

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 | Tom Duggan |
| Treasurer | Bill Longston |
| Program Director | David McDonald |
| National Director | Chuck Girard |
| Board Director | Larry Cain |
| Editor | Bill Merrifield |

NRHS Chapter meets at 7:00 PM, February 19, 2010 at the Shiloh Museum Store.

Mike Sypult will present a program on the Rock Island Railroad and Arkansas

**ARKANSAS-BOSTON MOUNTAINS CHAPTER
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
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The Scrambler

Volume 23, No. 5

February, 2010

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

CHAPTER MINUTES January, 2010

Incoming President Bob Stark called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Twenty three people were present including one guest. President Stark and the members thanked Gary McCullough and Claire McCullough, who was unable to attend, for their five years service as President and Secretary respectively.

Old Business: The Secretary's minutes, published in the January 2010 *Scrambler* and Treasurer Bill Langston's verbal report were approved by unanimous voice votes.

National Director Chuck Girard contacted NRHS to explore the possibility of holding the National Directors meeting electronically, for example using an online service such as GoTo Meeting™, rather than requiring individuals to be physically present. Barry Smith, NRHS VP, responded that corporation laws of Maryland, the state of NRHS incorporation, do not permit electronic corporate meetings.

Vice President David Macdonald proposed that Show & Tell meetings expand from one per year to two. Member approved the proposal. The next Show & Tell will take place in June 2010.

Scrambler Editor Bill Merrifield summarized some of the personal issues that have impacted past *Scrambler* production. He continues to seek member contributions. He mentioned that Mike Sypult will digitize *Scramblers* produced since January 2007 and add them to the Chapter website. (www.arkrail.com)

Train Show -Mitch Marmel circulated a sign up sheet for the February 27, 2010 Train Show in Bentonville. The show runs from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM and the Chapter will need a strong volunteer presence. President Stark requested that Al Kaepfel make himself available for Train Show coordination with Mitch. Items donated for Train Show sale should be brought to Tom Duggan at the February 18 Chapter meeting.

Laptop Computer- By unanimous voice vote the Chapter membership authorized the expenditure of up to \$600.00 for a Dell Inspiron laptop and carrying case by Mike Sypult. Both the Chapter LCD projector and the laptop will be in the possession of Mike Sypult thus eliminating the problem of who has what.

New Business- Bob Oswald donated photograph bulbs with reflectors, slide cases, and protective sleeves that were auctioned at the meeting. Proceeds of \$15.50 went into the Chapter account.

The NRHS 2009 Chapter Annual Activities Report will be submitted by Tom Duggan prior to the February 1, 2010 submission deadline.

Trips and Activities- President Stark appointed Al Kaepfel, Bob Oswald and Tom Duggan to a team to identify potential Chapter field trips in 2010. He mentioned a trip to Fred Lewis' home in Witter, AR where large scale layout is well advanced.

Program- Mitch Marmel showed a comprehensive 1951 color publicity film of the Philadelphia Transportation Company and a DVD of slides of traction in the Philadelphia metropolitan area.

Tom Duggan, Secretary

FROM THE DISPATCHER

Train Order#1-1/29/ 10-Main Line

Chapter has made a sizeable investment to keep our presentation equipment updated, but unfortunately many of us older Guys aren't up to speed on this new stuff. Therefore I would like the two experts in the Group to give us some KISS learning on the digital equipment.

Engineers Claire M. and Mike S. is it possible for you two to put together this for us.

Train Order#2-1/29/ 10-Main line;

Special #1-White Flag going to train show February27.

Engineers-Al and Mitch-Carman Bob will assist Eng. Al in moving equipment to main.

Eng. Mitch needs to tell us what location do we drop stuff.

Conductors Travis and Tom will have the paper baggage set up??

Brakemen Gary, Claire, & Bill will handle the way bills for the tariffs?

Engineers Al and Mitch will have the details worked out at the February Chapter meeting.

Will need a lot of low price hands for the road gang to keep this train on time.

PS. Sure would be great to have Conductor Geo. A. to handle some of those underage passengers. Larry would agree with this.

Train Order#3-1/29/10 Main line:

Dispatcher is snowed in therefore finds it easy to avoid things that really need to be done around the train shed.

