Mort Fuller Awarded ASLRA’s Highest Honor
Schlosser Distinguished Service Award Presented at CONNECTIONS Convention

Nashville, Tenn. – April 11, 2018 – Today the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRA) recognized Mr. Mortimer “Mort” Fuller III for his 40 years of service to the short line industry. Mr. Fuller was presented with the Thomas L. Schlosser Distinguished Service Award, presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated long-term, significant service to the ASLRA at the CONNECTIONS 2018 Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

“Mort Fuller has made a lasting impression on short line railroading with his business acumen, his mentorship and his ability to drive innovation,” said Linda Bauer Darr, President ASLRA. “ASLRA is honored and grateful to have been a beneficiary of his leadership.”

In the late 1980s, Fuller was a founding member of the Regional Railroads of America (RRA), a group of a dozen short line railroaders that sought to change a variety of New Deal-era laws
that treated railroads differently than all other industries. RRA gradually grew in size and prominence as a short line lobbying organization.

In 1997, Fuller took the lead in arranging a 1997 merger between the RRA and the American Short Line Railroad Association into the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA). Today, legislative advocacy is a key benefit of ASLRRA membership, led by the Legislative Policy Committee.

Fuller was a leading advocate and organizer for the first Railroad Day on the Hill in 1994, which has become a very successful event for the railroad industry. One of Fuller’s great strengths was his ability to build strong and lasting relationships with elected officials. He understood better than most that the time to visit your Congressman wasn’t when you were in trouble or needed something, but long before those times arrived.

“Mort is not only one of the founding fathers of our industry but also one of the founding fathers of the short line association in its current form,” noted Jack Hellmann, Chairman, President and CEO of Genesee & Wyoming (G&W), in his remarks. “I have had the privilege of working with Mort for nearly 20 years and for me he has been a friend, a colleague and a mentor.”

Mr. Fuller became Chief Executive Officer, President and Chairman in 1977, when he purchased a controlling interest the original Genesee and Wyoming Railroad, which his great grandfather founded in 1899. He served as G&W’s Chief Executive Officer for 30 years and Chairman for 40 years. Throughout his tenure, he demonstrated an unwavering focus on growth and laid the foundation for the Company’s Core Purpose – to be the safest and most respected rail service provider in the world.

Under Fuller’s tenure, G&W grew from a 14-mile short line railroad in upstate New York with 1977 revenues of $4.4 million to a portfolio of 122 freight railroads worldwide with 2016 revenues of $2 billion.
About ASLRA - The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRA) is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of the nation’s 600 short line and regional railroads and railroad supply company members in legislative and regulatory matters. Short lines operate 47,500 miles of track in 49 states, touching in origination or termination one out of every four cars moving on the national railroad system, serving customers who otherwise would be cut off from the national railroad network.