

THE RSSI Communicator

FALL 2022

Ron McDaniel, Owner of Western Cullen Hayes, Passes



Ron McDaniel, a 30-year member of the RSSI Board of Directors, passed away on June 23rd 2022.

Ron was instrumental in helping to develop RSSI as a trade association that focuses on maximizing the time C&S suppliers and customers spend together on the exhibit floor and at the RSSI social events. The policies adopted while Ron was a member of the board ensure that all RSSI member companies regardless of size have an opportunity to develop relationships and discuss products and services with the customers.

Ron served as President of RSSI multiple times during his tenure and was also Chairman of the RSSI Finance Committee. His investment knowledge helped build RSSI into the financially strong trade association that it is today.

Ron was not only a pillar of RSSI but was also generous in his donations to colleges and associations that help contribute to the development and education of children and students. (See additional article in this issue).

On July 22, 2022 the RSSI Board of Directors unanimously voted to award a third \$12,000 scholarship in 2022 in honor of Ron's service to RSSI.

He will be missed by RSSI and all who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Save the Date!
Oct. 1-4, 2023
Indianapolis, In





A Letter from the President

I consider myself fortunate to have been associated with the railway industry for most of my life. My roots go deep, beginning with my father, who joined the staff of Railway Age (which my company, Simmons-Boardman, has been publishing since 1908) more than 80 years ago. I'm equally fortunate for the opportunity to serve as President of RSSI, an organization whose core mission is strengthening the bonds that connect the suppliers who provide communications

and signals systems—the safety-critical technology that supports our world-class industry, and that is growing and changing at a rapid pace.

One of my former editors, the late Luther S. Miller, often talked about the concept of "connective intelligence." That's what we provide RSSI member companies through our annual C&S Exhibitions—our primary function—where suppliers of technologies ranging from wayside signals, PTC/CBTC, microprocessor interlockings and communications networks to grade crossing warning systems, fault detection, Information Technology, equipment tracking, computer-aided dispatching and many more spend quality time with their customers on the exhibit floor and at RSSI social events.

The strong attendance at the 61st Annual RSSI C&S Exhibition in Kansas City in May 2022 speaks to the loyalty of the RSSI customer base. We welcomed more than 1,400 railway suppliers and their rail customers. We proudly displayed the RSSI logo and colors on every streetlamp in the downtown area. More than 160 exhibitors utilizing 150,000 square feet of exhibit space and two food courts serving breakfast and lunch hosted more than 300 rail employees from all North American Class I railroads, and several Class II and III carriers, rail transit agencies and Amtrak. RSSI again hosted well-attended evening social events featuring interactive games, food stations and quiet areas where long-time friends and business associates were able to spend time together in person—a welcome change following more than two years of the COVID pandemic.

Among the many railways in attendance at the 2022 exhibition were Amtrak, BNSF, CN, Conrail Shared Assets, Canadian Pacific, CSX, Iowa Interstate, Kansas City Southern, Metra, St. Louis Metrolink, Metra, Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District, Norfolk Southern, Union Pacific, Ferromex, Smoky Hill Railway, Reading & Northern, Placerville & Sacramento and—from Scandinavia—Khalifa Transport, Norway.

The exhibit floor included an Innovation Theatre, where several RSSI member companies gave product presentations to select groups of C&S engineers without taking customers out of the exhibit hall. Since the headquarters of Kansas City Southern and BNSF's Argentine Yard are both located in Kansas City, many rail C&S managers and field employees who may not normally be able to attend the annual exhibition were able to join us. As well, several RSSI member companies headquartered in the Kansas and Missouri areas were able to take advantage of the exhibition and send attendees.

AREMA hosted a C&S Symposium where papers and seminars on C&S projects were presented to more than 200 attendees. RSSI and AREMA have always enjoyed a close relationship. In fact, many signal engineers and C&S suppliers are members of five AREMA Technical Committees within the Communications, Signals & Information Technology Functional Group. These members are tasked with development and revision of the AREMA Communications & Signals Manual, a key part of making sure that components and software are built and maintained in a safety-critical manner.