Would like to hear from all ABM Train hands how you feel we could make our Chapter better and attract more members etc. Would like to have suggestions or ideas in note form that I could summarize and discuss with Board of Directors and then the Chapter. Please keep in mind our Chapter's Mission or Purpose when formulating these ideas.

Train Order#4-Main track

Train 1St NBFS- Eng. Chuck G.

Please bring some new membership applications, if available, to next meeting so we may have them for the BIG train show.

Cheers, Dispatcher. Bob

LOCALLY ON THE BEAM

We were deeply shocked to receive news that Chapter member, Tom Stark, son of our Chapter president, Bob Stark, passed away February 14, 2010. No additional details were available at the time of this edition. Bob Stark's home address is 6209 East Mission Boulevard, Fayetteville, AR 72703-9646.

Ruth Lewis, wife of deceased founding Chapter member "Erv" Lewis, died in Kansas City in February 2010 at the age of 94. Ruth, who had lived in Fayetteville until recently, had been in a Springdale nursing home before being moved to Kansas City. Ruth, who was from the Chicago area, attended some meetings after the death of Erv even though she was well into her 80s.

Condolences may be sent to her sole son, Jeff Lewis, who is also a railfan, 1028 W. 41st Street, Apartment 3, Kansas City, MO. 64111

HISTORICAL OPERATIONS

Union Pacific steam will visit West, Midwest this year

February 10, 2010

OMAHA, Neb. — Historic locomotives from Union Pacific's steam program will make six outings between April and November this year, including a ceremony marking the program's 50th year. The schedule is available at <http://www.uprr.com/>.

UP steam engines 844 and 3985 serve as rolling ambassadors for the nation's largest railroad. In addition to the usual Frontier Days exhibit, stops this year will include Harlingen, Texas; Milliken, Colo.; Pendleton, Ore.; Sedalia, Mo.; and Council Bluffs, Iowa.

Alder Gulch won't run steam trains in 2010

February 09, 2010

VIRGINIA CITY, Mont. — Montana's Alder Gulch Short Line won't operate steam on its railroad this year, but will operate its normal slate of tourist trains. The decision comes as part of an effort to save money.

The railroad ordinarily employs 2-8-0 No. 12, a 1910 Baldwin product that came from Ferrocarril Mexicano, on its 30-inch-gauge route. Paul Reichert, executive director of railroad operator Montana Heritage Commission, said the costs of keeping a steam locomotive in operation during a recession led to the decision.

The railroad will instead use a gas-powered vehicle to operate the 1.5-mile route, with a diesel-powered vehicle held in backup

Pittsburgh Locomotive Works face demolition

February 08, 2010

PITTSBURGH — Workers have begun demolition of the Pittsburgh Locomotive Works complex, a site that

includes a dozen buildings that produced 2,400 steam locomotives, the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* has reported. The locomotive builder, once owned by steel baron Andrew Carnegie, was one of eight companies that merged form American Locomotive Co., or Alco, in 1901.

Electric utility Duquesne Light owns the complex, and uses it for storage and, until recently, office space. However, the company withdrew its employees from the site last summer as a result of its poor condition. "It's becoming dangerous" for employees, said Duquesne spokesman Joseph Vallarian.

Carnegie and business partner Thomas Miller founded the Pittsburgh Locomotive Works in 1865 and produced the first locomotive at the complex in 1867. Its locomotives ran across America and the world. A former railroad machinist, Walter P. Chrysler, served as works manager at Alco's Pittsburgh plant in 1909 before going on to found the automaker that bears his name.

Alco closed the plant in 1919.

Fundraising campaign opens for 765

February 04, 2010

FORT WAYNE, Ind. — The nonprofit owner of Nickel Plate 2-8-4 No. 765 has launched a fundraising campaign to replace the bearings on the engine's tender. The \$60,000 upgrade will make ferry moves over freight railroads easier and reduce the engine's maintenance costs.

The Fort Wayne Railroad Historical Society plans to operate the engine across the Midwest, but industry-standard roller bearings will be required to follow through. The engine underwent a comprehensive rebuilding between 1999 and 2005, and visited TrainFestival 2009 last year.

