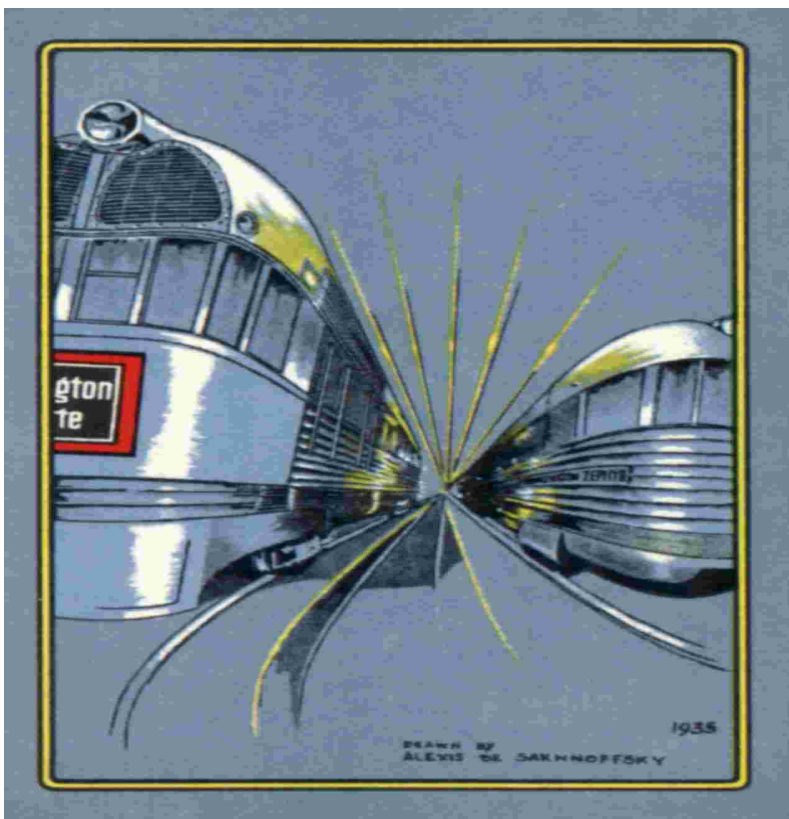


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WWW.NORTHSTAR-NRHS.ORG



C, B & Q decks of playing cards.

(Both have been resized to fit on the page)

The deck on the left was drawn by Alexis De Sahnnoffsky, 1935.

This year's 26th Annual Galesburg Railroad Days will be held on Saturday, June 28 - Sunday, June 29.

It is not known if steam engine 261 will be able to be at these railroad days. As of May 10th, 100 of the small tubes at the bottom of the boiler have been replaced. The large upper boiler tubes have still need to be replaced.

In addition, the BNSF has just raised their insurance premium from \$25 Million to \$100 Million.

**Northstar Chapter
National Railway
Historical Society
Board of Directors**

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320-587-2279

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Glen Holmberg

n0oyz@hotmail.com

Editor Position open.

The following article was found by Dan Meyer on the internet.

Subject: Waseca M&StL Depot

Date: Mon, 14 Apr 2003

Just joined your group. Wanted to let everyone know we are restoring the M&StL Depot in Waseca, Minnesota. As Mayor, I shepherded its purchase in November 2000. A non-profit corporation was formed to lead efforts to make the restoration a reality. In the 1950s or 60s, the depot was remodeled as a liquor store, which closed in 2000. We have most of the liquor store-era remodeling and fixtures removed and exterior restoration will commence any day.

I am posting today to ask for any photos, stories, etc. anybody may have regarding the depot. We are particularly interested in locating interior photos and/or blueprints/floor plans on which to base our restoration, since some interior structural changes were made and we are not sure how to restore some portions.

Thanks. I'd prefer email contacts at:
TomH@city.waseca.com.

Tom Hagen
Mayor
City of Waseca
508 South State Street
Waseca, Minnesota 56093

North Star Chapter Membership Information

HELP sign-up new members; please invite them to attend a meeting. Current dues are \$32 per year for an individual, or \$34 per year for a family, and this includes national dues.

