

SCRM NEWS

The South Carolina Railroad Museum Newsletter

Volume 38 Number 2 Spring 2010

From the Editor:

Well, as we enter spring, our thoughts go to visions of trains, filled with eager riders! Our regular season begins on Saturday, June 5, 2010 and continues every Saturday until August 28, 2010. Train times are 10 AM, 1 PM and 2:30 PM. If you have paid your dues, you should have gotten tickets for a free ride. Come up and ride!

And if you are interested in helping out, and we sure hope you are, you should get in touch with us and join us in keeping the SCRM running. Lots of jobs to do such as assisting on the trains, working on exhibits, or helping with various construction or re-construction projects. Always much that needs work!!

Along with the rest of the rotten economy, we are suffering as well. Your membership dollars go a long way, so please keep that in mind when your renewal notice arrives. And if you know other folks who might be fellow train enthusiasts or history buffs, perhaps you could encourage them to become members!

Two other ways you can help the Museum:

If you shop at Bi-Lo, take the bar code below to any Bi-Lo and scan it once, along with your regular Bi-Lo Bonus Card (the plastic card on your key ring). You don't even need to cut it out. Bi-Lo will give us 1% of your purchases as a bonus!! This scan will be good until May 31, 2010 at which time we will supply you with a new scannable bar code on the next newsletter.

The second way you can help is to consider donating stocks or bonds to the Museum. If

you are fortunate enough to own stocks or bonds that have appreciated, by donating them to the Museum you can take the market value as a donation and avoid paying capital gains tax. We have an account with Smith Barney who will be able to easily facilitate this transaction. Please contact me first if you are interested.

If any of you watch the Columbia WABC-TV 11 PM news, you know there is a segment known as "Hidden Columbia" on Tuesday nights. On Feb. 23, 2010, the host, Anderson Burns, interviewed Rodger Stroup and myself for a four minute story about the long gone Columbia streetcars. It can be found on Facebook by searching "Hidden Columbia" or email me and I'll send you the link.

In order to keep these newsletters interesting and informative, please consider writing a story and submitting it to me: at 215.888.5104, or HenryN215@aol.com or send a note directly to the Museum:

SCRM, PO Box 7246, Columbia SC 29202

Henry Nechemias, Editor <>



boostersplus
A Bi-Lo Program

1. Give this enrollment card to the cashier with your BONUSCARD one time during the program term.
2. One percent of your purchases will be donated to your designated group through May 31.
3. Call 800-768-4438 if you have any questions.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA RAILROAD MUSEUM INC



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PUBLICITY AND TRAIN SHOWS

Where better to generate publicity than a gathering of train fans?!!

Getting good publicity focused on the right people is sometimes difficult. With the museum though, a golden opportunity exists. Best of all, it doesn't cost the museum anything. Several members have been traveling to area train shows at their own expense (including lodging) for several years now, talking to people about the museum and passing out literature. (These shows usually do not charge us for space as long as we don't sell anything.)

The effort started when GATS (Great American Train Shows) came to Columbia for the first time a number of years ago. Several museum members decided if it was here, the museum needed to be part of it. They signed up for two displays, an HO layout composed of modules owned by several members and a display of artifacts from the museum collection. That year, the layout won first place and a \$100 prize for the museum.

That effort followed GATS to Charlotte then continued on to other shows. GATS no longer exists, but a small group of museum volunteers have continued the effort at other area shows. Currently, the core group consists of Clark and Elizabeth Gregory, Frankie O'Neal, and Bill Ware with help from other members at many of the shows.

In 2009, they attended a total of 11 shows, providing exposure to over 30,000 folks! The shows range from Sparkleberry Fair in Columbia with 20,000 attendees and Mauldin with over 5,000 to small local shows with a few hundred eager folks.

While details vary based on logistics, typically the display at these shows consist of

the flashing rear end device as an eye catcher, an M19 motorcar (with windshield and roof), along with pictures, a slide show, etc. One of the most popular attractions is allowing kids to sit "inside" the motorcar and have their photo taken either by parents or by us. When we take the picture, it is printed on a sheet with information about the museum. Of course, literature is handed out freely.

Most importantly, the volunteers have an opportunity to talk to many rail fans about the museum and its opportunities, as well as to the moms of excited young Thomas fans. Elizabeth started asking show attendees passing the booth if they have ever worked with "one to one" scale and that always gets interest even from guys who don't want to admit they haven't heard of that scale.

We can always use a few more volunteer staff people, especially at the Columbia shows. Remember, our helpers get free and early admission to the shows. (Clark reluctantly admits that he has bought some really good, really difficult to find items on Friday night before the show opens on Saturday morning.)

