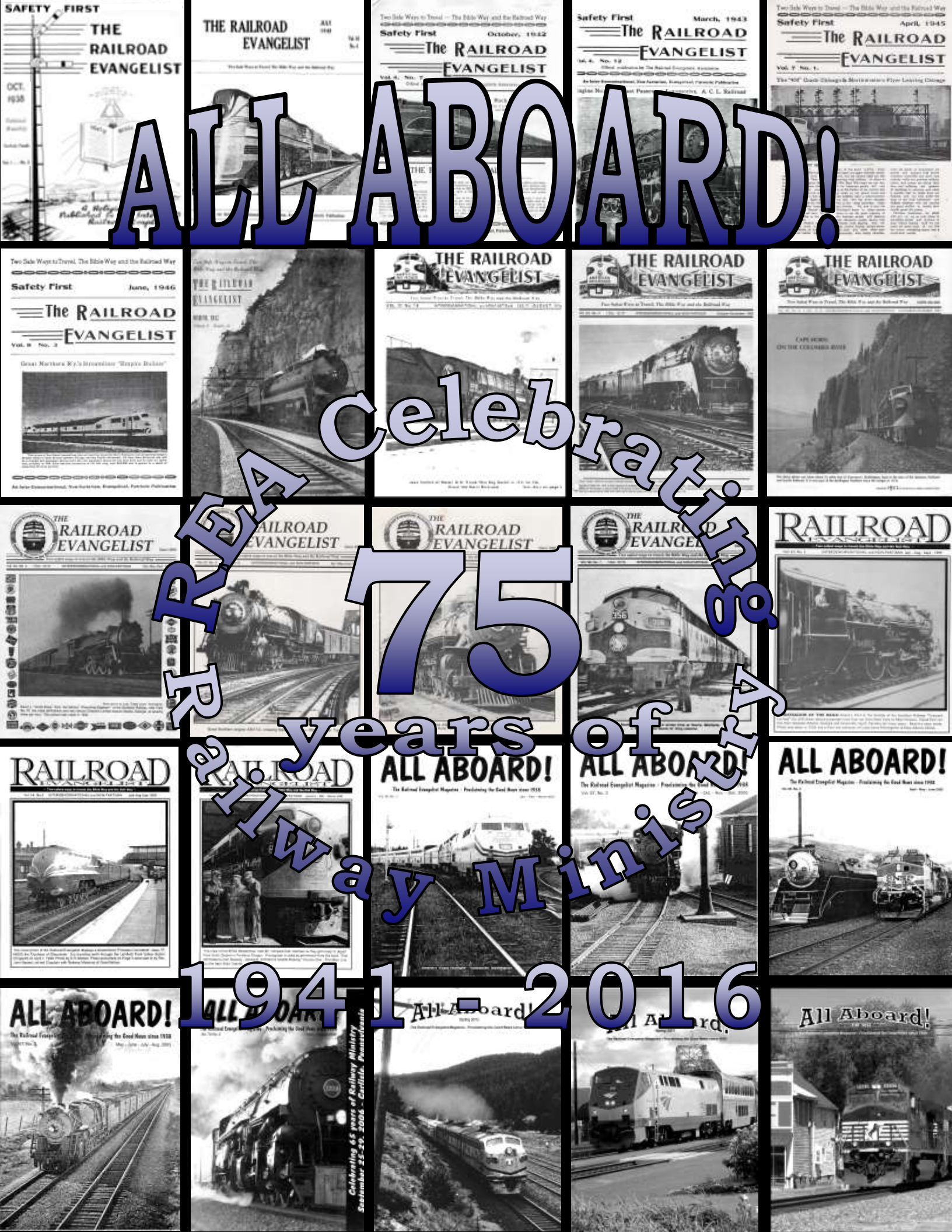
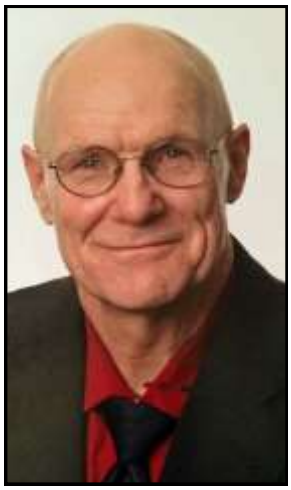

ALL ABOARD!
REA Celebrating
75
Years of
Railway Ministry
1941 - 2016

MainLine



David Wiegand
REA President

"But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk and not faint."
Isaiah 40:31

The Railroad Evangelistic Association founded by Locomotive Engineer Luther S. Harkey is celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2016. This is definitely cause for celebration and thanksgiving. The LORD has used REA to proclaim worldwide the good news that Jesus saves and offers eternal life. REA's publication The Railroad Evangelist magazine ***"ALL ABOARD!"*** has ministered to and blessed multitudes throughout the world over the years.

I recently joined a small group of my fellow retired railroaders for some delicious New Mexican food at one of Albuquerque's finest eateries. Topics of conversation centered around the changes we observed on the railroad during our time riding the rails and our modern culture which has come loose from its moorings of morality, virtue and common sense. I could not help but think what Brother Harkey would think of his railroad and our modern world if he were still alive today.

Brother Harkey would be very impressed with the powerful diesel locomotives that supplanted the steam engines of his era and the 15,000 foot freight trains powered by those diesels of three engines consists piloted by a single engineer. He would be fascinated by the new computer technologies and telecommunications that have allowed for newer more efficient methods of train dispatching. But Brother Harkey's heart would be burdened by the persecution of Christians in foreign lands and outraged by the marginalization of Christianity and the Bible in our own country. Church attendance in America and Europe is decreasing at alarming rates among the younger generation. Something has to fill the void left by the rejection of the Bible and its message of hope. Many people have lost hope. Christians have questioned rather it is worthwhile to evangelize. Substance abuse and suicide in the United States is on the increase. Suicide by train is occurring at epidemic rates.

