

Division 10  
Mid-Central Region  
National Model Railroad Association  
8/9/18

A meeting of the Division 10 Executive Committee was held on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, via conference call. The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Bob Belt at about 2:15 p.m.

All Executive Committee members, Bob Belt, Alan Bourne, Tom Bensberg and Bruce DeMaeyer, were present.

Bruce DeMaeyer described the proposal made by division member Thomas Bookout for the division to make a \$500 donation to the Kentucky Steam Heritage Corporation (KSHCO). (See copy below).

The committee agreed that this seemed like a worthy cause and has the potential for meeting the purpose of the division as described in our constitution. As discussed in the email, there is the opportunity for our donation to be multiplied with a matching grant with an August 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 deadline. So time is of the essence.

However, the committee decided division membership input is needed before making a final decision. The next membership meeting is not scheduled until September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018. Therefore, the committee will solicit input via email with a response deadline of August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018. See copy of email below.

Once the deadline has past, the committee will reconvene to consider member input and make a final decision on the donation.

The committee also discussed the renewal of our subscription to One Call Now, the telephone notification system. Consensus was that phone notification had no effect on meeting attendance. Therefore it was agreed that the subscription would not be renewed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Tom Bensberg  
Secretary

**Kentucky Rail Heritage Center - Proposal for Opportunity**

1 message

Thomas Bookout &lt;tbookout82@hotmail.com&gt;

Tue, Jul 31, 2018 at 10:36 AM

To: Robert Belt &lt;beltbob1@gmail.com&gt;, Tom Bensberg &lt;tombensjr@gmail.com&gt;, Alan Bourne &lt;abourne.438@gmail.com&gt;, Bruce DeMaeyer &lt;bdemaeyer@att.net&gt;

Cc: Thomas Bookout &lt;tbookout82@hotmail.com&gt;

Bob, Tom, Alan, and Bruce:

It seems that the recent developments with the Kentucky Steam Heritage Corporation (KSHCO) in Ravenna may be of interest to our group since the missions of both involve education and outreach with respect to railroads. In the case of KSHCO, their mission primarily involves full size equipment, steam locomotives, and furthering the knowledge and craft of that technology. Obviously the emphasis of our group is on furthering the knowledge of modeling railroads, but it seems that the goals of both groups are somewhat parallel. As many of you may already be familiar, the KSHCO is in the process of taking over the former CSX car shops in Ravenna and re-developing that facility and surrounding real estate for educational, recreational, and economic development purposes. As they move forward with this project and host events with a railroad theme, there may be further opportunities for Division 10 to be involved that would contribute to the proliferation of the modeling aspect of the hobby. Of particular interest is the KSHCO's focus on bringing the community and the academic/tradé school world into the fold along with their focus on social media and reaching the Millennials.

There is currently a grant that KSHCO will receive which will match donations five fold. This applies to donations received through August 25th, according to the KSHCO board member who confirmed that the grant is still active. I propose that Division 10 consider a \$500.00 donation towards the development of the Kentucky Rail Heritage Center at Ravenna, Kentucky. With the match, our \$500.00 would become \$2,500.00. This would be a significant contribution for an organization our size.

KSHCO has also expressed an interest in helping our group to promote ourselves and our mission as well. Ravenna is part of our division and also is located in an under served part of the state. Future events at the Rail Heritage Center could be an opportunity for us to involve ourselves in that part of the state and to provide activities which may draw on our membership outside of the Lexington area and grow our organization.

While this may appear to be outside the realm of modeling, there are likely future activities which may come about from this which would promote and further the modeling community.

Sincerely,  
Thomas Bookout  
tbookout82@hotmail.com  
859-608-3584

**Div 10 Donation to KSHC**

1 message

Mon, Aug 6, 2018 at 8:46 AM

Tom Bensberg &lt;tombensjr@gmail.com&gt;

To: Stewart Winstandley &lt;swinstandley@hotmail.com&gt;

Cc: Bruce DeMaeyer <bdemaeyer@att.net>, Thomas Bookout <tbookout82@hotmail.com>, David Battin <dabattin2000@yahoo.com>, R Paul Baumgartner <rpaubaumgartner@gmail.com>, Jon Blackstone <jonnyb1965@yahoo.com>, Michael Bruce <mjbruce01@gmail.com>, Ed Butcher <ebutcher2@netzero.net>, Clyde David Burberry <cdurberry@twc.com>, Joe Carter <jdcarter329@gmail.com>, Michael Citak <mcitak194@gmail.com>, Roger Clapham <roger.clapham@gmail.com>, Randy Coffman <coffeng@bellsouth.net>, H Davies <mdavies@uky.edu>, Ken Dickey <dickey487@bellsouth.net>, Paul Evans <magbolle@twc.com>, Bob Ferguson <robert.allen.ferguson@gmail.com>, Pat Gerstle <pat.gerstle@gmail.com>, Shawn Harley <s\_harley@bellsouth.net>, Michael Hedge <mhedge@mail.usciences.edu>, Jeff Hedge <jeff.m.hedge@gmail.com>, Peter Hirz <hirzpete@gmail.com>, Mark Hunt <markthunt@gmail.com>, Joe Holbrook <joe.holbrook@twc.com>, Lou Jaquith <prijake@gmail.com>, Tom Krill <tomkrill@hotmail.com>, Louis Kroot <kvk4660@aol.com>, William Marshall <wjmars01@uky.edu>, Franklin Miller <f.miller3@twc.com>, Tom Miller <twm02004@gmail.com>, Bill Paulsell <wpaulsell@aol.com>, Fred Plymale <f.plymale@twc.com>, Bill Robbins <1bear1lion@gmail.com>, John Seybold <seyboldjm@bellsouth.net>, Henry Sneed <hsneedjr@aol.com>, Paul Southgate <pdsouth80@gmail.com>, Peter Switalski <switalss@hotmail.com>, Raymond Thompson <guideon1966@gmail.com>, Mark Underwood <msunderwd@gmail.com>, Harold Weinberg <weinbergharold@gmail.com>, John Wilshire <jpw40517@yahoo.com>, David Winkle <dwinkle@insightbb.com>, Tom Wipert <twipert@att.net>

