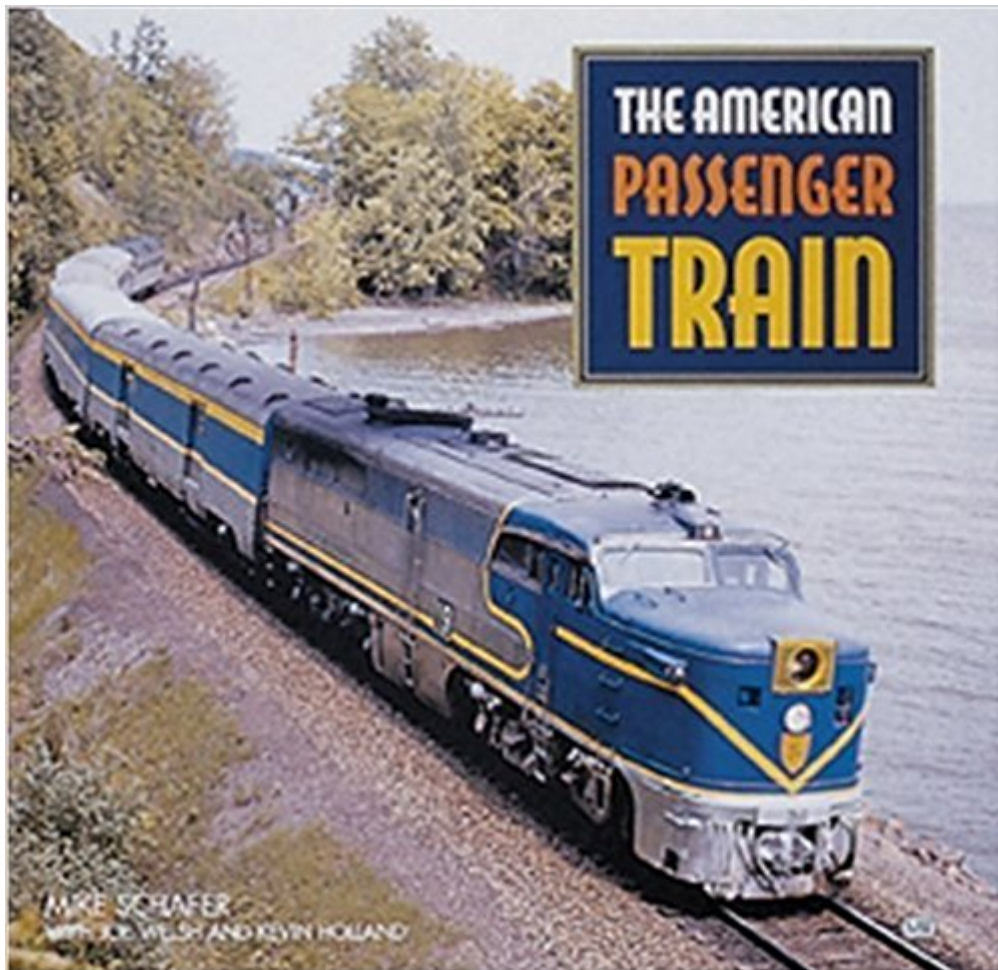




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American Passenger Train



Synopsis

Before the jetliner connected both coasts in a matter of hours, the train embodied the zenith of passenger travel. This sprawling photographic history rambles through two centuries of passenger trains, presenting a wealth of archival imagery and modern and period color photographs that depicts everything from East Coast steam operations in the 1830s to modern Amtrak and high-speed inter-city services. The variety featured ranges from the swank Santa Fe Super Chief that connected Chicago and Los Angeles to the no-frills, single-car Zephyrette that ran daily between Oakland and Salt Lake City. From the New York Central's famous 20th Century Limited to the Eastern Illinois Railroad's obscure Meadowlark, the plethora of railroads and regions featured is staggering. And because passenger trains were the most important public relations tool of any railroad, special focus is given to the locomotives, customer service and passenger amenities offered by passenger railway operations.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Mike Schafer hails from Rockford, Illinois, where he recalls his earliest train-watching experiences on the Illinois Central, Milwaukee Road, Burlington Route, and Chicago & North Western. He vividly can recall his first train rides, circa 1952, on IC's Hawkeye and Land O' Corn between Rockford and Chicago. Eventually he would declare the latter "America's railroad hub" his "honorarium hometown." Mike and his little dog Archie reside in a house (which includes a 1,600-square-foot model railroad) next to BNSF's busy Twin Cities mainline in a

small town outside Chicago where he also serves as village trustee and occasionally mayor pro tem.

A reminder of the days before AmTrak, when dinner in the dining car was an event, and a night in a Pullman Sleeper was "The Only Way to Go".

Author Schafer is always on his game and has written some of the best books on vintage passenger railroads. This one is a must read and includes some wonderful classic color photos of the great streamlined passenger trains of yesteryear. Check out classicstreamliners.com, too.

Another great collection of photos and information as collected by Mike Schafer. This is a very nice compendium of american passenger trains with the usual collection of photos (mostly in color) illustrating the colorful passenger train paint schemes.

Well up to expectation. Gives us a glimpse of the age of elegance in railroad travel before the cramped urgency of budget airline and bus modes recuded the excitement of travel to tedium. Well presented and laid out with an excellent selection of illustrations.

Another good book about Mike Schafer, very comprehensive but in my opinion a bit unsatisfactory about interurban trains that played a key role in moving people around for over 40 years in the whole America

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