid took home this ornate two-compartment wooden Pennsylvania Railroad timetable holder.

Planning is On Track for the 2026 Key Lock & Lantern Convention in Carbondale, PA

Although it may not seem like it, almost half of the year has passed since the last KL&L Convention, which means that it is time to start making plans to attend next year's event! We are once again returning to the Hotel Anthracite in downtown Carbondale, PA, which has become the home of the convention in recent years due to its excellent facilities and friendly staff. The 2026 KL&L Convention will run from Thursday, May 7th through Sunday, May 10th, with all formal activities taking place on Friday and Saturday.

Serious collectors will want to plan on arriving on Thursday, as many of the "parking lot deals" that KL&L is known for take place during unloading. On Friday, we are planning on returning to the former Delaware & Hudson Penn Division for our train excursion, and are currently working on the



2026 membership meeting of KL&L will be held, along with the fundraiser auction of donated railroadiana. A buffet dinner will be served in the evening, followed by transportation and industrial history programs.

As always, the Sunday schedule will remain open, to allow those who want to return home for Mother's Day to leave early, or visit local museums and historic sites. Steamtown, the Electric City Trolley Museum, the Lackawanna Coal Mine Tour, and other attractions in nearby Scranton are only twenty minutes away. And, trains on the Reading & Northern, Delaware-Lackawanna, Norfolk Southern, and the Stourbridge Line offer a variety of railfanning options.



Randy Bushart Photo.

details of the ride. As reported in the last issue of the KL&L News, the Delaware-Lackawanna Railroad has locomotives that have recently been repainted into heritage schemes, and we hope to include some on our trip.

On Saturday, the Gravity Hall banquet facility at the Hotel Anthracite will be filled with museum-quality transportation history exhibits and dozens of sellers of memorabilia. The



As announced in the last issue of the KL&L News, there are a limited number of exhibit tables for the Saturday show available at no charge to historical and collectors groups, courtesy of our sponsor, the NY-PA Collector magazine. If your group is interested in exhibiting, contact Dave Hamilton at transportsim@aol.com.

Put the May 7-10, 2026 dates on your calendar today, and watch the KL&L website, newsletter, and Facebook page for announcements when registration opens. The 2026 Annual Key Lock & Lantern Convention will once again be an event that should not be missed! (*photos continued on Page 25*)





Western New York Railway Historical Society to Hold Train & Toy Show

The Western New York Railway Historical Society will hold its annual late fall Train and Toy Show over the weekend of November 22nd & 23rd. The Events Center at the Erie County Fairgrounds in Hamburg, NY will be filled with operating model train layouts, railroad displays, and over 350 tables of exhibits and vendors.

Local model railroad clubs will be participating in the show, and multiple layouts will be in operation, representing HO, N, O and S scales. There will also be Lego train layouts and a "Thomas the Tank Engine and Friends" play area for the kids. Cars, dolls, toys, and collectibles will also be featured, making this an event for the entire family,



A recently restored Lehigh Valley locomotive on display at the WNYRHS Williamsville, NY depot museum.



Several guest speakers are lined up to give presentations on both days, and other local historical societies are expected to exhibit at the show. While most vendors typically offer model trains, books, and videos for sale, several railroadiana collectors (including members of KL&L) are expected to attend. There is usually some interesting memorabilia to be found among the many tables, and some good deals for those who arrive early.



The society's cosmetically restored Pennsylvania Railroad I-1s Class Baldwin decapod steam locomotive No. 4483.



