



***E-NEWSLETTER FOR
ENTHUSIASTS OF THE
CHICAGO, ROCK ISLAND
AND PACIFIC RAILROAD***

FIFTH ISSUE

OCTOBER, 2014

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SAVE THE E UNITS!



CRIP F9m 4164 ex UP at Armourdale, KS
April 19, 1976 Ed Gray Photo



CRIP Alco C-415 418 at Blue Island, IL.
May 31, 1976. Photo by Ed Gray

RESPONSE TO ROCK ISLAND CONVENTION IN MANLY OVERVIEW

Although we received several enthusiastic responses, the number of comments received in support of a Manly Convention was small. Not quite enough to proceed with the project. Some of their comments are included below to see if any further support can be generated.

There are a couple of potential conflicts out there, and several need dates that avoid school or holidays.

The question is still out there before our readers: is the Manly idea worth pursuing?

COMMENTS FROM SEVERAL THAT ANSWERED

From: "Dan Deuell"

Date: Mon, October 6, 2014 9:15 pm

To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com

I just saw this in your August reporter, must of missed it before, but I am very interested in a Rock Island convention in Manly. I am a younger modeler of the rock and live about 45 minutes away from Manly. I would volunteer to help with the convention and to help sort the museum. I think the plan in manly is great to have a library for research, and being close to me I want to see it happen.

Dan Deuell

Greene, IA 50636

Subject:RI meeting

From: Larry Hamilton

Date: Sun, August 24, 2014 7:18 pm

To: "riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com"

<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>

At least 2 to attend.

Larry Hamilton

Sent from my iPhone

Subject:Manly

From: Dave Kroeger

Date: Thu, August 21, 2014 12:14 pm

To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com

I would be interested in going to Manly in 2015.

I already know the Sabins quite well, thanks to my involvement with the Hawkeye Express.

Thank you,

Dave Kroeger

Subject:2015 Convention
From: David Tiffany
Date: Wed, August 20, 2014 9:52 pm
To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com

Yes, I would be interested in a Rock Island convention in the spring of 2015. Will look for additional information about this exciting possibility. Dave Tiffany, Jacksonville, Illinois

Subject:rits coven
From: Greene, Bradford
Date: Wed, August 20, 2014 10:41 am
To: "riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com"
<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>
Just myself.
Bradford Greene
Houston Texas.

Subject:RI Convention in Manly
From: Gary Johnson
Date: Mon, August 11, 2014 2:29 pm
To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com
Tom,
I am interested in the possibility of a Rock Island convention in Manly, IA.

Gary Johnson
Spearfish SD 57783-2922

Subject:Convention
From: richard wright

Date: Mon, August 11, 2014 12:13 pm
To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com
Would be interested in a possible RI convention in Manly. Given a choice would prefer May.
Would be only one in attendance.

Richard L Wright
Gulf Breeze, Florida 32563

From: arnold niederer
Date: Sun, August 10, 2014 10:00 pm
To: "riconvention2015@Rockislandreporter.com"
<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>
All concerned:

I would be interested in attending a convention in Manly, Ia. in 2015.
Thank you,

Arnold Niederer

Subject: Possible 2015 Manly convention.
From: Paul Hunnell
Date: Sun, August 10, 2014 5:32 pm
To: "riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com"
<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>
Hi Tom,
As you probably know, for the last 10 years or more Lee Bertholf has put on an annual RI meet at Cedar Falls in late March. This has always been EXCELLENT, with a pretty sizeable draw. It was just the 1 day, but featured a trading session until about 1pm or so, then some sort of a program. Anyway, due to health reasons, Lee indicated to me that he *might* not be doing it any more, and I thought your mention of a possible Manly show be the perfect opportunity to pick up the slack, and keep the tradition going. I'd be willing to help in any way if needed. However, I'm in the Chicago area (and have set up conventions before), so from here my aid might be limited. But I am retired, so being there a day before or

after the show might work out.

The late March date always worked out well, however there's an annual Chicago RRiana show in early April that I *HAVE* to do, and I also *HAVE* to be out of town the last half of May thru the 1st half of June each year. Stay away from that, and I'd be fine. And I usually attended with 2 other guys from here.

Who knows, Lee might change his mind and do it anyway, as he didn't seem definite about stopping it. In either case, you should definitely at least contact him, as ending up with 2 shows that close together would certainly kill them both.

