

**The Milwaukee Road
Historical Association**

ANNUAL REPORT

2019 – 2020

Antioch, Illinois

November 8, 2020

President's Report

Membership has increased a bit this year. As of June 30, our membership was 2,269 but we still had 174 members who have not renewed, At the same time we have added 136 new members this year. We have emails to those who have not renewed and postcards for those who we did not have emails, to encourage and remind them that they could still join and receive all the benefits for the year. As usual, train shows in late 2019 and early 2020 were used to solicit renewals and new members, but the Covid-19 outbreak eliminated this process in the spring of this year. Social media continues to bring new people to our sites and we currently have over 5,000 members on our Facebook site. A number of these people have taken out full memberships in MRHA. Sustaining membership remains stable with 516 members this year. Regular memberships pay for the magazine, but the Sustaining memberships allow us to produce new books and other materials on Milwaukee Road history.

Our museum building at the Illinois Railway Museum has been completed on the exterior. However, IRM was closed due to the virus in March and only minimal interior work has been completed. Work has resumed and it is hope that we can occupy the building in another month or so. We have been offered a number of donations for the Museum when it opens and it should be ready for next year's Convention.

This past year enabled us to add to our production of publications and the second in our series of books on Divisions will soon be available for purchase. We also have another book in development on the building of the St. Paul Pass tunnel which should be completed in the coming year. Additionally, there are some other projects in their initial stages as we work to make more materials on Milwaukee Road history available to our members and the general public.

We continue to support the work at the Milwaukee Public Library's Milwaukee Road Archives. Currently, all planned projects for the near future are funded and, with our assistance, the Library has new equipment which will help fund future endeavors. Support is now better directed to some of our other Funds and projects.

As indicated in last year's report, we renewed our logo trademarks and the Hiawatha emblem. We have also been active, as required by the U.S. Patent Office, in licensing these marks to model manufacturers and others. Currently we have over 25 licenses in place and have contacted other users of our logos or emblem to license them.

Finally, we have undertaken some reviews of our practices and procedures to attempt to eliminate some unnecessary activities and be more productive. We will also, in the near future conduct a survey of membership to determine future directions for MRHA. Sadly, due to the unfortunate death of Rex Hauser, we are in need of a Website Manager. If you have an interest in this position, please contact me at Milw01@earthlink.net. As our museum opens, we will need volunteers to work with visitors, process materials in our collection and assist researchers who wish to utilize our materials. While we are a strong organization, there is still much to do and we need more members to become actively involved.

MRHA OFFICERS

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Collections Chairman

Bob Strysick

Membership Chairman

John Sucharski

Election Chairman

Larry Sukup

Restoration Committee Chairman

Tom Helms

Library Chairman

Linda Sukup

Human Resources Chairman

Eileen Roth

Museum Chairman

Bob Storozuk

DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS

Coast Division

Paul Krueger

Europe Division

Guy Hardy

Illinois Division

Ted Schnepf

Midwest Division

Gary Holzinger

Southwest Division

Mark Ziven

Superior Division

Chris Lehner

Wisconsin Division

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Margie Bahr

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Website Manager (Vacant)

MRHA CONTACT ADDRESS

MRHA officers, Board members, Division Superintendents, the Company Store and our Office Manager, can be reached by mail at: MRHA P. O. Box 307 Antioch, IL 60002-0307 or by using the contacts page on our website: www.mrha.com Materials may also be ordered, memberships paid, convention fees paid, and questions answered if directed to the appropriate officer's or manager's email listed on the previous page.

PUBLICATIONS & PRODUCTIONS

Each quarter, MRHA publishes a magazine containing historical and other pertinent information about the Milwaukee Road. This magazine is sent to members as a part of their membership. Copies are also available at some hobby shops and other venues at a price approximate 15% higher than through membership. MRHA also produces special publications from time to time which are often available to both members and non-members. In addition, each year MRHA publishes a calendar featuring photos of Milwaukee Road equipment. Also, as material is available, MRHA creates video productions to provide members with a visual history of the railroad. MRHA has produced a number of books and will add more titles to our published library as they become available.

PROJECTS

MRHA is involved in a number of projects related to preservation of Milwaukee Road equipment, buildings, records and other historical elements through the Emil Skok Restoration and Preservation Fund. MRHA continues to provide funds to catalog the materials of the Milwaukee Road Archives, and to make available these materials online, at the Milwaukee Public Library. We have been working to preserve two Skytop observation cars at Montevideo, Minnesota. These cars will be donated to the Milwaukee Road Heritage Center at Montevideo in the near future. MRHA's former IRM Building Fund is completed and the Fund is now used for preservation and restoration of the Milwaukee Road equipment in IRM's collection. One freight car has been completed. We have a Museum Fund to obtain revenue to operate the building when it is open, however we will need funds for building equipment. The Scribbins Library Fund has provided grants for all current projects and further donations are not needed at this time. In order to support the operations of MRHA, we continue to develop items to sell to members and non-members.