**Decision 10 Excom Proposal for Donation to KSHC**

Some of you may have read in the local newspaper that a new community development project is taking place in Ravenna Kentucky.

The Kentucky Steam Heritage Corporation (KSHC) is a Kentucky based 501c(3) non-profit organization operating with the intent to educate, entertain and inspire past, current and future generations by operating historic rail equipment. Efforts have been working during the past couple of years to gather the resources of the State of Kentucky, the Federal Government, Estill County and the town of Ravenna to work toward the creation of the Kentucky Rail Heritage Center.

Recently KSHC announced the intent to purchase nearly 50 acres of former rail yard property from CSX Transportation to establish a rail-based tourist and community development center. The sprawling campus will creatively integrate a rail-based tourist attraction featuring train excursions with recreational space, technical skills training component and a regional community center complete with restaurants, shops, and lodging.

KSHC plans to establish a multi-use facility on the site of CSX's retired Ravenna Car Shop, creating an immersive, hands-on experience for tourists and tradespeople alike.

The historic yard office building, track, and a modern-era railcar facility will be included in the transaction, and will be used to showcase the rehabilitation and operation of world-renown steam locomotives Chesapeake and Ohio 2716, which is being leased from the Kentucky Railroad Museum; the 100 year old Nickel Plate Road #587 which KSHC has transported from the Indiana Transportation Museum; and other regionally-relevant equipment.

The purchase of the property and facilities is the first of many steps on the path to achieve KSHC's vision for the Kentucky Rail Heritage Center.

The model for this new campus is not that of a traditional museum," said Chris Campbell, president of KHSC. "The Kentucky Rail Heritage Center will be a larger destination where people can experience the operation of historic rail equipment, take their dog for a walk, and get a bite to eat at a local restaurant, all on the same visit," he added. "We can't thank CSX enough for providing the opportunity to creatively infuse the local and regional economy."

The Kentucky Steam Heritage Corp. has also announced that it will be eligible - and is receiving significant State Support - for a sizable grant from the Federal Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) for the Kentucky Rail Heritage Center in Ravenna, Kentucky. This award will provide a staggering 80/20 match for donated dollars. Every dollar raised by KSHC before August 25th, 2018 could be matched at four dollars by the ARC grant program. Contributed dollars will go towards improving and expanding the former CSX railcar repair facility in Ravenna, KY which will be repurposed into a rail-based multi-use campus.

KSHC has worked closely with its community, state and private partners over the past several years to rally support for this endeavor and to gain key proponents in Washington, D.C.

**Our Involvement**

It seems that these recent developments driven by the Kentucky Steam Heritage Corporation (KSHCO) in Ravenna may be of interest to our group since the missions of both involve education and outreach with respect to railroads. In the case of KSHCO, their mission primarily involves full size equipment, steam locomotives, and furthering the knowledge and craft of that technology.

Obviously the emphasis of our group is on furthering the knowledge of modeling railroads, but it seems that the goals of both groups are strikingly parallel.

It makes sense for us to develop a partnership with KHSC as they move forward with this project and host events with a railroad theme, as there are likely to be further opportunities for Division 10 to be involved that would contribute to the proliferation of the modeling aspect of the hobby.

Of particular interest is the KSHCO's focus on bringing the community and the academic/trade school world into railroad modeling fold along with their focus on social media and reaching the Millennials.

There is currently a grant that KSHCO will receive which will match donations five fold. This applies to donations received through August 25th. The Executive Committee proposes that Division 10 consider a \$500.00 donation towards the development of the Kentucky Rail Heritage Center at Ravenna, Kentucky. With the match, our \$500.00 would become \$2,500.00. This would be a significant contribution for an organization our size.

KSHCO has also expressed an interest in helping our Division to promote our mission and ourselves as well. Ravenna is part of our Division and also is located in an under served part of the state. Future events at the Rail Heritage Center could be an opportunity for us to involve ourselves in that part of the state and to provide activities, which may draw on our membership outside of the Lexington area and grow our organization with new members from the area.

In addition, there is an opportunity for us to participate in the creation of the community center and working with KHSC to include an operating model railroad layout representing the operations of the Ravenna Yard. There are a number of active and retired railroad workers, who may by this action, be inspired to help us involve the community in model railroading.

**Your involvement**

**The Executive Committee has proposed that we seek your approval to its recommendation and ask that you respond back to the committee with your approval or rejection by August 13, 2018. If we do not get a response from you, we assume you are giving the committee your approval.**

**Proposed:**

**That the Division make a payment of \$500 to the Kentucky Steam Historical Society and to be included in its Federal ARC grant program.**

Bob Belt Superintendent  
Bruce DeMaeyer Assistant Superintendent  
Tom Bensberg Secretary  
Alan Bourne Treasurer