Just some thoughts,

...Paul Hunnell

PS-Brad Sabin gave me a personal tour of the Manly Transfer facility last March, and it was fascinating.

From:wesley rupe

Date: Sun, August 10, 2014 1:19 pm

To: "riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com"
<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>

Tom: I would be extremely interested in a RI convention in 2015 at Manly Iowa. I would like to be put on the list to attend such a meet. Thanks Wes

Subject:Convwnction

From: rockislandrr

Date: Sat, August 9, 2014 4:45 pm

To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com

Count me in.

William Schultz

Raleigh, NC 27613

Subject:Manly

From: CenturyLink Customer

Date: Sat, August 9, 2014 3:56 pm

To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com

Tom, I live in Hampton, 35 miles from Manly. I know Dan on a personal basis. W hat can I do

for
this convention? Great idea.

Don Vaughn

Subject: Manly 2015 Meet
From: David W. Bishop
Date: Fri, August 8, 2014 11:37 pm
To: "riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com"
<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>
Excellent/superior article. Toured Manly many years ago @ CNW convention
in Mason City & would like to again, as there have been so many changes.

Dave Bishop
From "Bishy"

Subject: Manly convention
From: "robert horras"
Date: Fri, August 8, 2014 6:17 pm
To: "riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com"
<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>
Hello,

I would consider going to Manly for a RI convention.

My name is Robert Horras,

Robert

Subject: Manly, Iowa event
From: "Tom Marsh"
Date: Fri, August 8, 2014 10:23 am
To: "riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com"

<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>

Sounds like a great opportunity for Rock Island fans, please keep me informed. I know at least one other person from the Houston area that would most likely attend as well.

Regards,

Tom Marsh
Houston TX 77036

Subject:2015 Convention
From: "Dennis Opferman" <dcopferman@yahoo.com>
Date: Thu, August 7, 2014 5:46 pm
To: "riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com"
<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>

Tom,

Just got your great newsletter. I am definitely interested in attending--just don't schedule it for Easter Weekend, which is April 4 and 5. This would be for just one person.

Dennis Opferman
Fort Worth, TX 76116

Subject: Spring convention
From: jpslhedgpeth@aol.com
Date: Thu, August 7, 2014 3:49 pm
To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com

Hi Tom

Count me in for a spring tet-a-tete next spring....

Just be sure we don't conflict with the BRHS spring meet which is usually held in March or April

Looking forward to seeing you in St.L in October

Pete Hedgperth

Subject: convention
From: "Mike Street"
Date: Thu, August 7, 2014 11:44 am
To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com

I would be very interested in attending a convention in Manly, I am originally from Iowa and now live in Kansas. I think May would be the best time as school would be out and it would make it easier for more people to make the trip.
Michael L Streets (Smsgt USAF Ret)
Haysville, Kansas

Subject:convention
From: "Bart Barton"
Date: Thu, August 7, 2014 11:07 am
To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com
Tom

I would be interested in the convention.
Would need some dates to make sure it will fit in my calendar.
I have some other RR commitments next year but do want to support the Rock.
Bart

Subject:Manly 2015 convention
From: "charles mager"
Date: Thu, August 7, 2014 10:48 am
To: "riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com"
<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>

Hi Tom,

My name is Chuck Mager and I would attend a gathering of Rock Island fans at the IANR museum and facilities in Manly. There may possibly be one more person who would

attend with me.

Please keep me posted about this project,
and thanks for putting together the Newsletter!!

Chuck

Subject:RI Convention
From: "Dan LaKemper"
Date: Thu, August 7, 2014 10:36 am
To: "riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com"
<riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com>
I am interested (would probably have 2 people)
Dan LaKemper
Morton, Illinois 61550

Subject:Many convention
From: "Carl Schneider"
Date: Thu, August 7, 2014 10:22 am
To: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com
I think having a Rock Island convention next year is a great idea. I've been wanting to get to Manly to see the museum and all the progress on the yards and museum for some time and the convention will give me a good excuse to make the drive. There would be at least two of us plus I would possibly have more as the date is announced.

