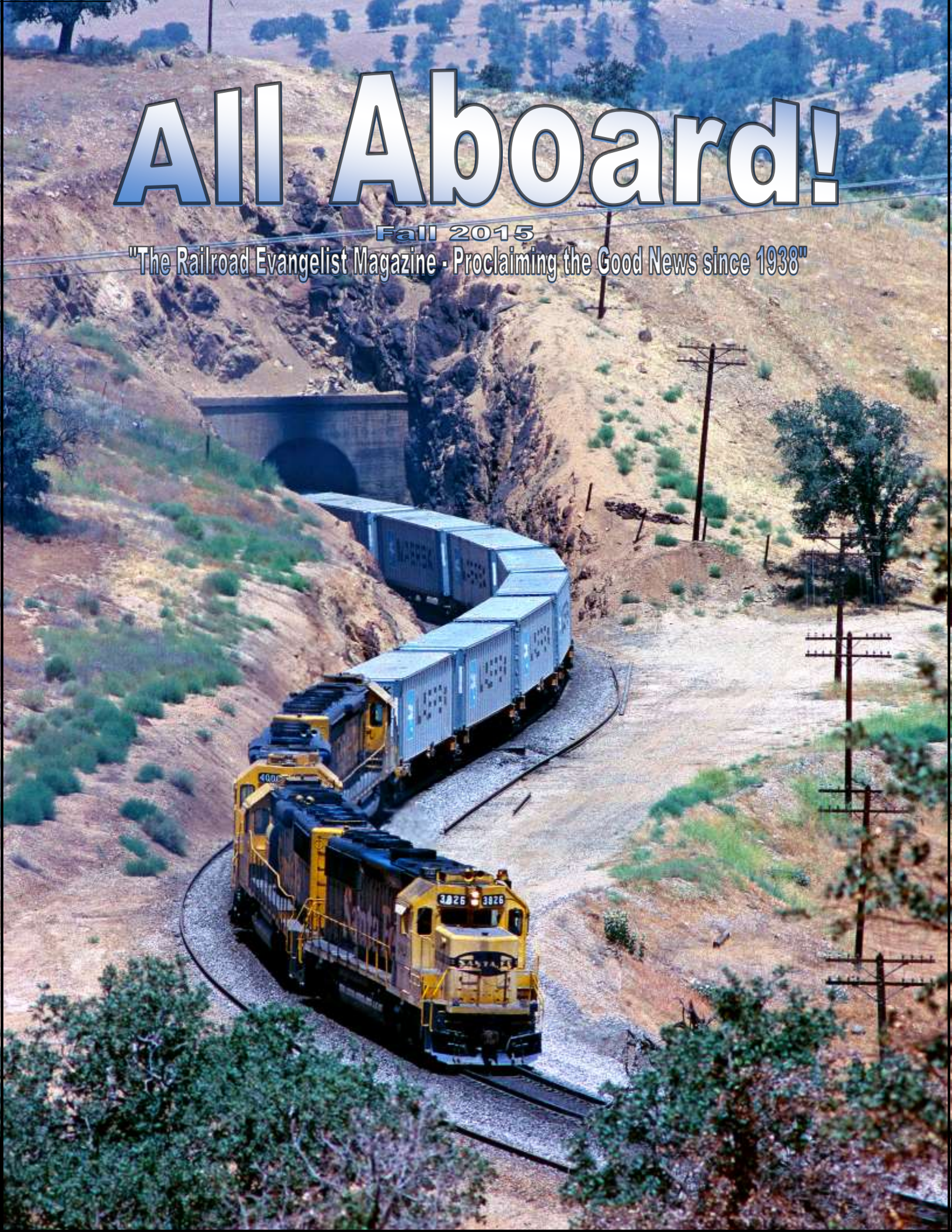
All Aboard!

Fall 2015

"The Railroad Evangelist Magazine - Proclaiming the Good News since 1938"



MainLine

REA's new President David Wiegand sharing from the word if God. David is wearing the same uniform he wore as a Amtrak Chair car attendant in 1971. See photo, lower right.
Below is David ending his last runs before retirement in May of 2013

Then saith He unto His disciples,
"the harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth labouurers into His harvest."
Matthew 9:37-38

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Perhaps you are surprised to see a new name and picture in the Mainline column. My name is David Wiegand. I currently reside in Albuquerque, NM. I am retired from the BNSF Railway after forty-one years of railroad service. I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Saviour at a youth-led revival campaign at age 14 in July, 1965, fifty years ago! As your new President of REA I am at your service any time day or night.

Contrary to popular belief, people still love trains and the railroad. Despite the wide use of Game Boy and other electronic toys and gadgets, model railroading still reigns supreme as a popular hobby. Model railroad swap meets and exhibitions always draw large crowds. One of the most visited tourist attractions in Germany is a gigantic HO scale layout called "Miniatur Wunderland" in Hamburg. During my years of railroad service I noticed that entire families still gather at the depot to watch trains arrive and depart. Children still expect that friendly wave from the train conductor or locomotive engineer accompanied by two short blasts on the air horn.

This should tell us at REA that God has given us a very special platform for proclaiming the gospel. Forty percent of American Millennials live with no father in their homes. An equal amount of these young people have no Christian memories or any notion of who Jesus is. Many people of all ages would appreciate the attention of a Christian railroader, talented HO modeler, REA member or a Christian brother or sister who grew up in a railroad family. God has given REA a special opportunity to mentor, minister and share our personal testimonies. Therefore, let us be about the work that Christ has commissioned us to do and make those Christian memories real to the world around us.

David as Chair Car Attendant - 1971

May God bless all of you abundantly.
Yours, in Christ

David Wiegand

"Proclaim the good news of His salvation from day to day"
Psalm 96:2

www.RailroadEvangelist.com

GET ON TRACK!

Subscribe to the
Railroad Evangelist
Magazine

For $10.00 a year you will receive one of the most unique non-denominational Christian Railroad magazines published.

Help spread the word by ordering the **Railroad Evangelist** magazines in bulk.

BULK COSTS
(Based upon per issue)

100 copies $25.00	50 copies $20.00
20 copies $10.00	10 copies $5.00

Subscribe today for yourself or a friend, make out your check or money order to REA and send to:

REA
255 State Route 49
Cleveland, NY 13042

The Railroad Evangelist magazine is published three times a year by GISI Marketing Group of Tualatin, Oregon for the Railroad Evangelistic Association. Second class postage paid at Vancouver, WA. Circulation: 2,700.

