

---

## ***A Proud Heritage***

On March 27, 1924, 400 executives and managers from businesses and traffic organizations in Illinois, Wisconsin, Iowa and the western half of Indiana met in Chicago at the LaSalle Hotel to form the Midwest Regional Advisory Board.

The board was one of nine similar organizations created primarily by company transportation executives to solve transportation difficulties faced by shippers and receivers of rail freight in the mid-1920's.

At that time, no railroad or car service division employees were represented on the board. However, committees of railroad officers were on call to work with committee members on rules and regulations governing the distribution of freight equipment.

In 1968, the Midwest Board was reorganized as the Mid-West Advisory Board and became the first regional board to establish equal participation by both shipper and railroad representatives.

In 2001, the name was changed to Midwest Association of Rail Shippers (MARS), to identify more closely with the other regions affiliated with North American Association of Rail Shippers (NARS).

Although many changes have occurred in the industry since 1924 stemming from advanced technology, specialized equipment, unit train and intermodal operations, the Midwest Association of Rail Shippers continues to serve as a necessary and viable forum for users and providers of rail services to resolve important issues to rail transportation.

---

---

## **Midwest Association of Rail Shippers**



### ***For more information...***

William R. Schauer  
Executive Director

**Midwest Association of Rail Shippers**  
c/o Dunham Transportation, Ltd.  
P.O. Box 357

Wayne, IL 60184-0357

Phone: (630) 513-6700

Fax: (866) 746-0071

E-mail: [wrschauer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wrschauer@sbcglobal.net)

NARS Website: [www.railshippers.com](http://www.railshippers.com)

---

---

## ***Information about the***

# **Midwest Association of Rail Shippers**



***Your forum for resolving  
transportation issues through  
discussion, innovation and legislation***

---

---

## *What is the Midwest Association of Rail Shippers?*

The Midwest Association of Rail Shippers is one of five regional associations that comprise the North American Association of Rail Shippers (NARS). Its territory includes the states of: Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio, Missouri, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, and the provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

The objectives are to provide an open forum for resolving transportation issues coupled with programs designed to educate and inform the membership in areas of railroad operating practices, new innovations in transportation, and legislative matters.

Members may belong to more than one regional group and may attend any of the regional meetings. Other NARS-affiliated organizations include:

- The Pacific Northwest Association of Rail Shippers
- Southwest Association of Rail Shippers
- Northeast Association of Rail Shippers
- Southeast Association of Rail Shippers

---

## *Who belongs to the Midwest Association of Rail Shippers?*

The Midwest Association of Rail Shippers includes approximately 200 representatives from manufacturing and shipping industries, rail freight and intermodal carriers, car suppliers, builders and lessors, as well as transportation trade publications.

Class 1's, regionals, short lines and switching railroads are represented.

Active membership is available to:

- Executives and supervisors with any firm or institution shipping or receiving freight by railroad
- Representatives from chambers of commerce, traffic and trade associations
- Railroad operating, sales/marketing, equipment management and freight claim officials
- Regulatory, financial, equipment manufacturing, lessors and other rail department personnel

Members meet twice a year, in January and July, in two-day sessions to discuss a wide range of subjects primarily dealing with rail-related issues of vital interest to their companies.

Dues are \$25.00 per year.

---

## *Objectives of the Midwest Association of Rail Shippers*

The purpose of the Midwest Association of Rail Shippers is:

- To provide a medium through which the members can gain a better understanding of each other's problems
  - To provide the interchange of ideas in anticipation of freight carrying equipment supply and service requirements
  - To develop a better understanding between the members regarding equipment requirements, service and utilization
  - To encourage and promote operating efficiency through maximum loading, prompt and proper handling of freight equipment by the members
  - To educate members on new developments relating to the railroad industry
  - To make members aware of State and National legislation affecting freight carrying equipment, service and related matters and encourage individual participation in the process
  - To support the North American Rail Shippers Association and its mission
-