

FRISCO

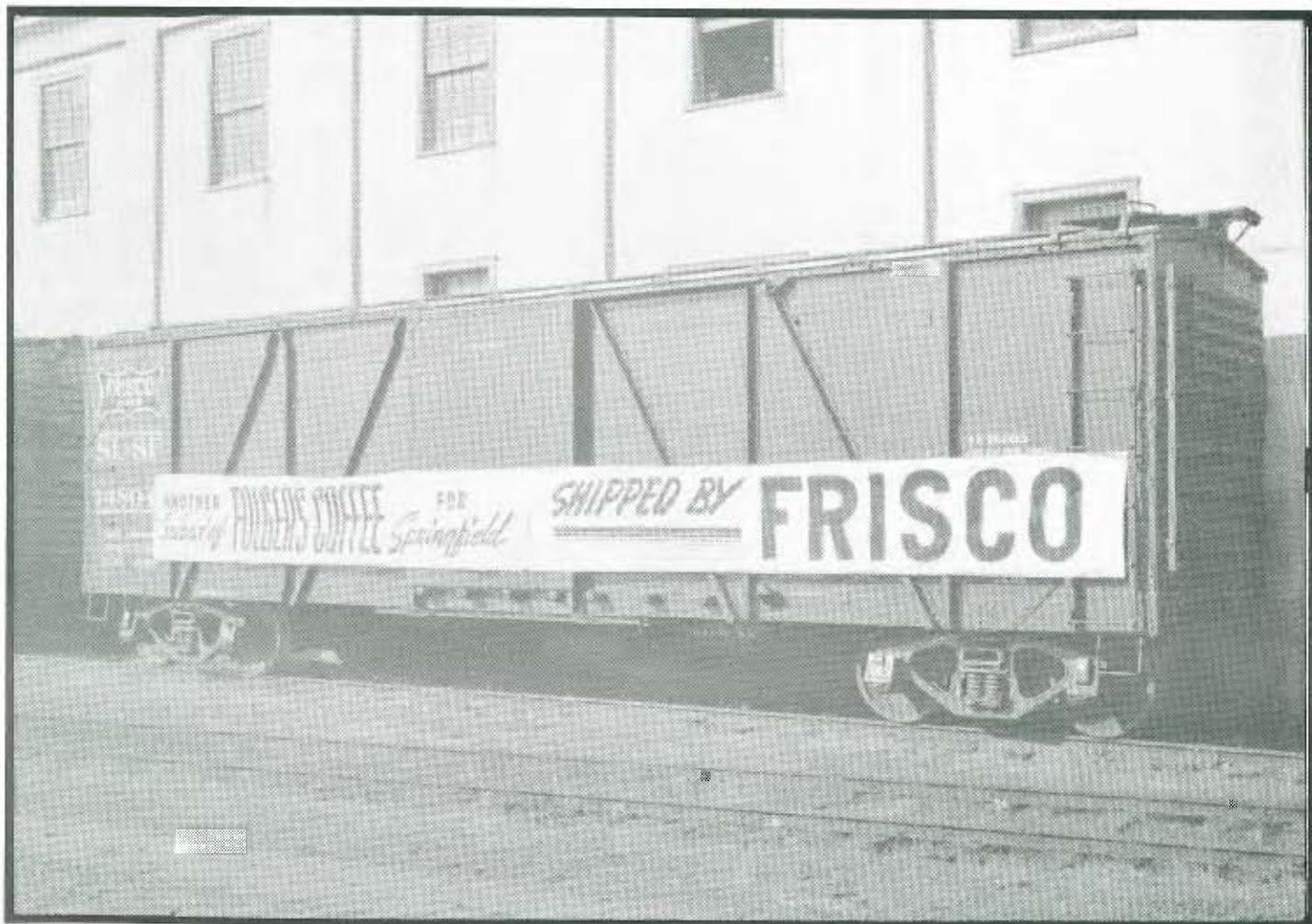
All Aboard

FRISCO

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER

1991

the *Freight*
P A R A D E



Frisco Box Car #148047, Springfield, MO, February 13, 1942. Frisco photo

FRISCO All Aboard FRISCO

VOLUME 6 OCTOBER-NOVEMBER, 1991 NUMBER 3

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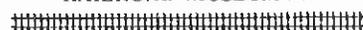
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ABOUT THE COVER