International Railway Missions
Ulrich Berger - President
Mattenweg 11
CH-4303 Kaiseraugst
Switzerland
+51618112406
www.Railway-Mission.eu

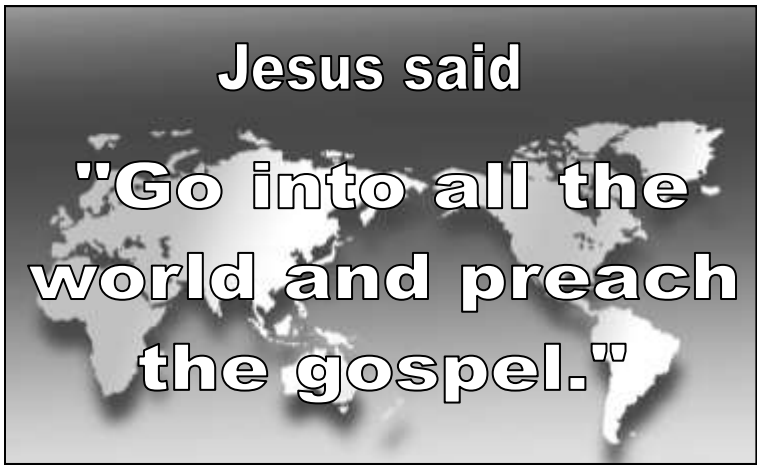
Railway Representatives in India

Rev. Victor Swamidoss, c/o Mr. S Arulraj
#448/8, First Floor
T.H. Road
Tondiarpet
Chennai - 600 081 South India

International Railroad Evangelist
S. Arulraj
Door # 652/8 (New # 448/8)
Brindavan Avenue
Tiruvottiyur High Road,
Tondiarpet
Chennai 600 081
Tamilnadu, INDIA
Phone + 919884481022
Email: arulrasu@gmail.com
www.inrre.net

This **Fall 2015** issue of the Railroad Evangelist magazine was printed October 2015
Vol. 79, No. 3

COVER: Santa Fe # 3826 freight on its way to Bakersfield, California through one of the Tehachapi tunnels. Photo by Bill Edgar. Used by permission.



Your membership, subscriptions and tax deductible donations are greatly appreciated, as they are the only means we have to continue publishing and proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ to the entire railroad community worldwide through the *Railroad Evangelist* magazine. Your financial gifts underwrite the cost and make it possible for us to send the *Railroad Evangelist* magazine out individually and in bulk supply as our home and missionary outreach. We thank God for each and every one of you who have joined with this railroad literature evangelistic ministry with your prayers and finances.

We pray and trust God will abundantly bless you for your sacrificial giving as He ***"is able to make all grace abound towards you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, have an abundance for every good work."***

2 Corinthians 9:8

"A LITTLE IS A LOT WHEN GOD IS IN IT"
Luke 9:12-17

All Aboard!

Membership in the Railroad Evangelistic Association is open to all who desire to reach the railroad community worldwide with the Good News of Jesus Christ. For $15.00 you will receive your REA Annual membership card ($5.00) and a one year subscription ($10.00 - 3 issues) to the **RAILROAD EVANGELIST** magazine. REA has no paid staff, all proceeds go to printing and mailing the Good News. Thank you.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN REA

Please check the appropriate box.

☐ I am an active railroad employee.
I am a former/retired railroad employee.
☐ My spouse is/was an active/former/retired railroad employee.
☐ I am a model railroad hobbyist.
I am a rail fan enthusiast.
My interest in REA is _____
☐ Sending $5.00 for REA membership for one year.
Sending $10.00 for a one year subscription.
☐ I would like to make a donation._____

Please cut, photocopy or send appropriate information pertaining to the above application form and mail it to:

REA
255 State Route 49
Cleveland, NY 13042

President
David M. Wiegand, Jr.
10504 Montgomery, NE - Albuquerque, NM 87111

First Vice President
Rev. Alan Harkey alanharkey@gmail.com
300 Birkenstock Court
Simpsonville, SC 22655 (864) 275-3209

Second Vice President
Craig James
444 W Spring Rd - Hammonton, NJ 08037

Editor - Convention Coordinator
Joe Spooner (360) 699-7208
PO Box 5026
Vancouver, WA 98668 E-Mail: rrjoe@comcast.net

REA National Chaplain
Rev. Paul Campbell
603 Aylor Road - Stephens City, VA 22655
E-mail: backyardmamma2000@yahoo.com (571) 331-2807

REA Assistant National Chaplain
Rev. Robert Glass
4182 Rancho Park Dr. - Liverpool, NY 13090

Advisory Board
Rev. Magead Salloum, Chairperson (315) 525-4787
720 W. Thomas Street
Rome, NY 13440
Ruth Lounsberry……Hammonton, NJ
Marlene Sampson……Winslow, NJ
Rev. Stephen Seidler……Owatonna, MN
Phil Hannum……Fairfax,VA
Allen Carpenter……Norfolk, VA

Promotion and Publicity
Dr. Ben Salloum
PO Box 748
Rome, NY 13440
Norman Seidelmann……Pennsauken, NY
Carol and Mary Clifton……Millville, NJ
Bonnie James……Hammonton, NJ
Brian Goodwin……Alexandria, VA
John Stewart……N. St Paul, MN

Contributing Editors

Rev. Stephen Seidler Model RR & Rail Fan Pages
810 18th Street SE
Owatonna, MN 55060
E-Mail: srseidler@q.com (507) 413-3334

Geneva Campbell (540) 869-7019
603 Aylor Road
Stephens City, VA 22655
E-mail: backyardmamma2000@yahoo.com

Convention Recording Secretary
Jane Hessler
Afrh-W Box 58
3700 N Capitol St NW
Washington, DC 20011

- Mission Statement -

The Railroad Evangelistic Association exists to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ to the entire railroad community worldwide and to promote mutual Christian fellowship among, though not limited to, those of the railroad industry, the model railroad hobbyists and the rail fan enthusiasts.

