

# THE CAPSULE

Volume 16, Issue 2

July, August, September, 2012

## MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT



Dear Narbies:

I never really knew the different seasons until I moved to the Midwest 23 years ago. And now fall is one of my favorites. All the trees are turning their vivacious fall colors, oranges, yellows, reds and golds. Cooler nights and warm days and then all the holidays start. And before you know it Christmas will be here.

The board had a very successful summer board meeting. We had a little Team Building, and we have some hard workers on this board. The plans of work have been sent to all the chapter presidents as your guidelines for a successful year.

While we are approaching the holidays, we have some very important deadlines that affect our organization. Our revisions deadline is December 15th and if your chapter has a proposed revision for the bylaws, please get them to Joyce Peak before that deadline. If you need to place a special jewelry order, get that to Joyce Peak also before December 1st and, of course, the per capita for new members is due to Laura Gutteridge by December 10th.

We will be electing 3 national officers at our convention in 2013 and the nominations must be in to our chairman, Joyce Higgs, by February 1st. While Joyce is the nominating chairman and part of the

responsibility that falls to her is to secure the proper credentials for each officer wanting to run for office, the difficult issue that she faces is finding members who wish to serve NARBW by holding a national office. I know there are members out there that want to make a difference.

Please plan to attend the Convention in Nashville, TN, May 16-18, 2013. It will be held at the Radisson Hotel at Opryland, 2401 Music Valley Drive, Nashville, TN 37214. Sandy Hall, Convention Chairman, is **working hard** planning a great convention.

Please remember to vote in the November elections; your vote could make a difference. May the upcoming holidays be filled with peace, prosperity and love.

Warmest Regards,

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TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012

Will you be Wearing this sticker on election day?



Remember... if you don't vote, You can't complain about the outcome!



## CHAPTER NEWS

### ALBANY CHAPTER

Members are looking forward to Convention next year in Nashville. They continue to meet in member homes on the second Tuesday of each month. They had a very successful auction at their September meeting where members brought/bid on items as a fundraiser. A bake sale is planned for their October meeting and gifts will be brought to their November meeting for donation to an adoption agency. A Christmas party is in the planning stages. Canned goods are collected at each meeting for donation to a local food pantry. Lynne Sisto, in town recently for a class reunion, was honored at a special brunch by members. Lynn maintained her membership with Albany after moving to Florida five years ago. Two new members have joined the chapter—one is a former employee of the Delaware and Hudson Railway and a friend of Marilyn House, the other found the chapter through our website. Condolences to Adele Thayer on the death of her sister. Get well wishes and prayers are extended to Wes Weeden, Ellie Scanlon's brother who has been diagnosed with cancer of the throat and lymph nodes. Let's keep Wes and family in our prayers.

### ATLANTA CHAPTER

The Jewelry Committee has charms available for sale. The Membership Committee is working on a Meet and Greet, and a

new member recruitment is scheduled for October 13 at CSX Family Day. They will have a Ronald McDonald Charity Drive in November. Toys for Tots will be their Welfare project for December. Suggestions to attract new members are: dinner and a movie, train ride through North Georgia mountains, and Railroad Revival Day (October 20).

### CHICAGO CHAPTER

Diane Huntington, National Third Vice President and Membership Chairman, will be in Chicago on October 10 to meet with Patti Smith and plan a Meet and Greet at one of the Chicago lines sometime in November after the US Presidential election. Hopefully, they will have some new members to report afterwards. Diane Koppleman just returned from vacationing in Hawaii. A very Happy Birthday wish is extended to Bernice Bowen who celebrated her 99th birthday in July. The chapter was sad to learn of the death of member Claire Kneiser who passed away 3 years ago. This was learned after calling an emergency number Claire had listed with the chapter.

### HOUSTON CHAPTER

The Chapter will be celebrating its 60th anniversary and supporting National Breast Cancer Awareness Month by every member wearing pink at its October 27 meeting. The Chapter

had a speaker at their September meeting—Officer Bobby Keen spoke on identity theft and protection at home, in shopping malls, on freeways, etc. Lou Ann McClendon will be walking in the Avon Walk for Cancer Research on April 20-21, 2013. Over the next 5 months, she will be collecting a total of \$1,800 in donations for NARBW to be recognized on paper in the walk. Get well wishes are extended to Martha Kilcrease, mother of member Debbye Converse, who is home now, recovering from heart surgery on August 12.