Where does all of this leave REA during these troubled times? The ministry of REA is needed more than ever in its history. Things were difficult and dangerous for Jesus's followers in His day. The question that JESUS posed his followers is asked of us today. ***"Will ye also go away?",*** John 6:67. At REA our answer to that question is the same answer Peter gave JESUS, ***"Lord, to whom shall we go, Thou hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God."*** John 6:68 -69. We will remember and put into action the words of the Apostle Paul to the Galatians, ***"And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not. As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them of the household of faith."*** Galatians 6:9-10.

May God bless each and every one of you richly.

Yours in CHRIST,
David Wiegand

REA 2016 Convention Theme "Dedicated to CHRIST" Psalm 97:12

"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. The Railroad Evangelistic Association was founded by Luther S. Harkey (1885-1949) in 1941 with other Christian railroaders in Sanford, Florida.

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: 2,600.

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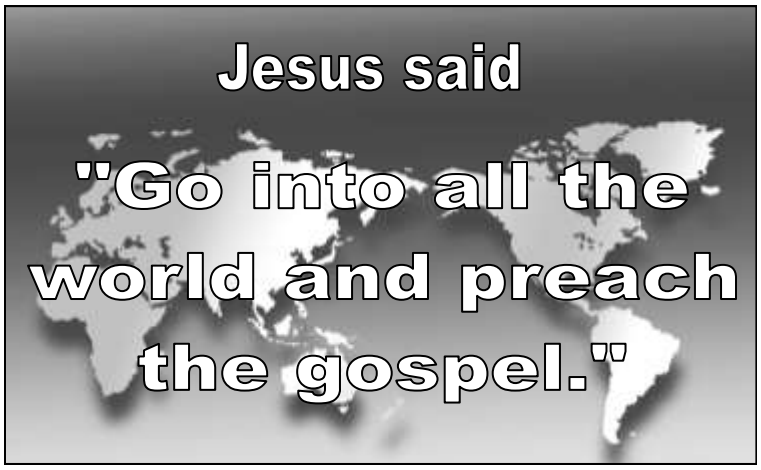
This **Summer 2016** issue of the Railroad Evangelist magazine was printed June 2016 Vol. 80, No. 2.

COVER: Celebrating 75 years of God's faithfulness to REA.



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:

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Cleveland, NY 13042

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- 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.

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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.

An Introduction to the beginning of REA

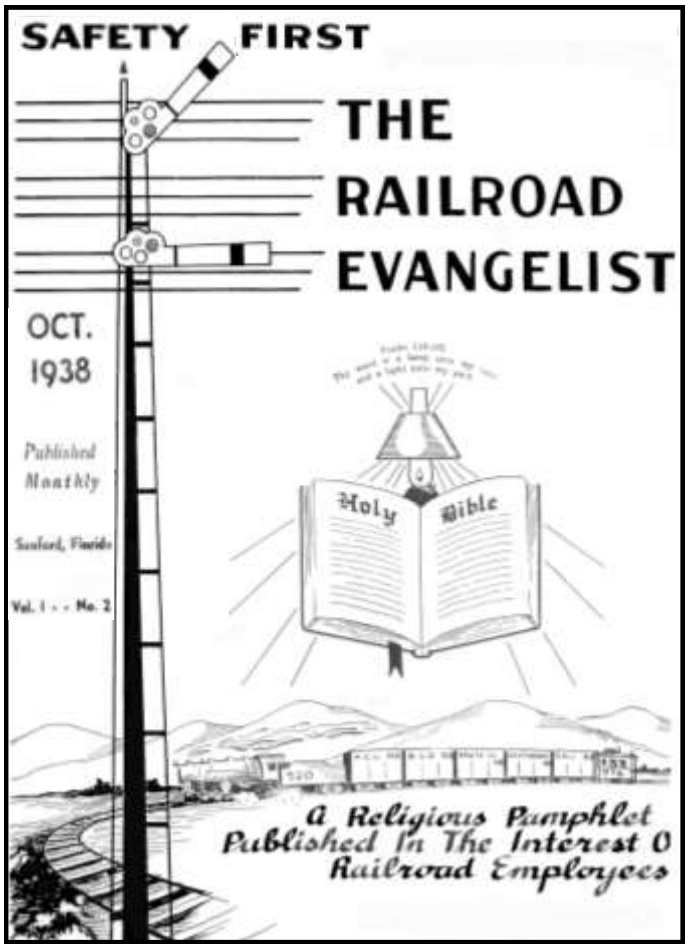
Luther S. Harkey was a railroad man; a railroad man with a passion to tell others of the Good News of Jesus Christ. This is the story of his life, vision, passion and continuing legacy.

For the better part of Luther's career he was a railroad engineer from Sanford, Florida. Soon after his conversion to Christ in 1926, the fire of the gospel message burned in his heart to share the Good News of His salvation fervently and faithfully with his fellow railroad employees.

As the gospel fire increased in his heart for the lost, Luther's vision also began to grow to reach out to those railroad employees who were beyond his sphere of personal witness. Luther believed the printed page was the way he could "Go into all the world and preach the gospel". In June of 1938 the first Railroad Evangelist magazine was published and wasn't published again until Ocotber 1938.

Joining together with other Christian railroaders Luther founded and incorporated "The Railroad Evangelistic Association" in Sanford,Florida in January 1941, as a non-denominational evangelistic work.

Luther S. Harkey 1885 - 1949
Founder of the Railroad Evangelistic Association



Vol 1 No 2, October 1938 was the second issue of The Railroad Evangelist magazine printed.

Through the years men and women have caught the vision of REA and have freely given of their time, talent and finances to continue this unique literature evangelistic-missionary work.

Today,75 years later we are still committed to the same vision and goals that were set forth from the beginning. REA's purpose is two-fold: We exist to encourage, strengthen, challenge and inspire Christian railroad employees and to proclaim the Good News of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ to a lost and dying world.

