

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY RAILROAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.

www.rrvrhs.org

Russell Pedro – President W. Conway Link – Vice-President Jim McClure – Secretary
Bill Hasheider – Treasurer Dave Bland – Newsletter Editor – DDBland@aol.com

November, 2014

SHREVEPORT, LA

Our 33rd Year

Shreveport KCS Roundhouse Scenes in 1958



Last month we saw some photos of the active KCS roundhouse in 1952. By 1956, KCS had opened their new Deramus Yards so the old roundhouse and other structures had to be demolished. These photos appeared in the Shreveport Times on Dec. 19, 1958 and document the demolition of the smokestack. Here is the caption that appeared with the photos:

“The old KCS Railroad smokestack at the abandoned yards between Maple Street and Lakeshore Drive west of the Texas Avenue viaduct topples majestically as wreckers move another step forward in razing the shops and terminal site. Built in 1910 along with the “new” shops, the 100-foot brick stack fell all in one piece and shattered only when it hit the ground. Veteran trainmen say the stack and the shops were built 48

years ago and went into service the following spring, replacing the "old" shops which were about a quarter-mile west toward Cross Lake. The KCS and L&A Railroad now occupies ultramodern Deramus terminal on a 257-acre site north of Shreveport. The railroad is clearing out the old shops for industrial development, but plans are indefinite since the Shreveport Expressway, a link in Interstate Highway 20, will come across part of the site. So far, the old roundhouse and boiler house have come down along with the stack. Debris from the latter will be used to fill in the engine and turntable pits. The wreckers, Harrison & Welch, are salvaging a good amount of old brick and timber from the razing. Concrete walls will be broken up and leveled off on the site. The only building which will remain is the store room, presently leased to a building supply concern. (Times photos by Langston McEachern.) (Photos courtesy of LSUS Noel Memorial Library Archives & Special Collections)

The President's Message

Hello Railfans !

Last month we had our annual fish fry and there was a good turnout. Many people told me how good it was. I had some trouble at first with a thermometer blowing up and shooting plastic bits into the first pot of fish and grease. We had to throw that first pot out but after that everything worked out fine.

This week we have a meeting with the Cross Bayou planning group. I hope to have some good news after the meeting. I don't know if they will be making any decisions until after the run-off election but we can hope to hear some good news.

Gary Fox has resigned as Secretary and I have appointed Jim McClure to fill out his term. Jim has agreed to fill in as Secretary.

I have talked to several members about cancelling the meeting in November because some have informed me that they will be out of town. So we have cancelled the November meeting. I will inform you of any developments as soon as I know the results. Hoping to see you at the meeting in December.

Happy Railroading!
Russell

Are You Up-to-Date on Your Dues ?

Please send a check or money order for \$20.00 with this membership form to Bill Hasheider at 6813 Despot Road, Shreveport, LA 71108

Name _____ Email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Red River Valley Railroad Historical Society
3012 Nottingham Drive
Shreveport, LA 71115

No meeting in November
Next meeting will be Dec. 19