WE BELIEVE

1. We believe in the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments as verbally inspired by God, and inerrant in the original writings. They are the supreme and final authority in faith and life.
2. We believe in one God eternally existing in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. We believe that Jesus Christ was begotten by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, and is true God and true Man.
4. We believe that man was created in the image of God: that he sinned, and thereby incurred, not only physical death, but also Spiritual death which is separation from God. All human beings are born with a sinful nature, and in the case of those who reach moral responsibility become sinners in thought, word, and deed.
5. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, as a representative and substitutionary sacrifice. In addition that all who believe in Him are justified on the ground of His shed Blood.
6. We believe in the resurrection of the crucified Body of our Lord, in His Ascension into Heaven and in His present life there for us, as High Priest and Advocate.
7. We believe in "that blessed hope," the personal, premillennial, and imminent return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.
8. We believe that all who receive by faith the Lord Jesus Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and thereby become children of God.
9. We believe in the bodily resurrection of the just and unjust, the everlasting blessedness of the saved, and the everlasting, conscious punishment of the lost.

- The Railroad Evangelistic Association Inc.

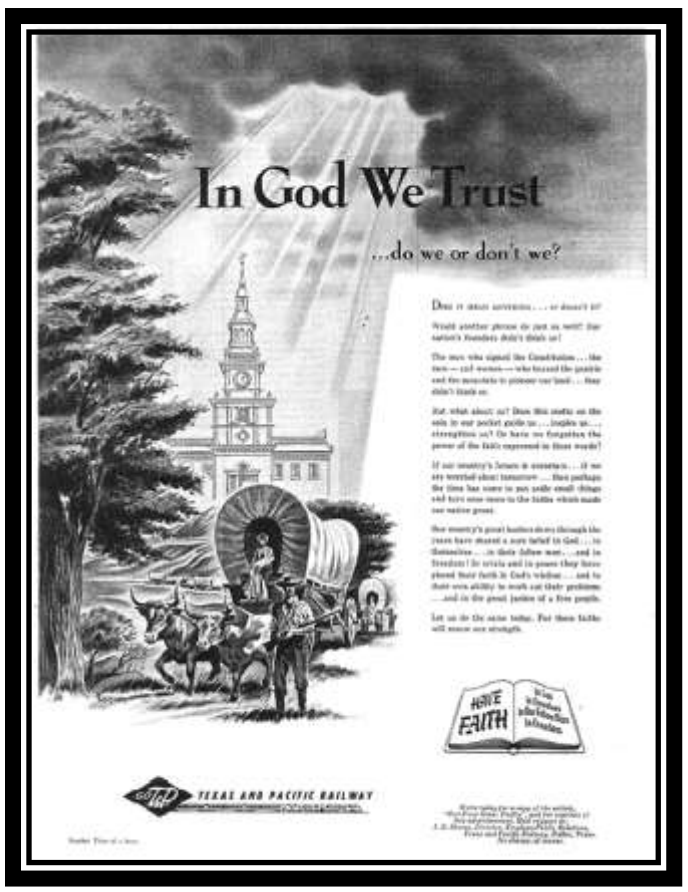
OUR PRESIDENCY and the TEXAS & PACIFIC

Model Railroaders and Rail Fans welcome our newly elected REA President, Dave Wiegand. Dave's railroad enthusiasm is evident in his love for sharing the Gospel and railroading. Dave has shared a wealth of photos and material from his 40 years of experience on America's railroads. **Amtrak** and **ATSF** are his heritage - from Chair Car Attendant to Engineer, but Dave is "SANTA FE ALL THE WAY." He also has a passion for the **Texas & Pacific Railway** as we shared in the last issue of ALL ABOARD. He has also sent us some YouTube videos of **T&P** model railroad layouts. Dave, along with many readers, expressed their love for the **T&P** 1950s railroad magazine ads and the encouragement for Bible-reading and church attendance. The **"Iron Horse That Prays"** ran several ads and so on the page to the right we are featuring four of their classic advertisements. We trust these will be an encouragement. The Chevrolet Suburban "Super Chief" is in special honor to Dave Wiegand. In the 1980s our family took a trip on the **Western Maryland Scenic RR** from Cumberland to Frostburg MD. When we pulled into the station, we parked next to this Suburban, resplendent in an airbrushed **ATSF** "Warbonnet" paint scheme. See LINK at www.RailroadEvangelist.com to view this spectacular "loco" in full color. Now Dave, do you think Rosalee will allow you to paint the family car with a "Super Chief" paint scheme?

One of our REA members, Carl Cook, has a unique ministry which reminded me of an HO model vehicle on my **LD&G** railroad. Carl comes from a railroad family, but never worked for the railroad. He assists our REA Chaplain, Brother Paul Campbell in various railroad and prison-related ministries. I met Carl at our REA Convention and was drawn to his story due to my extensive historical studies on the Chapel Cars on Steel Rails. Carl has been helping Sonny and Nancy Gayer with their fleet of truck rigs that minister to truckers at truck stops along I-81. Carl had a trailer parked at the TA Truck Stop near Martinsburg WVA. Sonny is home with the LORD, but Carl helps Nancy in this unique ministry of presenting the Gospel to truckers away from home. As you view this model, remember to pray for Carl and his Mobile Chapel Ministry. We hope to have pictures and more story in an upcoming issue.

The model below is from Con Cor vehicles and is in HO (1:87) scale. It is parked alongside the Proctor MN roundhouse on my layout. It reads: ***Mobile Chapel*** **TRANSPORT FOR CHRIST. "Proclaiming a Dynamic Gospel to a Dynamic Industry."** The stairs were fabricated from Central Valley plastic materials and sprayed flat grey. HERE IS A SPECIAL MODELING TIP: The retaining wall in the foreground is made from the sides of old box cars welded together and sunk into the ground. Whole sides, portions of cars, and even doors were used to build this wall. It was weathered in place. It was then back-filled to provide stability. Sculptamold was used to model the ground. I spotted this in actual use by a railroad in Texas and it makes for a neat eye-catcher along the front of a layout. Old plastic car kits serve as the "wall sides" and you can use your imagination for a colorful and useful presentation. If you have a model photo or modeling idea, please share it.

IIIIIIIIIIIIIII The "Iron Horse That Prays" - Texas & Pacific Railway IIIIIIIIIIIIIII



Hallelujah!

