

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

www.rrvrhs.org

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W. Conway Link – Vice-President

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March, 2014

SHREVEPORT, LA

Our 33rd Year

A Man That Enjoys His Work !



This man is obviously enjoying his work as a steam locomotive engineer. (Many of us are envious.) "His hand is on the throttle and his eyes are on the rail". Engineer Al Smith was captured by the late photographer Ed "Kit" Robinson at the throttle of Texas & Pacific Railway Engine No. 701. He was at the head of Train 27 as it was ready to leave Shreveport's Union Station in 1940 headed for Marshall, TX. T&P used Union Station until their passenger station on Market Street was opened in 1941.

Ed Robinson pointed out an important detail to your Editor when he obtained the photo. Note that the Reversing Lever in the center of the picture (just below the engineer's arm) is in the neutral (vertical) position. That means the locomotive was standing still in the station when the photo was taken, not speeding along the track as the engineer's pose suggests! The Reversing Lever is pushed forward when the engine is going forward, and pulled back when the engine is going backward. It was also called a "Johnson Bar" which is a generic term related to any long lever acting as a fulcrum or cheater bar.

Upcoming Events

- March 21 RRVRHS Meeting – 7 p.m. in the Library at The Glen Retirement Village, 403 East Flournoy Lucas Road. For information or directions call (318) 470-5933.
- April 4 First Friday Railroad Photography Meeting – 7:30 p.m. at the Shreveport Water Works Museum/ Railroad Museum – 142 N. Common St. – call (318) 458-3123 for information.

The President's Message

Hello Railfans !

I hope that everyone is doing fine. My wife, Dorothy, has had her second operation since Thanksgiving and is progressing very well.

I would like to welcome 3 new members to our group: Ben Broussard, Michael Ersoff and Charlie Pease. I know they will be good additions to our group and hope they take an active role in the Society. One of the most important things we need to do is to attract more new members. If you know anyone who has an interest in trains or history encourage them to join us in preserving our past.

Since our last meeting I have met with the engineers and picked up the completed drawings of the new museum site. A copy of the plans has been sent to SWEPCO and the State Highway Department to get approval from those organizations. Next we will be meeting with the city engineers and city councilmen. As you can see, we are working to complete the project as soon as possible.

Gary has been working on getting hats with our logo sewn on to sell at the museum. They should be ready in a couple of weeks.

Well, that's about all I have to report at this time. Hoping to see you at the next meeting. Invite a friend!

Happy Railroading!
Russell

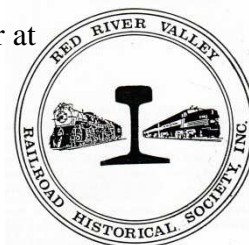
Are You Up-to-Date on Your Dues ?

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 _____



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