



# Railway & Locomotive Historical Society, Inc.

## Southeast Chapter

### Newsletter No. 97 – October, 2006

---

#### SE Chapter Annual Banquet to be held November 9<sup>th</sup>

In a change from recent years, the SE Chapter Annual Banquet will be held in November instead of January. The new date will be our regular monthly meeting night, Thursday, **November, 9<sup>th</sup>**. Note that the location has also been changed, from the CSX building to the **Hilltop restaurant in Orange Park, FL**. We will gather at 6 PM and have dinner at 7 PM. There will be a cash bar and each person will pay for his meal. Directions to The Hilltop restaurant are simple – from I-295, take Blanding Boulevard south to Wells Road, turn right (west) and go a quarter mile and turn left at the sign for the Hilltop.

In addition to the banquet, on this evening our chapter **will host the R&LHS Senior Achievement Award** for 2006. The presentation will honor two men, George Hart, the first director of the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania in Strasburg (where his presentation will be made in November), and Robert G. Lewis, well known as *Railway Age* magazine's long-time Publisher and Editor.

The award presentation for Bob Lewis will be made at our banquet. It will honor a man who has spent 70 years in railroading, starting as a messenger for the PRR in Philadelphia where he was also a founding member of the Philly Chapter of the NRHS. He worked for the Simmons-Boardman Publishing Corporation for 47 years and in addition to being Publisher of the Railway Division, he served as S-B's President and Board Chairman. His most recent accomplishment was the book *Off the Beaten Track - A railroader's life in pictures*. It will be an interesting evening to hear Bob talk about his career and personally speak with a "man of warmth and humor, with a profound understanding of the railroad business".

**So plan now to join us at the SE Chapter Annual Banquet, honoring Bob Lewis, at the Hilltop Restaurant in Orange Park on November 9<sup>th</sup>!**

**Richard L. Dickinson**

This issue is dedicated to the memory of our one-of-a-kind and knowledgeable friend Richard. Southeast Chapter member, Richard L. Dickinson of Jacksonville, FL, passed away on Thursday, October 5<sup>th</sup> after a recent bout with cancer. Richard was originally from Maine. He inherited his love of railroads from his father. Richard has been a friend to many of our members and will be remembered for corresponding with our members and others who like railroading - especially, his passion with logging railroads and the Okefenokee Swamp. He spent a great amount of time exploring the swamp and its logging artifacts from Folkston to Fargo, GA. Richard also collected information on numerous tram railroads and historical short lines that were dear to his heart. Numerous books and paper materials were also part of his collection; his family hopes to donate to a museum as a named memorial to his memory. Two photos of Richard (and other Chapter members) were published on last page of the August *Southeast Limited*. (See Jacksonville Follies Awards Show, also, on Page 3)

**Southeast Limited**

**One of the objectives of our new format is to include a few pictures.**

This is the Florida East Coast Railway's St. Johns River Bridge in Jacksonville. Pamorama photo by John Leynes.



## **Southeast Chapter - Recap of recent meeting Minutes:**

The **July 13, 2006** meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Howes at 6:30 PM. The minutes of the May 11 meeting were approved. Treasurer, John Leynes, reported that as of June 30, 2006, there was a balance of \$234.58 in the Coast Line Federal Credit Union checking account, \$1,757.07 in the savings account and \$5001.40 in a new Certificate of Deposit. The purchase of the 5.23%, 11 month, CD was reviewed at the May meeting. It was announced that the proposed Atlanta area field trip to the Southern History & Locomotive Museum in Kennesaw and to the Duluth NRHS Museum was cancelled due to only two members being able to participate. The group then discussed going on future trips of shorter distances or day trips via Amtrak. In Old Business, Bill Howes reported that he had written to Maddox Foundry offering financial aid to restore their locomotive #3, but to date had not received a reply from Maddox. In New Business, the Southeast Chapter has been asked to take a role in the R&LHS 2007 annual meeting at the North Carolina State Transportation Museum at Spencer, NC. It was agreed that we would support the 2007 annual meeting. At the June Colorado R&LHS Convention it was announced that annual dues remain unchanged and J. Parker Lamb will succeed Charles Zlatkovich as RLHS president in 2007. Ed Mueller presented an interesting program featuring his collection of nautical sheet music of the early 1900's.