Please send dues payments to Joe Fishbein, Treasurer Northstar Chapter, 1092 Humboldt Av, West St. Paul MN 55118.

May Meeting Notice

The May meeting will be Saturday, **May 17th**. The location will be as usual, the St. Paul Fire Training Center, two blocks West of Snelling Avenue on Energy Park Drive.

Kurt Peterson will give a program titled **The Chinese Orient Express**.

June Meeting Notice

JUNE program will be a **picnic at the Red Wing Amtrak Depot**. Date is **June 21**, 6 o'clock pm. Transportation is on your own, or you may ride Amtrak for \$15.00 each way. Leaves Midway Depot @ 8 am, arrives Red Wing @ 9:30 am. Leaves Red Wing to return @ 8:46 pm. (There are many antique shops to visit on the main street of Red Wing.)

MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 12, 2003

President Dan Meyer called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. in the St. Paul Fire Department Training Center with 14 members and guests present. A motion was made, seconded, and carried to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2003 membership meeting, as printed in the April 2003 issue of Northstar News.

Treasurer Joe Fishbein reported we had \$4,537 in the checking account as of March 1, 2003. During March, we had \$1 in checking account interest, \$350 in dues and donations, and \$7,091 from a Certificate of Deposit that matured (this amount is being held for the 2004 National Convention Committee) for total income of \$7,442. Expenses during March were \$228 in dues payments to NRHS national office, \$77 in newsletter expenses, and \$30 dues to Rail Passenger Car Alliance for total expenses of \$335. Amount in checking account as of March 31, 2003 is \$11,644, of which \$2,813 is in the general fund, \$7,091 is being held for the use of the 2004 National Convention Committee, and \$1,740 is in the 8327 restoration fund. Chapter membership is 83, of whom 63 have paid their dues for 2003. A motion to approve his report was made, seconded, and carried.

National Director Marty Swan said he had just returned from the spring NRHS BOD meeting in Richmond, VA. He talked about the budget. He had information about chapter contributions. The 2002 NRHS convention at the Grand Canyon made more money than any previous national convention. There are 1,156 pre-registrations for this year's convention at Baltimore. Portland, which will host the 2005 convention, has named its hotel. A new handbook for NRHS conventions has been issued. Rail Camp is coming up - this year there will be only one session. Two chapters have turned in their charters. Dan Meyer thanked Marty for representing the chapter at this event.

Trip Director John Goodman reported the trips planned for this spring by restored Milwaukee Road engine 261 have been cancelled due to the war. John met with Steve Sandberg of the 261 group. Steve told him there might be a trip this fall. A trip by the 261 to Baltimore this summer has been cancelled due to the collapse of the roof of B&O Museum due to heavy snow this past winter. Proposed events at Duluth this fall would include a night photo session on Friday, two trains on Saturday, and a display of engines on Sunday. The Royal Canadian train will be at the St. Paul Amtrak station on Thursday, May 1st. Scheduled arrival is 2:20 p.m. and departure is 6:00 p.m. NRHS President Greg Molloy will be on board. He wants to have dinner with officers of the Northstar Chapter. John said he had heard rumors there would be another trip on the Erie Mining Co. railroad this fall.

The Iowa Chapter of the NRHS will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of their founding with a special dinner trip on the Boone & Scenic Valley excursion railroad in Boone, IA on Saturday, May 1st. Dan Meyer said he will go, if possible.

The 2004 National Convention Committee met this afternoon. We need to promote ourselves at the Baltimore convention this year. The question was asked - who from our chapter is planning to go? Marty Swan said he had spoken up about our plans at the spring BOD meeting. He promised those at the meeting we would not have any snow at our convention. The next meeting of the convention committee will be the day after our next membership meeting, Sunday, May 18th, at 3:30 p.m.

