

FRISCO

All Aboard

FRISCO



Fall
1995

Vol. X
№ III



THE
RAILROAD MUSEUM Inc.

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MUSEUM LOCATION

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Springfield, MO 65803-2945
866-SLSF
(866-7573)

HOURS OF OPERATION

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

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MAIL CAR 24
"Where did this pig (*Pigs Are Beautiful*) thing come from?" The answer is featured in this installment of the **Mail Car**.

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This is the seventh installment in our regular series profiling selected pieces of Frisco company service equipment. This issue features scale test cars.



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This is the twelfth in our series of articles profiling the history of Frisco Business Cars. This installment features cars No. 10 & No. 12.

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A post card photo feature on Kansas City's famous Union Station.

ABOUT THE COVERS

Our covers for 1995 are taken from a series of colorful *Frisco Employees' Magazine* covers produced by the Wallace Bassford Studios in the 1920's.

Our front cover for this issue is taken from the November, 1927 edition, and shows a unique variety of Thanksgiving travelers awaiting the departure of the Frisco's Meteor.

"The ultimate touch of luxury" on the Frisco's Texas Special is the theme of our back cover, from the October, 1927, *Employees' Magazine*.



WHERE IS IT?

The museum recently acquired this photo of a classic Frisco interlocker tower, date and location unknown! If you have any idea where our mystery tower was located, please contact the museum office at 543 E. Commercial St., Springfield, MO, 65803, 417-866-7573.

Museum Completes Site Enhancement Projects

Thanks to a partnership of private individuals, local businesses, and the City of Springfield, MO - Community Development Block Grant program, the museum has completed a number of site enhancement projects including:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acquisition - Movement - Preliminary restoration of Frisco Diner-Lounge 1551 - the <i>Oklahoma City</i> • Movement - Exterior restoration of Frisco Caboose 1139 • Movement - Exterior/Interior restoration of Frisco Caboose 1156 • Installation of new museum sign • Installation of decorative fencing and entrance gate • Installation of storm windows on museum building | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installation of nine flag poles flying the U.S. flag and those of the nine states the Frisco operated in • Exterior restoration of Frisco Box Car 10055 • Installation of handicap ramp access to Caboose 1156 • Sealing of exterior walls on museum building • Installation of new retaining wall and parkway landscaping • Installation of awnings on museum building |
|---|--|

The Officers and Board of Directors would like to acknowledge, with grateful appreciation, those organizations, businesses, and individuals whose support and hard work have made these projects possible:

The City of Springfield
 Burlington Northern Railroad
 Commerce Bank of Springfield
 Springfield Underground Inc.
 CSX Transportation
 Hill & Bixler, A.I.A.
 KYTV
 Commercial Club of Springfield
 Weddle Design
 Paul Hall Signs
 Dr. Tickle Art Co-Op
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The Frisco Railroad Museum Inc. with site enhancement projects in place.

The Frisco Railroad Museum Inc., looking northwest, with new retaining wall and parkway improvements in place.



The Frisco Railroad Museum Inc., looking northwest, with nine flag poles in place, proudly flying the U.S. flag and those of the nine states the Frisco operated in.

The Frisco Railroad Museum Inc., looking east, with new decorative fencing along front of property.



Frisco Diner-Lounge 1551, the Oklahoma City, in place along museum entrance sidewalk.



ex-Frisco Box Car side door caboose 1156, in place at front of museum property.

Frisco Box Car 10055, built in 1969, in place along back of museum property.



Frisco shop built Caboose 1139, in place along back of museum property.

Farewell Mr. Frisco

On September 13, 1995, our Frisco Folks family lost a special member when Lee Buffington passed away.

Lee was a devoted husband, companion, care giver, and best friend for over sixty-five years.

He was a hero, teacher, role model, friend, all of which came in a package called daddy, grandpa, great-grandpa.

He was a Christian who exemplified the true meaning of dedication to his Lord and to his church of which he was a member for over sixty-four years.

Lee Buffington was a railroader! A railroader with thirty-four years of devoted service to the Frisco. A railroader who was the mentor of countless hundreds of railfans and model railroaders. A railroader who was deeply involved in all facets of preserving railroad history whether it be the publishing of books, the restoration of a steam locomotive, or the special role he played in the birth and nurturing of The Frisco Railroad Museum. Lee Buffington was a railroader who deserves, without question, the distinction of **Mr. Frisco!**

How fitting it was that eighty-seven years ago, Lee was born in a house across the street from the Missouri Pacific main line, and on September 16, 1995, he was laid to rest west of Springfield, MO, along the main line of the Frisco.

Lee started his railroad career in February, 1929, as a steno clerk at the Newburg, MO, roundhouse. During his tenure of service he worked various positions in the motive power



Mr. Frisco, Lee Buffington, shown here with his wife Mildred, on board the Chouteau Club car, September 25, 1993, during the grand opening of the museum's Springfield facility.

department, was involved in the dieselization of the Frisco, and retired in 1963 as Assistant to the Chief Mechanical Officer.

Following retirement, Lee devoted his life to traveling with his wife Mildred, railfanning (*he was an active member of the National Railway Historical Society for twenty-seven years*), model railroading (*built his first layout in 1938*), and volunteering countless hours at The Frisco Railroad Museum Inc.

For those of us who had the opportunity to know, love, and work with Lee Buffington, his kind and gentle nature, supportive spirit, and love for the Frisco will live on in our hearts as a lasting legacy of a true friend!

Lee Buffington Memorial Research Center

In honor of his many years of devoted service to the preservation of Frisco history and in recognition of the countless number of hours of dedicated service to The Frisco Railroad Museum Inc., the museum's new research center, to be housed in our Phase II facility, will be designated as the Lee Buffington Memorial Research Center.

A memorial fund has been established by the Buffington family to provide equipment, furnishings, and materials for the new research center. Cash, check, or credit card donations will be accepted and should be mailed to the museum at 543 E. Commercial St., Springfield, MO 65803.