The **August 10, 2006** meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Howes. The minutes of the July 13th meeting were approved and the Treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$6980.92 in the Coastline FCU account consisting of \$1758.19 in Share Savings, \$199.58 in Share Draft, and \$5023.15 in a Certificate of Deposit. In Old Business Bill Howes again noted that he still has received no acknowledgement from the Maddox Foundry regarding our offer of financial aid to restore their locomotive #3. After discussion, it was decided to drop the matter. Our program was presented by member, Art Towson, who showed a tape on the D&RGW narrow gauge passenger and freight operations in Colorado during the mid 1960's.

## **Southeast Chapter 2006 Elections**

At our August meeting, a Nominating Committee was formed. Members Paul Barnes, Ed Mueller and Robert Van Nest agreed to manage the job of searching for SE Chapter members who would be willing to run for the office of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer for 2007. The Nominating Committee slate will be presented at our November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ballots will be sent out in the December *Southeast Limited*. Please contact Paul, Ed or Robert by sending a note to our chapter Post Office Box as shown below.

---

---

### **SOUTHEAST CHAPTER OFFICERS**

<b>William F. Howes, Jr.</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>James A. Smith</b>	<b>Vice-Chairman</b>
<b>Arthur L. Towson</b>	<b>Secretary</b>
<b>John Leynes, Jr.</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>

**The *Southeast Limited* is published bi-monthly by the Southeast Chapter of the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society  
P. O. Box 43534, Jacksonville, FL  
32203-3534**

The *Southeast Limited* Newsletter is edited and published by James Smith and John Leynes.

The newsletter is printed by the Florida Railroad Company – [www.flarr.com](http://www.flarr.com)

## Follies Awards show to feature music about Jacksonville's "Trains & Boats & Planes"

Southeast Chapter Treasurer John Leynes has musical and video interests and talent also. He has been given the opportunity to direct and produce the video production for the second annual Teddy Washington Follies Awards show in Jacksonville. The show spotlights the city of Jacksonville, Jacksonville musicians, and the Musicians Association of Jacksonville Local Union #444, of the American Federation of Musicians. When Mr. Washington was looking for ideas to enhance the show, John pointed out that many songs have been written about, or were based upon Jacksonville's transportation systems. *(Editors note: If it were not for Richard Dickinson, I may not have found the Musicians Association and may not have met Teddy Washington and received this opportunity, Thank You Richard! John Leynes.)*

Jacksonville has a rich history of music, based in many different settings. These include inspiration from the early aviation days and pioneers such as Laurie Yonge, the maritime services of steamboats on the St. Johns River, and from the railroads that served the city. John has scripted a segment of the show that will feature three selections that spotlight these Jacksonville musical inspirations.

In 1938, the railroad influence brought us a song from a local man named Ervin Rouse, and his friend and fellow musician Chubby Wise. They were inspired by the Seaboard Airline Railroad's special new passenger train that brought northern visitors from the cold and snow, to Florida's sunny shores. Back in the days when Florida railroading was at its peak, the most popular trains were those that were the fastest and most fashionable, and some which captured the public fancy became almost as famous as the celebrities they often carried. But one train in particular on the Jacksonville run has been more celebrated in song and story over the years than any other. In fact, it is the most popular song ever written about a train in Florida and is a hand-clapping, foot-stomping piece that music critics regard as "the most original fiddle tune of the 20th century". It was written in Jacksonville, and is titled, "The Orange Blossom Special!"

The show will be performed on November 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Florida Theatre in Jacksonville, 128 East Forsythe Street, at 7:30 PM. Tickets are available at the Florida Theatre box office or through the Follies website at [www.jacksonvillefollies.com](http://www.jacksonvillefollies.com). General admission tickets are \$27.50 and VIP tickets are \$40.00 each

VIP tickets include access to a pre-show reception with featured performers, a silent auction, and post event party.

Call Ron Pathak at 904-962-7634 for more information.