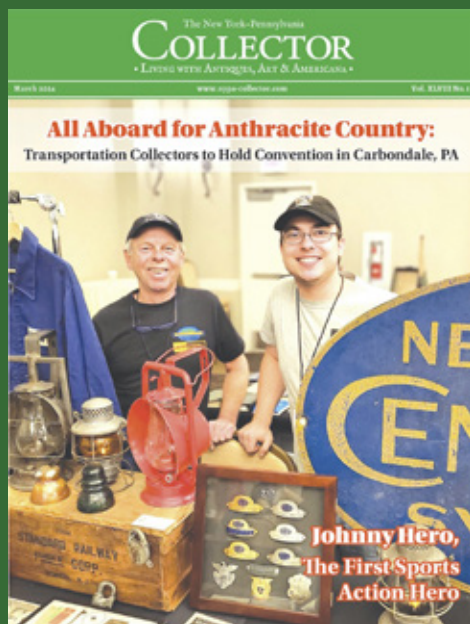
KEY LOCK & LANTERN

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The New York-Pennsylvania COLLECTOR

Living with Antiques, Art & Americana

A Monthly Publication Featuring News & Articles
About Antique Collecting & History



Many types of railroad memorabilia are also shared with other areas of antique collecting, and railroad collectors may find themselves bidding at auction against an autograph, advertising, or tool collector. One long-time collector who specializes in selling railroad postcards is known as the "postcard guy," and is referred to as the "railroad guy" at postcard shows. From padlocks to occupational shaving mugs, the broad overlap of railroadiana with other collecting categories certainly adds to its popularity.

Collectors who would like to enter the world of railroad artifacts, or just pick up an example piece or two, will find that there is no better time than the present to get started. Several large collections are currently working their way through the auction

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Get Onboard with Railroading's Past

Continued from Page 17

it organization dedicated to the preservation of transportation history and memorabilia. There are over 80 issues of the group's newsletters available for viewing and downloading on

Collector

Time Like the Present to Get Onboard with Railroading's Past

The Key Lock & Lantern Convention offers the opportunity to network with other historians and view museum-quality exhibits of memorabilia.

Tickets please! A Pennsylvania Railroad conductor's hat badge provides a reminder of the days of the luxury Broadway Limited train.

Railroadiana collections often feature larger artifacts such as signs and locomotive parts. This Pennsylvania Railroad station sign is from a junction near Buffalo.

houses that specialize in railroadiana, and many dealers at shows have recently added new finds to their stock. Although higher end memorabilia still commands top dollar, many serious collectors are thinning out to make room on the shelf for these new purchases, and common artifacts are now selling for more reasonable prices.

Needless to say, it is important to first acquire some basic knowledge before bidding at an auction or making a deal at a show. There are many railroad-theme decorations, reproductions, and fakes out there, masquerading as genuine artifacts. Experienced collectors properly identify

A piece of memorabilia sought after by collectors of railroadiana, stocks, and autographs: a New York & Harlem RR certificate signed by William Vanderbilt and Cornelius Vanderbilt II.

Expires April 30, 1865. Hudson River Railroad. On Way Passenger Trains. STOPPING AT THE LAST NAMED PLACE.

It didn't take long for convenient transportation by train to create suburbs around major cities, as illustrated by this 1865 Hudson River Railroad commuter ticket.

Streetcar and bus tokens offer an inexpensive way to add memorabilia from this classic form of transportation to a collection.

New York-Pennsylvania Collector - April 2025 - 17

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 1879

A new generation has added items such as Amtrak memorabilia to the category of "historical memorabilia." This timetable shows trains on the first day of service.

NEW YORK CENTRAL & HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD LANTERN

NEW YORK CENTRAL & HUDSON RIVER RAILROAD LANTERN appeals to both railroad enthusiasts and collectors. Lanterns from Rochester's Herz Headlight Company.

HERITAGE

HERITAGE magazine is an award-winning quarterly publication that preserves the history of Buffalo and the center of Western New York. With stories on all aspects of the region's rich cultural heritage, the magazine reports on historic events, architecture, sports, music, scientific endeavors, historic preservation, military history, and much more.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

Classified ad listings are free for Key Lock & Lantern members. Ad size must fit in four lines, and must include a name and contact email address (the word "at" may be substituted for "@" in the email address, if desired) or website address. A maximum of two ads per person may be run at the same time. Send ads to Dave Hamilton at transportsim@aol.com.