The Freight Parade was a customer promotion/appreciation program featured in the **FRISCO FIRST** magazine September, 1939, to September, 1943, in which various Frisco shippers were recognized for their use of Frisco equipment & services. Our cover was a part of the *Freight Parade* program, taken on February 13, 1942, in Springfield, MO, and featured in the April-May, 1942, issue of the **FRISCO FIRST**.



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HOURS OF OPERATION

MUSEUM

Tuesday thru Saturday
 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

MUSEUM OFFICE

Tuesday thru Saturday
 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

The *All Aboard* is published bimonthly for members of the **FRISCO FOLKS** organization of **THE FRISCO RAILROAD MUSEUM Inc.** The museum facility is located at 500 Walker St. in Ash Grove, MO. The museum offices are located at 100 E. Main St., Ash Grove, MO. All correspondence should be addressed to P.O. Box 276, Ash Grove, MO, 65604. The *ALL ABOARD* and its contents are copyrighted by The Frisco Railroad Museum Inc., and may not be reproduced or duplicated in any manner or form without the expressed written consent of the museum President. **The Frisco Railroad Museum Inc.** is not affiliated with the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Co., the Burlington Northern Railroad Co., or any of its subsidiaries.

FRISCO FOLKS

The museum is pleased to acknowledge the following membership renewals in the FRISCO FOLKS:

Bob Thompson.....Brakeman
Oklahoma
Eric Fogg.....Switchman
Iowa
Mike Wilson.....Switchman
Colorado

The museum is pleased to welcome the following new members to the FRISCO FOLKS:

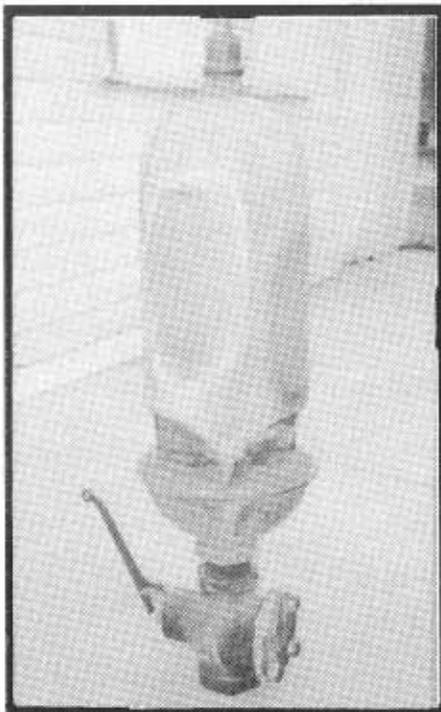
Dan T. Gillespie.....Fireman
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Robert C. Wiginton.....Fireman
Arkansas
Terry Raiter.....Brakeman
North Carolina
Clifford Gilstrap.....Switchman
Arkansas
C.W. Plunkett.....Switchman
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Edward Jarolin.....Switchman
Kansas
Thelma Deaton.....Switchman
Missouri
Hobbydashery Inc.....Switchman
Missouri
Elizabeth Benson.....Switchman
Oklahoma
Michael East.....Switchman
Mississippi