Anyone wishing to donate money toward the upgrade can do so through the society's Web site at www.fortwaynerailroad.org

Sumpter Valley Railroad receives donation to upgrade steam engine

Published: Friday, January 29, 2010

SUMPTER, Ore. — The overhaul of Sumpter Valley Railroad 2-8-2 No. 19 got an anonymous \$50,000 donation, according to a story in *The Oregonian* newspaper of Portland. The eastern Oregon attraction carries tourists through the historic gold fields west of Baker City.

After running through the end of May, No. 19 is scheduled for its 15-year federally mandated boiler inspection. Repairs may cost as much as \$250,000, with final costs to be determined after the 1920 Alco is disassembled and inspected. The 3-foot gauge locomotive was rebuilt at the Brooklyn Shops in Portland, returning to service in 1996. The current overhaul will be done at the Sumpter Valley shops at McEwen.

Heisler No. 3, a rare wood-burning geared steam locomotive, will be the main operating steam locomotive for spring 2010. Both Nos. 19 and 3 are original to the logging lines that operated between Baker City and Prairie City.

The British 'Tornado' makes the news



February 04, 2010

Photo by: David Rodgers

MANCHESTER, U.K. — Britain's Prince Charles and his wife, Camilla, duchess of Cornwall, rode behind 4-6-2 A1 Pacific Tornado today for a trip to Manchester. The steamer pulled the "Royal Train" to Manchester from Preston via the West Coast main line, then east from Parkside along the world's first passenger line, which connects Liverpool and Manchester. The line is to be electrified in coming years

Grant goes to 2-foot-gauge 2-4-4T

February 01, 2010

Photo by: Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad & Museum

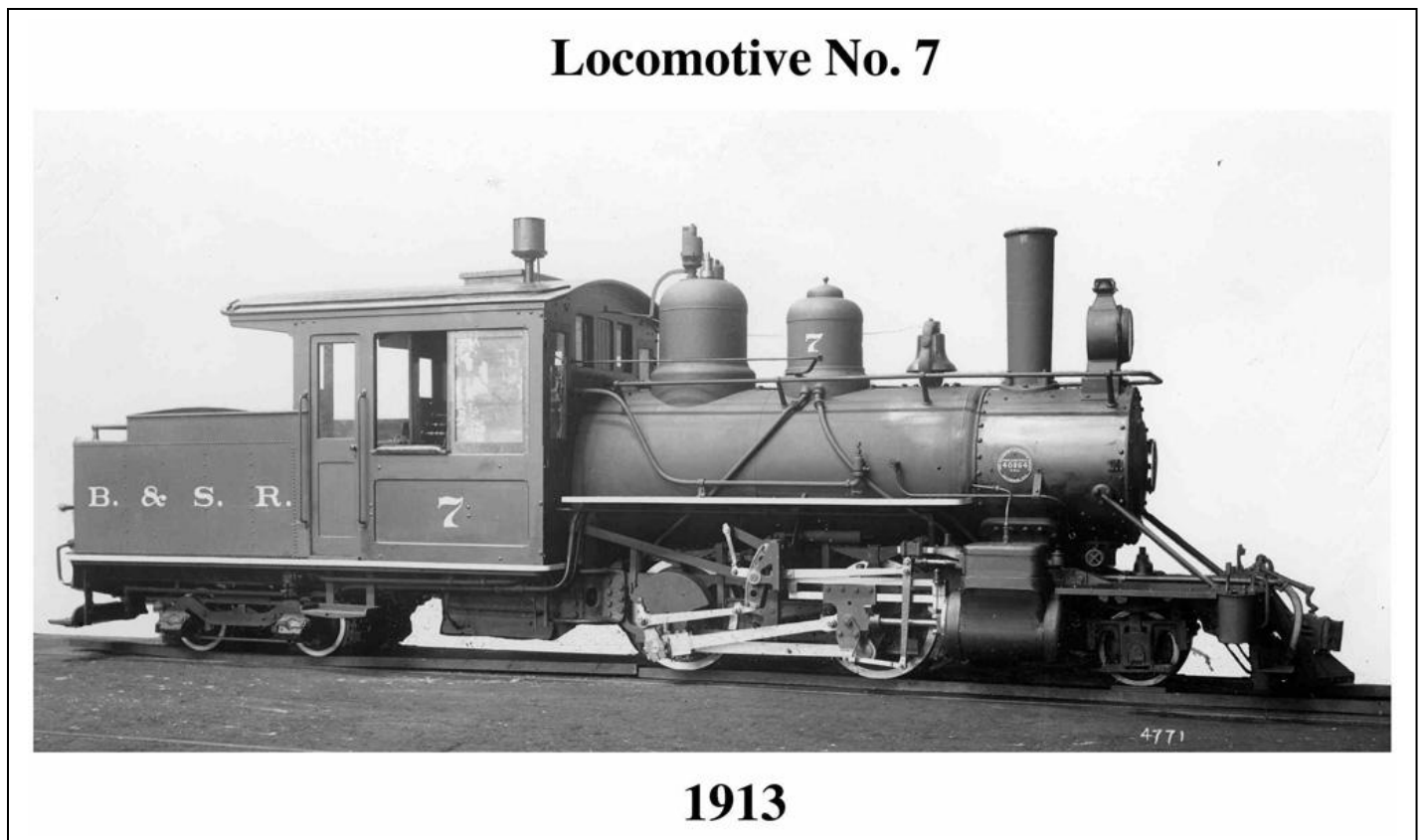
BOSTON — The Massachusetts Bay Railroad Enthusiasts have granted \$10,000 to rebuild the boiler of a nar-

