

ARKANSAS-BOSTON MOUNTAINS CHAPTER

NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Chapter No. 188 founded in 1987



2010 DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

President	Bob Stark
Vice President	David McDonald
Secretary	Malcolm Cleaveland
Treasurer	Bill Longston
Program Director	David McDonald
National Director	Chuck Girard
Board Director	Larry Cain
Editor	Bill Merrifield



Our website address is www.arkrailfan.com

NRHS Chapter meets at 7:00 PM, August 16, 2012 at the Shiloh Museum Store.

The Scrambler

Volume 25, No. 12

August, 2012

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

CHAPTER MINUTES

Minutes: Meeting of the Arkansas- Boston Mtn. Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society at the Shiloh Museum, Springdale, AR. July 19, 2012. Meeting was called to order at 7:00PM. 22 members were present,

Chuck Girard, Nat. Director reported that membership renewals are processing despite problems with the spreadsheet sent by National. Dues will be increasing, esp. Primary and Chapter dues, but not family.

The Treasurer, Bill Longston, reported that the money market account had \$12,993.36. The checking account current balance is \$1,420.49. Expenditures were minor.

The latest issue of the *Scrambler* is on the website. The current issue is 4 pages.

The V-P reported that Mike Condren was scheduled to give a presentation, but couldn't make it, so we will have a demonstration of Microsoft Train Simulator.

We have presentations and "Show-and-Tell" scheduled through December, our Christmas celebration. In November Mike Sypult will demonstrate the search feature of the *Trains* DVD archive.

New Business: 2012 is the 25th anniversary of the founding of our chapter. Al Kaepfel will organize a celebration with dinner at the Clarion in Fayetteville on Saturday, October 13. A motion was made to allocate up to

\$2,000 for this event. Discussion included the fact that Oct. 13 is a Razorback home game, time TBA, which could pose traffic problems around the Clarion. It would be possible to move the celebration to Oct. 20. Motion passed. Chuck Girard said that a few days before he was informed of the plans to celebrate our anniversary, National had contacted him asking if there were any plans and volunteering to send someone to help us celebrate. Of course he answered “No”, but will contact them to say that a representative would be welcome.

Frisco Fest is scheduled for August 25. We are signed up for our usual spot, but the organizers are disorganized. There has been no publicity, etc. Call for volunteers to man the booth.

Mike Sypult said that the battery in the laptop is going bad. Motion to authorize him to buy a new battery with Chapter funds. Motion passed.

Rose Hofer said the contributions have been adequate to pay for the refreshments.

Tom Duggan spoke about visiting the Illinois RR Museum near Rockford, IL.

Adjourned 7:50 PM for refreshments and a presentation by Christopher Nally, grandson of member David McDonald, of Microtrains Train Simulator configured to emulate the Frisco run from Monett, MO to Ft. Smith.

Malcolm K. Cleaveland, Secretary

LOCALLY ON THE BEAM

Frisco Fest is looming for our chapter's participation on Saturday, August 25!

The member's sign-up sheet was passed around at the July meeting and the numbers volunteering were far short of the needed crew to set up, operate, and take down our booth and children's model layout. **We need more volunteers** so that we can relieve the few that have volunteered. This train festival is vital to our recruiting members as railroad historical preservationists and community supporters.

We will honor ourselves on our Chapter's 25th Anniversary!

On Saturday, October 13th, we will celebrate our founding in 1987 by having a supper at the Clarion Hotel at highway 62 and 540 in Fayetteville. There will be no cost for a member to attend. We ask that every member be present at this supper and bring one guest.

In order to enjoy this event you must notify Al Kaepfel by giving him your name and whether one or two will be attending.

Contact Al Kaepfel at either

1. 479-927-3163
2. 3831 Tara St.
Springdale, AR 72762
3. al-alincoln@cox.net

Please do not register until you are sure that you will attend because we will end up with a few absentees in any case.

HISTORICAL OPERATIONS

MISSOULA, MONTANA- A treasured item is returning to its home in Fort Missoula after 16 long years. The only surviving Missoula trolley was lowered onto the tracks Saturday, looking good as new.