MUSEUM DISPATCH

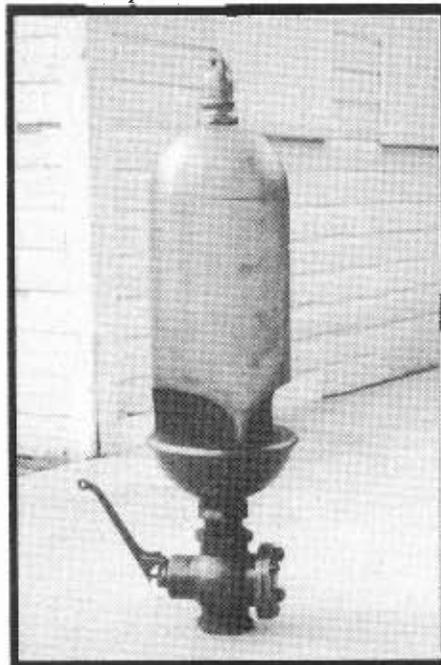
Springfield West Shops Whistle Restored

Thanks and a hearty tip of the Frisco hat goes to Frisco Folks Steve & Patty Thiel for their willingness, commitment, long hours, and hard work in cleaning and restoring the Springfield, MO West Shops whistle acquired by the Museum in April, 1990. (See *ALL ABOARD*, June-July, 1990, p. 9 and

photo on p. 9, August-September, 1990)



Shop whistle "BEFORE"



Shop whistle "AFTER"

Thanks for the help!

Thanks and a tip of the Frisco hat to Frisco Folks Lee Buffington, Tim Kubat, Richard Napper, and Dan Hall for their volunteer assistance in sorting, organizing, cataloging, indexing, etc., etc., the vast assortment of historical, technical, and photographic resources in our Frisco archives! ☐



The Museum is pleased to announce that we have been invited to participate in this year's *An Old-Time Country Christmas* at Silver Dollar City, Branson, MO.

Plans, packing, and preparations are now under way to provide a 1,000 sq. ft. display that will include hundreds of authentic items of Frisco railroad memorabilia, antique train Christmas ornaments, and a 12'x 16' operating HO model train layout.

The program will run from November 7 thru December 15 on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, & Sunday, from 12:00 noon to 10:00 p.m. The Museum's display will be located in the Hospitality House at the main entrance to the City. Museum President Alan Schmitt, along with other Frisco Folks, will be on hand to greet and visit with the expected 200,000 plus folks that will be attending the six-week program.

If you are interested in volunteering your time to help with the display, please contact the museum office at 417-672-3110 or 417-672-3032.

This is an exciting opportunity for the museum and all members of our Frisco family are encouraged to come and treat your families to *An Old-Time Country Christmas!*

NOTE: The museum facility in Ash Grove, MO, will be closed from October 15 to January 4, 1992, in order to facilitate participation in the Silver Dollar City program. The museum office will be open Monday thru Wednesday during this time period and the office phone will be answered every day. ☐

SILVER DOLLAR CITY'S

The City is Aglow

At Silver Dollar City it is Christmas, 1891. Come back 100 years to the warmth, glow and gladness of a time when Christmas was gingerbread, holly wreaths and yule logs - when the sound of sleigh bells meant good friends were coming to share the joyous season.

Come stroll along the streets and listen to the carolers. Wander through the shops dressed in their holiday finery.

The entire city will be dressed for the holiday season with garlands of red and green tartan ribbons, hundreds of brass instruments, lighted musical notes, and mini-light scenes along the walkways to celebrate. "The Sounds of Christmas"

The streets will be aglow with heralding angels and snowflakes as the entire mountain village takes on the look of a winter wonderland with more than 70 miles of twinkling lights.

What's New For This Year's Celebration?

- * A Sing-Along Steam Train ride along Lake Silver through giant musical Christmas light displays.
- * The Branson Brothers special Christmas show, "The Gift of Music."
- * The new holiday show in the Silver Dollar City Saloon.
- * The Frisco Railroad Museum Inc. will present a 1,000 square foot display that will include hundreds of authentic items of railroad memorabilia, antique train Christmas ornaments, and a 12'x 16' operating model train layout. Children, young & old alike, will be able to visit with the train conductor and relive the excitement of being a locomotive engineer while ringing an authentic brass locomotive bell.
- * More lights, music, shows & holiday foods!



Especially For Children

Bring your little ones to Santa's Workshop where they can work with the craftsmen to make Christmas ornaments - the kind little boys and girls were making in 1891!

Discover magic in the shop as elves hustle about making toys and treasurers for Santa's pack. Capture the memory with a photo on Santa's lap, and then let them make an ornament to take home.

Experience the joy of watching your child see Christmas the way it was.