Since 1938 the Good News of Jesus Christ has been published through The RAILROAD EVANGLIST magazine. We are committed to continue as we believe everyone, everywhere needs to be on the right track to heaven through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

"All Aboard!"
John 3:16

Joe H. Spooner
Editor
The Railroad Evangelist magazine

In the beginning...

The above photo was taken August 27,1940 at the California Avenue Coach Yards in Chicago, Illinois. Luther Harkey, (third from left, standing) with his son Bud, (kneeling, first on the left) met with a group of Christian railroad men to share the vision of the Railroad Evangelistic Association.

LEFT TO RIGHT – FRONT ROW, SEATED: **F.R. Shaw**, Treasurer, Conductor, Penn R.R., Fort Wayne, Ind; **L.S. Harkey**, Editor, The Railroad Evangelist, Engineer, A.C.L. Railroad Sanford, Fla; **A.R. Dick Brothers**, President, Engineer, S.A.L. Ry., Hamlet, N.C.; **James S. Spata**, Secretary, Clark, C.& N.W. RY. Chicago, Ill

BACK ROW – STANDING: **J.T. Sigvertsen**, First Vice-President, Clerk N.P. Ry., St. Paul, Minn.; **C.S. Hensley**, Second Vice-President, Ticket Agent, Rock Island Railway, Chicago, Ill.; **W.E. Kircher**, Musical Director, Trainman, E.J.E. Railroad, Joliet, Ill.; **Elizabeth Harkey**, Corresponding Secretary, Evangelist, Seattle, Washington; **Mrs. Lula C.B. Shaffer**, Fourth Vice-President, Evangelist, B. & O. Ry., Pittsburgh, Pa.; **Joseph T. Larson**, Field Supervisor, Evangelist, Minneapolis, Minn.; **L. McLamb,** Third Vice-President, Conductor, A.C.L. Railroad, Savannah, Ga.; **Edward P. Perry**, Chairman Advisory Board, Engineer, E.J.E. Ry., Joliet, Ill.

First President of REA was a "fiery prophet" Dick Brothers who was an engineer on the Seaboard Air Lines and Southern Baptist evangelist pictured here with L.S. Harkey in 1941.

Dead Level Best...

"My dear reader friends, I don't just mean for you to promise to do something, but what we and God expects is our dead level best in this all out Gospel program to get sinners saved and to help bring about a great spiritual awakening, not only to railroad folks, but a nation wide revival."

Luther S. Harkey
January 1942

Two Safe Ways to Travel - The Bible Way and The Railroad Way

Safety First **September, 1941**

The RAILROAD EVANGELIST

Vol. 3. No. 6

Official publication for The Railroad Evangelistic Association

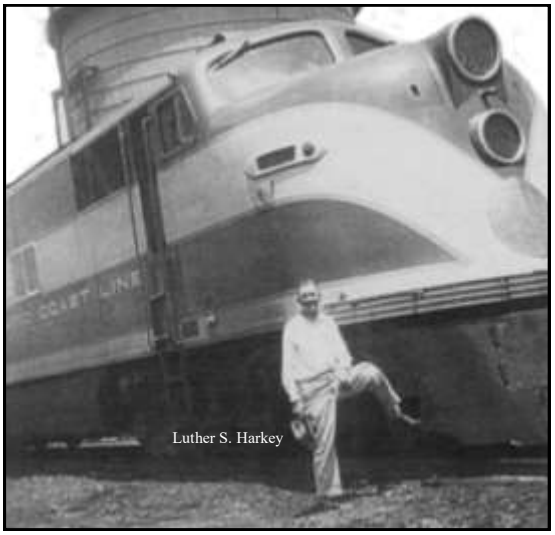
The Famous Steam "Hiwathia" Streamline of The Milwaukee Road

This Issue dedicated to the officers of the St. Paul Railroad Evangelistic Conference and the American Railroads

The reason for the Railroad Evangelist

By Luther S. Harkey February 1943

Luther S. Harkey


Luther S. Harkey

I was born of Christian parents in Mecklenburg County near Charlotte, North Carolina on October 9, 1885. I was the oldest of nine children and we were all raised on a farm..

I started railroading on the South Atlantic Line Railway at Abbeville,, S.C., that was in the year of 1903 and at that time I joined the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen. I spent two years on this particular road; I went west (Luther worked as a "Boomer", going wherever there was work). I worked on many different railroads as a firemen, brakemen and switchman. I became an Engineer on the Marshall and East Texas Railway in 1910.

I came to the Atlantic Coast Line Railroad at Sanford, Florida and there married a good Christian girl in 1942. I had lived in sin all these years and in 1942 my health began to fail. I had developed serious kidney trouble with many other complications, my condition grew worse and worse until I despaired for my life.

I lost a year's work and still I did not see the necessity of turning to God and therefore went farther and farther away from any definite workable faith in my Creator. My oldest child, Elizabeth had become a devoted and consecrated girl, having been converted through the influence of a Baptist tent meeting conducted by the well know Mead brothers. Elizabeth began a life of Christian service at the age of 14 and today after 15 years of devoted and sincere Christian service in the Salvation Army and USO work. Elizabeth prayed for me and urged me to accept God but it was only when hope had fled and in utter and abject despair that my dear wife and daughter made me see that only God could help me then.

X-rays revealed the danger of the situation in which I found myself. Among many other things, I had kidney stones so large that only an operation could remove them and a dangerously intricate one at that. God heard the prayers of my loved ones and He began to speak to my heart. I became so miserable and so ill that after taking all kinds of medication I felt that I had at last reached the end of things.

One night on a switch engine I became so very ill that I realized that there was only one way of escape: GOD! There was no one to pray for me then, only myself and so I left the engine and made an altar of the cross ties alongside of the track, and there for the first time I reached out and found God. I asked first that He would save my poor miserable soul and give me a sweet assurance that He loved me. God in His abundant mercy heard my cry. He saved me and healed me, and without any sign of pain I returned to my switch engine and finished my job. I knew nothing of the promises of God that brought the healing touch to the believing soul. It was only that God in His marvelous love reached my sinful heart and touched my suffering body. Such an experience! Never shall it be erased from my memory, for there, as did Paul on the road to Damascus meet with Christ. I, in the dead of night, kneeling by the rails I had so often ridden came face to face with my Lord and Savior.

