

Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Historical Society

2022 Cumberland Convention

Thursday August 25 to Sunday August 28, 2022

The Society is holding the 2022 annual convention in Cumberland, Maryland.

The convention registration form and hotel reservation information will be sent out in the third quarter **Sentinel**.

The Sleep Inn, located at 13320 Ali Ghan Road NE, approximately 3.9 miles east of Cumberland off I-68, will be the headquarters hotel and the location of registration beginning at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 25, and also the Company Store and the Model and Photography display room.

The Society **hotel room rate is \$104.00** per night plus 14% taxes and includes breakfast and free high speed internet. Reservations can be made by calling the hotel's reservation number at 240-580-1333. Please state that the reservation is for the **Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Historical Society's** block of rooms. **Please book your room reservation no later than August 11, 2022.** After that date, room reservations for our group will be released and available on a space-available basis only. (The group rate for sleeping rooms will also be honored one day before group arrival and one day after group departure, based on availability.)

The Cumberland Country Club, located at 10200 Country Club Road NE, off I-68, east of Cumberland via Willowbrook Road, (near the Sleep Inn) will be the location for the Thursday, and Friday evening presentations, and both the Saturday presentations and evening banquet.

On both Thursday and Friday evening, the Country Club will allow members of the Society to eat dinner before the presentations, and on Saturday our members will be able to eat lunch between morning and afternoon presentation sessions during a break starting at 11:00AM. (There will be enough time allotted for members who chose to do so, to travel to Cumberland and watch/photograph 1309 departing Cumberland and also eat lunch downtown.)

An excellent program of presentations highlighting the importance of Cumberland as a railroad hub.

Henry Freeman will detail B&O Cumberland operations and interaction with other yards. In addition, he will provide in-depth information on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad's landmark Queen City hotel and passenger station.

Dave Ori will give a presentation on the history and operations of the Central States Dispatch (CSD) Route and its connecting railroads.

Bill Rettberg's presentation on Cumberland in the 1960's and 1970's will stress when the city was a B&O mecca and the eastern epicenter of the B&O Railroad.

Nick Fry will discuss the problems and conflicting loyalties faced by John W. Garrett in the spring and summer of 1861, as war came to the B&O.

Ray Lichty, our banquet presenter, will detail the locations and role of the various B&O Railroad on-line hotels.

On Friday, members will have the opportunity to visit the Western Maryland Scenic Railway shops (Ridgley, W.Va.) in the morning, and a ride behind “The Beast in the East”, 1309 to Frostburg, Md., and return.

For anyone staying over on Sunday, there will be handouts that will provide instructions for self-guided tours of the former B&O Railroad facilities and significant locations in the Cumberland area, plus the opportunity to again photograph 1309.

Amtrak’s Capitol Limited serves Cumberland, so if members want to use it to travel to the convention they may do so. On Thursday, September 25th, transport will be provided from the train station to the hotel. On Sunday, September 28th transport will be provided from the hotel to the train station. The Capitol is scheduled to arrive in Cumberland eastbound at 9:20 AM and departs at 7:20 PM westbound.

With regard to continuing concerns related to the Covid19 virus, the Society and the hotel will follow the state health protocol existing at the time of the convention.

The Society looks forward to members being able to gather again and enjoy the company of other members and the history of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.