Congratulations to Chapter



President Ouida Debruhl (above) who was recently installed as Montgomery County Chairman of the Texas Extension Education Association, a non-profit organization that supports their communities and 4-H Clubs in the County. The Chapter continues to collect used cell phones and eyeglasses for the Battered Women's Shelter.

## CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

### INDIANAPOLIS-CHARTER CHAPTER



Congratulations to Joanne Smith (shown above with Chapter President Connie Hunt) who was honored at their June meeting with a certificate acknowledging her recognition as a Good Samaritan at the National Convention in Chicago. Congratulations also to member Mary Hoback, who was presented with the Customer Service Award at the Indiana Rail Road Quarterly Breakfast last month. She was nominated by her Marketing group for going above and beyond in assisting customers and company operations. A big thank you to Gerry Foster who organized their annual casino bus trip on August 9 to the Rising Star in Rising Sun, Indiana. Some members were reported to actually have left the casino with their winnings! Congratulations also to Liz Motte, daughter of member Pat Motte

and husband Ed, on her marriage to Jim Morse on July 28 in Plymouth, Massachusetts. On August 3, members met for pizza in downtown Indianapolis before dropping off this year's collection of tab tops to the Ronald McDonald House. The fundraising event planned on July 9 for Ann Carrico's 2-year old grandson, Reese Garland, who was born with x-linked myotubular myopathy, was a great success, allowing two wheelchair ramps to be built at the family home. The Chapter also donated toward this worthy cause and, in addition, bought Reese an i-pad and his big sis, Rilee, an American Girl doll (McKenna). Reese is doing well and back home after a recent hospital stay for a lung condition. Members are sad to report the August 11 passing of Pauline Larsen, their Yellow Rose Committee Chair, and the stepmother of member Debra Throckmorton. Pauline will be greatly missed. Members are encouraged to attend the play "Flaming Idiots" by The Buck Creek Players in which member Judy Adams' grandson, Ben Rockey, has a role.

### JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER

Their July meeting included a speaker, Melissa Rice, who spoke on exercise and nutrition. Their August meeting was a catered Mix and Mingle at the General Office Building on Water Street, with a Premier Jewelry Party. The Chapter has changed its scholarship applica-

tion deadline to January 24 next year, with two \$800 scholarships to be awarded in February. This will allow enough time for applicants to apply for both the Chapter and National Scholarships, using only one official transcript. Ways and Means projects include selling nuts, RADA cutlery and food items, and a fund-raising sale this fall at Southpoint. The remainder of last year's nuts on hand were donated to the Clara White Mission. Backpacks and school supplies were donated to the PACE Center for Girls and members held a Clothes Closet on September 26 and 27 for their benefit. As info, CSX allows its employees to volunteer in two-hour increments. The Chapter has added two new members—Michelle Kargbo and Jessica Williams—and one reinstated member—Mia Rogers. Welcome aboard, ladies! September's speaker was a representative from First Coast No More Homeless Pets, a facility that hopes to end unnecessary euthanization of dogs and cats and that sponsors Dogtoberfest each year. Member Laura Gutteridge is very involved with the CSX Paws Team and is raising funds for Dogtoberfest 2012. Please see her webpage (<http://www.firstgiving.com/fundraiser/lauragutteridge/dogtoberfest-2012>) to contribute or contact her at 292-5326. Prayers are asked for Margaret Pickering, a member who lost her husband, Lee, in August

## CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

### JACKSONVILLE CHAPTER (Cont'd)

and for Marion Puckett who is having a problem with short-term memory. The Chapter plans to sponsor a table and work as volunteers at the Annual Empty Bowls Luncheon on the Tuesday before Thanksgiving week at the Prime Osborn Center.

### KANSAS CITY CHAPTER

The following new officers have been installed for 2012-2013: Rhonda Gomez, President; Shellee Currier, Vice President; Sue Brazelton, Treasurer; and Chrystal Tonkin, Secretary. The new officers and their families were honored by members with a potluck picnic at Liberty Memorial Park in July. Also in July, everyone got together for dinner and a play (La Cage Aux Folies) starring George Hamilton. Members provide baked goods for the local Hospice Center and sell Osage Nuts for their Thanksgiving and Christmas ways and means projects. In conjunction with the Nascar Race to be held at the Kansas City Raceway in October, they are selling raffle tickets for a Tony Stewart (race car driver) pocket watch. In addition, they have one member who donates a white elephant item at each monthly meeting to be raffled off. Members will decide at their November meeting which charity(ies) will receive their donations of toiletries. As with all chapters, they continue to seek new members.

