

ARKANSAS-BOSTON MOUNTAINS CHAPTER

NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Chapter No. 188 founded in 1987



2013 DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS

President	Bob Stark
Vice President	Al Kaepfel
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

NRHS Chapter meets at 7:00 PM, January 15, 2015 at the Shiloh Museum Store.

The Scrambler

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

CHAPTER MINUTES

Our December meeting was the annual Chapter dinner party during which no formal business minutes were recorded.

LOCALLY ON THE BEAM

Our December Christmas dinner train was a smashing success! The food and service was excellent, the fellowship was top notch, and the number of members and guests was at capacity. Our deep appreciation goes out to Chapter Vice President, Al Kaepfel and the A& M Railroad staff for the wonderful arrangements! Editor.

Future Programs: January-Bob Stark on trip to Pennsylvania; February-Malcolm Cleaveland on the Orient Express exhibit in Paris; March-Mitch Marmel with relevant videos; April-Tom Duggan; May-Bob Stark and Steve Tharp on tracing a bygone rail route.

We were saddened to learn that Betsy Longston, wife of our former Chapter treasurer and member Bill Longston, had passed away. Details were lacking; we will try to get more information for the February Scrambler.

BRASS POUNDING DOWN THE LINE

The Great Northwest Arkansas Train Show will be held on Saturday, February 28, at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Springdale.

HISTORICAL OPERATIONS

Durango & Silverton to run winter photo train

December 18, 2014

DURANGO, Colo. – The Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad will operate a special winter photo train on Feb. 15, 2015. Passengers will be able to detrain in Animas Canyon to photograph the train in locations accessible only by rail. There will also be a night photo session in Durango limited to 20 participants and available only to photo train passengers. The railroad is finalizing details for the event, but is adding names to a wait list and will contact individuals as soon as details are finalized. In the past winter photo trains have been pulled by one of the railroad's ex-Denver & Rio Grande Western K-36 class 2-8-2s and operated between Durango and Cascade Canyon with at least six run-bys. To be put on the wait list call 888-872-4607.

Oklahoma Railway Museum acquires Santa Fe 2-8-0

December 19, 2014

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oklahoma – The Oklahoma Railway Museum has acquired former Santa Fe 2-8-0 No. 643, which has been displayed at the Oklahoma State Fair Park since the 1950s. The engine was at the Travel and Transportation Building at the park, which is being removed to make way for other attractions.

The Santa Fe's Cleburne, Texas, shops built the locomotive in 1897 as No. 933. It was renumbered 643 in 1900. In addition to the locomotive, the museum will also receive a Frisco caboos displayed with the engine. A vintage AT&SF hand pump car that was part of the display has already been moved to the museum and restored.



Santa Fe 2-8-0
No. 643 at the
Oklahoma
State Fair Park.

Steam to return to Cheat Bridge as part of Cass Railfan Weekend 2015

December 23, 2014

CASS, W.Va. – As part of a new partnership between the Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad and the Mountain State Railroad & Logging Historical Association, steam will return to Cheat Bridge for two days next spring as part of the Association's annual three-day Cass Railfan Weekend. The three-day steam and diesel weekend tradition, catered for photographers and railroad enthusiasts will take place in Cass on May 15-17, 2015, featuring photo runbys with Cass' geared Shay locomotives to popular locations such as Whittaker, Spruce, and Bald Knob. A new partnership between the Durbin & Greenbrier Valley Railroad and the non-profit association of the Cass Railroad will allow for a unique two-day rare mileage excursion across West Virginia Central trackage between Spruce and Cheat Bridge.



Three geared locomotives put on a show at the Cass Scenic Railroad. Photo by Chase Gunnoe.

The excursion will feature Cass Heisler No. 6, a former Meadow River Lumber Co. three-truck Heisler built in 1929. The Heisler is preferred because of its ability to perform at greater speeds over longer routes, as opposed to its Shay cousins. The 36-mile roundtrip excursion will operate on Friday May 15th and again on Saturday May 16. Simultaneously, Cass Shay locomotives will power excursions toward Bald Knob from Cass.

Due to limited seating capacity, patrons are being split into two groups throughout the weekend. Group 'A' will ride and photograph the rare mileage excursion out of Cheat Bridge on Friday, while Group 'B' will depart

from Cass, ascending through the switchbacks for an afternoon trip to Bald Knob. On Saturday, Group ‘B’ will then ride the rare mileage excursion from Cheat Bridge, with Group ‘A’ departing from Cass. This ticketing system, part of the association’s all-inclusive Railfan Weekend package, ensures that all photographers will be able to experience both trips. For information see www.msrlha.org.

Golden Spike locomotives undergoing mandatory federal inspection

December 30, 2014

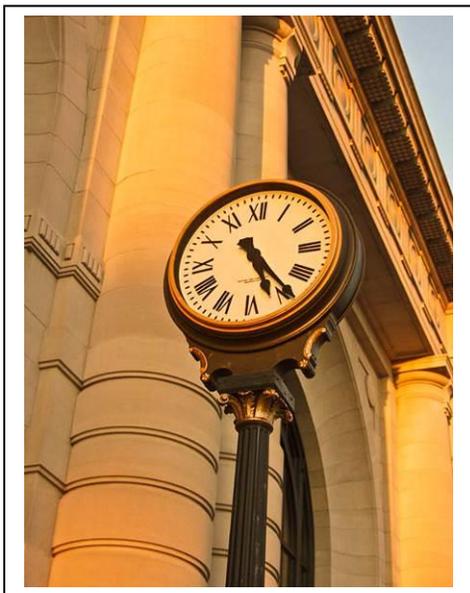
OGDEN, Utah – National Park Service officials at the Golden Spike National Historic Site in Promontory are working with Wasatch Railroad Contractors to conduct 1,472-day inspections on replica 4-4-0s Union Pacific No. 119 and Central Pacific Jupiter, the Salt Lake City Tribune reports. The engines are replicas of the original two engines which met at Promontory Summit during the May 10, 1869 Golden Spike ceremony that commemorated the completion of the first transcontinental railroad in the U.S. Both the originals were later scrapped. O’Connor Engineering Laboratories of Costa Mesa, Calif., was contracted by the Park Service in 1974 to build the replicas.

Kansas City station clock destroyed

January 9, 2015

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Caretakers are looking for a way to restore a clock that fell from its pedestal at the front entrance of Kansas City Union Station Thursday and was destroyed. No one was injured when the clock suddenly dropped to the sidewalk below. Duane Erickson, director of building and technical operations at Union Station, says the clock fell off its base about 2 p.m. “We’re flabbergasted that it fell,” he told the Kansas City Star. “The clock is in pieces. We’re hoping to get it fixed, but it will have to totally be redone. It’s not just a couple of parts you can glue back together.”

He said the base was made of two pieces and the top part fell off. He thinks strong winds over the years probably loosened the clock’s bolts. “The base itself was one of the original pieces here at the station,” he said. “The actual clock itself wasn’t old, but it was remade when we reopened back in 1999.” He said the base would probably be easier to repair than the clock. “The actual clock itself wasn’t old, but it was remade when we reopened back in 1999.”



< Before
After >
The landmark station opened and was dedicated on Oct. 30, 1914.