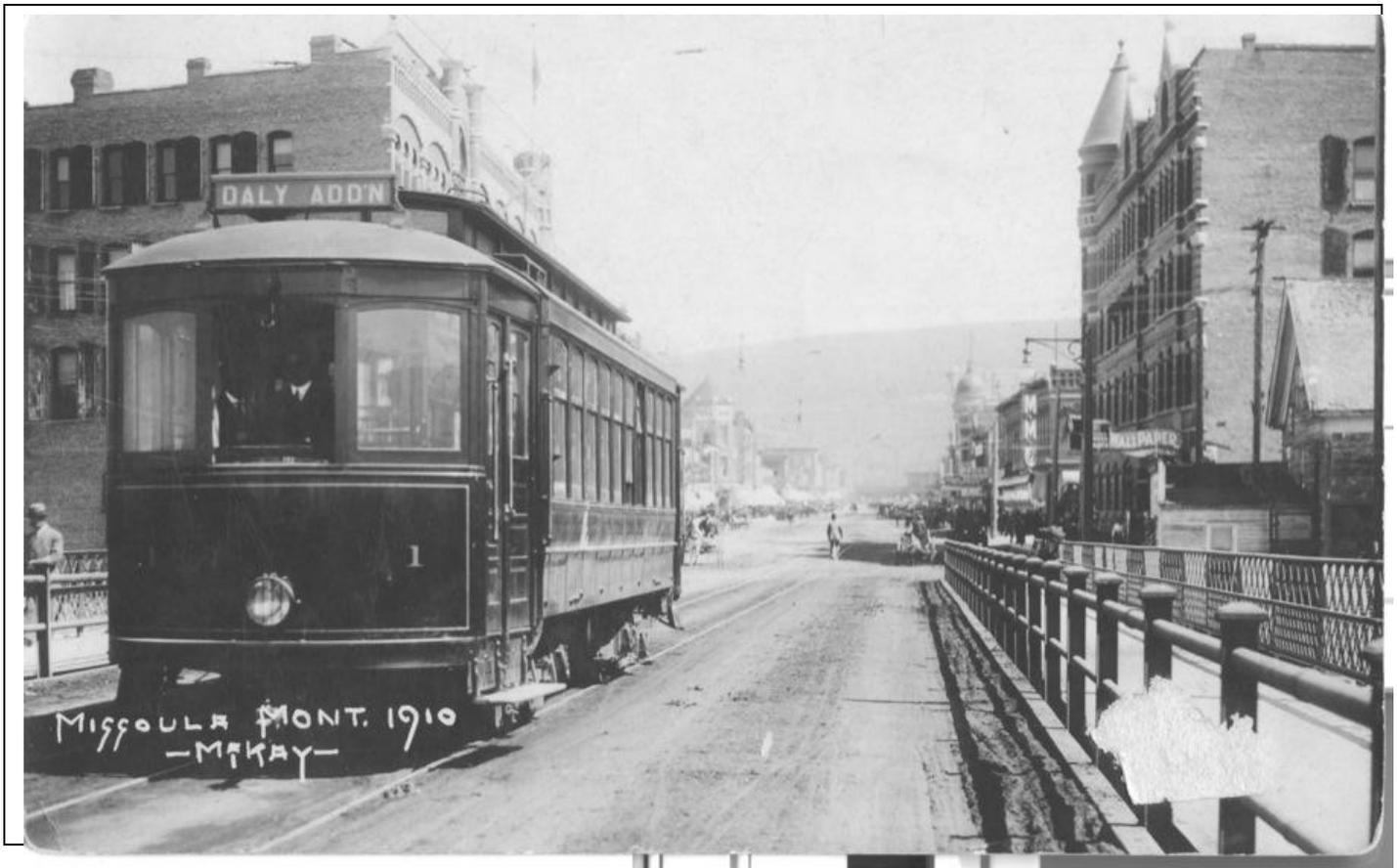
A carpenter in Big Sandy completely restored the old streetcar, which took five years to finish. The restoration project cost \$100,000 and involved a semi-convertible built by J.G. Brill subsidiary American Car Co. of St. Louis. The Missoula system was abandoned in 1932.

The trolley made its début in Missoula 100 years ago, carrying passengers from Fort Missoula to downtown to Bonner. It was the only trolley that ventured outside of town to the mill in Bonner, which was crucial back in the day.

"There was no other way to get there really that didn't take hours to get. It's a long way to walk, horses, wagons. Of course, what's going to kill the trolley is the car, and that's what does it in the 30's," explained Bob Brown with the Fort Missoula Historical Museum.

But the trolley has risen from the dead now that it's back at Fort Missoula. The museum will be revealing the new and improved streetcar in September.

Our thanks to Mitch Marmel for this historical traction information. Mitch should be able to transfer the TV news video of this activity to our group e-mail site. It is an interesting clip. Editor



West Side Lumber Shay No. 9 enters service on Georgetown Loop

July 17, 2012

SILVER PLUME, Colo. – West Side Lumber Company three-truck narrow gauge Shay No. 9 has entered service on the Georgetown Loop Railroad. The locomotive is owned by the Midwest Central Railroad of Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, and arrived in Colorado in January 2011. It was part of a locomotive trade that will benefit both narrow gauge lines. No. 9 was overhauled at Silver Plume to pull trains on the Loop's four percent grades, a service it was better suited for than the other steam locomotive used at the Loop. The railroad had been operating with ex-Kahului Railroad No. 12, a Baldwin 2-6-2 built for use on the Hawaiian railroad in 1929.

Work on No. 9 took longer than anticipated, but with it now complete, No. 12 will head to Iowa, where it will operate on Midwest Central's much flatter 1.25-mile line around the site of the annual Old Threshers Reunion every September.