Carl Schneider
Altoona, IA

Subject: Re: Rock Island Reporter - August, 2014
From: "Ingrid Drozdak"
Date: Mon, August 25, 2014 6:31 pm
To: "Tom Brugman" <editor@rockislandreporter.com>

Dear sir yes I am interested in a Rock Island convention . Please get the date s out so I may attend . If they need any modeling clinics I would be more then happy to lend my help for the

group . John A. Drozdak " John's Custom Model Trains

Subject: RE: Rock Island Reporter - August, 2014
From: "Jim Tracey"
Date: Tue, August 12, 2014 10:21 pm
To: "Tom Brugman" <editor@rockislandreporter.com> (more)
Priority: Normal

I would be very interested in attending the RI Get together in Manley next year, maybe have some RI items for museum also. please keep me on your email list for more info.

Subject: Re: Rock Island Reporter - August, 2014
From: "Barton E Jennings"
Date: Sun, August 10, 2014 3:20 pm
To: "Tom Brugman" <editor@rockislandreporter.com>

Tom:

I ran the 2012 NRHS convention in Iowa and have my route guides for the Iowa Northern, plus all my notes from running the passenger trains. If there is a decision to have a meet, please let me know and I will see if I am free to assist.

Barton Jennings, PhD
Professor of Supply Chain Management
Western Illinois University
Macomb, IL

Subject: RE: Rock Island Reporter - August, 2014
From: "rockislandrr"
Date: Sat, August 9, 2014 4:33 pm
To: "'Tom Brugman'" <editor@rockislandreporter.com>

Tom: Great issue! Thank you.

FYI, I just received a copy of Kalmbach's latest Classic Trains special edition entitled "Trains of the 1960's" It is a collection of articles from the 1960's on the sad said state of the RR industry. In it is a 12 page spread in full color on the RI and it eclectic collection of diesel power. It includes a power chart from 1930-1965. Great color pictures. Our fellow fans should find it interesting. It is the only complete discussion I have come across that covers the RI's penchant for picking other RR's castoffs and being an equal opportunity customer to every manufacturer that existed at that time.

I am interested in a convention in Manly and have so indicated in the e-mail section.

Bill Schultz

CONCLUSIONS

There is still a chance for a convention, but we are going to need more interest from our readers. If you are interested but still haven't responded, or simply want to comment, send us a note at: riconvention2015@rockislandreporter.com, or click below.

[RI CONVENTION 2015](#) |

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR RI FANS

FRIENDS OF THE ROCK ISLAND

20th (!) SEMI-ANNUAL CHICAGOLAND MEETING

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2014 6:30 - 9:00 PM

PLACE: Grace United Methodist Church - Lower Level (enter at rear)
12739 Maple Avenue Blue Island, IL

PROGRAM: 6:30 PM – “Mini” Swap Meet / Display - Bring items you want to trade, sell or show. Limited # free tables. One table per dealer limit. *Reservations required* - first reserved first served.

7:30 PM – Program(s): TBA

COST: Free with donation to pay for flyers, mailing and a donation to the church for the use of their facilities.

CONTACTS: General Information:

Jim Suhs <jamesuhs@sbcglobal.net> 815-588-1504.

Tom Mitoraj <mitoraj@yahoo.com> 630-606-7030.

Swap Tables: Paul Hunnell <phunnell@yahoo.com> 630-369-0221.

(*Friends of the Rock Island* is not a part of or affiliated with any other railfan group or historical organization.)

OKC TRAIN SHOW

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE 2014 SHOW!!!

You won't want to miss this one!!!

9am to 5pm, Saturday, December 6, 2014

11am to 4pm, Sunday, December 7, 2014

Where: Cox Pavillion

Oklahoma State Fairgrounds

Admission is \$10.00

Children 12 and under are FREE!

Join us this year for the:

GREAT TRAIN SET GIVEAWAY

2015 ROCK ISLAND CALENDAR

Randy Hubman <routerock@sbcglobal.net> is working on a 2015 calendar for Rock Island Fans. In his own words:

> Tom,

I just started thinking about a Rock Island 2015 calendar. I haven't even got a good plan together yet, so I don't have any information as of right now, but if I get my act together I may be able to come up with something shortly. I don't have much spare time right now so we'll see.

> Thanks,

> Randy Hubmann

[Thanks for doing this Randy. Tom]

MASK ISLAND DECALS

Sent Mon Sep 29, 2014 5:35 pm (PDT)

From: Hubert Mask Jr.

Mask island decals is offering a El Reno build pulp wood rack conversion Please visit my web site for details and photos:

MaskIslandDecals.Com.