Raggedy Ann and Andy will greet them on the street and invite them to join the other boys and girls to form the children's Christmas Choir.

Then they can join Frosty and the Branson Brothers on stage in the Riverfront Playhouse. Take them on an old fashioned carousel ride to the sounds of jingle bells.

It's a Christmas experience you and your children will never forget.



OLD TIME COUNTRY CHRISTMAS

Away In A Manger

The true meaning of that first Christmas long, long ago is re-created with a living nativity scene behind our Wildemess Church.

This inspiring simple presentation of the joyous Noel will let you share the closeness and happiness of this joyous season as never before.

Music in the Air- Everywhere!

Stop on any street corner and listen to the "Sounds of Christmas." Traditional carolers, Christmas bells, a brass group, school and church choirs and our holiday street performers let you know that it is truly and joyfully Christmas.

That wacky bunch is back at the Silver Dollar Saloon with the hilarious new holiday show.

And down at the Riverfront Playhouse, the Branson Brothers and their band take to the stage in a glorious Christmas show, "The Gift of Music." Lots of old Christmas favorites and spiritual songs along with "Jingle Bells," "Frosty," and "Rudolph."



Festive Holiday Dining And Christmas Treats

The smell of gingerbread and hot wassail fills the air and the entire park is a holiday dining feast. Memories of Christmas

dinners and "Visions of Sugarplums" will dance in your head with traditional holiday favorites like turkey and the trimmings, pumpkin pie chantilly, holiday date nut cake and hot apple cider.

Don't miss our Christmas tradition - chili with red & green chili peppers!



Decorating Your Holiday Home

Again this year the shops will be brimming with beautiful trees, centerpieces, swags, and garlands to decorate your home.

Don't miss the spectacular Trim-A-Tree display in the Ozark Market Place with over forty themed trees in *Americana*, *Disney*, *Silver Dollar City Collectible Ornaments*, plus new outdoor trees, *Fisherman's Holiday*, and *Hunter's Glory*, with wildlife decorations.

Shoppers' Paradise

Pick out one-of-a-kind Christmas gifts that will be remembered and treasured through many Christmases to come. The shops all sparkle with Christmas colors and the most exciting selection of Christmas hand-crafted originals anywhere - cut glass ornaments, beautiful baskets, candles, Christmas jewelry, old fashioned toys and more.

The shops will take your breath away - each in its own original Christmas theme.



November 7 - December 15

Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays (Closed Thanksgiving Day, November 28)

* Operating Hours are from 12 noon until 10 p.m. with lots of shows and excitement all during the afternoon and evening.

* This year's theme is "The Sounds of Christmas" and you will enjoy music everywhere.

* All of the shops will be open, however the Land of Forgotten Crafts will be closed. The only rides open will be in the Tom Sawyer area (for small children) and the Steam Train.

* Enjoy holiday menus in the restaurants and traditional treats throughout the park.

Admission:

Adults (12+) \$7.95

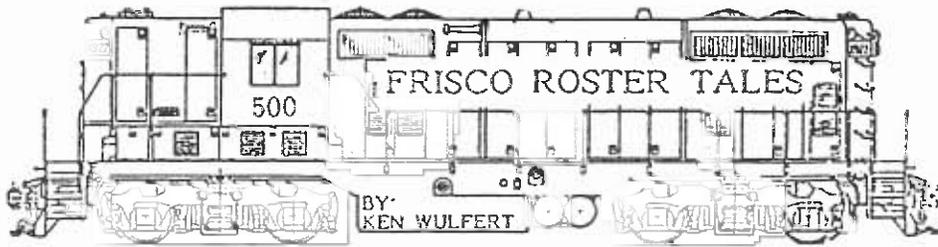
Children (4-11) \$4.95

Plus Tax & ABP

* The admission includes all rides, shows, and events. Ask about group rates.



SILVER DOLLAR CITY
One Hour South Of Springfield, Missouri
One Hundred Years Back In Time.



Following is an excerpt from a letter dated October 6, 1930, written by the ICC's Director of Safety to the Commission:

"On August 31, 1930, there was a derailment of a passenger train on the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway near Osage Hills, Mo., which resulted in the death of 4 passengers and 2 employees, and the injury of 64 passengers, 4 employees and 2 Pullman employees."

