

LITTLE ROCK CHAPTER
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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## Arkansas Railroader





SEPTEMBER 1980

W. A. "BILL" MERCK EDITOR

## SEPTEMBER MEETING AND PROGRAM

Omr meeting for this month will be held on Sunday the 14th starting at 2 PM at the Missouri Pacific office building in North Little Rock. A slide presentation on the KCS will be given by Mike Condren of Clarksville. Another program on this colorful line is most welcome and the one in August presented by Jim Bennett and Pill Pailey was a real dandy; the highlight of course being that wonderful sound color movie on the SOUTHERN BELLE.

This issue of the newsletter is short and will omit the regular news items and other features of interest. Regular format will resume in the October issue. There is one news item that believe deserves running; this being from Mr. James A Bistline, Assistant to the Chairman, Southern Railway, dated August 15th and which we quote below:

"Southernsteam excursions to date in 1980 have handled 37,816 revenue passengers. Ex-C&O 2716 which is being restored by Southern will not be ready for service until mid-summer 1981. Ex-T&P 610 and Royal Hudson 2839 will be returned to their owners some time this winter. Southern's 1981 steam program will operate with engines 4501, S&A 750 and 2716 when ready". End of quote. From the number of passengers handled by Southern on these excursions it is certainly now a wall known fact that people do still like to fide trains and the increased demand for rail passenger service is growing by leaps and bounds.

## THE BIG EVENT - SEPTEMBER 27TH - SOLD OUT

Yes, believe it or not, the room that we reserved at the Holiday Inn in North Little Rock is sold out as of this date (Sept. 2nd) for our first swap-sale show on Saturday, September 27th. This practically insures its success. It is especially important that as many of our members as possible attend this show. Name tage will be available for dealers and members alike. Dress is optional, but will ask that we all make a neat appearance before our visitors. Railroad attire is encouraged such as engine crew, trainmen, dining car, etc. Am sure that all of us will show the utmost courtesy to all of our visitors and assist them in any way possible. Am sure you will be happy to know that a total of 33 Tables have been sold and any further reservations will have to be turned down.

The Arkansas Railroad Club is a non-profit organization. Regular meetings are held (with some exceptions) on the second Sunday of each month. Members are encouraged to bring vishters who are always welcome. Refreshments are usually available. Send all news items and exchange newsletters to Editor at 5007 Hawthorne Rd., Little Rock, AR. 72207.

See all of you at our September meeting as well as our BIG SHOW.