### LOUISVILLE CHAPTER

The Chapter held a "Christmas in July" auction in Edwina McClure's party room at her condo and \$177 was made. Thanks to all members who participated and brought and/or bid on some very lovely items. Their September meeting was held at the home of Marilyn Barrett in Georgetown, Indiana, where members brought their favorite dishes to share. Their October meeting will be on the 24th at Bucks Restaurant at noon. The Chapter has three new members—Kathryn Stemmer and Kayla Stemmer (Doris Stemmer's daughter-in-law and granddaughter, respectively) and Mary Perry (Ruth Ann Spear's sister). We are so happy to have you ladies aboard. Chapter membership now totals seventeen.

### OMAHA CHAPTER

The Chapter will host a popcorn-themed Halloween Party for the Stephen's Center on October 27 and asks members to purchase extra goodies when stocking up for their own Trick or Treaters. Congratulations to Annie West, Welfare Co-Chair, who was recently promoted to a Customer Care Manager in the NCSC. She now has responsibility for several major customers, including US Gypsum, Ashgrove Cement, Freeport McMoran Copper and others. Congratulations also to member Debra Ready on the birth of her grandson Calvin, and welcome to new member Jen Powell. Kay Leslie, Ways and Means, Golf,

reported that the annual golf outing netted a profit of \$1,466 for the chapter. The Chapter's scholarship payout has been increased to \$2,000 for the year. The Chapter is very involved with the Nebraska Komen (Susan G.) Foundation, collecting/sending pink lids from Yoplait containers to Yoplait, which in turn, donates 10 cents per lid to the Foundation. Members will also be participating in Nebraska's Komen Race for the Cure (Breast Cancer) on Sunday, October 7. The Chapter is planning its first fundraiser for its November 13 meeting—a raffle of "regiffable" items donated by members, with the possibility of a large Christmas Wreath bearing origami ornaments as its grand prize. Members congratulated National President Cynthia Chandler for her twenty-five years of NARBW membership and presented her with a bouquet of flowers and an NARBW cookie. Cynthia (below) had the following response (page 5):



## CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

### OMAHA CHAPTER (Cont'd.)

"I joined the Houston Chapter of NARBW more than 25 years ago. It was a time when there was 6 districts and more than 4000 members. Momma Grace (Past National President) use to bug all the ladies in the office to join and we did. She was a person who was ready to retire and we were the young ones. She'd say, "We need replacements, we're getting old". And the older group was our mentors. We learned a lot. Even though I was a busy mother and wife, I thought that one night out a month among other NARBIES was rewarding. Some of those same people who joined back then are some of my dearest friends today. And they are not all from one railroad. In 1989 I moved to Omaha. However I had already met some of the ladies (knowing that I was moving) at convention and I was welcomed with open arms. More new life long friends. The volunteering, networking, and friendships that come from being a member of NARBW is something dear to my heart. I have attended all but 2 national conventions since joining and am presently the National President."

### PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER

The Philadelphia chapter decided to cool off this summer and had their annual board meeting at the swim club of one of their members. Everything went well with the meeting until the skies opened up, causing some members to race for their cars and call it a day. Others stayed and were rewarded when the sun came out, enabling them to swim and cool off. September's 'retreat' at Long Beach Island, NJ, was not as well attended as in years past. Members who did attend had a great time. The beach was wonderful and so

was the comradery. Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers. Renee Noble is taking care of her husband Rick who has had some health problems and Monica Rodan is now taking care of her sister Louise. A fundraiser is planned at Iron Hill Brewery. They make a call, get coupons to give to the people going to the event, have a great dinner, and receive 20% of the proceeds (excluding liquor) for their chapter. Easy fundraiser! The Chapter is also considering attending a play and having a Fuller Brush party.

### PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Filomena (Flip) Conti will be getting back soon from a trip to Rome with Bishop Zubik. The Chapter is sad to report the passing of members Frances McBriar, who was in her 90's, and Mary Novak, who had been confined to a nursing home for several years. President Betty Halligan reports that their chapter is now comprised of eleven members.

