

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

Web Site: WWW.RRVRHS.ORG

On Facebook: [Shreveport Railroad Museum](https://www.facebook.com/ShreveportRailroadMuseum)

Russell Pedro – President

W. Conway Link – Vice-President

Jeff Cornelius – Secretary

Bill Hasheider – Treasurer

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May, 2017

SHREVEPORT, LA

Our 36th Year

A Jewel in Our Own Backyard - The Louisiana State Exhibit Museum



Last month's newsletter had some examples of beautiful old Shreveport postcards. While looking through the postcard collection at LSU's Noel Memorial Library Archives & Special Collections, your Editor saw the postcard shown above. Although the artist took some hand-painting liberties with the purple columns and clouds, the overall image is striking. Credit for the photo was given to Pierre J. Le Doux (1899-1969), a prominent Shreveport photographer with a studio at 615 Jordan Street.

The Louisiana State Exhibit Museum was completed in 1939 as one of the New Deal's Public Works projects, and is an architectural jewel built in the ultra-modern style of the time. The circular building is home to 23 scale dioramas that portray a snapshot of Louisiana life in the 1940s. LSEM's collection includes Louisiana Native American artifacts, regional and national history artifacts, original works by local artists, and natural history exhibits. The four panel fresco on the North portico was painted by Conrad Albrizio during the summer of 1938. The artist selected two monumental iconic figures – female and male – to represent contrasting Agriculture and Industry of the state of Louisiana. The side panels illustrate the predominate activities in North and South Louisiana. Designed to face U.S. Highway 80, Greenwood Road, the artwork introduces the visitor to the thematic content of the museum itself – a celebration of Louisiana's labor and economy – hallmarks of the Depression Recovery movement. It is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday thru Friday, and admission is free. It is located at 3015 Greenwood Rd. in Shreveport.

(LSEM Information from Nita Cole, Curator and Archivist and www.laexhibitmuseum.org)

Upcoming Events

May 19 – **RRVRHS Meeting** – 7 p.m. - Shreveport Water Works Museum –
142 N. Common St. - Call (318) 458-3123 for information.

Jefferson Train Days

May 20-21 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Model Train Show, Historic Jefferson Railway, etc. (903) 665-2775
www.jeffersontraindays.com

Tyler Train Show

May 20-21 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Also go to the Cotton Belt Depot Museum – Call (903) 705-5211 for
information www.cottonbeltdepotmuseum.com

June 2- **First Friday Railroad Photography Meeting** – 7:30 p.m. at the Shreveport Water Works Museum –
142 N. Common St. – Call (318) 458-3123 for information.

The President's Message

Hello Railfans!

First, I have sad news. Kelli Jo Brunettin, one of our members and former Vice-President, was found
deceased in a burning car south of town. No word on any other details. We will all miss Kelli Jo and her
contributions and friendship. Our condolences go out to her husband Mark and her family.

Since I got of the hospital again I have called Greg, the engineer with Mohr and Associates, to check on the
progress of the drawing and subdivision application. He was out of the office but will call me this week.
Dave has been in touch with Bobby Jelks to let him know that we are still working on the project.

As you know, the Water Works Museum was to be closed but the City took it back from the State, and
things seem to be settling down and it looks a lot better than it has in a long time.

The Louisiana Steam Train Association (LASTA) in New Orleans has decided they don't need our coach so
it will be in our museum along with the other rolling stock.

That's all for now. See you at the next meeting.

Happy Railroading!
Russell

It's Time to Pay Your 2017 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
May 19