Coincidentally, the Midwest Central previously owned No. 12. It was sold in 1988 to another tourist railroad and eventually ended up in Colorado. Lima built No. 9 in April 1923 for the Hetch-Hetchy & Yosemite Valleys Railway at Tuolumne, Calif. It was sold to Midwest Central in 1966.



Midwest Central's West Side Lumber Company's three-truck narrow gauge 80-ton Shay No. 9.

Georgetown Loop No. 12 ends its Colorado run

August 2, 2012

SILVER PLUME, Colo. — Georgetown Loop Railroad No. 12, a 1928 Baldwin 2-6-2, ran its last day in Colorado on August 1. The engine will be shipped later in the month to Midwest Central Railroad at Mt. Pleasant, Iowa, by truck.



No. 12 crew, left to right, fireman Dean Gordon, mechanic Phil Reader, and engineer Willie Maine say farewell to 1928 Baldwin 2-6-2.
Photo by Chip Sherman

Railfest 2012 planned at Steamtown

August 8, 2012

SCRANTON, Pa. – Steamtown National Historic site will host Railfest 2012 at its Scranton facility on September 1 and 2. There will be additional equipment on display on the museum grounds and a number of excursions throughout the weekend. Display equipment will be provided by Amtrak, Norfolk Southern Railroad, the Reading Company Technical & Historical Society, Reading & Northern Railroad, and the Anthracite Railroads Historical Society.

Planned displays include: Amtrak: GE P42 "Heritage" locomotive, EMD F40PH cab car, Viewliner diner and sleeper. Amfleet II coach. Norfolk Southern: EMD F7 executive train locomotive, EMD SD60 rebuild, EMD SW-type switcher, and NS Exhibit Car interactive exhibit. Additionally the RT&HS is providing an EMD FP7 diesel, the Reading & Northern an end cab switcher, and the ARHS a Delaware, Lackawanna & Western F3.

There will be an excursion each afternoon to Moscow, Pa., powered by Steamtown's former Canadian National No. 3254 and with a photo run-by scheduled at the Moscow station. Fares are \$24 for adults, \$22 for seniors 62 and older, and \$17 for children ages 6-15.

More information on schedules and excursions can be found on the Steamtown website www.nps.gov/stea.

. The Erie Lackawanna Dining Car Preservation Society will offer a separate, diesel powered excursion on September 1st from the Delaware Water Gap with stops at East Stroudsburg and Cresco, PA. See www.eldcps.org.

Kansas City streetcar passes vote

August 8, 2012

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Kansas City's downtown streetcar was approved by a July 31 election, reports the Kansas City Star. Fewer than 500 people turned out to vote on a special taxing district to fund the project. The final vote count was 319 in favor and 141 opposed. The 2-mile streetcar line is expected to cost \$100 million and extend from River Market to Crown Center.

Railroad historian William S. Young dies

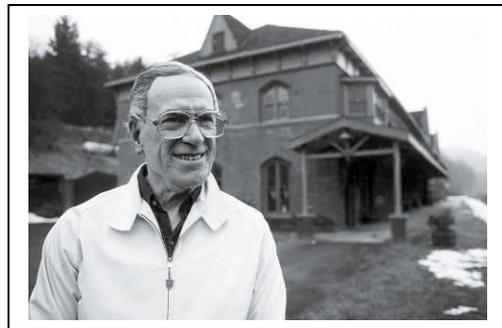
August 9, 2012

STARRUCCA, Pa. – Noted railroad historian William S. Young has died. He was a short line columnist for Trains in the 1950s and 1960s and the editor of numerous publications.

Young started out taking railroad photographs in 1941 at age 12; thirteen years later he launched Shortline Railroader, the first of what would be several railroad publications. In later years he would also publish Steam Locomotive, Steam Railroading, and Railroading magazines. As a boy, Young lived next to the Delaware & Hudson Railway main line in northeast Pennsylvania .

He got his start in professional journalism at a newspaper in South Carolina. He also authored the definitive history of the Erie Railroad's Starrucca Viaduct.

William S. Young



Iowa Pacific acquires Texas State Railroad

August 10, 2012

PALESTINE, Texas – Iowa Pacific Holdings, operator of six railroads, has acquired the Texas State Railroad in Palestine. Iowa Pacific will take over operations of the railroad from American Heritage Railways. Passenger operations will remain the same for the time being, said Earl Knoob, general manager. The railroad is expecting to increase passenger service soon by adding Sunday trains and eventually offering service again to Palestine proper. The passenger trains currently operate out of Rusk, Iowa Pacific is planning to reintroducing freight service to the line following the rehabilitation of approximately three miles of track to the Union Pacific interchange in Palestine. The railroad is currently working on an interchange agreement with UP. This work is a high priority for the company, which is already seeking freight traffic for the line. The Texas State Railroad was built by inmates to serve an iron smelter at the Rusk Penitentiary. In 1921 the line was leased to Southern Pacific subsidiary Texas & New Orleans. It was transferred to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in 1972 and reopened as a tourist attraction in 1976.