New "Song of Norway" for Railway Engine Drive

Borge Salte

Norwegian
Railway Engine Drive Borge Salte

My name is Børge Salte, I work as an engine driver in Norway. This past year I´ve experienced a great renewal in my relationship with Jesus Christ. I shared this at the annual general meeting in Gosslar, Germany this year and I was asked to write my testimony to be published for the joy and encouragement of others railway employees. I´ll do my best to explain what´s happened to me, I want to point out this is about what Jesus has done for me, and my wish is to exalt only Him.

I grew up on a farm in Southern Norway. We were five siblings and we had a mother and a father who loved us. They would tell us about what Jesus has done for us all, and they took us to meetings and Sunday school. The Christian values have followed us ever since we were children. As I got older it became perfectly natural for me to engage in and contribute in church activities. I became an electrician and started my working career. At the age of twenty I was called up for military service in North of Norway in 1995, it was something that I really looked forward to. I was excited about new routines and to do service for the King of Norway. I remember the flight from Oslo to Harstad, and the welcome we received when we arrived at the military base. We were divided into troops. They placed us in rooms of six, something that I was nervous about. The last thing my mother told me before I left was these words; "You must not forget Jesus when you leave, Børge, put the Bible on your nightstand on the very first day, then you have confessed to them all that you are a Christian, and remember that your father and I will be praying for you". When we got into our room I remember a little pamphlet lying on everyone's bed. The military priest had put them there, and in big letters it said, "He died for you". I remember that this made an impression on me I took out my bible and remembered the words of Jesus that he would never let go and never leave me. I was accepted for my faith and I could relax. After a short while I got a question from the military priest if I wanted to be his assistant and be removed from my annual service. I should have done this for the Lord who has done so much for me but I found it more thrilling to be at service in the infantry than serving the Lord. I was a machine gunner and got to participate in some real action. A year later I was transferred to a military department close to my hometown.

I started going to a church again in my hometown. This is where I met my wife. We have four children and I got a family that I am proud of that I love dearly. In 2009 I moved to Oslo and started my education as an engine driver. It took me two years, and then I moved back home and got a job close to home in Stavanger. I met Christian colleagues and was introduced to the work of Railhope. I found it interesting and joined the board. I went to my first conference to IRM in Hungary in 2013 and got to know other Christian train employees. This is where I met John Lunn who was the coordinator for "prayer letter". I remember John bluntly asking me if I was a "born again Christian". I told him my story and remember this meeting because he prayed, by faith for a new **Railhope Norway** and me before I went back home. I went back to work but noticed that it cost me a lot to confess that I wanted to follow Jesus at my workplace. It was hard to talk about Jesus. I lacked the boldness. Everyday life caught up with me and I was loosing my courage. It was hitting my self-worth and boldness. I decided to attended the "Fit&Fun" week in Switzerland and had an amazing time together with other Christian railway colleagues in IRM. I got to see how they were evangelists for Jesus, how they boldly would hand out calendars and share about Jesus.

Borge at the controls of his train.

I wished I would be able share like that with my colleagues. I travelled home to Norway, with a grateful heart.

I´ve struggled with my temper all my life. I get annoyed and angry. This affected my family and mostly my wife. In the middle of a situation like this the devil would came to me saying, "There you see, Børge, your thoughts about starting a Railhope Norway are never going to work. You can not do Christian work among your colleagues. You don't have what it takes to do this, just give up! Jesus is only with you when life is great and it´s going your way. When things are hard you have to manage on your own. You can´t even mange your own temper in your own home". I remember my despair and how hopeless it all seemed.

"Jesus has moved from my brain and into my heart!"

I now can´t hold back the tears of joy when I try to describe what happened. I prayed to Jesus and asked him to confirm if working with Railhope was something that I should do, and I asked him to give me boldness. I remember my time in the military annual service when I rejected being a servant for Jesus. In the middle of this Jesus showed me the story of Jonah who walked away instead of obeying God. I read about Jonah who was in the dark belly of a fish, and who later vomited him onto dry land. The salvation of Jesus was revealed to me. I got to see and experience God´s love as never before. While I was filled with guilt and despair Jesus met me with these words: ***"there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus"***, (Romans 8:1). It was for me! The debt of sin was paid, the shame was crushed on Calvary. Jesus moved in and healed my heart. Jesus told me that all this was forgiven. This was a brand new start for me. Jesus is the one who destroys my iniquities and forgets my sin. I got to experience the joy of salvation! I got to experience what it means to be "born-again". I got to experience what the Holy Spirit can do in a cold heart of stone. The grief, adversity and despair were replaced with cheers and joy. I was filled with the love of Jesus. I got to experience the Bible verse: ***"those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame",*** (Psalm 34:5). Even the shame of my anger and my past was gone! I got a new family, the children got a new father and my wife got a new husband! For ten years I hated a friend for an incident that occurred, but after the experience of being totally forgiven I had to go and see him. I had not spoken to him for ten years but we made up. ***HALLELUJAH!*** The hatred was exchanged with love. Every now and then I get the urge to call him up and tell him that I love him. Jesus changed me on the inside! I got my boldness back! I´ve testified to my family, friends, colleagues and my church. My wife and I share the most important thing in life, that is Gods word, and we´re so blessed. My youngest daughter asked me the other day: "what´s happened to you dad, you´re so happy. Is it because you forgave your buddy?". With tears streaming down my face I got to explain to her how Jesus has moved from my brain and into my heart. She looked at me and smiled, then she said "you´re different daddy, you're Happy".

Ever since my encounter with Jesus I´ve walked with the Lord daily. Daily I live in His grace, daily I receive His blessings and daily I get to know the amazing love of Jesus. It has done something inside of me, which I can not explain. I love Jesus more than anything on this planet!

One day the Lord challenged me while at my workplace. He asked me to bring two people from Railhope and go to Stavanger Train Station and share about Jesus in the lunchroom at work. I did what the Lord asked me to do. I remember how nervous I was the night before the gathering. I prayed all night that He would have to give me boldness. I was terrified! Then Jesus came and filled me with heavenly peace. We drove to the station and the boldness arrived. I remember feeling Jesus' presences was with us . During this gathering we experienced a "peculiar" kind of peace that is difficult to describe. No one mocked or laughed at us. They seemed grateful that we had come. We shared the gospel. It´s an experience that I´ll never forget, the blessing that came after was indescribable. To testify of Jesus and what He has done in my life is the greatest thing I get to do. With this start we laid the foundation for **Railhope Norway**.