### RICHMOND CHAPTER

The Chapter is sad to report the loss of Ann Boykin, one of their good and faithful members, who passed away suddenly on July 17. She will be greatly missed. The Chapter met on August 21 at Imperial Plaza with a good attendance of nine members and three guests. Their September meeting was delayed a day because severe weather was predicted and, when held on

September 19, few members attended. Their next meeting is planned for October 16. A very Happy Birthday is extended to member Thelma Alexander who celebrated her 97th birthday on August 20.

### ROANOKE CHAPTER

The Chapter installed five new members at its September meeting—Tiffany Bartocci, Brenda Holland, Rita Murphy, Kristie Riddle and Judy Taylor; and the Board voted unanimously at its September meeting to accept the application for another new member. A select number of their Saturday meetings will feature speakers this year, starting in October with a League of Older Americans representative. Congratulations to member Carla Groves who will be marrying her fiancé Nick in October. Healing prayers are needed for members Chick Graves, Linda Taylor, and Sandy Williams, as well as for Mary Lee Cabbler's mother, Mildred Watkins; Roberta Roberts' husband, Jim; Darlene Riley's husband, Ray; and Pam Lemon's best friend. They will have another Premier Designs Jewelry Party immediately following their October meeting. They are also selling nuts again this year as their main fundraiser and continuing with 50/50 raffles at membership meetings. A good number of pet food and pet items, along with \$85 in cash donations, were delivered to Angels of Assisi, a charitable organization in Roanoke, that is

## CHAPTER NEWS (Cont'd.)

### ROANOKE CHAPTER (Cont'd.)

dedicated to the preservation of life for all animals. Members were thrilled to learn that this facility was recently honored with \$5,000 worth of pet food from the Halo Purely For Pets Company (co-owned by Ellen DeGeneres), due to the "Nose to Nose Best Cause" award won by a local citizen who adopted a deaf boxer dog (Nitro) and started the website and Pet Blog "Deaf Dogs Rock". Members are asked to bring "Soup for Seniors" and related items to its October meeting, although the actual run for Meals on Wheels will be at the November meeting. Also this month, members will stuff envelopes the week of October 22-26 for the Rescue Mission's Christmas solicitation mailing and will host a Halloween Party for Veterans at the V.A. Hospital. Congratulations to Gloria Dowe, whose granddaughter, Jasmine Keeling, was crowned Miss Jabberwock 2012.



Jasmine (above) lettered in basketball and volleyball in high school and was homecoming queen her junior year. She graduated in the top 10% of her class and is now a freshman at Longwood College, majoring in Pharm-D.

### SAGINAW-GREAT LAKES CHAPTER

The Chapter is planning a food drive at its November 17 meeting to benefit the Eastern Michigan Food Bank. This will be the third year members have donated to the Food Bank at Thanksgiving; it's their way of giving thanks for their many blessings.

Guests are welcome and members are encouraged to extend invitations.

### TWIN CITIES CHAPTER

Norma Perna and Mary Ann Ronkainen were Chairman and Coordinator, respectively, for the Luncheon/Style Show held on September 15 to celebrate the chapter's 91st birthday. There were 65 ladies in attendance, with 13 models, 4 helpers and 30 outfits from different decades. Door prizes were given and Elaine Allen won the 50/50 raffle (\$45). Mary Ann's niece, Andrea, was introduced to members as being the recipient of NARBW's largest scholarship ever (\$3,500). A good time was had by all with the only interruption being one caused by Mary Ann's swinging papers too near a lit candle. The fiery papers were quickly extinguished! We can't say this was the highlight of the show, but we do imagine it was pretty exciting!

## RAILROAD RETIREMENT BOARD

### DID YOU KNOW?

If you go to the home page of the Railroad Retirement Board Website ([RRB.gov](http://RRB.gov)) and click on the "Railroad Jobs" tab in the lower right-hand corner of the page, you will find various vacancies listed as reported to the Board. Then, if you curser down that page to the "Railroad Web Sites with Job Listing" heading, you can click on a particular railroad's link which will take you to its website and any vacancy listings. This can be particularly helpful if you or someone you know is looking for work in the railroad field.