The next item on the agenda was a vote on the motions, as published in the March and April issues of Northstar News, which were recommended by the legal counsel who is helping to be sure everything is in order as we get ready for the 2004 national convention. Moved by Russ Isbrandt that: All members and officers of the Northstar Chapter, National Railway Historical Society become members and officers of Northstar Railway Historical Society, Inc. Also, the Northstar Railway Historical Society, Inc. officially adopts the by-laws used by the Northstar Chapter, National Railway Historical Society. The Northstar Railway Historical Society, Inc. becomes and operates as the Northstar Chapter, National Railway Historical Society. The motion was seconded by Bill Herzog and discussed.

It was ruled for a vote. For a vote to count, a voter's membership must be paid-up for 2003. There were 15 "yeas" and no "nays." Russ Isbrandt moved that: Section 1 of the by-laws to be changed to read the name of this Corporation is the Northstar Railway Historical Society, Inc., operating as the Northstar Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society, and referred to in these

by-laws as the "Chapter." This motion was seconded by John Goodman. There were 15 "yeas" and no "nays." Both motions were declared adopted.

There was a discussion of possible dates and times for a chapter picnic this summer. John Goodman moved we hold a picnic adjacent to the Red Wing Amtrak station on Saturday, June 21st at 6:00 p.m. and this event be held instead of our June membership meeting. The motion was seconded by Russ Isbrandt and carried.

Dan Meyer said he has a list of those members who had not renewed their membership for 2003.

Bill Herzog said he was grateful our chapter had voted to match the proposed NRHS grant for work on the 8327. He will correct minor errors in spelling on the application and submit it by the deadline. He is optimistic we will get a grant. Bandana Square has new owners. They want proof those working on the engine are covered by insurance. We are planning to contract the work out. Marty Swan said, at the spring BOD meeting, he had talked to the man in charge of grants. He will send him a copy of the minutes to establish our chapter's commitment to match funds from the grant. There was a discussion of insurance requirements for those working on the project.

There was a discussion of upcoming programs. Kurt Peterson has a video on Chinese railroads he plans to show for the May meeting. There won't be any June meeting because we will be having a picnic that evening. At this time, there is nothing lined up for July.

New Business - Flyers are available for the La Crosse Rail Fair, to be held July 19th. The event will include equipment displays by the BNSF and CP Rail, plus a large flea market of railroad and model railroad items. There is train show this weekend at Menominee, WI. There are reports of rail fans being harassed because of security concerns, so people should be careful. The Minnesota Transportation Museum will be having a special event featuring Thomas the Tank Engine at the Jackson St. Roundhouse the last weekend of April and the first weekend of May. A rail fan walking on the tracks in Wisconsin was struck by train and killed, so it is important to be alert.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and carried at 8:03 p.m.

Door prizes donated by Chuck LaValle were given out. These consisted of a cardboard cutout of a NP boxcar, an information sheet on NP locomotives, and a NP coffee saucer. Some 2002 Rocky Mountain brochures were available.

The program was a slide show by Russ Isbrandt. It began with a May 1966 trip by rail to San Francisco and Los Angeles. Other subjects from the 1966-1968 eras were also covered, mostly near Milwaukee and Louisville.