WANTED: NEW SUBSCRIBERS FOR ROCK ISLAND REPORTER

**SEND INTERESTED GROUPS OR
INDIVIDUALS TO DAVE ENGLE AT
RIROCKET@ATT.NET**

OR

[NEW SUBSCRIBERS CLICK HERE](#) |

**ROCK ISLAND FANS AND PHOTOS
SECTION**

STATE?

Subject: RI Reporter
From: "Denis Long"
Date: Tue, October 21, 2014 8:13 pm
To: editor@rockislandreporter.com

Hello Tom,

Not too long ago I got my first, and probably last, R-67B. Number #5040---by Division Point. I believe that #5040 was the one painted red.

If I could get another cheaply enough, I would paint it red.

Considering the possibility of acquiring another Northern-----I would like to see suggestions for bashing an R67B in the fifty thousand series, and the 5100 series. Any responses?

I just found my copies of "The Rock" Newsletter. I knew I had some older pubs, but couldn't remember which one.

I have a 1974 "Special Edition" with a personal letter, to me from Frank White, the editor, and two more standard editions from 1974, one issue from 1975-two issues from 1976-

Then the full year's issues from 1990 through 1997----full year's for 2004 and 2005---and finally, the first issue of 2006.

These are in a dark red painted 3 ring binder.

Denis

From: F. Richard Burt
To: rirocket@att.net
Sent: Thursday, October 23, 2014 3:04 PM
Subject: Rock Island Rockets etc

Hello:

Yes, I am interested in the Rock Island. Summer of 1963, I commuted between Dallas and Houston every weekend while working on a design program for NASA. Whatever you know about stuff in space, I helped put a lot of it up there. <grins>

However, I was first attracted to Rock Island when I lived in Little Rock, and had good friends who worked in the Rock Island yard down on Fusche Creek. The Rocket ran all the way around Little Rock from the station at the "little rock" just to travel on west out to Petti Jean Mountain and then on up through the Dardanelles to Choctaw country in Oklahoma.

By the time I actually rode the Texas Rocket in 1963, service was hustled with a string of heavyweight cars which were in good condition, and the dining car crew served a wonderful cup of homemade soup for 50 cents. Wow!!! As far as I was concerned, I never found it better, even at my family's home.

The silver Texas Rocket was a spin off from Burlington, which I never rode, but as far as comfort was concerned, the Rocket was pulled by a pair of F7 engines, and we made the trip from Houston to Dallas in only 4 hours, station to station. Then, I rode back to Houston on the Burlington; a streamlined Budd consist with a pair of F7 locomotives up front.

I have been quite interested in early operations on the Trinity and Brazos Valley railroads in Texas, each only a relatively short distance apart, but their north-and-south routes were the prime connections between Dallas, Fort Worth and Houston-Galveston. Today, both of those routes carry enormous loads of freight under the flags of BNSF and Union Pacific. Passenger routes are now only dreams for far-sighted people who think the masses of people in 20 to 50 years will travel between major cities in the Megalopolis of Houston-Galveston, San Antonio, Austin, Dallas-Fort Worth, and Tulsa-Oklahoma City. Amtrak's lines are still tied to the aprons of major freight railroads, and will not even perform as well as the high speed ATSF Chief trains.

When I was still a young boy, a Rock Island freight had a furious truck-train collision in Hazen, Arkansas. George Kougler was the engineer. He and his fireman were on a 4-8-2 mountain class locomotive that ran into a milk truck, allowing the train mass off the tracks and tore up the road bed.

I was always fascinated by the Bittle Shops and rail yard on the flat lands along Fusche Creek south of Little Rock. This was "big time" railroading in my way of thinking.

The west end of the yard had mainlines wyed between tracks to the Choctaw nation and those leading to Hot Springs for the spring-time horse races or on south to Eldorado and on into Louisiana for connections to Lake Charles and New Orleans. First-class trains to Hot Springs, but doodlebugs on the southern route into Louisiana. The main attraction for Rock Island was for oil shipments from south central Arkansas and all over Louisiana. Lumber was also big for freight

in that region.

F. Richard Burt

GREAT BRITAIN

Subject: Rebuilt troop sleepers
From: "Neil Butcher"
Date: Tue, October 28, 2014 2:58 pm
To: "Tom Brugman" <editor@rockislandreporter.com>

Hi Tom, here's a couple of shots of my latest models, entirely scratch except for the Kadees. I even sawed up cast iron bar for the wheels, good exercise this gauge one lark.

