



#8 3/88

ARKANSAS-BOSTON MOUNTAINS CHAPTER
3175 Katherine Avenue
Fayetteville, AR 72703

High Green! We are off to another meeting Thursday, March 17th, St Patrick's day, 7:30 PM, Shiloh Museum's General Store building, Springdale, N. Main & E. Johnson streets. This month's program will be presented by Sean Reed on the Railroad Air Brake. Sean is a student at the U of AR., helped with the restoration of the Cotton Belt steam locomotive 819 and has worked some on the AR & MO.

A reminder to those of you who have paid your Nation dues, but not yet ABMT's \$12.00 chapter dues for '88, please get your money to, Ken George, Treasurer, Rt 4, Box 396 A, Fayetteville, AR 72701.

For those of you who were unable to attend our last meeting, we announced that we were having a contest to name our news letter. The member whose newsletter title is chosen will receive, as yet, unnamed prize. We have a distinguished panel of highly qualified judges -- YOU --, by majority vote. Please submit as many entries as you like, each on a separate slip of paper, include your name. If you are unable to attend the meeting do not let this deter you from suggesting name(s). Just mail a Post Card or envelope full, to Martin Post to the above address. Entries will then be run in the April Newsletter, without the submittees name, (so I can take the credit). We will have a written ballot, so even absentees can vote. To be sure that we get a name that you can live with, you must participate, and don't forget your ballot will be unsigned, so you can vote for your own suggestion, - but put in entry(ies). Several examples used by other chapters: "Arkansas Railroader", Little Rock; "The Order Board", Central So. Carolina; "The Local", Kansas City.

Steve Roberts was in town for the last week of February. Several members were able to go out on photography trips with him. If they are like me, I know they had a good time. Steve and I went out on Sat. the 20th over to the KCS. We chased a north bound local into Missouri for a bit. Then heard a line-up of trains, which included one around noon and then nothing until around sunset. From there we went to the Westark Model RR meet. We saw Mike Calcott & David McDonald, plenty of models, several working layouts, dealers with models, books, slides and many other railroad related items for sale. One interesting highlight was a slide show put on by Mike Condren, who took most of the photos for the AR & MO article that was in the Nov '87 issue of "Trains". The chronological presentation started in the '40s with steam and passengers, some early diesels and into the current date of the AR & MO RR. It covered the line from Paris to Springfield, mainly featuring Fort Smith. Mike will be at the UofA, Fayetteville campus next fall and I am sure we can get him to put on a similar slide show for us. Several of us with Steve, spent an evening viewing slides at Ken Albrecht's home, another person to put on slide shows at our meetings. Ken has thousands of real beauties shot in the north, west, and Canada, wheresoever, I know not. Steve also left a gift each member (one per family membership), which I will pass out at the meeting - no I am not going to tell you what it is, come to the meeting, but I will save one for you if you can't be there.

The March issue of "Trains" had an ad for some RR related books. One; Railway Age's Comprehensive Railroad Dictionary, 160 pgs, @ \$19.95, another, The Railroad - What it is, What it Does, a revised edition @ \$21.95. I have a source which can offer us a 30% discount if we would buy 5 or more books of the 2 titles combined. I suggest the ABMT chapter sell to the members the books at 20% discount, which would mean a saving of \$3.99 on the first book and \$4.39 on the second. The \$2.00 and \$2.19 difference between the 20% and 30% discount would go into the chapter treasury, maybe toward the purchase of a caboose as a clubhouse or some other project. There would be a small pp & handling charge. If anyone is interested - on a piece of paper give me your name and the title of the book(s). If this idea of books at a

discount has merit and appeal, maybe we could expand to other titles. Books reviewed in the NRHS Bulletins and other RR publications

While thinking about the NRHS Bulletin, issue #5 for 1987 has been received by a number of ABMT members in the last month, hope you got yours.

Earlier, I alluded to a cabooses as a possible clubhouse. Steve Roberts mentioned that the BN will no longer have to run trains thru Montana with cabooses. This would mean a surplus that would go to storage and scrap. Scrape prices can be less than a thousand dollars. We could use one keep all chapter records and other items we might gather or accumulate. Perhaps it could be used on fan trips. Steve will try to find out whom to contact, but as an employee he can not work on the contact committee. As a nonprofit, railway historical and preservation group, we might get the BN to donate one thereby taking a charitable tax writeoff. Anyone who is interested in working on a committee to work out the requirement ramifications of owning and obtaining a piece of rail equipment, please contact Martin Post.

Below is a partial listing of the 1988 Norfolk Southern Steam Excursion Schedule. Both the Class A 1218 & Class J 611 will be in action. The Southern FP7 diesel locomotives are no longer operating. In the April newsletter we will give the listings for August thru November. (From NRHS News courtesy Carl Jensen, NS Manager-Steam Operations)

