

ARKANSAS-BOSTON MOUNTAINS CHAPTER

NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Chapter No. 188 founded in 1987



2007 DIRECTORY OF NEW OFFICERS

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|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| President | Gary McCullah |
| Vice President | Mitch Marmel |
| Secretary | Clare McCullah |
| Treasurer | Katherine Mindoro |
| Editor | Bill Merrifield |
| National Director | Chuck Girard |
| Board Director | Mike Sypult |

NRHS Chapter Meets 7:00 PM Thursday, January 18, 2007 at the Shiloh Museum's General Store. Chapter meetings are cancelled due to inclement weather on days when the Springdale Public Schools are closed due to weather conditions.

This month's program by Bill Merrifield highlights the snowstorm related destruction of the world famous Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Roundhouse and Museum on February 16, 2003 and its subsequent restoration.

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NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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The Scrambler

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January 2007

Monthly News letter of the
Arkansas-Boston Mountains Chapter, National Railway Historical Society

CHAPTER MINUTES December 18, 2006

The regular scheduled meeting of the Boston-Mountains Chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society was called to order on December 14, 2006 by President Gary McCullah at Colton's Steakhouse, Fayetteville, Arkansas. There were 27 members and one guest, Christopher Nally, present. A brief meeting was held due to the noise level in the restaurant and the time restraint of the Chapter's Christmas Party.

Secretary Clare McCullah's minutes from the November 16, 2006 were approved as stated in the *Scrambler* dated December 2006.

In the absence of the Treasurer, no financial report was given.

Membership Chairman, Chuck Girard, passed out information to collect National Railroad Historical Society dues for 2007 and requested the return of the information as soon as possible.

Old Business: New officers for the next Chapter membership year were announced as follows: Gary McCullah, President; Mitch Marmel, Vice President; Clare McCullah, Secretary; Katherine Mindoro, Treasurer; Mike Sypult, Chapter Director; Chuck Girard, National Director and Membership Chairman; Bill Merrifield, Editor of the Scrambler. All nominations were approved unanimously.

New Business: Al Kaepfel passed around a commemorative plate marking the 20th Anniversary of the Arkansas & Missouri Railroad. Plate No. 98 of 150 produced was given to the local Chapter as a gift from the A&M. Al Kaepfel also reported that the Christmas Train operated by the A&M was truly a success on a cool but sunny day. The Chapter gave out 167 certificates to children. The A&M stated they had sold 600 tickets last year and over 800 this year. The amount of funds raised for the children's charities was unknown at meeting time.

The meeting was adjourned by President McCullah

Clare McCullah
Chapter Secretary

LOCALLY ON THE BEAM

ELEVENTH HISTORICAL MARKER PLACED

Number eleven of the twelve signs that mark historical locations along the A & M right-of-way was erected by Chapter members Larry Cain and Tom Duggan at Schaberg Sunday, January 7. Schaberg was located at mile post 381, 7.3 miles south of Winslow, Arkansas. There are scant remains of the tiny depot there that marked activity in timber and agriculture in the early days of the Frisco. The site also marks the beginning of the grade up to Winslow. The excellent design, materials, and workmanship of these historical markers will be a lasting tribute to both the Chapter and the A & M Railroad in preserving local rail history. Congratulations to members who braved both heat and cold to physically research the sites, construct the sign posts, and participate in the erecting.

A special thanks is due to Bob Oswald who first conceived this project and to Chuck Girard and Tom Duggan for their leadership.



IN THE YARDS

2006 wasn't the best of years for number of our Chapter members. For Bob and Annie Oswald the news hasn't been all that great. Needless to say, we have greatly missed you at the meetings and in other organizational activities.

Along with you, we look for better times.

Bill Ussery and your new editor are still trying to get used being jumped started by pacemakers. We guess it beats the alternative!

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ANGEL'S SEAT

There should be an old saying that if you want to go from panic to chaos; volunteer for a job you have never done before. That is precisely what your new editor of the *Scrambler* has done. It has been upgrade ever since I placed my name on the call board. I discovered that I have long since let my boiler fires go out on word processing and have even begun to regret I threw out my old

college typewriter. And talk about hindrances! I have never seen so many things go wrong in such a short time since I took two prisoners by steam train to the provisional stockade in Tagu, South Korea. I can't begin to tell you how much respect I have gained from the work of our former editor, Tom Duggan. We all owe an enormous debt to Tom for the work he has done over

the years as editor. Have patience with me! I will learn as fast as I can. I would appreciate any news worthy information as well as photos you can feed me. Tell me verbally, write it out and give it to me at the meetings, or send it by RPO. I'll even take it by e-mail if

the water doesn't get too low and my firewall holds up. My e-mail address is WMERRIF@sbcglobal.net.