Any idea what has happened to the yahoo rits site, used to access it from RI models, now its gone.

Please note my new email address.

Cheers Neil

Two photos by Neil Butcher



ILLINOIS

Subject: r.i. reporter
From: david johnson
Date: Thu, October 2, 2014 7:53 pm
To: "tbrug@aol.com" <tbrug@aol.com>

hi tom

here are some photos of r.i. cabooses i am building in O scale 2 rail from m.r. & rmc

transfer caboose from m.r. august 1959

outside braced caboose from rmc november 1962

i used evergreen styrene & grandt line window & door castings

i hope to have them finished ? by the friends of the rock island meet in blue island,il

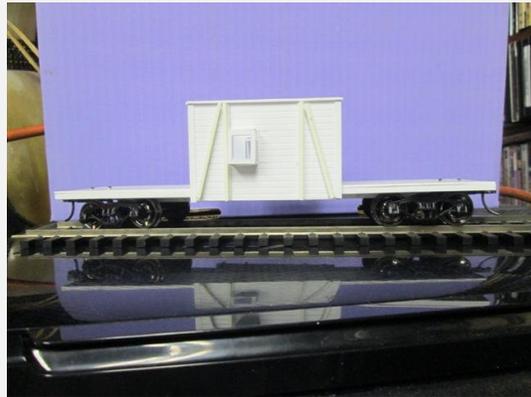
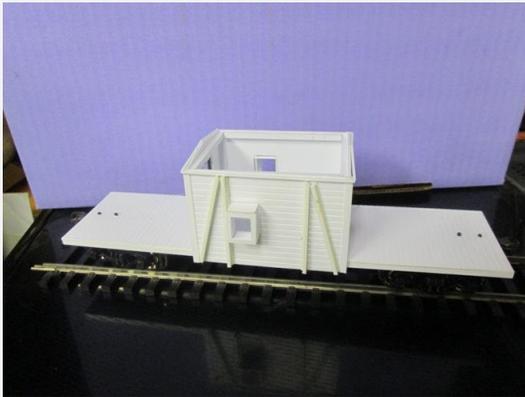
still looking for O scale r.i. caboose decals

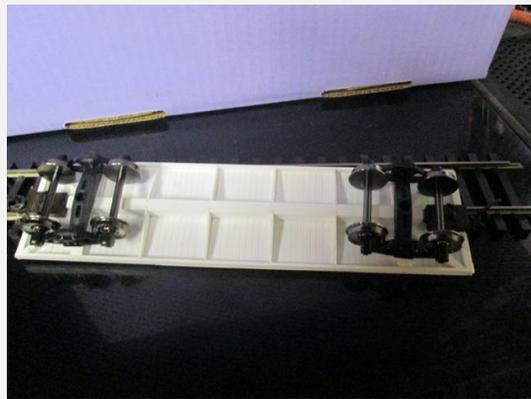
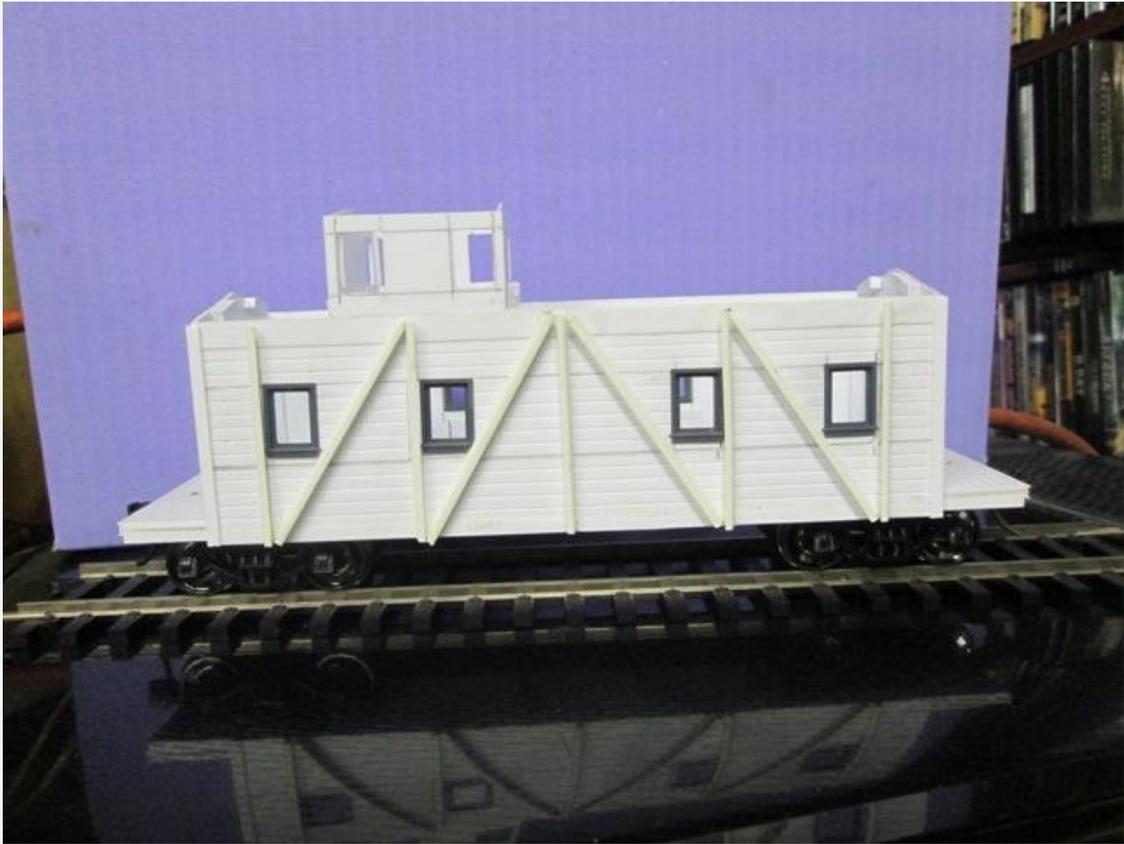
i do not know if you can use them in the newsletter