row gauge locomotive in the Maine Narrow Gauge Railroad & Museum. The engine, Bridgton & Saco River 2-4-4T No. 7, is a Baldwin-built locomotive, and served on the narrow gauge railroad and successor Bridgton & Harrison, from 1913 until 1941.

The enthusiast group awarded the money as part of the Albert Webb Memorial Railroad Preservation Award.

"It has always been a daunting task for any organization to undertake the restoration of any size locomotive, steam or diesel, to working order," said Leigh A. Webb, son of the award's namesake. "However, there is no greater pleasure than to ride in, or behind, that engine when that monumental task is complete, and the tangible efforts of so many are on display for the world to see and appreciate."

The award was presented Saturday at the group's railroad hobby show in West Springfield, Mass.



City of Dallas files suit to force railroad museum to move

January 27, 2010

DALLAS — The city of Dallas filed suit Tuesday against the Museum of the American Railroad, claiming the museum hasn't moved fast enough to leave its 1.2-acre State Fair Park home of 47 years for a new location in Frisco, Texas.

The lawsuit says the museum is trespassing and calls it a public nuisance. It is seeking a jury trial to force the

museum to leave by August so the land can be prepared for use by the state fair the following month.

Museum trustee William Brotherton told *Trains* Wednesday that Aug. 1, 2011, is a more realistic date for the move. "We have been engaged in lengthy discussions with the City of Dallas in regards to our departure and from the very beginning, advised the City of Dallas that Aug. 1, 2010, was an unrealistic deadline," he said. "When you are attempting to move approximately 35 pieces of railroad equipment, including the world's largest steam locomotive, it has to be well planned out and coordinated, and that, unfortunately, takes time."

The city says the museum and Frisco in March 2008 reached an agreement for the relocation to a new site. Last month the museum hired the Australian firm Freeman-Ryan Design to provide conceptual planning and prepare design specifications for the new 12.3-acre museum site.

Among the many gems in the collection are Union Pacific Big Boy 4-8-8-4 No. 4018, Pennsylvania Railroad GG1 No. 4903, and Santa Fe FP45 No. 107. The museum board planned to meet Wednesday afternoon to address the lawsuit. — *Jim Wrinn*

Our thanks to TRAINS Newswire

SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW SOMETHING ABOUT RAILROADS?



Can you identify the yard engines in this incident?

How about a guess where this might have taken place?

Yes, there are some clues in the picture.

OOPS! I was here first!

Our thanks to Bill Usery for the photo.

SCALE RAILROADING

**Great Northwest Arkansas Model Train Show: Clarion Hotel, Bentonville, AR,
February 27, 2010, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Admission \$6.00, Children 12 and under FREE**