# RAILROAD BOOK

*Marium Foster's*  
**BOSTON and MAINE**  
**RAILROAD**



**Bradford G. Blodget**

NARBW has received a request from Rick Swanson, who was writing on behalf of the Historical Society of Cheshire County in Keen, New Hampshire. Mr. Swanson relates "We are selling a wonderful railroad book by Bradford G. Blodget entitled "Marium Foster's Boston Maine Railroad." It is the story of the B&M Railroad (and more ) in the mid 1900's through the photographs of a railroad woman, Marium Foster, who was a B&M Assistant Ticket Agent, Freight Cashier, and Correspondent for the road's employee magazine. It might have value for your members." For those who lived during those years, it's a treasury of memories. For those who never experienced them, it's a virtual railroad experience. It's the mid-20th century Boston and Maine Railroad years in southwest New Hampshire and surrounding areas presented through the black-and-white photography of Marium Foster,

with supporting period photography of others. B&M Assistant Ticket Agent, Freight Cashier, and Fitchburg Division Correspondent for the road's employee magazine, Foster became widely known all over the division. Her photography, which supported her contributions to the magazine, transport us back to the way the railroad looked and operated in the mid-1900s, showing once familiar scenes along the railroad and everyday railroaders at work. Her images chronicle a time when railroads honeycombed the New England landscape, the "railroad family" was a close-knit organization that made the trains run, and a railroad culture prevailed across the land. More than just a book of train images, author Brad Blodget's captions provide insights into railroad history, B&M history and New England history. Blodget also tells a fascinating story of Foster's life: her early struggles growing up in West Swanzey, New Hampshire, struggles to hold her job with the railroad through the Depression years, and in later years as the railroad was besieged by fierce competition from trucks, automobiles, airlines, and the interstate highway system. Her 41 year career with the B&M spanned an era of dramatic changes on the road. While Foster photographed railroad scenes, it was rail employees that most captivated her. The story of her life and the railroad she worked for, illustrated by

en mostly by her, make this a truly unique railroad book. "Marium Foster's Boston and Maine Railroad" is a "must have" for students of New Hampshire and New England railroad history.

Rick Swanson, Marketing and Development Director, Historical Society of Cheshire County, P.O. Box 803 – 246 Main Street, Keene, NH 03431, Office 603-352-1895, ext. 5, Cell 603-933-0120, [www.hsccnh.org](http://www.hsccnh.org)." A web check shows the book sells for \$24.95.



Boston and Maine Corporation	
<b>Reporting mark</b>	BM
<b>Locale</b>	<a href="#">Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, and Vermont</a>
<b>Dates of operation</b>	1836–1983 (subsumed by <a href="#">Guilford Transportation Industries</a> , continues as subsidiary in name only)
<b>Track gauge</b>	4 ft 8 ½ in (1,435 mm) ( <a href="#">standard gauge</a> )
<b>Headquarters</b>	<a href="#">North Billerica, Massachusetts</a>

## RESUME OF SUMMER BOARD MEETING – JULY 21, 2012

The Summer Board Meeting was called to order by President Cynthia Chandler on Saturday, July 21 at Big Bear Lodge, Sevierville, TN.

President Chandler presented to the committee *team building exercises* which all representatives participated in.

National Treasurer Laura Gutteridge presented the Annual Reports followed by other Treasurer's Reports. All National Officer and Committee Chairmen presented their plans of work, which were discussed, approved and will be distributed in accordance with the By-Laws.

Revisions Chairman Joyce Peak stated that **Page 13 – ARTICLE V. OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES (revised to read)**

*Article V Section 3(c) – The Third Vice President shall be Chairman of Membership; have charge of the memorial service in the annual convention, maintain, publish and distribute the official National Roster/Profile of NARBW members and perform such other duties assigned to her by the President.*

The upcoming National conventions are as follows:

May 16-18, 2013	Nashville, TN – Radisson
May 2014	Houston, TX

Tamela Kubicek from Houston was approved as the Convention Chairman for the 2014 Convention to be held in Houston, TX.

The Winter Board Meeting will be held February 8 – 10, 2013 in Nashville, TN.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Jan Oviatt  
2<sup>nd</sup> National Vice President

Cynthia Chandler  
President



**HAVE A WONDERFUL FALL SEASON!**



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RAILWAY BUSINESS WOMEN

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