

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

APRIL, 2010

SHREVEPORT, LA

OUR 29TH YEAR

Waitin' For The Train To Come In



My, how times have changed since 1947. These 10 Claiborne Elementary School students are standing in a baggage wagon at Union Station waiting for their train to Birmingham, AL where they will play their xylophones and tell how they constructed their instruments using California Redwood salvaged from an oil storage tank. To finance their \$650 trip they gave school shows. The bottom photo shows them in the gift shop. Anyone remember it ?

UP 844 Steam Engine Schedule & Route

The last steam locomotive built for Union Pacific, 4-8-4 Northern No. 844, returned to Texas April 2 – April 29 as *The Valley Eagle*, one of Union Pacific's scheduled 2010 excursions. The plan is to go east from Cheyenne to Kansas City and then down south through McAlester, Fort Worth, on to Houston and then on down to Harlingen, Texas. On the return trip, it will be on display in Houston on Sunday, April 18. On Monday April 19 it will go to Palestine, stay there overnight, and travel to Longview on Tuesday April 20. It is scheduled to depart Longview at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday April 21, be in Texarkana at 10:00 a.m. for servicing, then leave at 10:30 for North Little Rock. That is the plan now and of course that is always subject to change. A good place to watch it on April 21 will be at the T&P Depot in Marshall, although it is not scheduled to stop there. The Marshall Depot will open at 7:00 a.m. Also, Amtrak is scheduled to stop there about 7:40 to pick up passengers. UP has an excellent website devoted to the train, including maps, schedules and GPS tracking info. Go to www.uprr.com

UP 844 Photo Contest

Many of us will be chasing UP 844 with our cameras on April 21st. Pick your favorite shot and get it to your Editor by email or snail mail no later than May 1st. A "distinguished panel of judges" will select one for printing in the May Newsletter. Only one entry per person, please. You do not have to be a member of the RRVrHS to participate. If you have any questions, call your Editor at (318) 470-5933.

RRVRHS Trip to Southern Forest Heritage Museum in Longleaf

We have had great trips to the Southern Forest Heritage Museum in Long Leaf so we are looking forward to going again. They have a great collection of railroad equipment, lumber industry artifacts and buildings spread over several acres. Plus, they now have a restored Motorcar for visitors to ride in. Their annual Heritage Day will be on May 1st. Here is info from their website www.forestheritagemuseum.org

See the newly renovated Post Office and shipping clerk's office

Hear the Longleaf Whistle blow one more time.

Ride the M-4 Motorcar - Ride the Angel Train

Shop at our Antiques and Artisan Trade Show. Our theme this year is Vintage and Vines.

Listen to gospel and blue grass by The Southern Plainsmen, Gospel Gold, God's Children, Southern Harvest, Sieper 4 and Kyla Rose

Have lunch in the Planer Mill - Visit the Working Machine Shop

Meet at the Home Depot at Bert Kouns and I-49 at 7:30am on Saturday, May 1st if you want to carpool or travel with the group. It will take about 2 ½ hours for the 140 mile trip, so we should arrive about 10:00am. We should be back in Shreveport about 6:30pm. Call Dave Bland at 470-5933 if you plan to go or have questions.

Sounds Interesting ! 2010 Caddo Lake Steamboat Meet

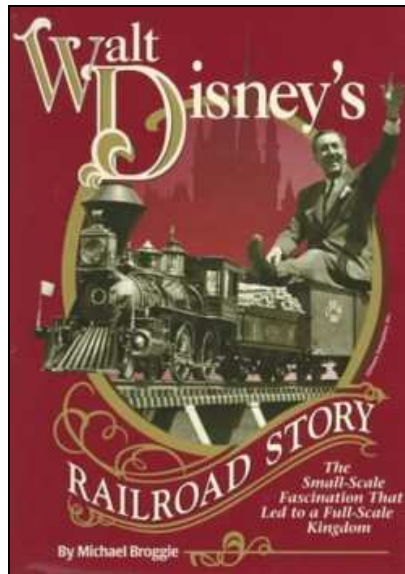
The 2010 Caddo Lake Steamboat Meet will be located at Shady Glade Marina in Uncertain, Texas on May 21 – 22. They will spend Friday and Saturday exploring the many boat roads through looming Cypress trees and Spanish Moss. Friday afternoon May 21, they are planning to tour the historic steam powered McNeill Street Pump Station in Shreveport. Also, they are planning a Saturday evening dinner at a nearby location with an evening cruise afterwards. For information, call Shady Glade Marina

(903) 789- 3295 or see <http://www.shadygladeresort.com>

Next RRVrHS Meeting on April 16 at the Glen

The meeting will be held on Friday, **April 16** at **7 p.m.** in the auditorium at the Glen Retirement Village, 403 East Flourney Lucas Road. **Please be on time** for the beginning of the meeting so you won't miss anything. A program will be presented after the business discussion. Suggestions and assistance with future programs are needed, so bring your ideas to the meeting. The Glen Retirement Village is located on the south side of Flourney Lucas Road between Ellerbe Road and Youree Drive (Highway 1). For information or directions call Dave Bland at (318) 470-5933.

Program for April 16 – Walt Disney's Railroad Story



We all know of Walt Disney, his movies, his animated characters such as Mickey and Minnie Mouse, his Magic Kingdoms, etc. But did you know Walt was a serious railfan and railroad builder? He loved trains: from models to Live Steam to full size. At our April 16 meeting we will view portions of a DVD titled "The Disneyland Railroad Story". Don't miss it !

Upcoming Events

April 11	Texas State Railroad Photo Excursion (1-888-987-2461 www.TexasStateRR.com)
April 16	RRVRHS meeting at the Glen – 7 p.m.
April 20	Marshall Depot – 7 p.m. - "Who is Bozo Texino?" Bill Daniel video and discussion
April 21	UP 844 from Longview to Texarkana to North Little Rock
April 24-25	Cotton Belt Train Show, Tyler TX
May 1	Southern Forest Museum Heritage Day, Longleaf, LA (<u>RRVRHS trip</u>)
May 15	Spring Banquet Fish Fry (No RRVrHS meeting in May)
May 21-22	Caddo Lake Steamboat Meet in Uncertain, Texas
June 12	Marshall Depot – 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. – "Reading at the Railroad"
June 18	RRVRHS meeting at the Glen – 7 p.m.

The President's Message – April 2010

Hello Railfans:

It's time to take pen in hand and write another of my most interesting and informing and informal columns.

Last month we had another interesting program on the La Posada Hotel on the Santa Fe Railroad in Arizona. This was a real good program and everyone enjoyed it very much. Thanks to Paul Hoge for his efforts to continue to bring historical and informational programs to our meetings. As I was watching the DVD on this fine old hotel that was restored and brought back to life I could not help but think about the Ginocchio Hotel in Marshall, Texas. It sure would be wonderful if someone with deep pockets would rescue it someday.

This month yours truly with the help of Dave Bland will present a program on Walt Disney. Walt was a life-long railfan and I believe you will enjoy knowing more about this man that has brought so much joy and happiness into our lives. I hope to see all of you at the meeting.

Last month I attended the Train Show in Longview. It was a good show and they had a large turnout. I did not see many people from our area except the group with modular layouts

On March 27 I was at the museum surveying what still needs to be done. Hank from the Water Works Museum came over and told me that his group had just received a letter from the State informing them that with the budget crisis there would not be much money available this fiscal year. That means the Railroad Museum funds also. So that means we will have to continue on our own. To that end, Gary has been talking to some people on the local level to secure some matching funds for us. At the last meeting our benefactor donated more money to the group for our project. Thanks, we love you !

Well, it's about time to stop so I'll see you at the meeting.

Happy Railroading!

Russell

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Russell Pedro – President Dave Bland – Vice President

Mark Brunettin – Secretary Bill Hasheider – Treasurer

Dave Bland – Newsletter Editor – 797-8008 – DDBland@aol.com

It is time to pay your 2010 Annual Dues

Please send a check or money order for \$16.50 with this membership form to Bill Hasheider at 6813 Despot Road, Shreveport, LA 71108

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____