Respectfully submitted,

David Norman, Secretary
Northstar Chapter NRHS

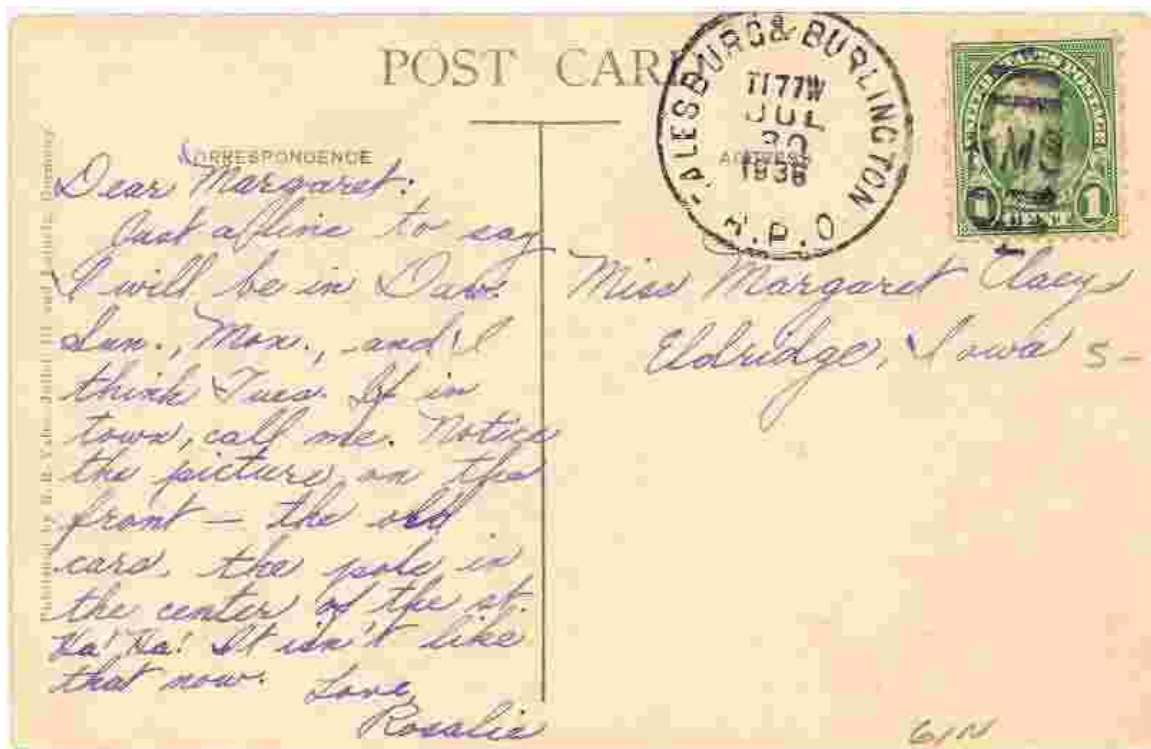


These RPO routes were on the Burlington:

PEORIA & GALES. RPO FEB 9 1910 Train 11

GALESBURG & BURLINGTON RPO JUL 30 1936 Train 177-West

The "RMS" in the killer (the part of the postmark that cancels the stamp) stands for Railway Mail Service, and is found in almost all RPO postmarks. In later years, the railway and air mail services were merged into the Postal Transportation Service, and "PTS" can be found in a few later postmarks.



Two Galesburg RPO cancellations, from the collection of Joe Fishbein.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

How time flies!

It was the summer of 2001 in Saint Louis when we were officially awarded the 2004 National Convention. That event is now further away than our upcoming convention. A year from now, we will be hosting a National Convention. There is a lot to do between now and the convention, so please consider what part you can play to make everyone's visit to Minnesota next summer memorable for the right reasons.

The next convention committee meeting will be on May 18th, the afternoon after the membership meeting, at the Amtrak station. We are certain to discuss many things, not the least of which is the planning of major excursions.

We also need your help running the convention. People who can lead car hosts, bus hosts, registration helpers, working on the ticketing committee and more are needed now to help plan how we will get the details of this convention worked out. Please contact Dan Meyer (telephone 763-784-8835 / e-mail Dan@Meyer.net) if you can help with the 2004 NRHS Convention in any way. Also, if a member of the convention committee contacts you, please give of your time, creativity and energy to the 2004 convention.

Nominating Committee

It's also time to start thinking about nominations for officers next year. That means a nominating committee needs to be formed in the next month or two. If interested, please contact any board member. The by-laws mandate that I can not be president next year, so please think about whom you would like to see as president. Also, the other board members have held their positions for quite some time, and I'm sure they would enjoy a break from their responsibilities and be happy to have someone else take charge. See you Saturday evening!

Dan Meyer

Northstar News
2642 Clearview Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55112

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

PLACE STAMP
HERE