



Railway & Locomotive Historical Society, Inc.

Southeast Chapter

Newsletter No. 109 – October, 2008

Southeast Chapter 2009 Elections

At our October meeting the Southeast Chapter election of officers for 2009 was discussed. We agreed to seek members willing to run for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. If you'd like to run for office, please let it be known by contacting John Leynes, our current Vice President at 904-287-1044, *no later than November 12th*. If only four people apply for the four positions, and therefore there is no contest, they will be elected by Acclimation by Proclamation at our January 2009 banquet. Otherwise, ballots will be sent out in the December *Southeast Limited*. See the August 2007 *SE Limited* newsletter #102 for the description of the Acclimation by Proclamation process which was adopted last year. It basically states that if there is no contest for the positions, there is no need for the expense of sending out ballots, and provides for proceeding with electing the volunteers on that basis. We seek only to streamline the process, not to exclude any member that may wish to run for any office.

“15-Minute Locomotive Lectures”

During the July 10th Meeting of the Southeast Chapter of the R&LHS, a new program was established at the suggestion of John Leynes. He suggested that our Chapter begin a short program about Locomotive History, in keeping with our organizational goals. The program is titled the “15-Minute Locomotive Lecture” and was established to inform other members about the history of steam and diesel locomotives. The time limit of 15-minutes was given so that it would not interfere with the main program of the meeting.

A format was established whereby each month, at the end of the business meeting, a chapter member would give a short presentation about a certain locomotive that is of interest to that particular member. The lectures are meant to be informative so that each member can learn something new, and the presenter would possibly learn some new facts as the appropriate research was completed. Topics suggested were a favorite locomotive that the member had remembered from childhood, a favorite locomotive that had been modeled by the member, or just a locomotive that had some unique design feature that was interesting to the member. The presenter would bring whatever materials were available such as builder photos, statistics, action shots, pictures, and show-and-tell items if available. If a short video was available, the presenter is free to use the A/V equipment in the room. Presenters are encouraged to bring “leave behind info packets” for the other members. Continued - Page 2.



The first 15-Minute Lecture was given by Chairman Bill Howes, on his childhood favorite locomotive, the Central Vermont Railway 2-10-4 number 701 shown in the photo at left.

Southeast Limited

“15-Minute Locomotive Lectures – Continued from page 1”

Each month, a member will volunteer for the next month to give the 15-minute lecture. John also suggested that we videotape the presentations so that they could possibly be combined into a single DVD someday for distribution. So far the “lectures” have been very popular, informative and have generated lively discussions!

Bill Howes gave the first report about the Central Vermont Railway’s engine, number 701. He wrote to the CV and asked for the builders plate, and they actually sent it to him! CV’s 2-10-4’s were the largest engines to operate in New England, while at the same time being the smallest 2-10-4’s ever built, due to weight limit restrictions for bridges on the Central Vermont Railway. See letter regarding plate and builders info below.



AMERICAN LOCOMOTIVE COMPANY
NEW YORK

28-52A-1
21-0

Class, 2-10-4
Build for the CENTRAL VERMONT.
Road Number, 701

CYLINDERS		DRIVING WHEELS		BOILER		TENDER	
Number	Diameter	Stroke	Diameter	Length	Pressure	Length	Diameter
4'-0 1/2"	27"	32"	30"	33 1/2"	220 lbs.	115' 1/2"	36 1/2"
WEIGHT, BASE				WEIGHT IN WORKING ORDER - PAULS			
Boiler	Engine	Engine & Tender	Leading	Driving	Engine	Tender	
20,000	40,000	80,000	10,000	20,000	41,000	41,000	24,000
Fuel, Water, Capacity, Weight, etc.							
ORDER No. S-1630							



Announcements:

October 23rd – NRHS / FDOT meeting on Jax Transportation Center. – CSX Southpoint Bldg # 1, 7 PM

Nov. 13th - Regular SE Chapter meeting, 3rd floor CSX GOB, Jacksonville, FL 6:30PM

Dec. 11th - Regular SE Chapter meeting, 3rd floor CSX GOB, Jacksonville, FL 6:30PM

Dec. 20-21st - Tampa, FL train show

Jan. 10-11th - Deland train show, Volusia County Fairgrounds

Feb. 2nd - Jacksonville Artifacts and model train show, Prime Osborn Center

June 18-21st, 2009 - R&LHS Convention, Portland, Maine

SOUTHEAST CHAPTER OFFICERS

William F. Howes, Jr. Chairman

John A. Leynes

Reid Adams

Robert Van Nest

Vice-Chairman

Secretary

Treasurer

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Gerald Seighman “stole the show” at the Northeast Florida Live Steamers & Railroaders “Family Day” held October 11th on the West Tocoï & Bostwick Railroad south of Green Cove Springs, Florida. His beautiful all electric 7½ inch gauge GE B-40-8 locomotive was complete with a 300 watt prototypical sound system. Except for the ground not shaking, if you turned your back and listened, it sounded like the real thing!

