

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

June, 2012

SHREVEPORT, LA

Our 31st Year

Come On In !



On May 19 we opened the door on our museum for RRVHRS members, family and guests. The most frequently heard comment was "Wow !". Even though many members had worked on the museum at various stages of development, most had not seen the result of all the hard work until then. Additional artifacts, documents and pictures will be added as they become available, so it is still a work-in-progress.

We are very appreciative of the opportunity to use the building and for the support provided by the McNeill Street Pumping Station Preservation Society and the Louisiana Secretary of State offices.



The photo on the left above was taken in March, 2009 when we first saw the building interior. It was in sad shape after years of gathering dust, moisture, spare lumber, etc. The paint on the walls and ceiling were peeling, the window frames were rusted out and many window panes were broken. May 18, 2012 was a day of great satisfaction when President Russell Pedro held up the sign for installation.



May 19 was a day of celebration when the first visitors started coming in and everyone was treated with fried fish, boiled shrimp and all the other food that was prepared and brought in for the feast. About 40 people signed the guest book and there were probably several that missed it. Regular visiting hours have not yet been established, but it can be opened for self-guided tours by Shreveport Water Works Museum staff when they are on the premises. Guided tours can be provided by appointment with RRVRS volunteers by calling (318) 797-8008, (318) 458-3125 or (318) 631-9164.

Next RRVrHS Meeting on June 15 at the Glen

The next meeting will be held on Friday, **June 15** at **7 p.m.** in the library 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. 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.

Upcoming Events

June 15	RRVRHS Meeting – 7 p.m. at the Glen
July 20	RRVRHS Meeting – 7 p.m. at the Glen



**Please Provide Your Email Address So You Can
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Send your editor an email (DDBland@aol.com) to get yours added to the RRVrHS email list. Your email address will not be seen by others when you get the newsletter.

The President's Message – June 2012

Hello Railfans!

Since our last newsletter we held our Spring Banquet and there was a good turnout for the event. I would like to thank everyone that helped to make this event happen, especially Kelly Jo, Mark, Frank, Paul and Gary.

The museum was open and I think everyone was pleased with what Dave and Gay have done inside. Since that opening we have had visitors on site to see the Water Works Museum stop in and we have received some very nice comments in our guest book. This work inside the museum will continue as we try to bring to the City of Shreveport a first class railroad museum.

Work is progressing on the handicap ramp and it should be completed in about 2 weeks. The State of Louisiana has been very helpful in paying for the materials to the tune of about \$3000.00. We all want to thank Mary Durusau for her work in securing this money and also the State. We all know what difficulty the State is having with providing funding for projects. I would also like to thank Frank, Gary, Steve, Paul and my very good friend Dominick Tuminello for their very hard work in the hot sun to complete the ramp project.

We all need to thank Dave Bland for the beautiful T&P neon sign that now hangs in the museum. Larry Davis has consented to display some of his collection which will be a great addition. I recently picked up some railroad furniture and a large 3 ft. x 10 ft. map that Larry has been storing for us. Thanks, Larry. Nathaniel Means spent some time Saturday cleaning the furniture and it is now in the museum.

Our next project will be to start moving the locomotive and cars to the site.

Thanks, everyone for your efforts and work.

Happy Railroading!
Russell

RED RIVER VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC. Shreveport, LA

Russell Pedro – President Kelly Jo Brunettin – Vice President
Gary Fox – Secretary Bill Hasheider – Treasurer
Dave Bland – Newsletter Editor – 797-8008 – DDBland@aol.com www.rvrhs.org

It's time to pay your 2012 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 _____

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