In 2023, the RSSI C&S Exhibition will be part of the semiannual Railway Interchange Exhibition in Indianapolis, September 30 to October 3. A joint presentation of RSSI, AREMA, REMSA and RSI featuring hundreds of companies from all areas of the railway supply industry, Railway Interchange is not to be missed—part of the tremendous value that RSSI has provided its member companies since 1966.

We value your membership, thank you for your participation in Kansas City, and look forward to seeing you next year in Indianapolis.

Arthur J. McGinnis, Jr.



2022 Exhibition Pics



Philanthropist With Local Ties Dies at 83

Ronald McDaniel made impact on youth club, arboretum, colleges

By Millicent Martin Emery

A Richmond High School graduate continued providing opportunities for local children long after he moved away, and stayed engaged with Wayne County until the end of his life.

Ronald L. McDaniel, 83, died June 23, but will be remembered for his support of local organizations such as Boys & Girls Clubs of Wayne County, Hayes Arboretum, Ivy Tech Community College and Earlham College through a foundation bearing his name.

McDaniel made his mark in the railroad and railway supply community over more than five decades. He started working for Hayes Track Appliance Co. in Richmond in 1957, the same year he graduated from Richmond High School.

He took some classes at Earlham College and the former Indiana University Education Center at Earlham, but needed to pursue night courses outside working hours. He earned a bachelor's degree in accounting at University of Dayton in 1969.

After becoming a certified public accountant, McDaniel later earned a master's in business administration from University of Chicago.

Federal Signal in Chicago bought Hayes Track in 1969, and McDaniel held various management roles with Federal Signal and Western-Cullen-Hayes. In 1990, McDaniel bought Western-Cullen-Hayes, which makes railroad-grade crossing warning devices and other track safety products. McDaniel also held leadership positions in his industry,

including board member and president of Railway Systems Suppliers Inc., and Railway Engineering and Maintenance Supply Association, according to Railwayage.com.

In 2015, McDaniel was recognized at the local Boys & Girls Clubs' Smart Futures Dinner for his business success and impact on others. He became a trustee in 2016, and in 2017, the Ronald L. McDaniel Foundation Boys & Girls Club opened on Richmond's west side.

"Ron was a philanthropic force in Wayne County, enhancing our community by supporting a number of local organizations," Boys & Girls Clubs of Wayne County Chief Executive Officer Alicia Painter said.

Painter noted McDaniel provided knowledge, steady guidance and leadership, and his big smile and high-fives to youth would truly be missed.

Painter also noted, "The legacy Ron has made on our organization will continue to positively impact thousands of youth for years to come. His kind heart and genuine smile will be deeply missed."

McDaniel also made an impact on Hayes Arboretum as a longtime board member. A few years ago, the arboretum created the Ronald L. McDaniel Award for Charitable Giving to recognize outstanding philanthropic support for its environmental education.

Two Richmond colleges have recognized McDaniel's generosity to higher education. Ivy Tech Community College is home to McDaniel Hall, and Earlham College has a studio theater and a chair of management studies named after him. He previously served on Earlham's foundation board.

A memorial service took place July 3 in Willowbrook, Illinois.

2022 Scholarship Winners

RSSI Awards Additional Scholarship in 2022

RSSI has announced the winners of the scholarship awards for 2022. In honor of Ron McDaniel's many years of service to RSSI the Board of Directors decided to award a third scholarship in Ron's name.

RSSI received 25 applications from the children and grandchildren of RSSI member companies in good standing. The applications are evaluated by three independent judges in ten categories including academic performance, leadership, extracurricular activities, letters of recommendation and essay.