thank you

david johnson

evergreen park,ill





Five photos by David Johnson

KANSAS

From: Harold Reardon

To: "rirocket@att.net" <rirocket@att.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 23, 2014 6:13 AM
Subject: RI 95020

We started repainting the steam derrick that was last stationed in Liberal, Ks. Here are two photos.

Harold

Two photos by Harold Reardon.



LOUISIANA

Subject: subscribe
From: "Stephen Peters"
Date: Wed, September 10, 2014 9:21 am
To: "editor@rockislandreporter.com"

I recently was forwarded the last 4 issues of the Rock Island Reporter by a friend of mine. I grew up in north central Missouri and the Rock Island ran just outside my grandparents backyard in Weatherby, Missouri. I am still a fan of the Rock Island and model it in HO scale and Lionel O gauge. I spent two weeks this summer trying to locate old depot sites in Missouri.

I would like to know how to be put on the e-mail list to receive future

issues of The Reporter and what I can do to support your efforts.

Thanks,
Stephen Peters
Alexandria, Louisiana

[Welcome Stephen. Tom]

OKLAHOMA

SAVE THE 905!

Subject: Save the 905 group in Duncan OK
From: "Jim Welch"
Date: Sun, September 7, 2014 6:02 pm
To: tbrug@aol.com

A review of the Save the 905 website reveals the non profit group is still in need of donations to complete the restoration of the RI 905 4-6-2 that was donated to the city of Duncan, OK back in the 50's. While the website has not been updated in months, we assume more than \$50,000 is still needed to complete the restoration and build a shelter above the steam engine. Three years ago the group completed a replica depot and moved the engine from its former resting place to an attractive presentation protected from vandals. Previous to that asbestos was removed so now the work of restoration is safe for volunteers to complete. If you wish to donate visit this page of the group's web page.
<http://www.rockisland905.com/donations.html>

Jim Welch

Subject: Fw: HO modeling-pic of the day
From: "Dean Schirf"
Date: Sat, October 25, 2014 11:12 pm
To: "Tom Brugman" <tbrug@aol.com>

hi Tom....over the years I have taken numerous pics of my HO models...[Below, Upper Left] everything

in this pic is HO scale except the sky.....taken outside just as the sun was coming up on my acreage.....interior of the depot and the face of the GP 38-2 (of which I painted and weathered) was illuminated on a time shot using a flash light.

