

2008 Reunion Business meeting minutes
No Little Rock, AR. May 2nd 2008
Attended by approx. 100 members

Mr. Lester Allen opened the meeting promptly at 3pm

First order of Business was to recognize his committee members; Don & Jo Ann Chapman, Ike & Barbara Reeves, Jackie Pickering, June Eudy, Donna McVey & Marge Halferty. They did a lot of work and deserve a thank you, applause. Members responded enthusiastically. Mr. Allen also made special thanks to his wife Jo Ann for all the computer work. The Members gave Jo Ann a special applause as recognition for her work.

Mr. Allen asked the members to give their ideas for upgrading the Mo Pac Website to Peter Latessa, and if they have any pictures that they would like to have posted on the website sent to Mr. Latessa. The Website cost \$225.00 this year.

The next order of Business is to select a location for the 2010 reunion.

The 2009 reunion is already under way by Don & Jacquelyn Pratt who are holding it in Omaha, NE.

Four suggestions were named to hold the 2010 reunion: New Orleans, LA., St Louis, MO., Jacksonville, FL., & Memphis, TN.

For lack of finding a host for St. Louis, Jacksonville, or Memphis cities it was voted to have Frank & Molly Neuberger Host the 2010 reunion in New Orleans LA. 2010. Frank & Molly accepted the honors.

Mr. Allen mentioned that they have arranged for the Mayor of N. Little Rock, AR., to be our guest speaker at the banquet dinner Saturday night.

After a brief mention of the busing arrangements to the River Boat Dinner trip tonight, Lester gave the microphone to the Secretary for a brief talk on the "History of our Association".

John Lambert gave a brief talk on how our Association has changed since that first reunion in 1989, held Palestine, TX.

Our first Directory was printed in 1992 and listed over 600 names, many of which were names given as possible members, but never paid dues or attended the reunions.

The music for our dances was provided by the old Mo Pac band which has since been abandoned. Money was not available to hire local bands, until members started offering RR artifacts to be raffled off. Then Ed Jones came in offering his talent to auction some of the more expensive items donated. The money generated by the sale of artifacts kept our finances in the black.

It wasn't until 2004, that we even had a set of by-laws to live by, which was by John German, and approved at that reunion.

Until 2007 that the association still had no one person responsible for keeping records.

Then Mr. Wall suggested that a secretary be appointed to not only maintain records.

Such records provided the means to remove some 150+ names that never paid dues. Needless to say the postage and printing cost declined considerably.

In order to maintain an acceptable level of memberships to keep us financially sound it was voted in at the 2007 reunion to allow all former employees of the MoPac Railroad to become members. This new provision provided us with 45 new members since the 2007 reunion; we now have over 250 members.

We tried to start a new attraction in 2007 but without the knowledge or the right equipment it failed. Then we found that Marcia Donahue had the knowledge to put on a slide show of pictures of members attending past reunions, however we still needed a projector.

One was purchased and I now ask for a motion from the floor to pay for the projector. A motion was made & seconded to allow Mr. Allen to issue a check for \$641.00 to the secretary for the projector.

In order to pay for the projector, it was suggested not to publish a directory each year which cost about \$750.00. Hopefully the directory will be on our website soon. After that a letter of changes, additions & or deletions to the directory will be sent

to all members until the membership request that a new directory be published. This savings will more than pay for the cost of the projector.

Dom & Jacquelyn Pratt asked for a few minutes to address the survey that was handed out asking for suggestions of what the members would like to see at Omaha reunion.

With that, Mr. Allen asked if there be no other business, he requested a motion to adjourn. Motion made and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4pm.

**These Minutes were written by Secretary ... John Lambert
Approved by 2008 Host ... Lester Allen**