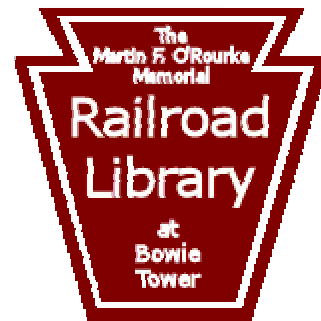


# Grand Opening Ceremony and Celebration



September 22, 2007 2:00 PM

Bowie Railroad Station and Huntington Museum

8614 Chestnut Avenue

Historic Old Town Bowie, Maryland

Come celebrate with us the grand opening of The Martin F. O'Rourke Memorial Railroad Library at Bowie Tower. There will be a formal dedication ceremony with public and Chapter officials, a ribbon cutting, and tours. The ceremony is free and open to the public and railroaders of all ages!

The library is a free public reference library of railroad books, materials, manuals, maps, publications, timetables, and other railroad related materials and ephemera. The project is dedicated to preserving and documenting information about railroads and sharing that information with the public. The library contains about 500 individually catalogued items, some dating back as far as the 1880's, plus several hundred magazines and periodicals. There are many unusual items in the collection. According to Chapter President Jim Lilly, "The library is a wonderful educational project that benefits the public at large and fits nicely with our programs and our 63-year tradition of preserving and promoting railroading and its history. We are very appreciative of the support of the City of Bowie in making this project a reality."

The library is operated by the Washington, D.C. Chapter, Inc., of the National Railway Historical Society in full partnership with the City of Bowie, Maryland and its Museums Division. The library is located in the base of the former *Pennsylvania Railroad* Interlocking Tower at the Huntington Museum in historic old Bowie, right next to the tracks of *Amtrak's* (formerly *Pennsylvania Railroad*) high speed Northeast Corridor and the northern end of *CSX's* (formerly *Pennsylvania Railroad*) Pope's Creek Branch.

Our collection is designed, organized, catalogued, and managed by a professional librarian. It is open to the public six days a week. Visitors will be able to browse the collection and read books, magazines, railroad timetables, railroad technical manuals, and look at other railroad related material in the library. This is a reference library. Currently the library has a broad focus on railroading history because of the nature of the materials we have obtained. Over time the focus of the library is expected to become increasingly that of the Washington, D.C. region, surrounding areas, and railroads that historically served or still serve these areas. The project preserves important artifacts in railroad history and at the same time provides opportunities for the public to conduct research and to learn about our railway heritage. The library is named in memory of long-time rail historian, member, and former Chapter President Martin O'Rourke.



Visit the library Web Site: <http://www.railroadlibrary.org>



Our mission: "Expanding the public appreciation of railroads and their history through preservation and education."

This library is a project of the Washington, D.C. Chapter NRHS, a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization. For more information: Call 703-273-8440, visit our web site: <http://www.dcnrhs.org>, or write us by U.S. mail at:

The Washington, D.C. Chapter NRHS, Inc.  
P. O. Box 230  
Savage, MD 20763-0230