What happened to No. 1, Frisco/Katy's crack train "The Texas Special," on that fateful day in August, 1930?

For some reason, this accident has always fascinated me - probably because it occurred at a location that I

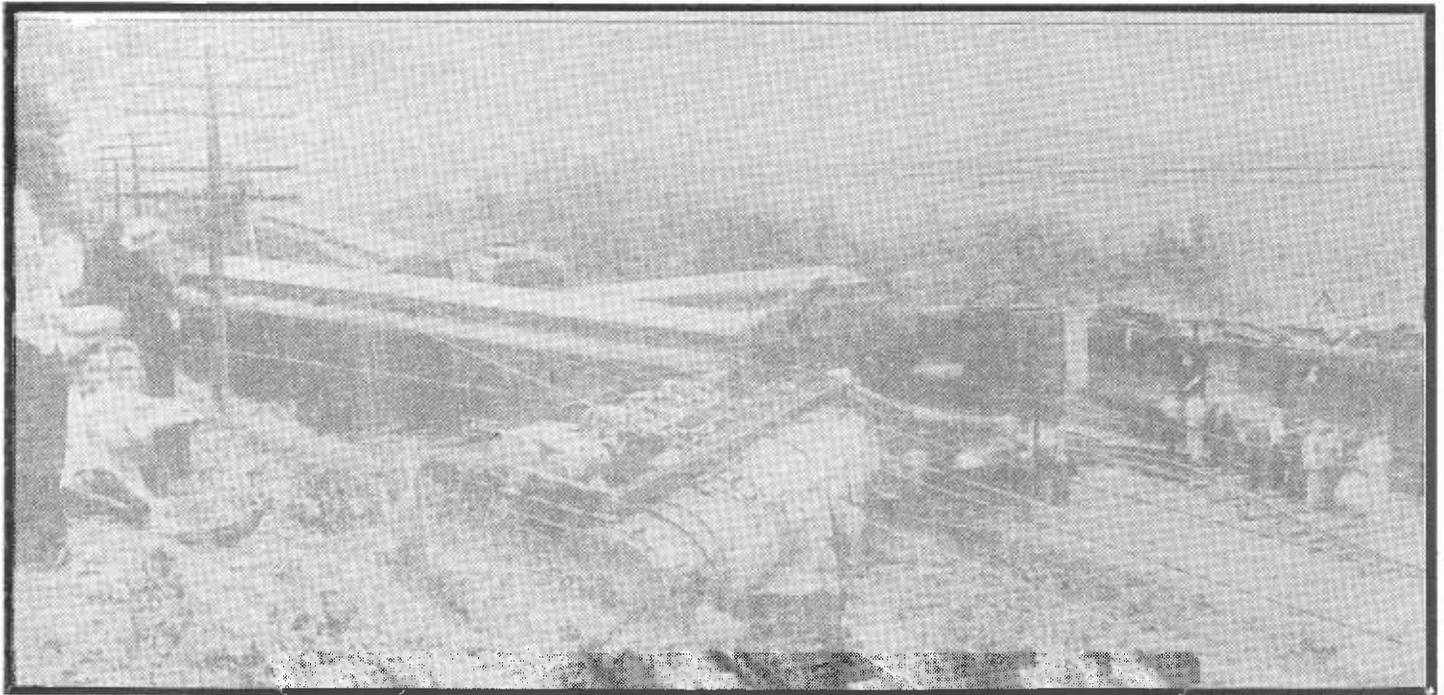
know well from having watched many trains there, and also because the accident was so senseless given the probable cause. It occurred on the Eastern Division, outside of St. Louis at Osage Hills, at MP 14.5, just west of where the SLSF crosses over I-270 today, close to Big Bend Road. This is just west of a beautiful sweeping curve to the left. Those of you with a copy of Lucius Beebe's book *HIGHLINERS* can see the location by looking at page 28, a great Barham-Oaks photo of 1026 & 1509 westbound on the curve.