I´ve been a Christian all my life – but everything turned once I got to know Him. I encountered His love and received His blessings, and today I am a new Børge. So now we have experienced the greatest joy of all; colleagues have accepted Christ. ***Hallelujah!*** This gives us confidence to continue our work. Currently we´ve only had gatherings in Stavanger, we meet up to six times a year. We also have a webpage, **www.railhopenorge.com**, that connects with other Christians all over the country. We distribute calendars from IRM and we´re actively working on establishing local groups throughout Norway. We have contacts all around that distributes IRM calendars. Pray for these, that they may get boldness and see the greatness of Jesus salvation.

It´s amazing to know that salvation is not resting on my capability and skills. It rests on the one who gave His life so that we could live. It´s all I need, it´s all you need, and it´s all our colleagues need! So dear colleague: it´s never too late to get on the right track! I´ve learned to pray each day, asking Jesus for his guidance. I fill myself with His word and I thank Him for all the blessings in my life.

To find out more about IRM in Norway go to their web page at **www.RailHope norge.com**

Borge & Magnhild Salte

Greetings from the 74th annual REA Convention

Carlisle. Pennsylvania August 17-22, 2015

Our new REA President, David M. Weigand, Jr. with his wife, Rosalee from Alburqueare, New Mexico.

Ueli Berger, President of International Railway Missions with his wife Karin at REA with Rev. Pau Campbell, National REA Chaplain and convention emcee.

God has blessed Rev. Magead Salloums family and REA with his wonderfully talented children and grandchildren. Left to right is granddaughter Alana, Beverly, REA Registrar, Rev. Magead, son Dr. Ben, and REA president for the last two years, his wife Joanna, and their son Ben. REA appreciates this family so very much. God Bless you!

New REA member Don Walton with International Railroad Evangelist Arulraj from Chennai, India. Brother Arulraj met Don Howell in Georgia, (Southern tip of Russia) and invited him to REA. Don is now REA's representative to International Railway Missions.

FIRST TIME to come to an REA Convention. From left to right is Rev. Steve Seidler, Associate Editor of Railroad Evangelist, "All Aboard!", Don Howell, REA representative to IRM, John Lawrence, Ueli Berger, President of IRM and his wife Karin.

Have you ever had a question you wanted to ask a pastor? You get your chance at the REA Round Table Question and Answer time. From left to right, lead by Dr. Ben Salloum with Rev. Magead Salloum, Brother Arulraj, Ueli Berger, Rev. Steve Seidler and Rev. Paul Campbell.

BNSF Engineer John Stewart and Rev. Steve Seidler, both from MN.

Jim Bliss, New REA Secretary &Treasurer.

Left to right visiting "The Green Ridge & Big Spring Model Railroad" at Green Ridge Retirement Village in Newville, PA is Rev. Steve Seidler, Arulraj, Mrs. Joan Moyer, Ueli Berger, David & Rosalee, Wiegand, Norman Seidelmann and Mr. Bill Moyer. The Moyers were host to the REA group.

REA Chapter from Malaga, New Jersey and friends.

REA Chapter Alexandria, Virginia and friends.

REA members from the State of New York

Rosalee Wiegand and Juanita Thomas ministered in song.

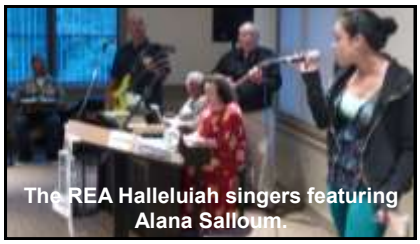
Karin Berger from Switzerland shared her testimony for REAs "Ladies Night".

Don Robey reciting "The Station" an REA favorite.

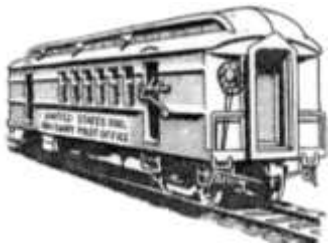
Top left is Evie Bliss on the flute and her sister to the right is Beverly Salloum leading and ministering in song.

To the right is Odd and Mildred Aarstad. Mildred was our evening pianist.

Happy Birthday Mary!



The REA Halleluiah singers featuring Alana Salloum.



LETTERS

From our REA MAIL BAG

PO Box 5026 Vancouver, WA 98668 E-mail: rrjoe@comcast.net

REA,
Every year after the REA convention we say, "this has been one of the best conventions!" But I have to say this has been the best! You could feel the Holy Spirit moving in every service. The fellowship and love just flowed through the whole week. REA is working and moving forward, what a wonderful God we have. God bless you all, and thank God George is doing better after his operation and we thank everyone for their prayers.
God bless you!
George & Marlene Sampson
Winslow, NJ

Ueli & Karin Berger
Switzerland

Dear Brothers & Sisters,
Praise the Lord Jesus Christ! We arrived safely in New York and from there our homeland Switzerland. It was so good and inspirational to be with you in Carlisle Pennsylvania. You are wonderful Christians friends! We felt very welcome and also your desire to serve the Lord Jesus Christ. That's really great. The messages by Bro. Joe Spooner, Rev. Magead Salloum, Rev. Stephen Seidler and Bro. Arulraj (IRM & REA Evangelist) were filled with the Holy Spirit and touched our hearts during that REA Conference. But also the musician parts and the testimonies were really excellent. We are looking forward to see some of you in **Goslar, Germany in 2016** (see back page). My prayer for you is: May the Lord bless you personally and also REA to win young Christians among the Railways and souls in the USA to glorify Jesus Christ! For IRM I'm very pleased that REA will join as a official member in International Railway Mission. Welcome,
I'm sure it will be a blessing for all!
Many greetings and a Biblical quote from 1 Corinthians 15:58: ***"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain".***

Every blessings!
Ueli & Karin Berger
Switzerland
ueli.berger@railhope.ch
www.railway-mission.net

Train Games for the Holidays

Deborah Chen - Portland, Oregon

I met Joe while on a plane trip and he told me all about the Railroad Evangelistic Association he was involved in. To my great surprise, I found he had never played a rail game, for all his lifetime love of trains and its community. What a shame! Every weekend I look forward to cooking, listening to music, and playing games. And train games known as crayon rails are among my favorites.