[Below, Upper Right] HO scale RI F7 #675 taken outside just as the sun was bringing on the morning.....

this and sisters 676 and 677 plus a B unit were often on the head end of the Twin Star Rocket's Twin City/Houston run.....never saw it in the daytime as the Twin Star passed through my home town of Chickasha, OK during the night.

[Bottom Photo] this may be a better shot of my HO GP 38-2 shot outside at sun up.....one of my all time favs.....

Dean Schirf
Harrah, OK

Three photos by Dean Shirf





From: Dean Schirf
To: Tom Brugman
Cc: Tom Sandlin
Sent: Monday, June 16, 2014 12:53 PM
Subject: • • • Diamond R Rock lives on • • • • •

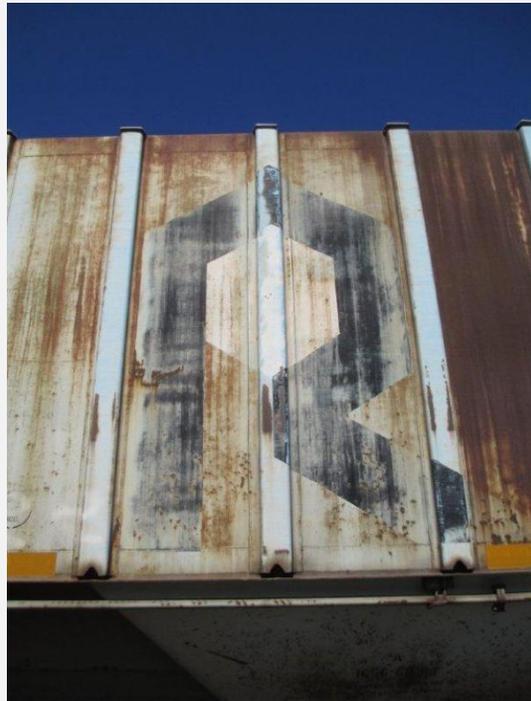
Tom:

On a recent trip to Western Oklahoma, I discovered to my great delight a string of ole Rock Blue Hoppers spotted in various locations in Weatherford.....this stretch of Rock Island track (a part of the ole Choctaw Route (Memphis to Tucumcari) is now operated by FarmRail a very successful short line domiciled in Clinton, Ok. Seeing these ole faded Rock diamond logo hoppers, that still appear in working order, is something rarely seen after some 34 years of the Rock shutting down in March, 1980.

Feel free to use any of the above in your Newsletter Tom.

Dean Schirf

Harrah, OK.





Five photos by Dean Schirf.





Four photos by Dean Schirf.

TEXAS

Subject: Phone box article

From: "Thomas Sandlin"

Date: Fri, July 25, 2014 4:15 pm

[Ed: This is the first in a series of phone box articles collected and edited by Tom Sandlin. As background, before radios became commonplace railroads placed active telephone boxes at strategic locations along the right of way for crews to communicate with dispatchers. Sometimes in emergency situations. Some of these are repeated from other work Tom has done documenting the stories of Rock Island veterans around the system.]

From Tom Sandlin:

"One of my favorite railroad stories that related to a phone box on the dispatcher's wire was relayed to me by an Arkansas Division dispatcher, J. E. Fraser. Let me say that all of us who had the need to use the dispatcher's phone knew that there was a procedure to go through when it was desired to talk to the dispatcher. First you listened and if there was conversation you remained silent, not to interrupt, especially when train orders were being processed. When it was time for you to talk to the dispatcher you would say something like this, "Dispatcher, this is Conductor Jones on train 31 at Howe". Then when he responded you would complete your conversation with him. One early morning while Fraser was putting out orders, he was interrupted by Section Foreman Werby who butted in and said "Dispatcher, this is Foreman Werby at Wister". Fraser said "Werby I'm putting out orders, don't bother me now". Fraser continued his work putting out orders when shortly later Werby again butted in, and Fraser told him again " I told you before, I'm putting out orders, don't bother me now".

Some short time later while Fraser was still working on the orders. Werby butted in the third time, and Fraser told him in no uncertain terms what was going to happen to him if he did it again. So Werby said "OK but you better hold all trains 'cause we're having a flood, the phone's about to go under water, waters are up to my neck, and rising, I'm leavin' here". (Credit Leroy Williams – a Rock Island veteran)"

VIRGINIA

ANOTHER VIRGINIA RI FAN

Subject: Rock Island Reporter
From: "Fred Booth"
Date: Wed, September 3, 2014 3:02 pm
To: "Tom Brugman" <editor@rockislandreporter.com>

Greetings Tom. My name is Bryant Booth (and I go by Fred).