On August 31, 1930, SLSF No. 1, *The Texas Special*, left St. Louis Union Station on time at 6:30 p.m. It was headed by SLSF 1511, one of Frisco's famous Baldwin Mountains, and consisted, in this order, of one

Baggage/RPO car, one combination Baggage/Passenger car, one Chair Car, one Dining Car, seven Pullman Sleepers, and one Observation Car. The weather was clear, the track in good condition, and at 7:30 p.m., 1511 led its train around the curve toward Osage Hills at about 45 mph, well under the 55 mph limit. This is a double track section of the railroad, and No. 1 was on the westbound (right) track, coming out of the curve and easily descending the 1.1% grade which exists there.

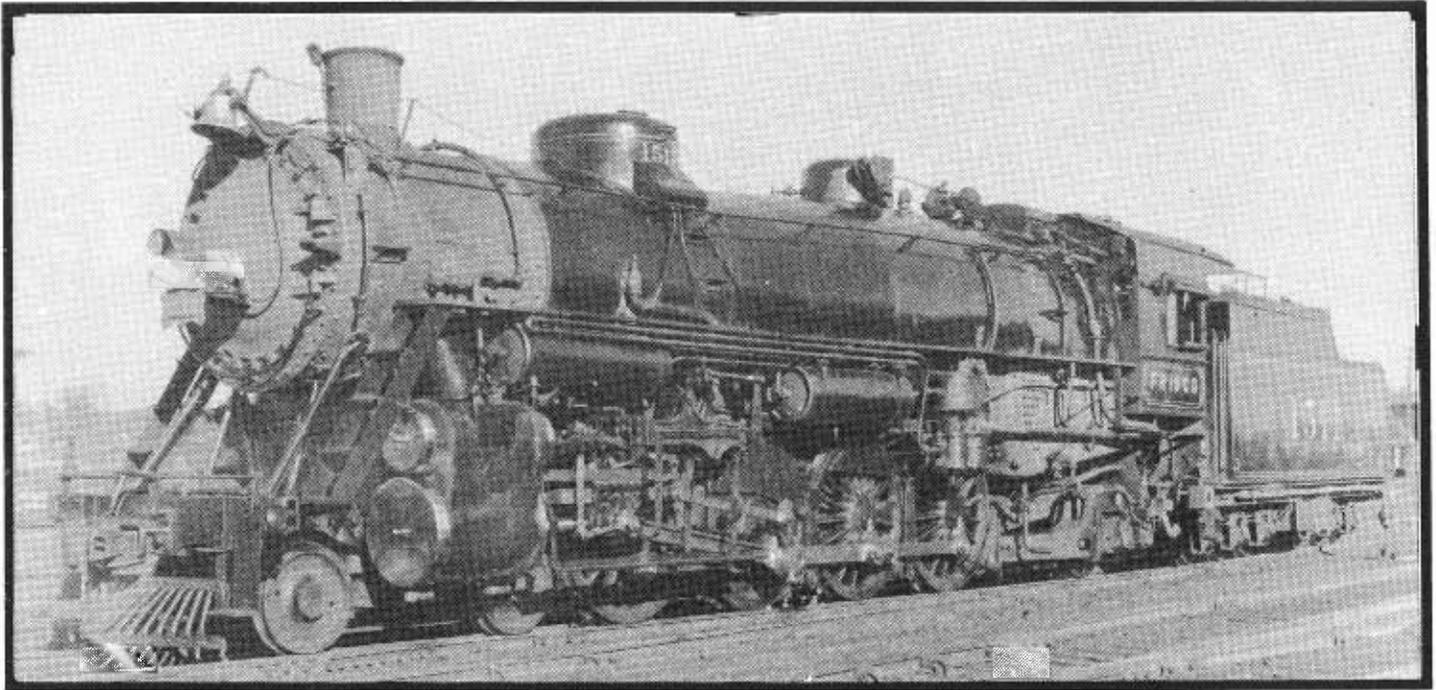
At that time, there was a facing-point switch leading from the westbound main to an industrial track, long since removed. It was located just west of the end of the curve. 1511's four wheel pilot truck derailed suddenly about 220 feet east of the switch, but continued to ride the ties until the switch was reached. 1511 then suddenly flipped over on its left side and slid another 360 feet, coming to rest with its pilot pressing against a rock bluff 60 feet from the rails. The tender smashed into the locomotive cab. The first six cars