There's no better time than the holidays for spending time with family and friends. This season, why not invest in a gift of family fun time? Since I was a kid, I always looked forward to the Christmas holidays. Unless the weather was too wet or too cold (and by cold, I mean way below zero), we always had to play outside. But at Christmas time, we had time off from school and got to spend lots of time indoors cooking, baking, and my favorite: playing games.

Train-themed games play in various styles: ***Ticket to Ride*** (see page 11), probably holds the award for most mainstream, while ***Transamerica*** plays quickly with people of all ages. ***Trains*** was designed by a local Portland, Oregon game store owner. Finally, the so-called ***18XX*** series can satisfy even the most complicated of tastes, just to name of few.

Here's a little history of one of my favorite train-game-styles: crayon rails. Enjoy some time well spent!

Empire Builder: the Original Crayon Rails Game

Ever used a crayon to make millions of dollars? "Crayon rails" loom large in my favorite genre of games because they're simple to play, require a little planning plus a little luck, and can be played well with only two people. Mayfair Games released the first crayon rails game in the early 80's, called Empire Builder. It features a map of the US, plus Canada and Mexico. As you might guess, it draws on the fascination and romance of the American rail system.

Based on your delivery options (cards), you'll build your railway, first in small sections for short-haul payouts, and eventually to establish a network connecting major cities like Los Angeles, Chicago, and New York.

Various events can affect your success - flooding in the Mississippi can wipe out your track, workers strikes can make it impossible to pick up or drop off goods.

Most of these games start around $35 USD, and there are choices to please nearly every geographic fancy out there. My all time favorite version is Iron Dragon, which features a fantasy map and a magical connection between faraway cities. Lunar Rails (you guessed it, map of the Moon!) and Russian Rails (watch out for the fall of Soviet Union) also top my list of faves.

Here are a number of other railroad games you can look into. **Nippon Rails** (Japan). **China Rails**. **India Rails**. **Australian Rails. British Rails** and **Martian Rails.**

(Continued on page 13)

"Ticket To Ride"

The Board Game

On my flight home from the REA convention this past August I sat next to a young lady. After about 3 hours into our 5 hour flight back to Portland, Oregon, (then home to Vancouver), we started chatting and she ask me what I was doing back east. I told her about REA then she started telling me about all these railroad games she plays on the internet. With her employment she travels a lot and plays a lot of on -line games with people from all over. She was telling me of all the railroad games that were available online and offered to do an article for our publication, (see page 10). I told her I wasn't much of a game player, so I asked her if there were any basic railroad games out there. She told me of "**Ticket to Ride**", a board game that is similar to monopoly from what I can see. When I got home I purchased "**Ticket to Ride**" board game for myself from Barnes & Nobel's Bookstore. I thought it would be a great way to connect and interact with my grandkids, I only need to wait for a couple years for them to be old enough to play it! "**Ticket to Ride**" may be a great way for you to connect and interact and build relationships with family or friends or just have some fun! I haven't gotten it out the box as yet but hope to so my wife and I can figure it out before our grandkids do! -js

Railroad Evangelist Association

Scholarship

A new idea was birthed at our last REA convention. Offer a $500.00 scholarship to those going to school for the purpose of entering the railroad industry. A new way to connect with a younger generation of future railway employees. For more information contact the Editor.

FRIENDS OF REA

Friend of REA is for those who are incarcerated or confined to a facility who receive REA's Railroad Evangelist, "All Aboard!" and would like to correspond with other REAers.

Please Note

When writing to inmates do not include any other material or REA's gold stickers on back of envelope as some institutions will automatically reject your letter.

Richard F. Bryant #262261-G1-102-L
Franklin Correctional Institution
1760 Highway 67 North
Carrabelle, FL 32322-2157

Jason Ray DC#X10674 C2-101-L
Franklin Correctional Institution
1760 Highway 67 North
Carrabelle, FL 32322

Jeremy Neff DC#K79676 B1126
Okaloosa Correctional Institution
3189 Colonel Greg Malloy Rd
Crestview, FL 32539

Jay E. Glenewinkel #56817-280
FCI
PO Box 5000
Oakdale, LA 71463

Carl Sonne #77049
138 E. Milan Road NCF
Berlin, NH 03570

David A. Meeks Larson 2 North
Logansport State Hospital
1098 South State Rd 25
Logansport, IN 46947

For **"Friends of REA"** please send all correspondence to:

Rev. Steve Seidler
810 18th Street SE
Owatonna, MN 55060

"I was in prison and you visited me"

Matthew 25:36

Laugh Track

> I always wanted to be some body, but I should have been more specific.

> A synonym is a word you use in place of one you can't spell.

> Smile. It makes people wonder what you're up to.

> Diplomacy: the art of letting someone have your way.

> Atheism: a non-prophet religion.

> Life is what happens to you while you're making other plans.

> Jesus is coming. Look busy.

> A clean house is a sure sign of a broken computer.

> My dog can lick anyone.

> Clones are people, two.

> Cole's Law: thinly sliced cabbage.

>Vegetarian:
Indian word for "lousy hunter."

> He's so narrow-minded he can see through a keyhole with both eyes.

> You're so skinny, you only need one strip on your pajamas.

> Support bacteria. They're the only culture some people have.

> Those of you who think you know it all are so annoying to those of us who do.

> It's not easy being right all the time.

> You nonconformists are all alike.

"A cheerful heart does good like a medicine"
Proverbs 17:22 - Living Bible

Begin planning to attend the 75th National **R**ailroad **E**vangelistic **A**ssociation Convention - Everyone is Welcome!
August 15– 19, 2016

Located in the peaceful hills of Pennsylvania at the
Bongiorno Conference Center
430 Union Hall Road Carlisle, PA 17013

Room rate for the week - including meals & tax:
Double occupancy....$290.00 (each)
Single occupancy….$320.00
Three or more in a room….$270.00 (each)
(Prices subject to change)

Please send in your $20.00 (non-refundable) deposit as soon as possible to:

REA Registrar
Mrs. Beverly Salloum
720 W. Thomas Street
Rome, NY 13440
(315) 525-4787 (cell)
E-mail: revsalloum@cheerful.com

If at all possible please have your convention expense paid in full two weeks prior to the convention. Thank you!
REGISTRATION to receive name tag and room key is on Monday August 15th from 2-5 PM. Dinner at 5:00 PM.

