

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

November, 2013

SHREVEPORT, LA

Our 32nd Year

In Our Plans...



Currently, our old Caspiana Texas & Pacific Depot (left) sits in a cotton field south of Shreveport. It is in remarkable shape, considering it was built in 1901, moved 3 times and hasn't been painted since the 1980s. A similar depot (right) was moved from Powhattan to Lake End in 2007 and restored by its owner for use as a museum. Our Society plans to duplicate that activity when we move ours to the proposed site in front of the Shreveport Water Works Museum on N. Common Street. The depot will be the center-point of that layout, as shown below in the model constructed by Russell Pedro.



Also shown in the site model are our two steam engines (ex-Santa Fe engine No. 1140 and Dardanelle & Russellville engine No. 10), dining car, coach, diesel switcher, baggage car, Union Pacific caboose, Louisiana & Arkansas caboose (owned by one of our members), and small maintenance-of-way vehicles. This rolling stock is currently stored at various locations including Camp Minden and Ford Park.

However, we are a long way from realization of this plan. First, we have not received city approval for the site on N. Common St. We have to prepare and submit a detailed plan to the city to get the approval. Secondly, we may have to move the depot to a temporary location before moving it downtown. That could cost up to \$7,500 which would almost deplete our bank account. Negotiations are ongoing regarding that temporary move.

We will appreciate any donations that can be made toward the potential temporary move and the overall project. Tax deductible contributions can be sent to the Red River Valley Railroad Historical Society at 6813 Despot Road, Shreveport, LA 71108

Pioneer Heritage Day at LSU Shreveport



The Society had a display set up at the annual LSUS Pioneer Heritage Day on October 12th. The model of our museum attracted a lot of attention, as shown above. Unfortunately, the event was shortened by a torrential downpour but we were able to hand out several Society brochures and museum cards while we were there.

Next Meeting on Nov. 15

The next meeting of the Red River Valley Railroad Historical Society will be held on Friday, **November 15** at **7 p.m.** in the library at the Glen Retirement Village, 403 East Flournoy 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 Flournoy Lucas Road between Ellerbe Road and Youree Drive (Highway 1). For information or directions call (318) 470-5933.

Special Programs for the Season

Texas State Railroad - The Polar Express™ Train Ride - 1-877-726-7245 www.texasstaterr.com

Departing the Palestine Depot 3:45pm, 5:15pm, 6:45pm and 8:10pm

November 15-17, 22-24, 29-30 - December 1, 4-8, 11-23, 26-29

Historic Jefferson Railway – Jefferson, TX – 1- 866-398-2038 www.jeffersonrailway.com

Rail of Lights Christmas Train - November 28-30, December 5-8, 12-15, 19-22, 2013

Rail of Lights New Year's Train - December 26-29 & 31, 2013 - beverages, noisemakers and a simulation of the New Year's Eve Ball dropping in Times Square followed by a fantastic fireworks show.

Shreveport Railroad Museum on Facebook

Check out **Shreveport Railroad Museum** on **Facebook.com** to see some neat photos. Post some photos and comments yourself. It's a great way to introduce our activities to a new audience of young(er) people!

www.rvrhs.org

Don't forget that our past newsletters back to 2009 can be seen in living **COLOR** on www.rvrhs.org thanks to member Tommy Crenshaw. Tommy has maintained this website for several years and people often use it. Thanks Tommy!

Upcoming Events

Nov. 9-10 29th Annual Fort Worth Train Show, Amon G. Carter Exhibit Center,
Fort Worth, TX 76107 www.dfwtrainshows.com

Nov. 15 RRVrHS Meeting – 7 p.m. at the Glen

Dec. 6 First Friday Railroad Photography Meeting – 7:30 pm at the Shreveport Water Works
Museum/Railroad Museum – 142. N. Common Street

Jan. 18-19 Annual Train Show – Plano, TX

The President's Message – November 2013

Hello Railfans !

It's time for the holidays again. It seems that time flies by much faster than it did twenty years ago!

At our last meeting we were informed about having to move the Caspiana Depot from its present location on Robson Farms land to a new location. I have found a spot located nine-tenths of a mile down Harts Island Road on property owned by Tonya McMasters. We have 2 bids for moving it ranging from \$7,500 to \$9,000. As your president, I would strongly recommend that we move the depot and save it for use at the museum site which is not ready to use yet. That means we will have to move it again in the near future. If we lose this building it will be lost forever. I think it is a treasure that should be saved. I know that money is short. I may be calling an emergency meeting to vote on future action.

The annual Fish Fry was another success and I think everyone attending had a good time. There were a lot of new members and guests present this year.

On a different note, the Shreveport Water Works Museum Board will meet with Mary Durusau, Director of Louisiana State Museums, on Monday November 4th to discuss several topics. Dale Ward will be presenting a proposal to build a 7 ½ inch gauge railroad at the museum site. This will be a great addition to both museums and will bring many more visitors. More on this at a later date.

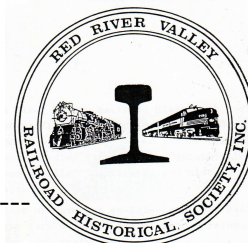
Hope to see you at our next meeting.

Happy Railroading!
Russell

RED RIVER VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

Shreveport, LA www.rrvrhs.org

Russell Pedro – President Gary Fox – Secretary Bill Hasheider – Treasurer
Dave Bland – Newsletter Editor – 797-8008 – DDBland@aol.com



Note - Dues Will Be Increasing from \$16.50 to \$20.00 in 2014
(The date beside your name on the newsletter envelope indicates the latest year you have paid 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 _____

If you would like to see the newsletter in color and save the Society money by receiving it through email instead of snail-mail, please notify your Editor at DDBland@aol.com