CAMERA TELLS GRAPHIC STORY OF FRISCO SMASHUP



The caption for this RARE September 30, 1930 Springfield, MO *News & Leader* newspaper photo read as follows:

"This graphic picture shows the Frisco's crack 'Texas Special' after it had been wrecked 10 miles west of St. Louis with the loss of six lives. A staff photographer for the St. Louis Star obtained this general view of the smashed train, revealing how the big locomotive rolled over and plowed into a rock wall, and cars piled up criss-cross fashion behind it, blocking both of the Frisco's main lines."



Frisco #1511, repaired and back in service, December 20, 1939, shown at the North Springfield Yards. Frisco photo

following were derailed. The first four were torn from their trucks and came to rest in various positions on both main tracks and the industrial siding, in upright positions. The second car smashed through one end of the third car, demolishing it. The remaining cars were not derailed or damaged. The fatalities included both 1511's engineer and fireman and four passengers riding in the third car. Injuries totaled 64 other passengers plus six other employees.

About 90 minutes later, officials of the railroad arrived and began an investigation, which lasted several weeks. Both the track and 1511 showed no signs of causing the accident, though both obviously suffered major damage from the accident. 1511's crew was a proven, trusted team and gave no sign of any operational errors that would have caused the calamity. One thing was noticed immediately by the accident team, however - at the point the tie damage indicated the derailment of the pilot truck began, a quantity of pulverized rock on top and on both sides of the north (right) rail was discovered, all appearing to be freshly broken, covering an area approximately 12 inches in rail length. The rocks were large - as big as 2"x 4"x 5".

The team concluded that this accident was caused by these pieces of limestone rock sitting on the right rail. The rocks caused the right front pilot truck wheel to mount and cross the rail, dropping down on the ties on the outside until it encountered the lead rail of the switch. This diverted 1511 suddenly to the right and led to the calamity between 1511, its tender, and the first six cars.

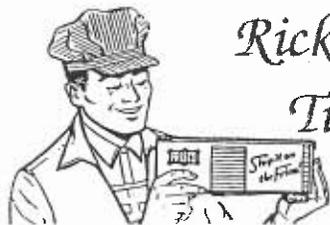
Possibly the rocks were placed on the rail by children, no one knows. It is well to remember how something so simple and so silly led to a horrible accident back in the summer of 1930, and what terrible results can occur from placing foreign objects on the rails. ☐



632. The company does not require or expect its employes to incur any risk, from which, by the exercise of their judgement and by personal care, they can protect themselves, but enjoins upon them and demands that they shall take time and use the means necessary to, in all cases, do their duty in safety.

*From RULES OF THE Transportation Department
Taking Effect February 1st
1909
p. 86*

Many responses have been received in our **Frisco Folks Safety Contest**. (*ALL ABOARD, June-July, 1991, p.18*) The Rule 632 we were looking for is shown above.