The 2022 RSSI W. Ed Rowland Memorial Scholarship Reese Scott Myers

The W. Ed Rowland scholarship has been awarded to Reese Scott Myers. Reese lives in Cordova, SC where his father, Michael Myers, is an employee of The Okonite Company.

Reese has been accepted to Clemson University where he will study Computer Science. He plans to obtain a bachelors and master's degree from Clemson and then work in cyber security for the Department of Homeland Security.

The 2022 RSSI James R. Higginbottom Scholarship

Ella Fries

This year's winner of the James R. Higginbottom scholarship is Ella Fries. She lives in Lees Summit, MO where her father, Jeff Fries, is employed by Alstom.

Ella will be attending Maryville University where she will major in Physical Therapy. She is a competitive swimmer and hopes to qualify and compete for the NCAA Division II National Championship at Maryville.



The 2022 RSSI Ronald L. McDaniel Scholarship

Jaden Vandenburg

An additional third scholarship was awarded in honor of Ron McDaniel's over thirty years as a member of the RSSI board of Directors. Ron passed away on June 23, 2022.

The recipient of the Ron McDaniel Scholarship is Jaden Vandenberg. Jaden lives in Dublin, TX with her parents Anthony and Sabrina Vandenberg. Jaden's father is employed by RAILWORKS.

Jaden has been accepted to Tarleton State University where she will pursue a bachelor's degree in accounting. After graduating from Tarleton State, she plans to enroll in the master's degree at Texas A&M. She hopes to one day be a CPA and open her own accounting firm.



In addition to the three new scholarships, the following are also active:

Andrew Gillespie – Gannett Fleming/University of Michigan

Gianna Forte – Alstom Transportation/University of Florida

Amasha Jayarante – Siemens/University of Pennsylvania

Jade Harlow – voestalpine Railway Systems/Appalachian State University

Sam Steen – Princeton Consultants Inc./Calvin College

Ariel Ratner – Alstom Signaling/University of Buffalo

Julia Esen – Alstom Signaling/University of Rochester

Children and staff join Ronald McDaniel in the dedication of the Ronald L. McDaniel Foundation Boys & Girls Club, commonly called the McDaniel Unit, on Richmond's west side in 2017. Supplied photo from Boys & Girls Club of Wayne County, Indiana, Inc.



Railway Interchange to Return in 2023

The four associations that make up Railway Interchange AREMA, REMSA, RSI and RSSI have agreed to hold the sixth Railway Interchange Conference and Exhibition in Indianapolis in 2023 after having to cancel the 2021 event due to COVID.

RI 2023 will be held from Sunday October 1st thru Wednesday October 4th at the Indianapolis Convention Center.

Exhibitor booths will go on sale on October 11, 2022. Registration and hotel reservations will open in the spring of 2023.

The last Railway Interchange event was held in Minneapolis in 2019 and attracted over 8500 rail industry professionals from over 45 countries and 764 exhibitors. Railway Interchange is the largest gathering of rail suppliers and customers in North America.

RSSI member companies will be contacted by the RSSI staff with the time they can call into the RSSI office and reserve their booth.



Save the Date!

Oct. 1-4, 2023

Why is It Important for Exhibitors to Not Begin Dismantling Their Booths Early?

RSSI currently has 252 member companies. The RSSI staff regards these member companies as our customers and we work hard to meet their needs.

At our annual C&S exhibition we have between 160 and 180 member companies purchase booth space and exhibit their products and services to the rail customers.

These exhibiting companies and our sponsors pay the entire cost of the exhibition including the food served on the exhibit floor, the open bars and food served at our social events, the convention center, signage, decorator costs, wifi, electrical hook ups and many more associated expenses. These exhibitors are the backbone of our association.

So why is it that at every exhibition as the final hours of the exhibition drag by and there are few customers in the exhibit hall that the RSSI staff and security personnel find themselves involved in confrontations with exhibitors who are tearing down their booths prior to the scheduled and posted time of the exhibit close.