If you are an editor from another chapter, feel free to use any of our newsletter ideas as I hope may be able to do the same.

Speaking of photos, what else could a rail fan do on a crystal clear, cold January 1st morning better than finding him or herself photographing the local A& M? Football? You got to be kidding!



All the ALCO RS3 ducks in a row

BRASS POUNDING DOWN THE LINE

A Streetcar Named Desire.

Kansas City, MO has an added attraction for us streetcar lovers. The Kansas City Regional Transit Alliance restored a car that served Kansas City for ten years during the late forties and fifties. The Alliance completed the restoration using

a \$ 125,000 grant from Uncle Sam.

Your tax dollars and a lot of hard work can be viewed at the Union Station near the north parking garage. A good time to see this is while enjoying the Great Train Expo, at American Royal, Kansas City, MO, January 21-22.

If you hear or read of some local railroading event in the four state regions pass it on to your editor in time so that Chapter members who want to, may have time to plan to attend.

TRAINS THROUGH MEMORY

Boiled Orange Juice by Donna Camp of Springdale, Arkansas as told to Chapter member, Ray Toler

Around 1944, a Kansas City Southern freight train derailed between Gravette and Decatur, Arkansas near the Mount Olive Road crossing. I remember a water tank was located there for servicing the KCS steam locomotives. Citizens of Decatur, Gravette and Dorsey on Mount Olive Road soon heard of the derailment and ensuing fire. Several cars caught fire and canned goods and other items were scattered about. One car that was on fire

contained orange juice. The heat caused many cans to boil and burst.

After the fire was out, citizens of the area were allowed to enter the accident scene and salvage what was left. My aunt, who lived in Decatur, picked up many cans of orange juice in various stages of damage. Some of the juice had been boiled down to a thick, sweet syrup which tasted good! That was the first time I had ever had canned orange juice, boiled or otherwise.

Railroading is an intensely human activity with all kinds of personal interactions. If you have some personal story related to rail experience feel free to share it with us.

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT RAILROADING?

(Keep your answers a secret until the January meeting and win a treat.)

WHAT IS IT?



QUESTION: In 1882 at a point where the St. Louis and Iron Mountain Railroad crossed with the Texas and St. Louis Railroad, a town was built. What is the name of that town? Hint: Both railroads were renamed later and were prominent in Arkansas railroading.

QUESTION: Since the above town has the only name like it in the world. How was it named? Yes, Virginia, this is a tough railroad question!

N, OH, O, and G SCALE RAILROADING

A number of our chapter members also engage in model railroading as both a hobby and a historical activity. Even our Chapter reaches out at various railroad festivals using modeling to generate excitement and participation. When scale railroad modeling has a direct effect on the 1 to 1 scale that is news! We invite members to pass on such information.

UP DIPUTE WITH MODEL RR MANUFACTURE MTH SETTELED!

Manufactures and modelers breathed a collective sigh of relief when Union Pacific agreed to a royalty free licensing with MTH which allowed MTH to use UP logos and trademarks on their models. UP extended the same privileges to Lionel and other such

companies. Many UP modelers were distressed over having to pay an additional 5% fee for models with UP intellectual properties (your editor was among them). UP will still retain its right to protect its logos and paint designs.

SUGAR CREEK CLUB TO HOLD ANNUAL MODEL TRAIN SHOW

The **Forth Annual Great Northwest Arkansas Model Train Show** is scheduled for February 24, 2007 to be held at the Clarion Hotel and Convention Center in Bentonville, Arkansas. Last year, well over 1,000 adults plus hundreds of children attended the show. Attendance his year is expected to exceed previous years. Our Chapter has participated in the previous shows in a

variety of ways including sponsorship, children operating our model trains, and sales of railroad materials.

The 22,000 square feet of space will be filled with model train layouts, vendor tables, clinic areas, and sponsor tables. Live model steam operations this year will feature the new G scale Aristo-Craft 2-8-2 Mikado shown below:

