

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

Web Site: [WWW.RRVRHS.ORG](http://WWW.RRVRHS.ORG)

On Facebook: [Shreveport Railroad Museum](#)

Russell Pedro – President

W. Conway Link – Vice-President

Jim McClure – Secretary

Bill Hasheider – Treasurer

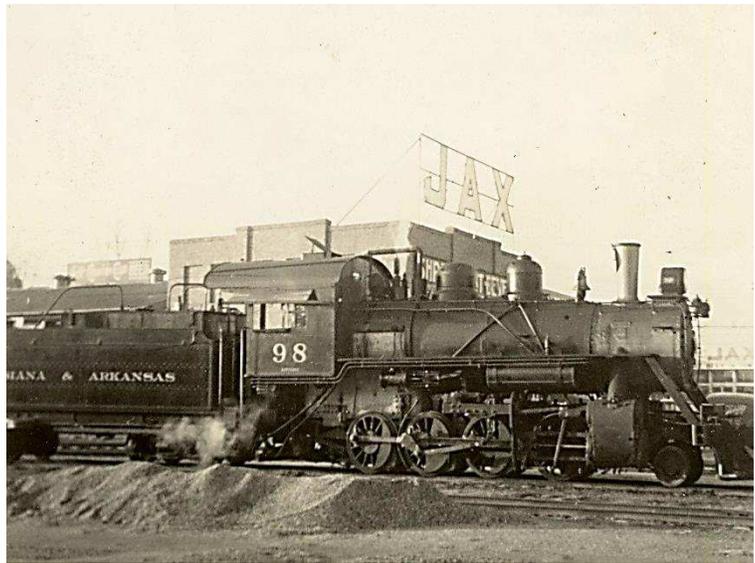
Dave Bland – Newsletter Editor – [DDBland@aol.com](mailto:DDBland@aol.com)

*February, 2015*

SHREVEPORT, LA

*Our 34<sup>th</sup> Year*

## Builder's Plate 52234

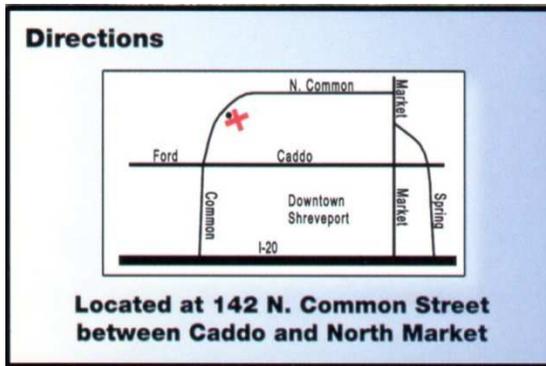


All steam locomotives had a unique “serial number” assigned by the builder. It was normally recorded by being cast into two brass “builder’s plates”, one mounted on each side of the steam engine boiler. Additional information on the builder’s plate was the builder’s name (i.e. The Baldwin Locomotive Works), the place it was built and the date it was built. These plates have become very collectible because most steam locomotives were scrapped after they were replaced by newer engines or diesel locomotives.

Recently one of our long-time members, Larry Davis, spotted one on eBay that was of particular interest to us because it was from the engine of a “local” railroad, the Louisiana Railway & Navigation Co.(LR&N). Larry purchased the plate on behalf of our Society and we are proud to add it to our museum collection. The LR&N was incorporated in 1903 to purchase the property, rights, and franchises of the Shreveport & Red River Valley Railway Company, which had been incorporated in 1896 by William Edenborn. The LR&N ran from Shreveport to New Orleans via Baton Rouge, with a short branch to Winnfield.

The 2-8-0 Consolidation-class steam engine with builder’s plate 52234 was built in August, 1919 for the LR&N who assigned road number 98 to it. It was assigned to various duties on the railroad, primarily freight and yard service. In 1928, after William Edenborn’s death in 1926, the LR&N was sold to the Louisiana & Arkansas Railroad (L&A) but retained road number 98. The Kansas City Southern Railway obtained control of the L&A in 1939 but continued to use the L&A name and engine numbers. In 1947, No. 98 was sold to the Ashley, Drew & Northern Railroad and renumbered No. 135. We do not know when it was scrapped, but someone obviously saved at least one of the builder’s plates.

Fortunately, there was a photo of L&A No. 98 in Shreveport in 1940 contained in our Russell Stewart photo collection. Note the JAX beer sign on the Shreveport Beverage building which was on Marshall Street.



## Upcoming Events

Feb. 20 – RRVRS Meeting – 7 p.m. - Shreveport Water Works Museum – 142 N. Common St. - call (318) 797-8008 for information.

Mar. 6 - First Friday Railroad Photography Meeting – 7:30 p.m. at the Shreveport Water Works Museum – 142 N. Common St. – call (318) 797-8008 for information.

## The President's Message

Hello Railfans !

A lot of things have happened since our last meeting. First off, at that meeting we voted to bid on a LR&N builder's plate from locomotive No. 98. We voted to spend up to \$1200 for it, but Larry Davis was able to get it for \$800. This item will be a great addition to our collection since the LR&N ran in to Shreveport and was absorbed a long time ago by the L&A, then by the KCS.

Two weeks ago about 12 ladies from the Quester Club called and wanted to visit our museum. Dave met with them and took them on a tour.

Since our last meeting, yours truly (me) had a mild heart attack and was in the hospital for about a week. Many of you who knew about it came to visit and I enjoyed your company and get well wishes. Thanks! I hope that I will be back to some kind of normal activity soon but may have to miss the next meeting. Anyway, I hope to see all of you soon.

Happy Railroading!  
Russell

### It is time to pay your 2015 Dues!

Please send a check or money order for \$20.00 with this membership form to Bill Hasheider at 6813 Despot Road, Shreveport, LA 71108

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Red River Valley Railroad Historical Society  
3012 Nottingham Drive  
Shreveport, LA 71115

**Next Meeting**  
**Feb. 20**