

Scrambler

Volume 19, No. 10

June 2006

Charter Bus to August 12 Quad Chapter Meeting in Kansas City ?

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As seen from the minutes on pages two and three it has been proposed that the Chapter charter a motor coach from Springdale and return on Saturday, August 12. The object of the trip would be attendance at the Quad Chapter event hosted this year by the Kansas City Chapter.

The Quad Chapter meeting will be held at the beautifully restored Kansas City Union Station that will also be the site for lunch included in the \$29.00 per person fee. A highlight of the trip will be a visit to the KC Rail Experience. This history of the American railroad includes an extensive collection of rail artifacts. Guests will

have a chance to operate the BNSF locomotive simulator and view the beautifully restored Great Northern 1950 observation car used on the *Empire Builder*. The rail experience also includes "ghosts" who tell their stories as rail baron, gandy dancer, sailor at the Harvey House and a cattle drover on his way to the Kansas City stockyards. Please see the May *Scrambler* for complete details of the Quad Chapter event.

As of late May the cost of chartering a coach to Kansas City was \$1260. It would be a good investment for the Chapter provided we get 30 or more individuals on a 44 passenger bus. The bus trip

would save you money on hotels, and on gasoline. It would also be a nice opportunity for fellowship as we cover the 229.5 miles between Springdale and Kansas City Union Station. A stop could be made in Bella Vista to accommodate members in Bella Vista and Bentonville.

In order to charter the bus we need Chapter approval to fund the trip and a firm head count of members who intend to take the bus. Members who are unable to attend the June 15 meeting should write to the Chapter at PO 1303, Springdale, AR 72765-1303 or the Editor at 479-756-1901. We need your input on the trip by June 15.

Editor Suffers Two Computer Disasters In Four Days

For several years the Editor has had a backup computer used solely to keep copies of materials such as the Scrambler. A custom designed program made it quick and easy to transfer new material to the backup machine.

About ten days ago my main computer began to display signs of stress. Hours of telephone consultation with our son, an IT manager in Connecticut, did not produce a resolution. I then decided to use the backup com-

puter. It was as dead as a dodo with what was diagnosed as disk drive failure.

Based on this experience I will modify my backup practices to use a DVD disk system.

Minutes of June 18 Meeting

The regular scheduled meeting of the Arkansas-Boston Mountain Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on May 18, 2006 by President Gary McCullah, at the Shiloh Museum General Store in Springdale, AR. There were 21 members and one special guest, Christopher Nally, attending the meeting. Minutes from the April 2006 meeting were approved as stated in the Scrambler dated May 2006.

National Director, Tom Duggan, stated his report would be in the next Scrambler. The National organization has focused on dues problems and hasn't addressed additional problems within the organization itself, stated Mr. Duggan. Much of the meeting held in Indianapolis was dealt with the dues invoice system and how to correct some of its problems, but failed to address other issues

Scrambler Editor, Tom Duggan, stated he had been working at Shiloh Museum to extract railroad history articles from the complete back set of Scrambler assembled by Archivist Tom Duggan stated he will have been the Scrambler Editor for nine years as of December 2006. He said that he will be vacating the position no later than December 2006. Tom emphasized that he is willing to assist the new editor in any way possible. Due to computer prob

ems, there may not be a Scrambler for June 2006 unless other arrangements can be made. Mr. Duggan asked this secretary to send her notes to him by snail mail.

Treasurer, Katherine Mindoro, read the financial report to the members. The report was approved as read. She thanked the membership for all of their cards and letters during a recent death in the family.

Membership Chairman, Chuck Girard, stated he received membership dues from one last valued member. Mr. Girard stated he has to use photographed copies of the membership forms because he hasn't been able to obtain any additional forms from the National Headquarters.

Special Events Chairman, Al Kaepfel, stated Feather Fest was coming up on June 10, 2006 at the Springdale Depot, in Springdale, AR. He stated the set up will start at 8:00 a.m. and needs to be completed by 9:00 a.m. Mr. Kaepfel stated he is in need of volunteers to work the booth. He asked for anyone who could attend to please sign up. Mr. Kaepfel stated that he really depends upon the people who sign up. Then Mr. Kaepfel stated that there was one problem, he will be in Chicago that weekend. Bob Stark won't be able to assist due to health problems. The displays will be the G scale layout and Mitch Marmel's

trolley layout only. The N scale layout will not be available since Mr. Kaepfel will be out of town. Clare McCullah offered to supervise the setting up process of the layouts at Feather Fest.

Programs and Activities Chairman, position vacant at the present time. Even though the Chapter doesn't have a program chairman, President McCullah asked for volunteers to conduct the programs for the next few months. Ray Getty offered to conduct the program for June 2006, Clare McCullah offered for July 2006, Chuck Girard offered for August 2006, and Mitch Marmel offered for September 2006. Topics for each program weren't announced at his time.