Postcard of the Seaboard's Orange Blossom Special

---

### Announcements:

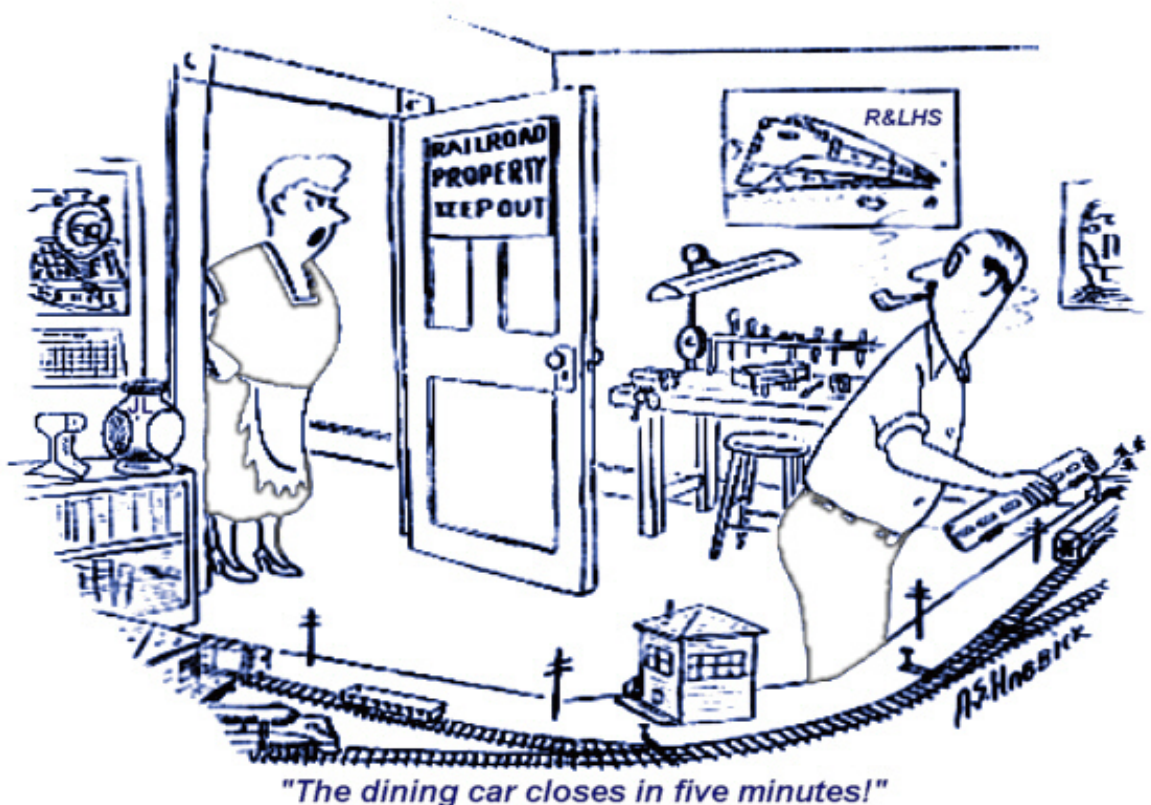
November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Teddy Washington Jacksonville Follies Awards Show – Florida Theatre.

November 11-12<sup>th</sup> - Ocala, FL, Silver Springs Lions Semi-annual Train Show, \$4

November 18 - WT&B Golden Spike Ceremony celebrating the completion of the 2 ft gauge loop at Bostwick.

## Southeast Chapter - Recap of recent meeting Minutes: Continued

The **September 14, 2006** meeting of the Southeast Chapter of the R&LHS was chaired by Bill Howes in the CSX General Office Building - third floor conference room. The minutes of the August 10th meeting were approved and the Treasurer reported that as of August 31<sup>st</sup> there was a balance of \$6999.89 in our account consisting of \$1829.31 in Share Savings, \$125.58 in Share Draft, and \$5045.00 in a CD. In general discussion, favorable comments were made about the new format for the Southeast Limited. Paul Barnes reported that the 2007 R&LHS National Convention will focus on the Spencer Shops area at Spencer, NC, and should include a ride on the Aberdeen Carolina and Western Railroad. In New Business, Bill Howes advised that there will be an R&LHS Awards presentation to Robert G. Lewis at our November 9<sup>th</sup> meeting. It was also agreed that rather than hold our annual banquet in conjunction with the North Florida Chapter of the NRHS, the SE Chapter would have its banquet at the Hilltop Restaurant in Orange Park on the same November 9<sup>th</sup> date. Also, the Chapter received a request from a Mrs. Warshol who is interested in selling an old collection of railroad lanterns. After review of the list of items, we agreed that the collection should be referred to the Beaches Historical Society for possible disposition. There was discussion regarding the SE Chapter's Educational Outreach. It was agreed that Paul Barnes, who works for CSX, will explore using the CSX bulletin board to possibly identify outreach options and post chapter meetings dates. A Nominating Committee for 2007 Chapter Officers was organized including Robert Van Nest, Paul Barnes and Ed Mueller. Notice will go out in the October newsletter, with nominations completed by the November meeting. Our program was presented by Paul Barnes which was a slide show covering trips made over the Durango & Silverton and the Cumbres & Toltec narrow gauge railroads during the June annual RLHS meeting at Pagosa Springs, Colorado.



From the no-longer published *Railway Progress* magazine.