The Northeast Florida Live Steamers & Railroaders club website is www.neflsri.com

Southeast Chapter - Meeting Minutes Recap:

The **August 14th** meeting of the Southeast Chapter of the R&LHS was chaired by Bill Howes. There were 10 members (and one guest) who approved the July minutes and our treasurer’s report showing a balance of approximately \$9,000.00. Trip Committee members, Reid Adams and Paul Newtonson discussed a potential two day trip following the Florida Railroad main line from Fernandina Beach to Cedar Key, FL to be held in early 2009. VP John Leynes advised that the Henry Plant video is ready for narration and he asked for volunteers to assist in that project.

The **September 10th** meeting on of the Southeast Chapter of the R&LHS was called to order at 6:45 pm by Chairman Bill Howes. There were 9 members present. The minutes for the September meeting were distributed and approved. Robert Van Nest handed out a treasurer’s report showing the balances. There is \$2078.34 in the balance. Interest on the CD was \$29.90. The treasurer’s report was approved. Paul Newtonson handed out an itinerary describing the Fall/Winter “Florida Railroad Adventure – Tracing the original Florida Railroad Line”. About 10-12 members were interested in the trip. A tentative date would be January 31st. We would probably rent a van to and drive to the locations. It would be a Saturday and Sunday trip. John Leynes updated the group on the Henry Plant Video and described the sections, introduction, and how they will be narrating the video. John will get together with interested members about partaking in the narrations. The program was given by George Bollinger about the preservation of the ACL 1504. Art Towson gave the “15-minute Locomotive Lecture” on the Western Maryland’s 2-8-0, Class H9. Thanks to both presenters.

Upcoming Programs

November 13 – Reid Adams , “The Florida Special”

December 11 – Paul Newtonson, “Conductor Training – Signals”

“15-Minute” Locomotive – October: Reid Adams November: John Leynes December: Jim Smith

Railroad traffic “in the air”

Here is some current information for those who like to listen in occasionally on the day to day radio traffic of your favorite area railroads. The editor had opportunity recently to purchase a new scanner receiver after not having one for many years since the last one failed. The technology has advanced dramatically in 10 years, resulting in many compact and feature packed hand held devices. Handheld models are available in prices ranging from one to over several hundred dollars, and in very compact sizes. Features vary according to price, but most have the latest functionality and more than enough memory channels to satisfy even the most dedicated listener. Typically most newer receivers can cover the following bands, listed in increasing frequency order: AM broadcast, Short Wave (around the world), Low VHF, FM broadcast, VHF aviation, High VHF including NOAA weather alerting channels, and Low, Mid & High UHF two way radio systems. Some even include the capability to receive the audio portion of the, soon to be outdated, National Television Standards Code (NTSC), TV channels. Those bands will go silent though in 2009 as the new High Definition digital TV signals replace NTSC for TV transmissions. New wide band cellular phone, WiFi and other amazing digital services are slated to reuse those existing NTSC TV bands sometime after the old transmitters are turned off. The scanners will not be able to receive the HD TV audio, as those signals are digital, and the scanners only receive analog radio signals.

Without having to do a lot of intensive research for a new scanner, I chose to purchase an Icom IC-R5. Icom has a good reputation for making excellent radios for a variety of services. It is a very small unit, about the size of a pack of cigarettes. It does not have a keypad, but has software for a personal computer which makes it simpler to program in the channels. Icom calls it cloning software and is designated as CS-R5. You also need the USB/Serial cable to transfer your configuration file to the R5. Other receivers to consider are the Yaesu VR-120D, Uniden Bearcat series and Radio Shack models. Search the Internet for specifications and price comparisons to find the best deal. A search for “railroad frequencies” will return more information than you need, to find which AAR channels to monitor to listen in on the action.

Plant System DVD

Progress is being made on our SEC Plant System video, and completion is expected by the end of the year. While researching the material, we have come across some interesting photo's and postcards that will be included in the production. Many of the early Florida postcards have alligator themed illustrations. Here are two that we have found delightfully humorous, the Tampa Port (L), and Henry Plants Tampa Bay Hotel (R).



These three postcards are also from the Florida Photographic Archives: <http://www.floridamemory.com/PhotographicCollection/>



“All the way from Florida”



“FEC Long Key Viaduct”



“The kind we grow in our state”