April 9-10 Birmingham AL-Chattanooga TN RT - 1218 [Heart of Dixie-NRHS]
April 16 Atlanta-Toccoa GA RT - 1218 [Atlanta-NRHS]
April 17 Atlanta-Chattanooga TN RT - 1218 [same guys!]
April 23-24 Asheville-Statesville NC RT - 1218 [Asheville-NRHS]
April 30 Huntsville AL-Chattanooga TN RT - Diesel [North Alabama-NRHS]
May 7 Greensboro NC-Spartanburg SC RT - 1218 [Greensboro-NRHS]
May 7 Knoxville-Chattanooga TN RT - Diesel [Old Smoky-NRHS]
May 8 Greensboro NC-Roanoke VA; 1218 OW, Diesel return [Greensboro-NRHS]
May 14 Alexandria-Lynchburg VA; Diesel OW, 1218 return [Washington area NRHS]
May 14 Bristol-Roanoke VA RT - Diesel [Watauga Valley-NRHS]
May 15 Alexandria-Front Royal VA RT - 1218 [Washington area NRHS]
May 15 Johnson City TN-Asheville NC RT - Diesel [Watauga Valley-NRHS]
May 21 Alexandria-Front Royal VA (possibly beyond) RT - 1218/Diesel [Wash area NRI]
May 22 Alexandria-Charlottesville VA; 1218 OW, Diesel return [same bunch!]
May 28 Richmond-Roanoke VA; Diesel to Crewe, 1218 OW Crewe to Roanoke, diesel return [Old Dominion-NRHS]
May 29 Richmond-Keysville or Appomattox VA RT - Diesel [same guys!]
June 4 Charlotte NC-Charleston SC OW Diesel [Science Museums of Charlotte]
June 5 Charleston SC-Charlotte NC OW Diesel [return home!]
June 9 Roanoke VA-Bluefield WV OW - 1218 [Roanoke-NRHS Independence Limited]
June 10 Bluefield WVA-Portsmouth OH OW - 1218 [2nd day!]
June 11 Portsmouth OH-Fort Wayne IN (via Bellevue) OW - 1218 [3rd steam day!]
June 12 Fort Wayne IN-Chicago IL OW - 1218 [Indep Ltd grand finale!]
June 11 Winston-Salem NC-Wilkesboro NC RT - Diesel [Southbound Model RRers]
June 12 Winston-Salem NC-Roanoke VA RT - Diesel [same fellows!]
June 18 Raleigh-Spencer NC RT - Diesel [East Carolina-NRHS]
June 19 Raleigh NC-Winston-Salem NC RT - Diesel [East Carolina-NRHS]
June 18 Chicago IL-Fort Wayne IN RT - 1218 [Chicago-NRHS]
June 19 Chicago-Forest IL RT - Diesel [Chicago-NRHS again!]
July 9-10 Detroit MI-Fort Wayne IN RT - 1218 [Bluewater Michigan-NRHS]
July 16 Detroit-Fort Wayne-Cincinnati OW 1218/Diesel [Bluewater Michigan-NRHS]
July 17 Cincinnati OH-Detroit MI OW Diesel/1218 [you guys back?!]
July 23-24 Buffalo NY-St.Thomas ONT RT - 1218 [Destn Tentative] [Buffalo-NRHS]

News items:

The Kansas City & St Louis Chapters of the NRHS plan to share in train excursions with the National Museum of Transport's Frisco #1522, a mountain type 4-8-2. Trips are conditioned on engine passing NS inspection tests and satisfactory operating arrangements. Trains would carry 14 or 15 cars leased from Fort Wayne Chapter. Scheduled to be in No.KC Saturday, May 21st with two roundtrips to Moberly, MO Sat., May 28th & Sun., May 29th. (From The Local KC Capt.) I'm sure Erv Lewis will keep us informed as he has a son in the KC Chapter.

"Biloxi Blues", will premiere at Fort Chaffee March 18th, First showing at \$15. Secound showing at \$5. Tickets are available at the Ft Smith & Van Buren Chambers of Commerce, proceed go to National Cemetary at Ft Smith.

The tower operator who switched a northbound passenger train onto a track where a work vehicle was parked, January 29th near Chester PA, tested positive for drugs more than tree days later when he showed up at Amtrak's Philadelphia headquarters. The tower operator switchman tested positive for marijuana, cocaine, methamphetamine & amphetamine. However his attorney said the operator testified to the National Transportation Safety Board that he was not under the influence of alcohol or drugs Jan. 28-29th. Under provisions of a recent Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision it is unlikely that post-accident alcohol & drug testing could have been preformed. The federal appeals court at San Francisco early in February '88 ruled in a split decision that railroad workers cannot be tested for drugs & alcohol unless they show some sign of impairment. (From Arkansas Gazette Wed, Feb 24th'88)

The 8th Annual Arkansas Railroad Club Show & Sale, will be held Sat., Mar 26th from 9:30-4:00 at Rick's National Guard Armory, 4700 West 8th St. Little Rock, (between Markham & I-630 relatively close to War Memorial Stadium & Ray Winder Field). (from AR Railroader)

Cotton Belt Rail Historical Society will steam-up 819 on Sat. Mar., 19th. Region IX covention of the National Association of Railroad Passengers will have a convention in Little Rock Mar. 26-27, with a bus tour of 819 facillities on the 27th. 819 will run to Fordyce on the Cotton Belt for the festival April 18-24 with the 819 trip Friday April 23rd. (from AR Railroader) (Again I'm sure Ray Toler will keep us informed)

I am sure you are happy to hear, we have an Editor for our newsletter - Ken Albrecht, Congratulations!! Ken will want your help with news items and a staff to put our monthly publication together. But don't blame this issue on Ken, he had nothing to do with it.

Our April meeting is the 21st, the program by Tony Hannold.

See you this Thursday Mar., 17th, 7:30PM Shiloh Museum General Store. Your temporary acting editor, Martin Post