Auctions

Brookline Auction Gallery. Brookline, NH. Railroadiana consignment & estate auctions. Contact sales manager Scott Czaja at sczaja@hotmail.com or visit www.tagtown.net.

JM Hobby Supply & Railroad Artifacts. Luxemburg, WI. Railroadiana consignment & estate auctions. Contact John DeBeck at jmhobbysupplyandrrartifacts@gmail.com or visit www.jmhobbysupply.com.

Railroad Memories. Georgetown, CO. Online consignment & estate auctions. Contact Sue Knous at railroadmemories@gmail.com or visit www.railroadmemories.com.

Rail & Road Auctions. Lafayette, IN. Online railroadiana auctions. Contact Derek Thomas at info@RARAuctions.com or visit <https://rarauctions.com>.

Locks & Keys

Wanted: Switch Key from the Baltimore Transit Company (B T Co.) Will pay a good price for a key in decent condition. Dan Allen: [NJSRR\(at\)aol.com](mailto:NJSRR(at)aol.com).

Wanted: Locks - fancy cast back railroad switch locks. Warren Nyerges: email warrennyergesjr@hotmail.com or visit www.antiquerailroadlock.com.

Locomotive & Rolling Stock Hardware

Builder's Plates for Sale. Original steam, diesel & electric builder's & number plates. Contact us for a current list of plates. Ron Muldowney: rjmuldowney@comcast.net.

Railroadiana Dealers

Times Treasures Railroad & Country Collectibles on Ruby Lane. All types of railroadiana, with new items added on a regular basis. <http://www.rubylane.com/shop/timestreasures>

Timetables & Paper

Wanted: Interested in buying railroad paper collections, especially pre-1950 public and employee timetables, passes, name train and travel brochures and dining car menus. No collection too small or large to be of interest. Willing to travel to purchase and pick-up. 45 years in the railroadiana collecting hobby and strict confidence assured. Please contact Doug McIntyre at dm021949@aol.com.

Wanted: Delaware & Hudson RR Employee Timetable #3 dated April 28, 1940. Also, anything related to Wayland, MA, on the Boston & Maine and Central Mass Railroad. Contact Rick Conard at RRConard@earthlink.net

Trolleys & Transit

Wanted: Photos of Syracuse, NY trolley car #1024 & trolley cars around Syracuse University & Archbold Stadium. Dave Hamilton: transportsim@aol.com.

Want Ads Are Back!

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- Nov 15-16** **Oklahoma City, OK** - Oklahoma City OKC Train Show.
Info: www.okctrainshow.com.
- Nov 22-23** **Buffalo, NY** - WNYRHS Greater Buffalo Train Show
Info: www.wnyrhs.org.
- Nov 22** **Ft. Wayne, IN** - Maumee Valley Railroad Club Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet
Info: <http://maumeevalleyrailroad.com>.
- Nov 22** **Monaca, PA** - Reaver County Model RR & Historical Society Train Sale
Info: <https://bcmrr.org/>.
- Nov 29** **Boonsboro, MD** - Hagerstown Railroad Museum Train Show.
Info: www.antietamstation.com.
- Nov 29-30** **Denver, CO** - Denver - Rocky Mountain Train Show
Info: <http://rockymountaintrainshow.com>.
- Dec 4** **Brookline, NH** - Brookline Auction Gallery Timetable, Book & Model Auction
Info: www.brooklineauctiongallery.com.
- Dec 6** **Columbus, OH** - Buckeye Railroddiana Show - Golden Spike
Info: www.gserr.com.
- Dec 6-7** **Marlborough, MA** - New England Model Train Expo
Info: www.hubdiv.org.
- Dec 7** **Albany, NY** - Great Train Extravaganza. Empire State Plaza
Info: www.gtealbany.com.
- Dec 12-14** **Boulder, CO** - Boulder Model Railroad Club 48th Annual Model Train EXPO
Info: <https://www.bmrconline.org>.
- Dec 13-14** **Rochester, NY** - RIT Tiger Tracks Train Show.
Info: <http://ritmrc.org>.
- Jan 7-9** **Lafayette, IN** - Rail & Road Auctions - Railroddiana Auction
Info: www.BIDRAR.com.
- Jan 11-12** **DeLand, FL** - Florida Rail Fair. Volusia County Fairgrounds
Info: www.gserr.com.
- Jan 18** **Utica, NY** - TTCS Annual Train Show. Utica Union Station. <https://www.facebook.com/TTCSUticaTrainShow>.
- Jan 24** **La Crosse, WI** - 34th Annual Great Tri-State Rail Sale
Info: <http://www.4000foundation.org>.

