

# ARKANSAS-BOSTON MOUNTAINS CHAPTER

## NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Chapter No. 188 founded in 1987



### 2013 DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

President	Bob Stark
Vice President	Al Kaoppel
Secretary	Malcolm Cleaveland
Treasurer	Tom Duggan
Program Director	open
National Director	Ken Eddy
Board Director	Larry Cain
Editor	Bill Merrifield



Our website address is [www.arkrailfan.com](http://www.arkrailfan.com)

NRHS Chapter meets at 7:00 PM, August 15, 2013 at the Shiloh Museum Store.

## The Scrambler

Volume 26, No. 12

August, 2013

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

### CHAPTER MINUTES

Meeting of the Arkansas- Boston Mountains Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society at the Shiloh Museum, Springdale, AR. July 18, 2013. Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM by the President, Bob Stark. 19 members were present.

The membership officer, Chuck Girard, reported that 4 members have not paid their dues and will have to obtain membership from scratch, losing their seniority.

Tom Duggan, the Treasurer, was ill, but told Pres. Stark our total assets are \$13,009 and we had income of \$8 and expenditures of \$138, primarily for the *Scrambler*.

Bill Merrifield, *Scrambler* editor, and Mike Sypult reported that the latest issue of the *Scrambler* is available electronically.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Frisco Fest coming August 24. A signup sheet was passed around. Malcolm Cleaveland and Mitch Marmel are detailed to assist the Sugar Creek Model Club with their display and setup.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Chapter President Bob Stark called for nominations for the preservation organization or person of the year award. Among those nominated: President Stark nominated the Shiloh Museum, the Ft. Smith Trolley Museum and the Ozark depot. Mike Sypult nominated the St. Joe depot. Steve Tharp nominated the Stilwell depot and Chuck Girard nominated the Wheaton depot, both a little out of our area. Bob said that anyone who nominated something or someone should give a short presentation explaining why their choice was worthy of the honor, which dampened the enthusiasm a little. The President said the award would consist of a plaque and \$100. Barbara Garvan objected to the cash award, so that will be reconsidered.

Train Talk: Ray Toler asked a question about what steam-powered vehicle has a 28" hi-pressure cylinder and a 42" lo-pressure cylinder and wooden walking beams. The correct answer was the *Delta Queen* river boat. There was discussion of famous and not-so-famous paired locomotives. The A&M is buying 3 EMD SD-70s to replace the Alcos that make the A&M distinctive among railfans. They shot a music film of some kind at the A&M recently. Mike Sypult spoke about a trip to Wichita to follow the route of the Frisco and talked about depots preserved and gone and museums along the route. Mike Condren had a copy of Lou Marre's new book, *Big Hooks*, that contains some of his pictures. His crane pictures are on his website, <http://condrenrails.com/railroad-pages.htm> under derricks. Malcolm Cleaveland called attention to a new Norfolk Southern ad that's pretty clever and required a massive amount of cooperation by NS. Meeting adjourned for two slide shows by Dick Hovey. They were ATSF in Iowa and Snow, Steam and Steel. Presentation in August will be by Steve Tharp about Colorado RRs. Malcolm K. Cleaveland, Secretary

## LOCALLY ON THE BEAM

### **Chapter members Reminder: Frisco Fest next week! Your participation is needed!**

Chapter Member, Ruth Merrifield, underwent surgical amputation of part of her left foot August 12.

Below are random photos submitted by Mitch Marmel



Found the RJ Corman company in Kentucky during a trip in May. Also the "Tweetsie" RR just north of Boone, N.C. (From J & M: sloopjb@cox.com)



On May 18, 2013, steam returned to Horseshoe Curve as Nickel Plate Road 765. Visited the area for employee excursions between Altoona and Gallitzin, PA. The trips operated in a pull-pull fashion with the 765 leading uphill, and the Pennsylvania Heritage diesel leading the downhill runs. With only 2 trips a day, chasing was a bit of a misnomer, so it was more of a case of pick a spot and wait. Many thanks to all who provided advice on where to go for the best shots. (From J & M)

## **HISTORICAL OPERATIONS**

### **UP preps Big Boy for move to Wyoming**

August 12, 2013

POMONA, Calif. – Work begins on moving Union Pacific 4-8-8-4 Big Boy No. 4014 from its home in Pomona to Cheyenne, Wyo., where the railroad plans on restoring the legendary steam locomotive. This weekend, members of the UP steam crew were at the Rail Giants Museum, located on the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds, disassembling the locomotive pistons and attempting to move it back and forth few feet with a tractor. However, initial attempts to move the locomotive with a pair of front-end loaders to see how easy it would, or would not, roll were thwarted by steel chocks welded to the rails.

Less than three-weeks ago, UP announced that it has struck a deal with the Southern California Chapter of the Railway & Locomotive Society and the Rail Giants Museum to purchase the locomotive. The railroad donated the engine to the group in December 1961 and it arrived at the museum a month later.

The UP Big Boys were among the largest steam locomotives ever built. The first of 25 built exclusively for the UP was delivered in 1941 and the engines remained in service right up until the end of steam in the late 1950s. Eight of the Big Boys are preserved. If the restoration is successful, No. 4014 will join UP's already impressive steam stable that includes 4-8-4 No. 844, known as the only Class 1 railroad steam locomotive never to be re-tired, and 4-6-6-4 No. 3985, currently the world's largest operating steam locomotive.



Photo by Howard N. Bunte

## Durango & Silverton gears up for 2013 Railfest

August 12, 2013

DURANGO, Colo. – The Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad is gearing up for its annual Railfest this week with extra excursion trains and special equipment displays. Events kick off on Aug. 15 and continue through Aug. 19.

Along with its regular excursion trains along the former Denver, Rio Grande & Western line between Durango and Silverton, the Durango & Silverton will run its “Presidential Special Train,” with first class and deluxe class seating. Also on hand and operating over the weekend are the Rio Grande Southern Galloping Goose No. 5 and DRG&W 2-8-0 No. 315, which was restored by the Durango Railroad Historical Society in 2007.

## Texas Big Boy move postponed again

August 1, 2013

DALLAS – Moving former Union Pacific Big Boy No. 4018 from Dallas’ Fair Park to a new site in Frisco has proved to take longer than planners expected. Officials from the Museum of the American Railroad had hoped to make the move on Aug. 4, but maintenance and upgrades along the Trinity Railway Express line between Dallas and Irving will limit access to that portion of the route during midday hours. The museum had originally hoped to move the locomotive in June, but that was postponed until July, and then August. A new move date has not been scheduled.

Our thanks to Trains Newswire for the preservation items.

## TRAINS FROM MEMORY



Photo by Ken Fitzgerald

No. 4018 was built in January 1942 and officially retired in 1962 with 1,037,123 miles. It was donated to the museum, which was then known as the Age of Steam Museum, in 1964. It is one of 25 Big Boys built by American Locomotive Co., between 1941 and 1944, which were the largest steam locomotives ever constructed. Eight Big Boys survive today.