MEETINGS

Our status as a 501(c) 3 non-profit corporation requires us to hold an annual meeting. Enclosed with this report is a copy of the minutes of last year's meeting. Minutes from the 2020 annual meeting will be available after the meeting is held. Additional copies of these reports may be obtained by sending a large self-addressed, stamped envelope (\$1.15 postage) to: MRHA ANNUAL REPORT P. O. Box 307 Antioch, IL 60002-0307

MRHA members are invited to participate in the annual business meeting and Convention to review MRHA operations and finances, to provide input, and to suggest changes in the by-laws recommended by the Board of Trustees. Last year over 250 people attended this event. In addition, Division meetings are open to members and guests. Dates of these meetings are listed on our website or are available from our Office Manager.

MEMBERSHIP

Our current membership is 2,269 as of June 30, 2020. This is an increase over last year at this time, but 174 members still have not renewed. Sustaining memberships remain excellent with 516. We continue to focus on our primary task of obtaining new members and have added 136 new members this year to this point. A SUMMARY OF OUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION IS LISTED BELOW.

MEMBERSHIP 2010 – 2020

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
2939	2763	2719	2645	2398	2382	2415	2224	2286	2104	2269

Current Membership by State and Non-U.S.A.

Alabama	05	Kentucky	04	North Dakota	13
Alaska	03	Louisiana	03	Ohio	26
Arizona	30	Maine	03	Oklahoma	02
Arkansas	07	Maryland	12	Oregon	35
California	84	Massachusetts	10	Pennsylvania	19
Colorado	39	Michigan	43	Rhode Island	00
Connecticut	05	Minnesota	216	South Carolina	03
Delaware	04	Mississippi	02	South Dakota	36
Dist. Of Col.	01	Missouri	24	Tennessee	11
Florida	18	Montana	64	Texas	35
Georgia	14	Nebraska	29	Utah	06
Hawaii	02	Nevada	09	Vermont	01
Idaho	23	New Hampshire	04	Virginia	30
Illinois	358	New Jersey	15	Washington	157
Indiana	42	New Mexico	11	West Virginia	00
Iowa	144	New York	22	Wisconsin	555
Kansas	12	North Carolina	17	Wyoming	07
Canada	14	Other non-USA	25	Armed Forces	02

FINANCIAL REPORT

At the end of this report, a financial summary has been provided for MRHA's past 3 years of operation. While our organization operates on a July 1 to June 30th year in order to provide a convenient venue for our members to attend the annual business meeting and Convention, Federal reporting procedures make it necessary for us to structure our operating and financial results on a calendar year basis. Therefore, the report contains results up to December 31, 2019. Distribution of funds to the various special funds continues thanks to the annual support of our members and their purchase of our materials. MRHA is in excellent financial condition at this point. We plan to continue to produce books, videos and other items to support our activities beyond producing our quarterly magazine. However increasing costs of producing the magazine and postage may require us to utilize these extra funds to maintain the size and outstanding quality of our quarterly publication. Special projects or publications in the future may have to be funded through grants and other sources.

THE MILWAUKEE ROAD HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

June 24, 2019 at South St. Paul, Minnesota

The meeting was called to order by President Robert Storozuk at 6:15 PM

Election Chairman's Report: Larry Sukup

Election Chairman, Larry Sukup, reported that the President and Vice-President had been elected for the term of 2019-2021. Jeff Goutcher, President - 205 votes. Art Danz, Vice-President – 205 votes. Total ballots received – 205.

Outgoing President Storozuk turned the meeting over to incoming President Jeff Goutcher.

Vice-President Art Danz and Library Liaison Linda Sukup read a Resolution to present Robert Storozuk with an Honorary Membership in appreciation of his 22 years as President, and for his many earlier years of service to the Association. The membership approved the Resolution by acclamation.

Secretary's Report: Carolyn Helms

The minutes of the previous years were distributed to all members present. The minutes were approved on a motion by John Greedy and seconded by Gary Olson. The motion was passed.

Treasurer's Report: Dave Young

The Annual Treasurer's Report was also included in the Annual Report and on a motion by Jim Samsula, and seconded by John Greedy, were filed for audit. The motion was passed.

President's Report: Bob Storozuk

The President's Report was also included in the Annual Report and reviewed by the members present without comment.

Art Danz: Vice-President

Art Danz reported on future proposed convention sites. Elgin, Illinois was recommended for 2020, Aberdeen, South Dakota was recommended for 2021 and Milwaukee, Wisconsin was recommended for 2022. More information on these sites will be provided as progress is made securing the sites.