AREA ATTRACTIONS

Located within driving distance is:
>Historic Carlisle - US Army War College - 10 minutes.
>Gettysburg - About a 30 minute drive.
>Hershey - About a 45 minute drive.
>Strasburg RR community - A little over an hour drive.
>Sight & Sound Theater in Lancaster - A little over an hour.
>The heart of the Amish in Lancaster - A little over an hour.
>National Civil War Museum - Harrisburg - About 30 minutes.
>Washington D.C. - About 2 1/2 hour drive.
>Valley Forge / Philadelphia - About 3 hours

-PLUS A WHOLE LOT MORE! -

JESUS said

"I AM the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6

"I AM the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness, but have the light of life." John 8:12

"I AM the bread of life. He who comes to Me shall never hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst." John 6:35

"I AM the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved…" John 10:9

"I AM the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep." John 10:11

"I AM the true vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing." John 15:5

"I AM the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?." John 11:25,26

The Bible gives us the absolute truth that applies to all people, of all nations, for all times. *"But God demonstrated His own love towards us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."* Romans 5:8

Just as you would place your complete and total trust in your parachute before you jump from a plane you must put your total and complete trust in Jesus Christ to forgive you of your sins. *"For by grace you have been saved through faith, and not of yourselves, it is the gift of God, not Of works, least anyone should boast."* Ephesians 2:8,9

Our salvation is not based on the way we feel but in the **fact** that our **faith** is founded in the word of God. But Jesus did say, *"If you abide in Me, and My words abide in you, you will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you...These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full."* John 15: 7&11

Please consider the words of Jesus carefully as your ultimate conclusion and decision will have eternal consequences. You can pray, right now, to receive Christ into your life today. You will never, ever regret it and if you will "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, (Matthew 6:33) your life will dramatically change for the best.

Jesus come into my life, be merciful to me a sinner, forgive me of all my sins and make Yourself real to me, fill me now with Your Holy Spirit to help me live for You all the days of my life."
In Jesus name. Amen."

If you prayed that prayer or something similar, please send for the free brochure, ***"Welcome Aboard!"*** as it will help you begin your journey on the right track. Also you can contact the Pocket Testament League for further Bible helps at www.PTL.org

CROSS OVER

For a donation of any amount the Cross Over Memorial page is a place where both God and your loved ones will be remembered and will help us to continue publishing the Good News of Jesus Christ to the worldwide railroad community through the Railroad Evangelist magazine. All donations are tax deductible.

"Well done, good and faithful servant . . . enter into the joy of the Lord"

Eddie Creamer by Lorraine Creamer
Paul Nye by Lorraine Creamer
Bill Mosley by George & Marlene Sampson
Preston Schoentube by Linda Schoentube
Preston Schoentube by Joe Spooner
Paul Myhre by Joe Spooner
Paul Myhre by Mildred Myhre
Paul Myhre by Kathey Rodriguez
Paul Myhre by Brenda Coop.

"Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning." Psalm 30:5

Preston Schoentube went home to be with the Lord June 5, 2015. He and his wife Linda lived in Great Cacapon, West Virginia. Preston was very involved with REA in the 1960's and use to write a column for the RE magazine called, "Along the Boomers Trail". Preston eventually had other priorities in his life and lost track of REA, after 30 years he met our former and late REA president Glenn Stevens at a Life Chain event and could not believe REA was still around. Preston came to the REA convention in 2005 and had a wonderful time. His testimony appeared in the January-April 2006 issue of the Railroad Evangelist magazine.

Paul A. Myhre went home to be with his Lord on June 9, 2015 at the age of 85. He and his wife Mildred were living in Spokane, Washington at the time. Paul was an REA member and supporter for many years and a true and faithful "Railroad Evangelist" who received and gave out 100 magazines with each issue. I (Joe Spooner) first met Paul in Camas, Washington when I was on the Section crew for BN in the mid 1970's and Paul was a Telegrapher for Burlington Northern Railway at Camas. The above photo of Paul was the last time I saw him. It was taken at the Amtrak Station in Vancouver, Washington. He was a very sweet guy.

(Continued from page 10)

Where can I buy these great games?

Many games are available online from retailers like Amazon, but I'd also suggest that you take a trip to your local games store - especially if you're new to buying and playing games. Nearly anyone who works at a game store does so because they love to play. They can provide you with a wealth of information - how family-oriented a game is, how complicated, what age ranges enjoy it, is it fast-paced or slow and thoughtful, and much more.

The Game Preserve* http://www.gamepreserve.com/
Rainy Day Games, Beaverton/Aloha: http://rainy-day-games.com/
Cloud Cap Games, SE Portland: http://cloudcapgames.com/
Guardian Games, Inner SE Portland: http://www.ggportland.com/

* I managed one of The Game Preserve stores while attending Purdue University (go Boilermakers!). Their mission, as copied from their website:

"*The mission of The Game Preserve is to delight our customers and attract new ones by operating game stores which offer outstanding selection, expertise, and organization, and which practice kindness as their most important value.*"

It will always have a special place in my heart.
- Deborah Chen

If you have any question for Deborah contact her at: deborah.chen@gmail.com

"Whatsoever you do, do it all for the glory of God."
1 Corinthians 19;31

We tend to be self focused and self centered. When Jesus saved us, He saved us from sin and saved us from self. When God is the center of your life, you'll ask, "What can I do to bring joy to others?" Our prayer is, "Lord, help us to help the lost and hurting."

Rev. Paul Campbell - REA National Chaplain

My mother taught me...

about RELIGION. "You better pray this will come out of the carpet." My mother taught me about LOGIC. "Because, I say so, that's why" My mother taught me about FORESIGHT. "Make sure you wear clean underwear, in case you're in an accident." My mother taught me IRONY. "Keep crying and I'll give you something to cry about." My mother taught me about CONTORTION-ISM. "Will you look at that dirt on the back of your neck." My mother taught me about STAMINA. You will set there until all that spinach is gone." My mother taught me HUMOR. "When the lawn mower cuts off your toes, don't come running to me." My mother taught me about JUSTICE. "One day you will have kids and I hope they turn out just like you."