The answer is liability. RSSI pays several thousand dollars in liability insurance for each exhibition. This insurance policy requires that RSSI follow all rules of the exhibition including no open toed shoes during setup and tear down and that the hall is clear of customers and guests during setup and tear down.

Tear down can be a very dangerous time on the exhibit floor. Hanging signs and exhibit walls are being taken down, the aisles are littered with storage crates, boxes, chairs, and tables. Forklifts are traveling through the halls delivering and removing crates.

If anyone were to be seriously injured during this time, we would rely on our liability insurance to protect RSSI from a major financial loss. If the person who is injured is a customer or guest who is not authorized to be in the hall during tear down the liability insurance is not in effect.

When an exhibitor begins to dismantle his booth prior to the scheduled exhibit closing time there may be customers and guests still in the hall. If one exhibitor begins dismantling it causes a domino effect. A second exhibitor thinks it must be OK and also begins to tear down. Then a third and so on.

When you sign the contract to exhibit with RSSI or any of the trade associations the contract states that you and all of your companies' personnel will follow the exhibition rules. Opening and closing times of the exhibits are posted on signage, in the pocket guide and distributed via email to all exhibitors and attendees.

In addition, announcements are made during the final hours of the exhibition requesting that exhibitors do not begin packing up their booths until they are notified that it is safe to do so.

We do not enjoy confronting and threatening our exhibitors with penalties if they begin tearing down early and will not stop when requested but we must do all we can to enforce the rules.

Please know the exhibition rules and follow them. If you have questions, please consult an RSSI staff member.

RSSI Officers, Board of Directors, and Staff

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Simmons-Boardman
Publishing Company



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RSSI Member List

Exhibiting Companies in Bold

3Z Automation
40 Services LLC
Ace Electronics, Inc.
Adaptive Energy
Advanced Rail Systems, LLC
Advanced Transit Solutions, Inc.
AerosUSA, Inc.
AlIA Technologies
Air & Hydraulic Equipment, Inc.
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Collins Aerospace
Comet Electronics LLC
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Control Chief Corporation
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CorrSolve
CRX Software (Railcube)
Custom Truck One Source
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Danella Rental Systems, Inc.
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Deuta America Corporation
Device Technologies, Inc.
Dixie PreCast, Inc.
DPS Electronics
Dragonfly Energy Corp
Drawbar LLC
Duos Technologies
Easy Aerial
Edna A. Rice Executive Recruiter
Electro Mechanical Industries, Inc. - EMI
Electro-Techno Inc.
Elma Electronic Inc.
EML Calibration
Enduron/Custom Inc.
Essential Trading Systems Corp.
Expleo
Flash Technology
Fraenkische USA
Franklin Electric
Frauscher Sensor Technology
Future Technologies, LLC
Gannett Fleming Transit & Rail Systems
GE Current, a Daintree Company
GE Industrial Communications*
General Signals, Inc.
Genesis Technologies, Inc.
(Genuine Cable Group) Electro Wire
Global Power Supply
Gowanda Components Group
GSS, Inc.
Hanning & Kahl LP

