



Meeting Notice

Our next Zoom Meeting is on
Friday, August 13, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

NOTE: **This month's Zoom meeting is being held one week early**, on August 13 instead of August 20, to avoid conflicts with some other national traction events.

Presenting This Month: Rich Krisak

This month's Zoom presentation by **Rich Krisak** is "Cleveland Transit: Years of Transition – The 1950s." Cleveland was a large, prominent industrial city in the U.S., ranking fifth in population up to and throughout the 1950s. Industry benefited greatly from the war years, but it took its toll both on the population of Cleveland and its transit system. "Modernization" changed the electric rail scene dramatically in the 1950s. Rich's program chronicles these tumultuous times, including the decisions made that would forever change the city including the demise of streetcars, the building of a new "Rapid Transit" system, and the loss of the Cleveland Union Terminal's electrification.

Rich is a Cleveland native and a graduate of Cleveland State University with a degree in urban planning. He grew up in a transit family with relatives who worked for Cleveland Transit System, Shaker Heights Rapid Transit, and their predecessors. Rich started his transit journey with the newly formed Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority as an intern while attending university. That beginning led to a 40-plus-year career in transit including five public agencies and several consulting firms. Rich has experience with planning, design, commissioning, and operating several "new-start" systems including Buffalo, Dallas, Houston, and Austin. His last position before "semi-retiring" was as MARTA's chief operating officer for six years. He is still active as a transit consultant.

It is rare to find a treatment of a major American city's traction history as comprehensive as the one Rich will present. You will not want to miss this program!

How to Join Our Zoom Meeting

A "Zoom Login" button will be posted on our homepage about five days before Rich's presentation. Please go to ERA's website at www.erausa.org to join. You can sign in at 7:15 p.m., and the show begins at 7:30 p.m. If you have any problems, email Bob Newhouser at bnnyc1955@aol.com, or even better, on the night of the meeting text or call Bob at 917-482-4235.

Other Important Announcements: President Bob Newhouser

Save the Date! We return to our regular third Friday of the month meeting schedule on September 17. Retired transit operations executive and ERA member **Tony Schill** will present "PCC: The Amazing Streamlined Streetcar," a comprehensive survey of the dawn, zenith, abandonment (in most cities), and survival of the PCC, an outstanding example of American systems engineering which helped spark the modern revival of light rail transportation. Every North American PCC operation will be featured in Tony's presentation.

ERA Convention Announced! The 2022 convention will be based in San Diego, July 7-10, with trips throughout Southern California. We will have more details soon.

It's Easy to Join the ERA! Members, feel free to share this flyer with your friends. If they enjoy our Zoom programs, they should feel free to join at www.erausa.org/join.

It's Easy to Donate! Please consider a donation this year to help ERA continue its 87-year record of traction education and entertainment. ERA is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt corporation. Your donations are fully tax deductible and can be made using the new donation form on our website at www.erausa.org/donate.