Rick's Tips

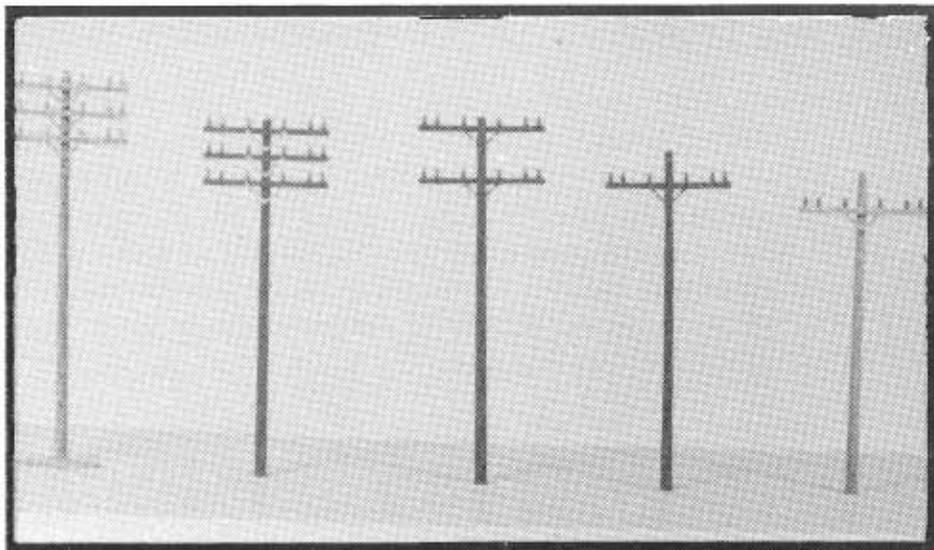
Frisco Folk Rick McClellan shares with us an assortment of modeling tricks, tips, and neat things to do that are relatively simple, inexpensive, and quick, all of which can enhance the appearance and operation of your layout.

MODIFYING ATLAS TELEPHONE POLES

Plastic Atlas telephone poles have been around for quite a while and are standard on many model railroads. These poles look good right out of the box but they can look a lot better with just minor modifications. If possible, scout out the line poles on the railroad you model. Look for color, height, number of crossarms, etc. Armed with this information, your line poles can be modified to be more prototypical.

In the photograph, the pole at the far left is straight from the box. It has all three cross arms, rounded top, base, and is colored brown. The first modification to make it more realistic is to remove the base. Holes drilled into the scenery and glue will hold the pole in place and give it the "planted" look. The second modification is to paint the poles the color of your choice. I found that new poles are almost jet black from the preservative they are sealed with. Floquil's Engine Black (110010) will fill the bill for new poles. Older line poles look faded brown and some appear light gray. I used various mixtures of Floquil's Light SP Grey (110131) and Foundation (110084) to achieve the gray/brown look. Consider painting your line poles various shades of black and gray/brown as they all weather differently and are periodically replaced.

Another subtle modification is to cut the tops of the poles at an angle. The reason they are cut on an angle is so



that water will not settle on the top of the pole and begin the decaying process. These appear to be cut by a chainsaw and would never be rounded like they are molded from Atlas. The number of crossarms on the poles can be reduced from three to two or one with the help of a hobby knife. I noticed that poles on the Frisco between Springfield and Aurora have only two crossarms like the pole in the center of the photo. In addition, they are quite short and barely come above the tops of the rails.

For those who really like detail, consider painting the insulators on the crossarms. These insulators are usually green or clear glass which can be simulated with green or silver paint. The mounting hardware that supports the crossarms can also be painted a galvanized color to bring it to the viewer's attention. Finally, don't forget to add all those neat transformers, number plates, and other items that can make your line poles look more realistic.

GOOD LUCK and don't forget to *Ship It On The Frisco!* ☐

ATTENTION FRISCO MODELERS All Scales!

Got a modeling trick, tip, or neat thing to do that you would be willing to share with our readers? If so, write or call Rick: Rick McClellan

15405 W. 144th. Terrace
Olathe, KS 66062
913-829-4509

MAIL CAR



The MAIL CAR is a feature of the *ALL ABOARD* in which we attempt to answer some of the many questions that are submitted to our **FRISCO RESEARCH SERVICE**.

If you have a question about the equipment, facilities, or operation of the Frisco, please send them to the **RESEARCH SERVICE**. All request are answered individually and selected questions will appear in the MAIL CAR feature.

QUESTION: I'm confused! In the 1960's and 1970's the Frisco divisions and sub-divisions changed back and forth. Can you clarify this for me?

ANSWER: Yes! In 1963, the long standing operation of the Frisco system in seven divisions (Eastern, Northern, River, Central, Southern, Southwestern, & Western) was changed. On September 1, 1963, "To accomplish more effective supervision and to provide even better service for Frisco patrons," the Operating Department was reorganized into three Districts: Central, Southeast, & Southwest. (See map on p. 9)

Continued on p. 12