Love and prayers
Geneva Campbell
Contributing Editor

"Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever."
Psalm 23:6

Chapter News

Please send your REA news to: (E-mail) rrjoe@comcast.net
REA PO Box 5026 Vancouver, WA 98668

ALEXANDRIA REA CHAPTER
met Monday Sept. 21, with 22 people in attendance. Paul Campbell opened with everyone saying the 23rd Psalm and prayer requests taken. After a delicious meal, our guest, Don Howell, retired Col, spoke from Luke 5;17-26,on the lame man that was let down thru the roof to Jesus and He healed him physically & spiritually. Birthday flowers given out. Meeting closed with prayer.
For more information contact Geneva Campbell at **540-869-7019**

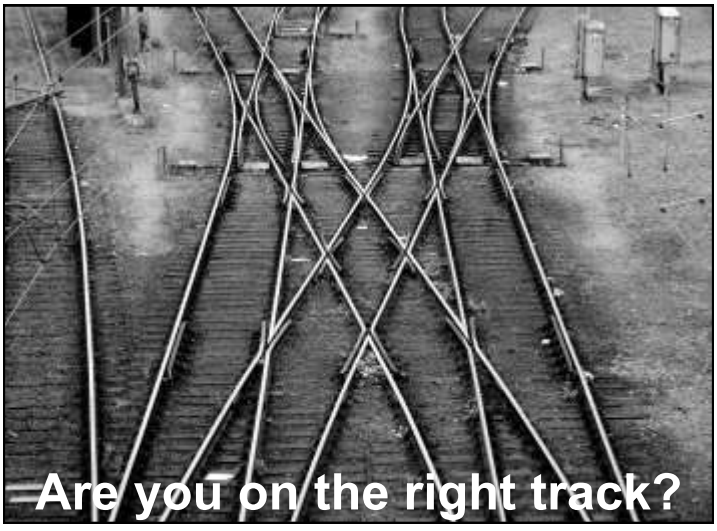
MALAGA, NJ For more information call Marlene Sampson at **(609) 561-6922**.

LAKELAND, FL.
For more information call Sara Harkey at **(863) 940-9360.**

PORTLAND,OR / VANCOUVER,WA
The Railroad Evangelists are distributed around local railroad shops and yards. Call Joe Spooner at: **(360) 699-7208.**

MN (Minnesota) **Railroad Fellowship**. For more information for those living in the North St. Paul or Twin Cities area telephone John Stewart at (cell) **651-592-8478** or Mark Lorenz at (cell) **651– 592-6065**

For information on how to begin a REA Chapter or a REA Fellowship in your area see our web page www.RailroadEvangelist.com or write the Editor.



Jesus said,

" I am the way, the truth, and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through Me."
John 14:6

The HaLuWaSa Line

"**H**allelujah **W**hat a **S**avior"

REA member N.R. Seidelmann snapped this photo of George and Marlene (waving) Sampson along with others from the **Malaga NJ REA Chapter** taking a ride on the HaLuWaSa rail line in Hammonton, NJ.

Rev. Paul Campbell leading everyone on one of the great old hymns.

The REA **"Hallelujah Band"** with Ben on the bongos, Dr. Ben on bass Jim Bliss on guitar and Mildred Aarstad on piano.

Dr. Ben and family from left to right is their daughter Alana, Dr. Ben. wife Joanna and son Ben. Dr. Ben served as REA president for the last two years and REA was blessed to have him and his family "***on board!"***

New Day FOR REA

FRIENDS OF REA

Friend of REA is for those who are incarcerated or confined to a facility who receive REA's Railroad Evangelist, "All Aboard!" and would like to correspond other REAers.

Rev. Steve Seidler

For all **"Friends of REA"** please send all correspondence to:

Rev. Steve Seidler
810 18th Street SE
Owatonna, MN 55060

Please Note

When writing to inmates do not include any other material or REA's gold stickers on back of envelope as some institutions will automatically send them back to you. See page 11 for addresses.

Introducing

Jim Bliss

New REA
Secretary - Treasurer

Send your membership, subscriptions and donations to:

REA
255 State Route 49
Cleveland, NY 13042

Joe Spooner

Editor and REA Convention Coordinator

Continue to send your railroad related photos, articles and poems to the editor Joe Spooner.
Also, if you have any suggestions or ideas for the 75th REA Convention in 2016 format, send them to:

Joe Spooner
PO Box 5026
Vancouver, WA 98661

Email: rrjoe@comcast.net

www.RailroadEvangelist.com

God's purpose orchestrated these three Christian brothers together for the REA Convention.
Left to right is;
Ueli Berger, President of IRM from Switzerland, with Don Howell, our new REA representative to IRM from Virginia and International Railroad Evangelist Arulraj from Chennai, India who helped make this happen.

Publication Guidelines for the Railroad Evangelist magazine

We are always looking for original railroad related photos, drawings and stories, articles, personal testimonies (300 - 800 words) or poems that would be of a spiritual interest to our readers of the **Railroad Evangelist** magazine. Currently the **Railroad Evangelist** magazine is published three times a year. Material received will be returned upon request. For further information or questions contact the editor.

Railroad Evangelistic Association
to join with
International Railway Missions

Left is **Ueli Berger**, President of IRM. To his right is **Don Howell**, new REA representative to IRM from Virginia.

At the 2015 REA Convention REA members voted to begin the process of applying to join with International Railway Missions. Joining with IRM will not change REA from who we are and what we do, we are simply going to become a part of a network of Christian Railroad people and friends. New REA member **Don Howell** will be REA's representative at IRM's conferences. The IRM conference meets every three years, the next one will be in Goslar, Germany. All who would like to attend are welcome.

Cordial Invitation!

The IRM connects railway people. The next conference- and recreational week will be from the 28th of July to the 4th of August 2016 in Goslar / Germany.

WWW.RAILWAY-MISSION.NET

NON-PROFIT org. U.S. POSTAGE PAID Vancouver, WA **PERMIT No. 46**

Railroad Evangelistic Association
PO Box 5026
Vancouver, WA 98668

Change Services Requested

Local Contact: