



LITTLE ROCK CHAPTER  
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# Arkansas Railroader



VOLUME ELEVEN NUMBER TWO FEBRUARY 1980 W. A. "BILL" MERCK EDITOR  
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**JANUARY MEETING COMMENTS:** Our first meeting of the new year and new decade started off with a bang. The weather was perfect (more like spring than winter) and our attendance was unexpectedly large. The program handled by our genial slide expert, Ken Combs, was great. The prize winners should be known in the near future. Lets keep our attendance like this all the time and make a special effort this year to get new members. Several were added in 1979 which was great. Also, bring these visitors. Remember that a visitor oftentimes becomes a member.

**FEBRUARY PROGRAM:** Should be announced around the end of this newsletter.

**BILL POLLARD'S SUGGESTION:** Our new prez, Bill Pellard, made a suggestion at the January meeting that your editor thinks was a good one. Bill suggested that all members bring some one, two or three of their rail collection to our meetings and let the membership see it. Am sure none of us want to be classified as "hearders". Our collection is for others to see as well as ourselves. So, lets bring our items for display at our meetings.

## A FEW INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS FROM HERE AND THERE

\*For those who thought the recent Amtrak outbacks would lead to improved service on surviving routes, don't hold your breath. When asked when the Lone Star's Hi-Levels and real diner would be transferred to the Inter-American, a Washington operations type answered, "We have Amflected that train, we would never revert to Hi-Levels". From: THE BULLETIN BOARD, TRINITY VALLEY R.R. CLUB, Ft. Worth, Texas.

\*The D&RGW has recently acquired ex-UP diner 4801 to relieve the pressure on old faithful SILVER BANQUET which has been operated three round-trips a week between Denver and Salt Lake City for about nine years. Built by ACF in 1949, the 4801 is a 48-seat diner and was acquired from a private party in Idaho. The car is scheduled for renovation and repainting by the D&RGW shop, thus allowing uninterrupted full dining service when the SILVER BANQUET needs a rest from its mountain route chores. A buffet car, SILVER SHOP, had been utilized for stand-by--but a meal of the D&RGW's famed trout just ain't the same in a buffet car". From NRHS NEWS EXTRA JANUARY, 1980.

Reader Railroad coach 502 (Ex-Rook Island 2534) is now in Harlingen, Texas. Passenger car No. 502 and sister car No. 503 were built in 1923 by Standard Steel Car Company for the Rook Island's suburban service. No. 502 and No. 503 were purchased by the Reader in 1965. The car's new owner is Dr. D. G. Lee anesthesiologist in Harlingen, Texas. He also recently purchased ex IC Mail car 90 and has other railroad equipment. (COURTESY BILL BAILEY).

NEWS ITEMS CONTINUED

We should probably know by sometime in April whether or not the BN-FRISCO merger will become a reality. Local traffic people of both Frisco and BN are expecting it. If it happens what will be the new name? It could be that FRISCO will become another "Fallen Flag".

You have read in the local newspapers and others I am sure about the proposed UP-MOP merger. This no doubt was touched off by SP-SSW's endeavors in the Golden State route of Rock Island. Understand trains of SP are now operating over this route. If this merger comes about what would be the name of the merged companies? Would one become a "Fallen Flag"? This remains to be seen. Am sure you are aware that both U.P. and SANTA FE have been consistently reluctant in the past decade to consider rail mergers. This, no doubt, is no longer true. Future mergers could become the savior of our rail systems. Its bound to happen and 1980 should be an interesting year for railroading.

Charles Bradshaw, the proposed purchaser of the Silverton has announced that his first official act will be to remove the phony diamond stacks currently disfiguring the 1922 "Sports Models" powering that line, and restore them to their traditional appearance; and second, the words of a UP Assistant Superintendent, spoken over the train radio to the road foreman in the Intermountain Chapter excursions: O.K. Del, take her wayback and come forward fast with a lot of smoke--let's give these people what they paid for". FROM: CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA CHAPTER, N.R.H.S. WHITE DEER, PENNSYLVANIA.

\*\*\*\*\*IF YOU HAVE NOT YET PAID YOUR 1980 DUES - GET THEM IN NOW\*\*\*\*\*

FINAL ON ENVELOPES: Our request for a supply of long self addressed stamped envelopes to mail the newsletter also applies to our associate and non-resident members. Thanks to all of you who have given or sent them to me. I now have a good representation of our total membership. It all helps.

AMTRAKING: Amtrak expects to let bids out in the first quarter of 1980 for a new series of single-level passenger cars to outfit its trains in the East. Specific trains that would be candidates for the new cars would be the Broadway Limited, Lake Shore Limited, Crescent and the Florida trains. A full line of cars--baggage, baggage/dormitory, coaches, lounges, diners, sleepers and slumber-coaches are on the shopping list Amtrak has put together. With only one railcar builder left in the United States, the opening of bids to foreign manufacturers was necessary. FROM: AMTRAK NEWS - DECEMBER, 1979. Editors Note: Understand the future of our INTER-AMERICAN is not too secure; so its doubtful if that train will ever have any other equipment other than what it operates with now.

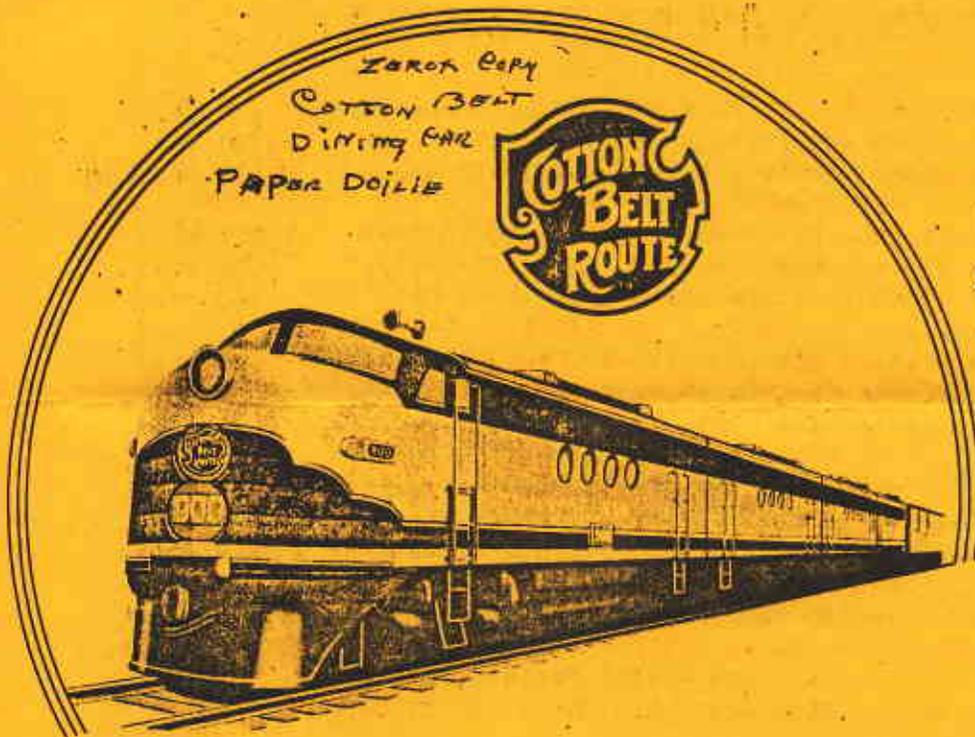
FEBRUARY MEETING: Our February meeting will be held on the 10th, starting at 2 PM at the Missouri Pacific office building in North Little Rock. Program will be given by Boyd Pyle who will narrate and show either slides or pictures of his recent coast to coast Amtrak trip. This will be an interesting program and hope that we will have a good attendance.

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The Arkansas Railroad Club is a non-profit organization. Regular meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month with exception of July and December. Visitors are always welcome and refreshments usually available. Send all news items and exchange newsletters to Editor at 5007 Hawthorne Rd. Little Rock, Ark. 72207.

Pay Your Dues NOW

FROM THE PAST



ST. LOUIS SOUTHWESTERN  
RAILWAY LINES

Above is copy of COTTON BELT dining car paper doilie. The Cotton Belt, along with several other lines, never let the opportunity go by without advertising their freight service. The EMD diesels shown were used in "Blue Streak" freight service.

Pullman passenger's check shown at right was issued at MILW. Jan. 27, 1967 and is for passage from Milwaukee to Minneapolis.



THE PULLMAN COMPANY	
PASSENGER'S CHECK	
To identify accommodations purchased	
Property taken into car will be entirely at owner's risk	
FORM B-1-Y	953475
FROM	MILWAUKEE
TO	MINNEAPOLIS
ACCOMMODATIONS	CAR
BORM E	10
	DATE
12:14A M. TRAIN	JAN. 27 1967
FOR 2 PSGR(S)	RESERVATION RECORDED ON NO. QBX992
GOVT. OR OTHER	
SELLING AGENT	Value \$
26.35	14.75
MILWAUKEE	
JAN 27 1967	
MILWAUKEE	

LATE FLASH LATE FLASH  
WINNERS OF THE JANUARY SLIDE CONTEST ARE SHOWN BELOW

- 1. STEAM 3rd Place - Bill Pollard, D&RGW Narrow Gauge 216 pts.  
2nd Place - Clifton Hull, O&TS 2-8-2 484 220 pts.  
1st Place - Bill Pollard, Reader RR scene 225 pts.
- 2. DIESEL 3rd Place - Ken Combs, RI E-8 652 Chicago 212 pts.  
2nd Place - Mike Condren, D&RGW RG Zephyr 230 pts.  
1st Place - Mike Condren, KCS E-9 25 242 pts.
- 3. ELECTRIC 3rd place - Mike Condren PAT POCs Pittsburgh 206 pts.  
2nd place - Ken Combs, Amtrak GG-1 & Pass.Train 231 pts.  
1st place - Ken Combs, EL MU in snow 241 pts.
- 4. NON-LOCO 3rd place - Jim Bennett, Sperry Railcar 207 pts.  
2nd place - Bill Pollard, View from Atk # 16 209 pts.  
1st place - Clifton Hull, D&RGW caboose in snow 239 pts.
- 5. SPECIAL EFFECTS - 3rd place - David Briggs, New Oxford, Pa. depot 218 pts.  
2nd place - Bill Pollard, MP E-8 42 228 pts.  
1st place - Mike Condren GM&O E-8 100, cars 234 pts.
- 6. HUMOR 3rd place - Ken Combs "Red Baron" E-7 cab 222 pts.  
2nd place - John Martin, S&BL 201, Hand operated 234 pts.  
1st place - Bill Pollard, Bent T&P R-7 957 242 pts.
- Best of Mopac John Martin MP RS-3u on bridge 231 pts.
- Best of show 3rd place - Ken Combs CR diesels on Horseshoe Curve 243 pts.  
2nd place - Boyd Pyle, Cable Cars in San Francisco at night 246 pts.  
1st place - Mike Condren, Texas Eagle at St. Louis at night 257 pts.

There were 108 slides entered, 10 people entering, 29 people judging.

Thanks to all people who entered.

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Information is to the effect that all of the winners bring their slides to the February meeting. What is to be done with them will be determined by our genial slide expert, Ken Combs.