This experience took place 15 years ago and it holds good for today and these past years have been the happiest that I have ever known. My health is remarkably good. I have gained almost forty pounds in the realm of the physical and unlimited strength in the realm of the spiritual through the healing touch of Jesus Christ.

I have tried the world; it fails. But now I have also tried God and He never fails and His love is the most dependable thing in this world. My reason for desiring to carry out this work of contacting people and witnessing to the practicality and workability of religion in everyday life emanates solely from a great burning love for God and those of His dear children that have so heedlessly and thoughtlessly are turning Him away from their lives. In God there is a peace that the world can never give and more than that, the world can never take it away.

You dear folks who read this little paper, God grant that you may feel the intensity of my love for God and the beauty of His power as shown through men and women yielded to His will. If you are not a Christian, I do not mean one of the rather farfetched theoretical type, but an actual honest to goodness Christian – if you are not, may you today realize the importance of becoming one and accept His pardoning love that has the ability to change the unlovely to lovely, and cause the desert to bloom like a rose.

I leave these parting words with you, seek Him now. He has said, "***Call unto me and I will answer thee, and show thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not***." Jeremiah 33:3

Luther S. Harkey died May 9,1949 of heart failure at home with his wife Eve and son Bernard "Bud" Harkey were present at his home going.

– JS editor

Railroad Evangelist Editors

Luther S. Harkey was the founding editor with the first Railroad Evangelist magazine being printed in June 1938. Publication was hit and miss until 1941 then became consistent each month for many years.

Helen (Harkey) Burtchaell became the editor after her father died on May 9, 1949. Helen was editor until December 1949 and decided to sell all the rights of the publication to the Railroad Evangelistic Association.

Herman R. Rose became the editor in January 1950. Herman faithfully labored until his health failed resigning in 1989 shortly before his death on June 30, 1990.

Esther L. Peterson became editor in 1983 working behind the scenes helping Herman. She officially became editor in July 1989 and faithfully did the job until 1992. Esther was an REA firecracker, totally sold for Jesus and REA.

Joe H. Spooner became the editor in 1993 after receiving a telephone call from Ann Grissom and Esther Peterson asking if he could help REA as editor of The Railroad Evangelist magazine.

The Legacy of Luther S. Harkey

By Alan L. Harkey

Luther S. Harkey was more than just a father and a railroad engineer. He was a man driven by a singular passion; a passion for souls. As a little boy, my Dad (Bud Harkey) would sometimes sneak out of bed at night to find his father kneeling on the floor praying earnestly for his own family and for railroad men up and down the line who were lost and hurting. He would pray like that for hours to the point that the toes of his shoes wore out long before the soles. It was a picture that would stay with my Dad all his life; the picture of his own father waging "war on the floor" for those God placed in his charge. During the final months of my father's own war with cancer, as his physical strength began to drain, his prayer life seemed to strengthen. We watched in wonder as men, women and children who heard about his illness came for one last visit and a final blessing; a doctor from Orlando, a group of musicians from Tallahassee, fellow pastors and of course family and friends.

One by one they came and one by one they were reminded that God's strength is sufficient; that His power is perfected in our weakness. On the night Dad slipped into heaven, Sara Ann (Buds wife) and I were there by his side. It was a precious, sacred moment. As he passed from our hands into the hands of Jesus, it seemed as if time itself had come to a stop. I was a little boy again and Dad and I were building a model plane together, going to a Cub Scout meeting, munching on cinnamon toast as we watched our favorite Saturday morning cartoons. One memory led to another; my first day of school, my wedding, the birth of our first child.

And now years later, standing there next to Dad's bedside I was reminded that in the good times and in the bad, he had always been there for me weaving his life into mine in ways only a father can.

Luther S. Harkey
Founder of REA

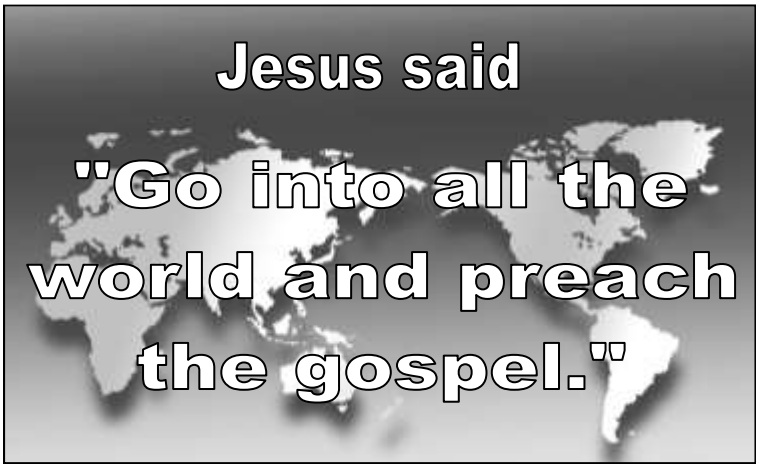
Rev. Bud Harkey
Son of Luther S. Harkey

Rev. Alan L. Harkey
Son of Rev. Bud Harkey

Alan Harkey is pastor of Genesis Church in Honea Path, South Carolina. In addition to his ministerial responsibilities with the Church of the Nazarene, Alan has held a variety of leadership positions with nationally known groups like; *The Christian Broadcasting Network, Coral Ridge Ministries, CBM International and Feed The Children.* He is also a certified life coach with a passion for helping people discover and achieve their God-given purpose and potential. Alan and his wife, Janet make their home in Simpsonville, South Carolina. They have two children and four grandchildren.

