J.R. May has a longstanding commitment to the history of railway and trolley transportation. He has volunteered for the New Jersey Museum of Transportation (NJMT) in various capacities since 1972, working on a range of acquisitions, restoration projects, and hands-on operating and maintenance activities, and serving as Chairman of the Board of NJMT from 2000 to 2004. Since that time he has worked personally on the acquisition and restoration of several steam locomotives and a caboose, most recently with Liberty Historic Railway, Inc., which saved Trenton Transit Co. #288 during the demolition of a house where it was discovered. He is currently part of the effort to restore the trolley car to its original state. Mr. May is president of Melvin M. May Associates, Inc. of Manasquan, NJ, and serves on several professional organization boards. He lives in Wall Township, NJ with his wife Patti.

J.R. May will present a program on the Trenton Trolley #288 Project. This trolley was found embedded in a Hamilton home that was being demolished. It was rescued and is in the process of being restored. The program will include information about: finding the car, the history of the car, moving of the car, efforts to develop drawings of the missing elements of the car and opportunities for the public to volunteer to assist with the effort. The talk will also mention inspiration and experience gained from the restoration of a Pennsylvania RR 1915 N6b caboose, or “cabin car” which, like the 288, is a wood body on a steel frame.