Restoration Chairman's Report: Tom Helms

Tom reported that the following recommendation for grants from the Emil Skok Restoration and Preservation Fund have been requested. A proposal for a grant for the Renslow Trestle Project on the Cascade to Palouse Train in Washington state has been presented. The Restoration committee recommends a grant of \$500.00. A motion to approve the grant was

made by Carolyn Helms and seconded by Monte Sanders. The motion was passed by voice vote of the members present. A grant request from the Illinois Railway Museum for step replacement for the Milwaukee Road Mt. Harvard car was presented. The committee recommends a grant of \$1,000.00 for this project. A motion to approve the grant was made by Carolyn Helms and seconded by Monte Sanders. The motion was passed by voice vote.

Other Reports

A report on the Milwaukee Road Collection at the Milwaukee Public Library was included in the Annual Report that was passed out to the members present.

Rex Hauser has taken over the website maintenance for Todd Halverson who has retired from the position. Rex gave a brief report on his plans for the site.

Membership in the Association is holding steady at approximately 2400 members.

There are 251 members and guests in attendance at this convention.

There were no other reports from committees or comments from the attendees.

By a motion from Steve Mueller, and seconded by Gene Knol, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn Helms, MRHA Secretary

MILWAUKEE ROAD HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Comparative Income Statement for the Calendar Years 2016 through 2018

<u>Membership Activity</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>
Membership Dues	\$ 92,603	\$105,244	\$107,054
<i>The Milwaukee Railroader Sales</i>	\$ 5,379	\$ 8,522	\$ 6,161
Total Membership Income	\$ 97,982	\$113,766	\$113,215
TMR Production Costs	\$(106,244)	\$(102,431)	\$(101,801)
Renewal & New Member Expenses	\$ (1,150)	\$ (1,171)	\$ 0
Total Membership Expenses	\$(107,394)	\$(103,602)	\$(101,801)
Convention and Auction Income	\$ 3,371	\$ 8,574	\$ 7,590
Net Income from Member Activity	\$ (6,040)	\$ 18,738	\$ 19,004
<u>Other Sales Activities</u>			
Gross Revenue	\$ 28,156	\$ 49,148	\$ 54,427
Cost of Goods Sold	\$ (31,517)	\$ (33,010)	\$ (42,077)
Net Income from Sales Activities	\$ (3,361)	\$ 16,138	\$ 12,350
<u>Other Revenue and Expenses</u>			
Investment Income & Donations	\$ 70,415	\$ 46,953	\$ 23,726
Expenses of Operations	\$ (28,124)	\$ (29,917)	\$ (42,032)
Net Gain/Loss From Operations	\$ 42,291	\$ 17,036	\$ (18,306)
NET INCOME FROM OPERATIONS	\$ 32,890	\$ 51,912	\$ 13,407
<u>Emil Skok Restoration Fund - Balance 12-31-2019 – \$10,322</u>			
Donations Received	\$ 3,195	\$ 1,478	\$ 4,744
Grants Made	\$ (4,000)	\$ (4,000)	\$ 5,000
Net Income and Expenses	\$ (805)	\$ (2,522)	\$ (258)
<u>IRM Equipment Restoration Fund – Balance 12-31-2019 – \$57,783</u>			
Donations and Grants Received	\$ 8,068	\$ 3,427	\$ 22,714
Grants Made	\$ (0)	\$ (3,398)	\$ 0
Net Income and Expenses	\$ 8,068	\$ 29	\$ 22,714
<u>Skytop Fund – Balance 12-31-2019 - \$29,920</u>			
Donations and Grants Received	\$ 3,330	\$ 2,116	\$ 7,059
Expenditures (Incl. Bodies)	\$ (31)	\$ 0	\$ 0
Transfer to Property	\$ 3,330	\$ 2,116	\$ 7,059
	\$ 3,330	\$ 2,116	\$ 7,059
<u>Scribbins Library Fund – Balance 12-31-2019 - \$3,357</u>			
Donations and Grants Received	\$ 2,908	\$ 2,129	\$ 3,550
Grants Made	\$ (0)	\$ 0	\$ (17,577)
Net Income and Expenses	\$ 2,908	\$ 2,129	\$ (14,027)
<u>Museum Fund – Balance 12-31-2019 - \$(93,614)</u>			
Donations and Grants Received	\$ 4,675	\$ 18,759	\$ 17,143
Grants Made	\$ (0)	\$ (105)	\$ (110,757)
Transfer to Property			\$ 110,757
Net Income and Expenses	\$ 4,675	\$ 18,654	\$ 16,386
NET INCOME & DONATIONS	\$ 40,709	\$ 71,820	\$ 42,023