Since becoming editor of the Railroad Evangelist magazine in 1993 it has been my prayer that God would give REA an increase of influence in the Railroad Community world-wide. A I look back on answered prayer, all I can say is ***"This was the Lord's doing; It is marvelous in our eyes."*** Psalm 188:23

Following is a thumbnail look at what God has done.



>INDIA Outreach: Brother Victor Swamidoss has been faithfully receiving and distributing The Railroad Evangelist magazine since **1967**. In **1973 Brother Herman Rose**, editor of the RE magazine went to India traveling all over making contact with railroad people.

Herman Rose on back of a motor scooter with Brother Gerald Yeoward in Lucknow, India. Center photo is pastor **Victor Swamidoss** who worked with a young **Arulraj** on the Southern Railway who introduces him to REA. **Brother Arulraj** first REA Convention (2007) in the USA is welcomed by **Don Robey** a long time REA member and supporter along with his (late) wife Doris.

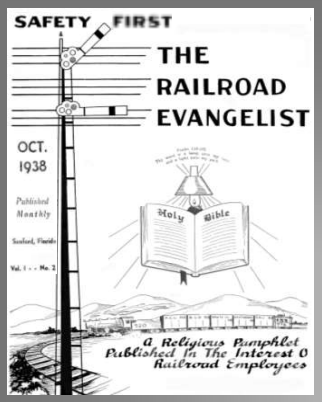
> 2004 Rev. Stephen Seidler came on board doing the Model Railroader and Rail Fan page. Brother Steve has done an excellent job with his knowledge and love for trains and model railroading.

> 2006 was the first time REA elected a women President, Mrs. **Ann B. Grisson**. Ann who served REA faithfully in a number of different capacities for over 25 years.

> 2006 REA launched it's very first World Wide Web page: **www.RailroadEvangelist.com.**

> 2006 was the **first color cover** and back for the RE magazine. Also the **"Laugh Track"** was introduced.

> 2007 Editor Joe Spooner went to his first **International Railway Missions Conference** in Eastborne, England where he met for the first time Brother Arulraj from Chennai, India along with many other wonderful Christian brothers and sister from all over Europe.



Cover Headings

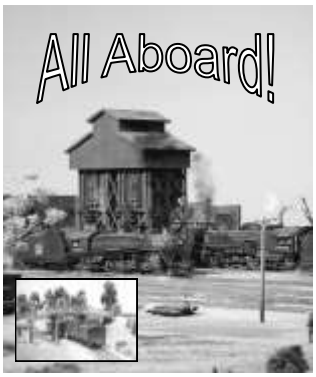
Through the years The Railroad Evangelist magazine headings have changed to what we have today.

The first issue with ***"All Aboard!"*** - The Railroad Evangelist magazine first appeared in January 2002. The term "All Aboard!" refers to the scripture John 3:16, ***"For God so loved the world that whosoever believes in His name, shall not perish but have everlasting life."***

We believe that everyone, everywhere is welcome aboard the gospel train to Heaven with the ticket being "paid in full" by the blood of Jesus Christ on the cross and that whosoever will, may come ***"All Aboard!"***

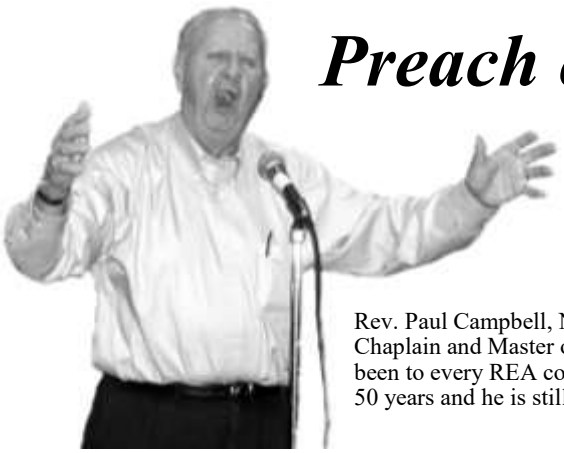
> 2007, on an excursion to the Blue Bird Railway in England from left to right is **John May**, former president of IRM for many years, **Brother Arulraj** from Chennai, India, **John Lunn**, "God's Engineer" and **Joe Spooner,** REA/USA.

> 2008
was the first time a **model railroad layout** in color was used on the cover of the Railroad Evangelist magazine and it turned out absolutely beautiful thanks to photos sent in byRev. Steve Seidler, editor of the Model and Rail Fan pages.



> 2015
With the invitation of IRM President **Ueli Berger** invitation to REA to join with the International Railway Missions when he and his wife Karin (from Switzerland) came to our last RAE convention. With an enthusiastically vote from REA it was decided to join with IRM to show our support and unity in reaching railway men and women and their family's with the Good News of Jesus Christ around the world. **International Railroad Evangelist Arulraj** from Chennai, India met and invited **Donald Howell** from Virginia to the REA convention, he came and is now the REA representative to IRM. Brother Don will be going to the IRM convention this July in Goslar, Germany, July 28 - August 4th 2016. God used Brother Aruraj to orchestrate these three brothers paths to cross to help fulfill God's plan and purpose for both IRM and REA to become an integral part of something larger than ourselves in reaching railway folks with the Good News of the gospel.

Preach on!



Rev. Paul Campbell, National REA Chaplain and Master of Ceremony has been to every REA convention for over 50 years and he is still ***"Preaching on!"***

If you're preaching from the Bible, well, preach on!
If you're longing for revival, just preach on!
Preach on sin and condemnation. Preach for sinners,
his salvation, Preach to Christian's consecration.
But preach on!

If your sermon's from the Lord, preach on!
Never mind if some look bored, just preach on!
If the Devil looks down on it, If critics frown upon it,
Many Souls depend upon it,
So, preach on!

Think of Christ's own message clear, and preach on!
There for all who wish to hear, oh, preach on!
All are sinners, they must know, That His blood did freely flow, He can wash them white as snow,
Oh, preach on!