Send listings to: transportsim@aol.com

There is no charge for calendar listings. Train shows must include dealers of authentic railroad memorabilia or related material, and auctions must include at least 20 lots of railroddiana. Other events must be directly related to railroad history (special exhibitions, lecture programs, conventions, limited excursions, etc.). Regular monthly group meetings, model train meets & scheduled tourist train trips are not eligible, unless related to a special event. Events are listed space permitting, at the editor's discretion. Listings are subject to error or change. Always check show web sites before traveling.

Visit www.klnl.org for More Listings

Key Lock & Lantern News & Information

Key Lock & Lantern Email List

If you are not already receiving the link to this newsletter directly from KL&L, go to the "Contact KL&L" page on the Key Lock & Lantern website at www.klnl.org and sign up for our email list. You will receive links to the *KL&L News* when it is published and occasional notifications of events of interest to members. The email list is hosted by MailChimp, which makes it easy to unsubscribe at any time, and KL&L never sells or shares its email list with outside parties. Don't miss important news and announcements - sign up today!

KL&L Facebook Page

For current news and announcements, visit the Key Lock & Lantern page on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/railroddiana>. Up to date information about the Key Lock & Lantern Convention, newsletter & magazine publication, and upcoming shows and auctions is posted on the page. There are also hundreds of photos of modern & historical railroad operations, railroad & transportation memorabilia, and views of recent shows and events. Be sure to "follow" the page, so that posts show up in your news feed.

KL&L YouTube Channel

The Key Lock & Lantern YouTube channel showcases videos of modern and historical railroad operations, steam train excursions, and KL&L Convention highlights. Visit the channel at <https://www.youtube.com/user/KeyLockLantern>. Be sure to hit the subscribe button and leave comments on the videos that you enjoyed!

Want Ads for KL&L Members

As noted in previous issues, the "Want Ad" section of the *KL&L News* is undergoing an update to remove outdated notices. If you would like to submit an ad for inclusion in future issues, contact KL&L editor Dave Hamilton at transportsim@aol.com. Basic want ads are free for current Key Lock & Lantern members.

Member Address Changes & Corrections

The *Key Lock & Lantern* magazine is sent via First Class Mail and is therefore forwarded by the U.S. Postal Service for the designated period following an address change. However, due to the frequency of publication of the magazine, the time for forwarding may expire in between issues, and your magazine may be returned to KL&L. Please make sure that Key Lock & Lantern is on your list of organizations to notify in the event of a change of address. Also, please check your mailing label when receiving your copy of the magazine, and advise KL&L if any corrections are needed. Contact Marie Brainard at j944wb@aol.com if changes are required.



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news items for the digital KL&L News
& general inquiries should be sent to:**

KL&L President & Editor
David Hamilton
E-mail: transportsim@aol.com

**Send membership applications, dues
payments, and address changes to:**

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Membership in KL&L includes 4 issues of the printed magazine, special member rates for KL&L Convention registration, and access to "members only" content on the KL&L website. New members joining before September will receive all previously published magazines for the year, and will be due for renewal in the following January. New members joining in September or later will have their dues applied to the next membership period, beginning with the Jan/Feb/Mar issue, unless otherwise requested.