I have been meaning to write you since you started publishing your "Rock Island Reporter" newsletter. I know something like the newsletter must take a lot of work and patience and I wanted to thank you for taking the time to coordinate, assemble, publish, and distribute the newsletter. I enjoy reading it.

My interests in trains and railroads is probably easiest to see from my blog at <http://fredstrains.wordpress.com/> Note that both of my grandfathers worked on the Rock Island in the 30s and 40s and I have been interested in trains and toy trains for a long time. The blog shows my two primary interest areas. Note that I have written several articles on European '0' gauge model trains for the online magazine "Tinplate Times". In addition to the section on 3-rail models of Rock Island steam locomotives the "Posts" has some RI material as well. Would some of this material be of interest to the newsletter readers?

I was a member of RITS since the mid 90s. Way back then I helped compile a listing of '0' gauge RI model trains made by Lionel – see <http://www.rits.org/www/modeling/RIMLdt.html#part2>.

I note that you live in Falls Church, Va. I live outside the beltway in Burke Centre. Maybe some time we could get together and discuss our interests? Have you discovered other RI fans in the DC area?

Thanks again for your efforts.

- Fred Booth

[Fred: There are very few of us in this part of the world. Would be great to get together with you. Tom Brugman]

WASHINGTON

Subject: Re: [Fwd: Re: two more fan trip pics]
From: "Charles Stookey"
Date: Mon, October 27, 2014 2:48 pm
To: "RIR Editor" <editor@rockislandreporter.com>

Darn, I forgot to make it clear you have permission to use my photos in any way you see fit. I'm just happy someone will get some use out of them.

Charles Stookey
Vancouver, WA

[Left photo]

EI RENO OK Sept 19 1976 -- The Central Oklahoma Railfan Association operated a fan trip West out of El Reno. Here, CRIP GP7R 4432 prepares to depart the El Reno station with fans aboard. In the engineer's seat is Oklahoma State Representative and Rock Island Engineer Jim Townsend.

[Right photo]

HYDRO OK Sept 19 1976 -- State Representative and Rock Island Engineer Jim Townsend is at the controls of a GP7R powering a Central Oklahoma Railfan Association fan trip. The train is west of Hydro. If anyone has the exact date please let me know.



CORRECTIONS

Subject: Re: Rock Island Reporter - August, 2014
From: "Mike Condren"
Date: Thu, August 7, 2014 7:26 am
To: "Tom Brugman" <editor@rockislandreporter.com>

Tom,

As a retired chemistry professor, I was surprised to see the photo of sulfuric acid tank cars labeled as unloading. Sulfuric acid is a byproduct of the making of sulfuric acid as iron ore is usually a mixture of iron oxides and sulfides and the conversion to steel releases sulfur dioxide which is dissolved in water to make sulfuric acid.

Mike Condren

[As an old RR Marketing Guy, I should have known better. Thanks for reading. Tom]

***THE TWO ROCK ISLAND
E UNITS IN KANSAS CITY NEED YOUR***

HELP TO MOVE THEM TO MANLY, IOWA FOR RESTORATION.

**Please call Brad Sabin, President, Manly Junction Railroad Museum, at 641-425-6104 to
make a donation.**

Subject: Update on Rock Island E units 630 and 652
From: "Tom Brugman" <tbrug@aol.com>
Date: Fri, August 22, 2014 8:45 am
To: editor@rockislandreporter.com

From: Daniel R. Sabin, President Iowa Northern Railway Company
Date: June 12, 2014
Subject: Update on Rock Island E units 630 and 652

When you purchase something from Amazon, you can trigger a contribution to the Manly Jct. Railroad Museum for the E unit projects:

Instead of using www.amazon.com, use www.smile.amazon.com. Under your account, you'll be able to change your charity. You can then search for Manly Junction Railway Museum. 0.5% of the purchase price will go to the charity.

ROCK ISLAND REPORTER

*128 Whittier Circle, Falls Church, Virginia 24046
Thomas Brugman, publisher and editor – Email: editor@rockislandnewsletter.com*

Coverage

The newsletter covers the history of the Rock Island Railroad in documents and miniature. It is devoted to its readers – anyone and everyone who has interest in the Rock Island.

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