Map Committee Chairman, Travis Walls, stated he had not received the maps from President McCullah. The maps were given to Mr. Walls after tonight's meeting. Mr. and Mrs. McCullah are to bring card tables to Feather Fest to display the maps.

Sign Committee Chairman, Chuck Girard, stated set June 10 was selected to put together the signs for placement along the Arkansas and Missouri tracks. It was decided the date would be changed because Feather Fest is on the same weekend. Mr. Girard stated he would get with the A&M and select another day in July to do the work.

Old Business: Ray Toler brought up the issue of the key to the door of the museum store. He was told he couldn't have a key, but one would be available to the Chapter for future meetings.

On May 29, 2006 the A & M Troop Train will operate from Springdale to Van Buren free of charge to

veterans who served in time of conflict. Spouses, children and veterans who served in times of non conflict may purchase ticket by calling 751-8600, X-117. At last report the train was filling up nicely.

Mr. Kaepfel asked for a show of hands as to those members without membership badges. He will order them as soon as possible.

David McDonald stated Union Pacific 844 will be going through Van Buren, AR to Claremore, OK on May 27, 2006 at about 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. President McCullah stated the 844's entire itinerary is on the www.uprr.com/aboutup/excurs/schedule.shtml web site for further information.

President Gary McCullah thanked Bill Merrifield for the donation of a projector screen to the Chapter that had belonged to his father. It had been placed in the closet after the last meeting for future use.

Mitch Marmel stated the Open House show at the Ft. Smith Trolley Museum went very well last month. He was able to set up his trolley and it was enjoyed by all.

President McCullah asked for a volunteer to become the next *Scrambler* editor in the future when Tom Duggan retires at the end of the year. No response from the membership.

New Business: Tom Duggan stated the next Quad Chapter meeting is August 12, 2006 in Kansas City, MO. He suggested the Chapter charter a bus for \$1250 from Springdale to Kansas City. He stated the membership could watch railroad videos on bus on the trip back and forth. The bus would hold 48 or 55 people if Holiday Charters was used. Mr. Duggan stated he would place the agenda for the meet in next *Scrambler*.

Special Events

By Al Kaepfel

Feather Fest. Our Chapter will be present at the Fest on Saturday, 10 June. Since the attendance at the May meeting was a bit sparse, only a limited number of volunteers signed up to help. If you can possibly assist, please come on that Saturday to the Springdale A & M depot. In particular, we

need additional helpers for the setup at 8:00 AM. Thanks.

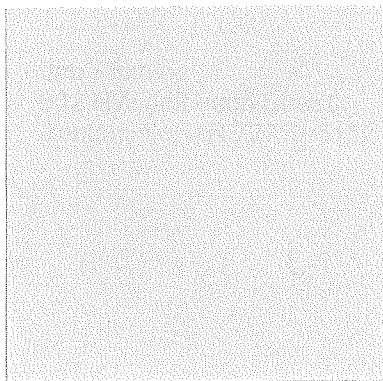
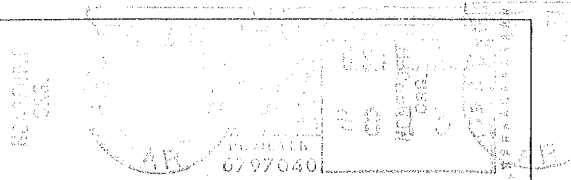
Member Badges. If any member has not one of our distinctive white and red name badges please contact Al Kaepfel to receive one free of charge. Al Kaepfel, 3831 Tara Street, Springdale, AR 72762 or 479-927-3163 or al-lincoln@cox.net

Best Wishes

Best wishes for speedy recoveries go to Bob Stark (back injury) and Ellis Melton (shingles).

NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY,
ARKANSAS-BOSTON MOUNTAINS CHAPTER

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Ray Getty to Present June 15 Pullman Program

Ray Getty of Fayetteville will present the program on June 15, 2006 at the General Store of the Shiloh Museum, 118 West Johnson, Springdale AR. The business meeting begins at 7:00 PM followed by Ray's Pullman presentation. Ray is very well informed about railroad passenger cars and this will be a great opportunity to learn about Pullman and Pullman cars.

According to the Wikipedia on line encyclopedia "George Pullman was inspired by an overnight train ride from Buffalo to West-

field, New York to design an improved passenger railcar. He established his company in 1867 and built luxury sleeping cars which featured carpeting, draperies, upholstered chairs, libraries and card tables and an unparalleled level of customer service.

Once a household name due to their large market share, the Pullman Company is also known for the bitter Pullman Strike staged by their workers and union leaders in 1893. During an economic downturn, Pullman reduced hours that led to the fa-

mous Pullman Strike. After George Pullman's death in 1898, Robert Todd Lincoln, son of Abraham Lincoln, became company president. Pullman purchased the Standard Steel Car Company in 1930 amid the Great Depression, and the merged entity was known as Pullman-Standard Car Manufacturing Company. The company ceased production after the Amtrak Superliner cars in 1982 and its remaining designs were purchased in 1987 when it was absorbed by Bombardier.