Hapeman Electronics Inc.
Harger Lightning & Grounding
Harsco Rail (Protran Technology)
Harting Inc.
Hascall-Denke/Denke Laboratories
Hatch
Herzog Technologies, Inc.
Hitachi Rail STS USA, Inc.*
HUBER+SÜHNER, Inc.
i2R Systems Consulting
ICOM America
Ignitarium Inc
Industrial Networks
INEMSOFT
Interrail Signal, Inc.
Island Radar, A Wavetronix Company
ITL, LLC
J&A Industries
J. Lanfranco Fastener Systems Inc.
Jaychris Indus-Rail Supply Inc.
JEM Communications, Inc.
JVCKENWOOD USA Corporation
Klas Telecom
L&W Industries, LLC
L.B. Foster
L.K. Comstock National Transit Inc.
LaMarche Manufacturing Co.
LEROY AUTOMATION
Lileex Systems
Lindsay Transportation Solutions, LLC
Loram
MAC Products, Inc.
MARRE GmbH
Mass Electric
Meade Electric Co., Inc.
MEN Micro Inc. (DUAGON-MEN-Group) (duagon)
Meteor Communications Corp.
Michels Corporation
Midvale Signal, Inc.
Midwest Transport Specialists Inc.
Miller Ingenuity
MJG, Inc.
Modern Railway Systems
Moltec International
Multi-Tech Systems, Inc.
National Electric Gate Co.
National Railway Supply, LLC.
NIBE Element Railway Solutions
NICHE Solutions Inc
Nokia
North American Signal Systems LLC
nVent (ERICO/PENTAIR)
Okonite Company, The
Oldcastle Infrastructure
Ondas Networks
Optrail International Inc.
OSI Batteries
Pacific Railway Enterprises, Inc.
Patco Industries, Inc.
PBE Group
PC TEL
P-DUKE Technology, Inc.
Pearce Services, LLC
Penta Corporation*
Phoenix Contact USA, Inc.
Pintsch North America Inc.
Piper Networks
Pocket List of Railroad Officials
PowerTrunk, Inc.
Precision Rail and Mfg., Inc.
Pledge AB
Primus Electronics Corp.
Princeton Consultants, Inc.
Progress Rail, A Caterpillar Company
Progressive Railroadng (TradePress)
Prover Technology
Prysmian Group
PTMW Inc.
Quazite (Hubbell Enclosures)
QuEST Rail
RAD Data Communications
RailComm LLC
Railhead Corporation
RailPros Field Services, Inc.

Railroad Software
Rails Company
Railway Age/RTS/IRJ
Railway Equipment Company
Railway Logix Services Inc.
RailWorks
RCL Wiring, LP
Rebel Railway Supply Co., LLC
RedHawk Energy Systems, LLC
Reflective Apparel Factory
Regional Transportation District (RTD)
Relif Testing Laboratories
Ribbon Communications
Richcom Power LLC
Ridgetop Group Inc.
RIOTECH, Rio Grande Pacific Technology
Ritron, Inc.
RJ Corman Signaling, LLC
RNS Tower Company
Rosendin
Roxtec
RSCC Wire & Cable, LLC
RYCOM Instruments, Inc.
S&C Distribution Company
SAFT America, Inc.
Schaefer, Inc.
Selco Manufacturing
Semaphore Software LLC
Senceive
Seneca Railroad and Mining, Inc.
SERRMI PRODUCTS LLC
Shel-Bar Electronic Ind. Ltd.
Siemens Mobility, Inc.
Signal South, LLC
Signal-Tech
Signal Training Solutions
Sinclair Technologies (Norsat)
Site-Specific Solutions, Inc.
SNC
Snake Tray
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Star Headlight & Lantern Co. Inc.
STI-CO Industries, Inc.
Strukton Power Inc.
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Twinco Mfg. Company, Inc.
Ultra-Tech Enterprises, Inc.
US Hammer, Inc.
Valmont Site Pro 1
VELCORP/GEMS
Vital-Sim Inc.
voestalpine Railway Systems Nortrak LLC
Wabtec
WAGO
Waterfall Security Solutions
Westcode a Unipart Rail Company
Westermo Data Communications
Western Towers
Western-Cullen-Hayes, Inc.
Wilmore Electronics Co., Inc.
Winchester Interconnect Ruggedized (Clements National)
Worldwide Structural Fabrication
X-Rail Inc.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2023

Oct. 1-4

RSSI/Railway Interchange
Indianapolis, IN

2024

July 8-10

RSSI C&S Exhibition
Louisville, KY

2025

May 20-22

RSSI/Railway Interchange
Indianapolis, IN

2026

June 1-4

RSSI C&S Exhibition
Omaha, NE



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