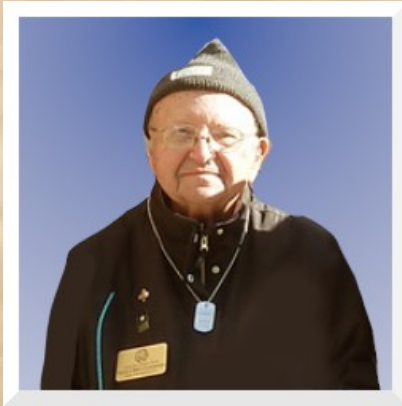




Railsplitter Obituary



Gerald “Jerry” Brettschneider

Passed away on 3 July 2021.

A tribute to Jerry from COL Peter “Skip” Pochowski:

Dear Fellow Splitters of Rail,

Since there will be no celebration of life service for Jerry Brettschneider, I would like to take a moment of your time to do some celebrating of his life.

Jerry was never blessed with the command presence, physical presence, or crisp personal appearance so many of our senior NCOs had. He was actually a kind of frumpy guy. But, he knew his stuff. Whenever I needed something from him he was great to work with. I think most Railsplitters didn't know much about him until after his retirement when he took over as president of the AUSA. He made sure we were represented all the time and he started the tradition of bringing the cake to our Annual Meeting. Jerry was a real good guy. I'm not sure how he and his girlfriend got together but that would be a great story to hear, if anyone knows. Life was not good to him his past few years with health issues constantly, but he always had a smile on his face. And he loved the 84th, and that makes him OK in my book.

Rest in peace, Jerry. You did your job well, and we will remember what you did for us, and for our soldiers.

Skip



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Jerry Brettschneider, Founder

The Lionel® Railroad Club was founded by Jerry Brettschneider in January 1947 during a huge snowstorm that shut the city of Milwaukee down for a couple of days. Jerry and five of his neighborhood friends started the club as a means to pass the time during this storm. This makes the club the second oldest train club in the state of Wisconsin and the oldest Lionel club in the world. In 1949 Joshua Lionel Cowen granted permission for the group to call itself the LIONEL® RAILROAD CLUB.

Founder Jerry Brettschneider did not stop here. After joining the Army Reserve and going on several active duty tours, he started clubs in St Louis, San Francisco, Chicago, and Racine, Wisconsin.

You may visit the Milwaukee Lionel Railroad Club at <https://milw-lrrc.org>

Jerry was a long-time member of the Milwaukee Chapter of AUSA.