In the Holy Spirit's power, oh, preach on!
He'll reward you in His hour, just preach on!
Broken hearts and sins forgiven,
Blessings are so freely given,
And a crown up there in heaven,
Oh, preach on!

You are invited

to attended our 75th REA Annual National Convention this August 15-19, 2016 at Carlisle, Pennsylvania. See page 12 for details.

The photo to the right was our last years REA Convention with special guest from Switzerland, International Railway Missions president Ueli Berger and his wife Karin. We always have a wonderful time in the Lord!

STOP - LOOK - LISTEN!

Luther Harkey's last message was delivered at his last REA Conference, April 8,1949 he attended in Sanford, Florida one month before he died May 9, 1949. Brother Harkey is seated front row, first one on left.

By Elizabeth Harkey Kircher
Associate Editor "The Railroad Evangelist magazine June 1949.

The following words were the last he spoke in a pulpit. I will record them as I remember them, for father did not use written sermons, his were written on the tablets of his heart.

I want to bring you a brief message that I feel God has laid on my heart. I want to talk to you in a language that you will understand, I want to challenge you with words that you have heard and read all your life. . . STOP . . . LOOK . . . AND LISTEN!

STOP: In this busy life of ours, we are running here and there seeking for things that have no true importance, no real values. Rushing, hurrying and seeking.... God would say to us here and now, 'Stop' and honestly look at your self. Are you going your way without His Hand to guide? If this be so, from the bottom of my heart I bid you 'Stop!' Many a life has been lost at a railroad crossing, when somebody has failed to obey the signal 'Stop.' The warning was there and the message was plain but lives have been lost because people failed to heed. So will the soul of that man or woman be lost and eternally damned if God's voice is disobeyed, His warning unheeded. Stop and 'Behold the Lamb of God who taketh away the sins of the world,' (John 1:29).

LOOK: People are so busy looking at things, success and fame, vain pleasure and this world's goods, seeing everything but the Love of God and the Peace which passeth knowledge. Look at the price one pays for sinning, both here and hereafter. Look at the awfulness of sin that separates a soul from God. Look at the emptiness of life when you face a Christ less eternity. Ask yourself if all this is worth the price you pay. Not only will I say look at these facts but after having looked at them then look at Jesus! 'Turn your eyes upon Jesus; look full in His wonderful face, then the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His Glory and Grace." Oh yes, I say to you tonight, LOOK! 'Look unto me and be ye saved, (Isaiah 45:22).

LISTEN: We hear so much, so many confusing things so many things that upset us and cause us to doubt, yes, and even fear. We are deafened by the loud call and clamor of this old world but above the din and strife the voice of Jesus calls…if you will but pause and hear, you will not mistake that calling. Oh, dear people, won't you heed His call and let his voice speak to you here and now? Listen . . . Jesus said, 'Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.' (Matt. 11:28). Listen to Him tell of His love for you, His Salvation purchased that you might be saved, His Promise of Life Eternal. You cannot afford to turn a deaf ear!

Yes, I say to you, STOP, LOOK, and LISTEN that you might be saved. By simple faith and coming to Jesus, confessing your sins and accepting His love, you can be saved from the uttermost to the uttermost! I beg you, Let Jesus come into your heart!"

Brother Harkey's last public message was brief and clear and is still relevant for us today. This is the purpose of REA, to reach those who are still side tracked on life's journey. May God help us to continue reaching out through the printed page.
- JS Editor

REA Scholarship

REA is offering a $500.00 scholarship to those who are going to school or training school to be employed in the Railway industry.

The REA scholarship is very simple. We require a 500 word or less how you became interested in pursing a railroad career and why you want to be employed in the Railroad industry. Also enclose a photo of yourself along with your essay. Deadline July 17, 2016.
The essay will be judge by the REA Scholarship committee the winner will be announced at the REA convention in August 2016.

Once a winner is declared, the recipient will receive a letter along with the check to be use as he or she wills and whenever possible will be presented by one or more of the scholarship committee.
The essay along with your photo will be published in a future issue of the Railroad Evangelist magazine "All Aboard"!
Send your essay and photo to:

REA - Editor
PO Box 5026
Vancouver, WA
Or email: rrjoe@comcast.net

REA is asking you to consider making a donation of any amount to the REA Scholarship fund. We believe it will not only be a help and blessing to the recipient but will also introduce REA to a new generation of future railway employees and to the ministry of REA in reaching the entire railroad community worldwide with the Good News of Christ. If you are able to help please send your donation to:

Jim Bless
REA Sec/Tres.
255 State Route 49
Cleveland, NY 13042

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

Be patient in writing our railroad related inmates. Be consistent in writing to them as they need our encouragement, prayers and support. Mail your letters direct to them. If your letters are returned, there is probably no use in re-sending them as addresses change without getting new ones. REMEMBER, do not use address labels or REA stickers on envelopes unless you have the inmates say it is okay.

Daniel Raymond Stratton
Larson 2 North
Logansport State Hospital
1098 South State Rd 25
Logansport, IN 46947

Richard F. Bryant #262261-P1-121-S
Gulf Correctional Institution Annex 699
Ike Steele Rd.
WeWahitchka, FL 32465-0010

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

Michael B. Liebal DC
#979921 E2-125L
Holmes Correctional Insititution
3142 Thomas Dr.
Bonifay, FL 32425

For further information on **"Friends of REA"** contact:

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

"I was in prison and you visited me"

Matthew 25:36

Laugh Track

> A local minister had all his remaining teeth pulled and had new dentures made in a few weeks. The first Sunday with the new dentures he only preached 10 minutes. The second Sunday he preached 20 minutes. The third Sunday he preached for an hour and a half. When asked about this he said, the first Sunday my gums hurt so bad I had to stop. The second Sunday my dentures still hurt a lot but on the third Sunday I accidently grabbed my wife's dentures and I couldn't stop talking!