At this point, the following shows are lined up for 2010:

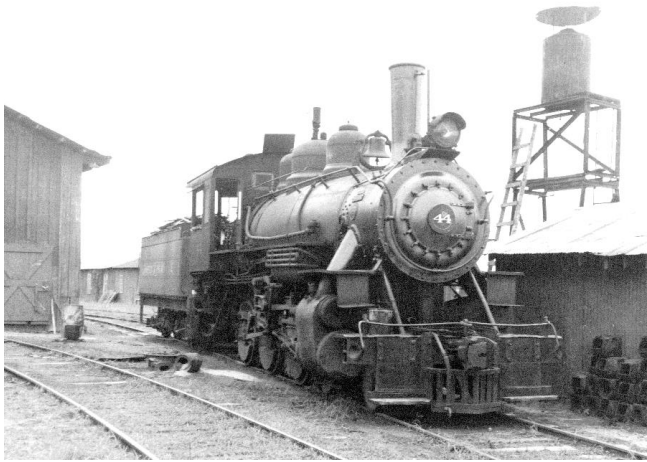
AMROC Kids Day: March 27
Blacksburg (Iron city): April 17
Sparkleberry County Fair: April 24
Fairfield County Airport: May 8
Mauldin train show: late May
Charlotte: Rail Fair Model Trains: June 26
Charleston: Best Friend show: Nov. 13-14
Columbia: AMROC Xmas show: Dec. 2, 4

Other shows may be added to this list!

If anyone would like to help at one or more of these shows, please contact Clark Gregory: clark@clarkgregory.com 803.781.7912

Clark Gregory <>

UPDATE ON STEAM LOCO #44



Ex-Hampton & Branchville Locomotive #44 at Miley, SC

On January 1, 2009, SCRM President Richard Treme appointed Marty Chaney and Rufus Timms to form the Project 44 committee to coordinate the restoration, crew training and operation of this locomotive. Tim Hill was quickly added to the committee, and other volunteers who have a strong interest in steam will be needed to help in the restoration, maintenance and operation this locomotive. It is the goal of this committee, and the Museum, to have this locomotive restored and operating as quickly as possible.

This is a tremendous opportunity for SCRM to create lots of additional interest in the Museum and eventually generate revenue from the operation of #44. Preservation of #44 is especially important to the museum because it is truly a South Carolina locomotive. It is the only engine of this type currently located in SC, and it has never operated out of the state.

An assessment of this project was completed on March 17, 2009 by Jeff Parrott from Restoration Solutions of Knoxville, TN. A thorough inspection was made to determine the condition of the locomotive and provide cost estimates for restoration. The results of

this assessment are extremely encouraging. The current condition of #44 is much better than previously thought, so the cost of restoration will be significantly less than what was originally anticipated. Amazingly, the cost estimate is between \$230,000 and \$250,000. Of course, more money would have to be raised to cover the cost of a protective building, as well as a fund for repairs and maintenance.

The committee has begun fundraising for #44. Currently for sale are navy blue "Project #44" tee shirts at \$15/each, available in all popular sizes. We also have paperweight models of #44 available at \$20/each. Both are available at the Rockton Gift Shop in the station.

Next, we commissioned Frank Crowe, a popular Georgia artist, to paint Hampton and Branchville #44 pulling a freight across the Salkehatchie Swamp in the South Carolina low country (near Miley, SC). This is a 10" x 14" water color print, each of the 150 copies is signed and numbered by the artist.

We expect they could become very collectable so get yours today. They can be purchased at the Rockton station, or from Marty Chaney (803) 261-1144 or Rufus Timms (803) 445-6751 for a minimum donation of \$30.00 each.

And of course, your donations and support are vital to this effort and greatly appreciated. Donations are tax deductible. Please make checks payable to SCRM and note "Project 44" on the check or on the envelope. Donations can be mailed to PO Box 7246, Columbia, SC 29202

More about Project #44 in the next issue.

Marty Chaney and Rufus Timms <>

Caboose X437

This summer the South Carolina Railroad Museum acquired its first Southern Railroad caboose. Built in the late 1960's the X437 was given to SCRM by the town of Trenton where it had been displayed next to the town hall for more than 20 years. Only open one or two days each year, the Trenton Town Council decided the X437 would be an important addition to the museum's collection.

The interior of the X437 is almost all original. In fact, the conductor's safe still contained blank forms and operating papers. In addition, the X437 restroom features a toilet with a holding tank, only found on the last generation of cabooses, rather than emptying directly onto the track.

The museum plans to preserve the caboose in its original condition and use it on our operating trains.

Rodger Stroup <>

South Carolina Railroad Museum

PO Box 7246

Columbia, SC 29202



Interior of caboose.



Loading caboose onto flatbed truck.