> There were two men shipwrecked on a Island. One man started screaming "we're going to die, we're going to die...no food, no water...we're going to die"! The other man was propped up against a palm tree relaxing. The first man said, "don't you understand, we are going to die! The second man said, "no, you don't understand, I make $100,000.00 a week." "What difference does that make said the second man, we are on an Island with no food or water, we're going to die!" The second man said, "no, you don't understand, I make $100.000.00 a week and I give my tithes of ten percent to my church, my pastor will find me."

> I had a dream the other night. I was in the old West riding in a stagecoach when suddenly a man pulled up on a horse to my left side of the stagecoach. Then on the right side of the stagecoach a rider less horse pulls up on the right side of the stagecoach when all of a sudden the man riding the horse opened the door on the left side, came through the couch and jumped on the horse on the right side of the stagecoach. Just before he rode off I yelled, "What was that all about?" He yelled back, "Nothing. It's just a stage I'm going through."

"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"

This issue is dedicated to the memory and legacy to all the faithful "Railroad Evangelists" down through the years who kept the Railroad Evangelistic Association on track these past 75 years.

Life's Journey

Life is like a journey, taken on a train,
with a pair of travelers at each window pane:
I may sit beside you the whole journey
through, or I may be seated elsewhere, never
knowing you; but if fate should place me to sit
at your side, let's be pleasant travelers,
it's so short a ride.

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

All Aboard!

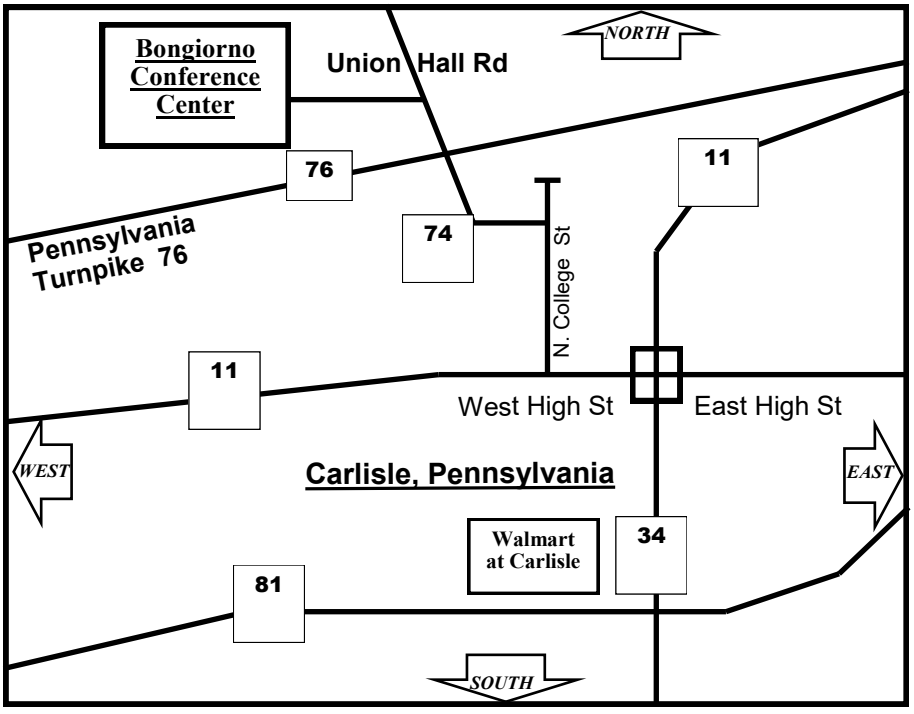
This is your invitation to attend the 75th REA Annual National Convention

Located on the conference grounds are: golf, tennis, basketball, hiking, volleyball, swimming and playground equipment. This also includes a whole lot of peace, quiet and wonderful Christian fellowship.

See page 12 for prices and registrations information. Please send in your $20.00 (non-refundable) deposit as soon as possible to our REA Registrar Mrs. Beverly Salloum to let her know if your coming for a day, a few days or the week.

Bongiorno Conference Center MAP and Directions

There is a Bus available from the Harrisburg Amtrak Station to the Wal-Mart store in Carlisle. Buses leave from the Station at 6:50 and 7:45 AM and 4:25& 4:55 PM. For more information contact C.A.T. (Capital Area Transit) 717-238-8304. Carlisle is about 20 miles West of Harrisburg.



Directions from the "SQUARE" in downtown Carlisle.

Take High Street West to N. College Street (3rd traffic light west of the square). Follow N. College St (north) for about six blocks until you see an arrow indicating Route 74, turn left onto Route 74. Follow Route 74 past schools and cross bridge over the Conodoquinet Creek. Look for and turn left onto Union Hall Road (second road to the left after the bridge.) Follow Union Hall Road for about 1 mile. The Bongiorno Conference Center entrance is on the left side of the road.

To view conference center
www.bongiornocc.com

Chapter News

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

ALEXANDRIA REA CHAPTER
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
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

"Search me, O God, and know my heart;
Try me, and know my anxieties;
and see if there is any wicked way in me,
And lead me in the way everlasting."
Psalm 139:23,24

REA Convention
Afternoon Excursions Offered

Norman Seidelmann who is on the REA Promotion and Publicity Board has arranged two afternoon excursions for REA members. These excursions will go by carpool for those who would like to go.

Wednesday August 17th

Harrisburg Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society will have the Harris-Tower open for visitors. The Tower was built in the 1930's and was restored in the 1990's. The Tower offer the historical use and also offers a safe place to watch and photograph train movement in and out of Harrisburg. Admission is free but donations are gladly accepted.

Thursday August 18th

Green Ridge and Big Spring Railroad in Newville, PA is an excellent model railroad layout worth visiting. REA has been there twice but are willing to go again if there are those who want to go. Admission is free, donations are gladly accepted.

The Train of Life

John McDonald
Haverhill, United Kingdom

THE TRAIN: At birth we boarded the train and met our parents, and we believe they will always travel by our side. As time goes by, other people will board the train; and they will be significant i.e. our siblings, friends, children, and even the love of your life. However, at some station our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone. Others will step down over time and leave a permanent vacuum. Some, however, will go so unnoticed that we don't realize they vacated their seats. This train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells. Success consists of having a good relationship with all passengers requiring that we give the best of ourselves.

The mystery to everyone is; We do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.

I wish you all a joyful journey.

By Luther S. Harkey, Editor
A. C. L. Railroad
THE RAILROAD EVANGELIST
JUNE 1942

Just four years ago this month we published the first edition of The Railroad Evangelist, which was in June 1938. For days and months and years there had been a dream in my heart, a prayer on my lips and a hope that some day, some how, there would come an opportunity to carry on in a real way and reach the great masses of our railroad family with the simple message of the Gospel of Christ.

After having come to know Christ for myself, to feel His power in my life, saving and healing and keeping me, I knew that I owed a debt to God. A debt that nothing less than faithful service could in any way remotely repay. Being a railroad man myself, naturally and instinctively my first thought was- that perhaps I could be of some usefulness in the group with whom I have labored through the many years. I never wrote a line for anything, I never had an ounce of training in such matters as writing and publishing, but suddenly the thought came, if I could not go to my brothers personally, I could surely send them some word—some message that might reach some heart. Unexpectedly and remarkably there came a vision—a clear and shining vision beckoning me onward to achieve, to make real the dream inside me.

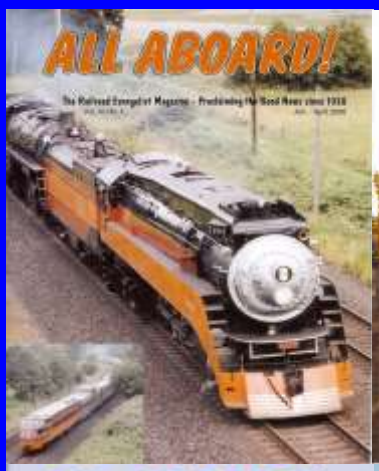
We launched out, no backing, little encouragement from those who knew me and frankly told me of the futility of such weak effort. With a prayer in my heart, determination in my soul and what few dollars I could manage to scrape together, the first issue went to press. I humbly thank God and each of you who, one by one, have become interested, have offered your help, your faith and your prayers that this endeavor should be a blessedly successful one.

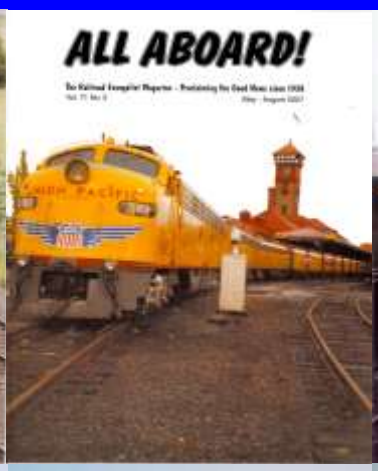
I ask each reader, each friend and each subscriber to join with us in prayer that whatever will contribute most to the building of the Kingdom, the reaching of our railroad men and women, that this can and will be done. This cause of Railroad Evangelism is one that must not be neglected or ignored. God bless you every one, and again we thank you for your help, your faith and your loyalty!

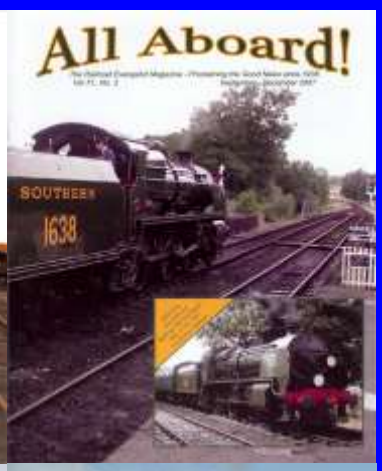
Publication Guidelines for the Railroad Evangelist magazine

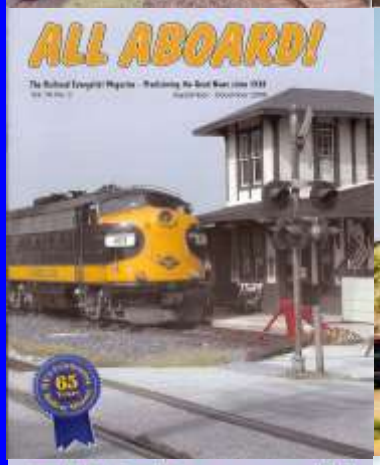
We are always looking for original railroad related photos, drawings and stories, articles, personal testimonies (300 - 800 words) or poems that would be of a spiritual interest to our readers of the **Railroad Evangelist** magazine. Currently the **Railroad Evangelist** magazine is published three times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

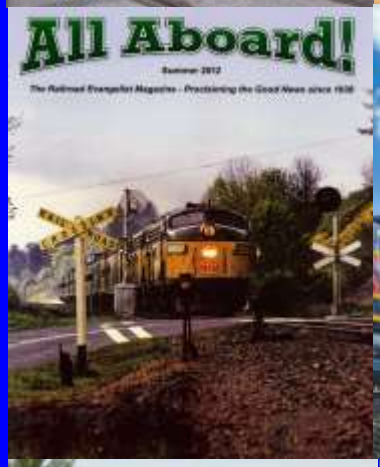
Then there was color!

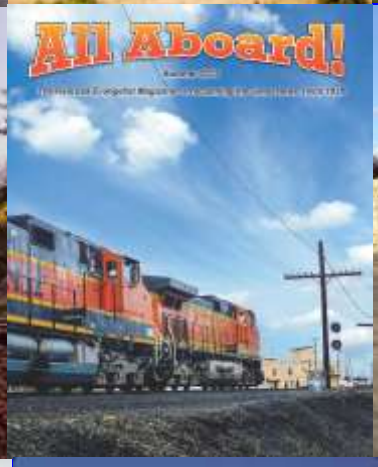












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