

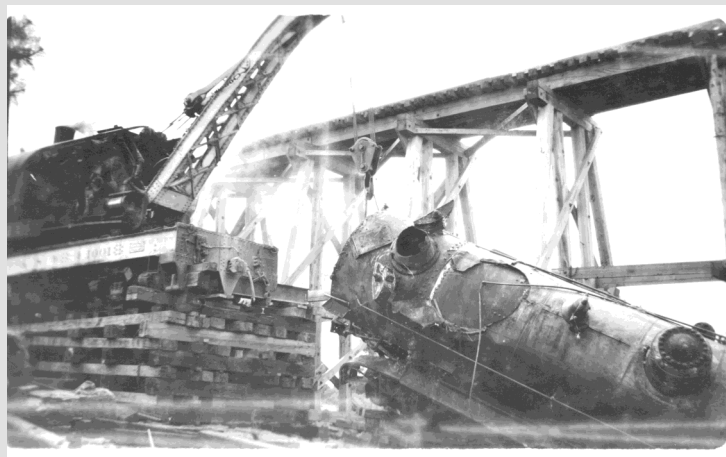
The next meeting of the Southwest Chapter will be at Avila's Restaurant, 6232 N. Mesa, El Paso at 6 pm on Wed. March 12, 2014. Visitors welcome.

Special points of interest:

- 1915 Flood
- Chapter News
- Harvey Girls

Tucumcari—An Exceptional Flood, 1915

From the Vernon Glover Collection



Visit the website of the Railroad & Transportation Museum of El Paso at elpasorails.org. While in a transition stage, the museum is posting more content online.

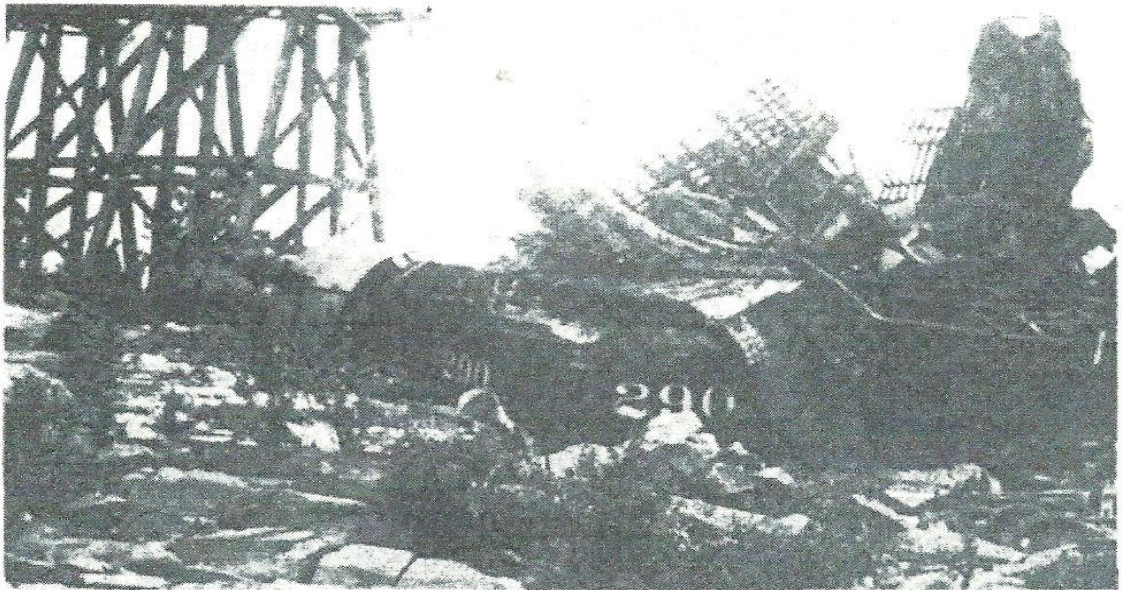
AN EXCEPTIONAL FLOOD.

By J. L. CAMPBELL,

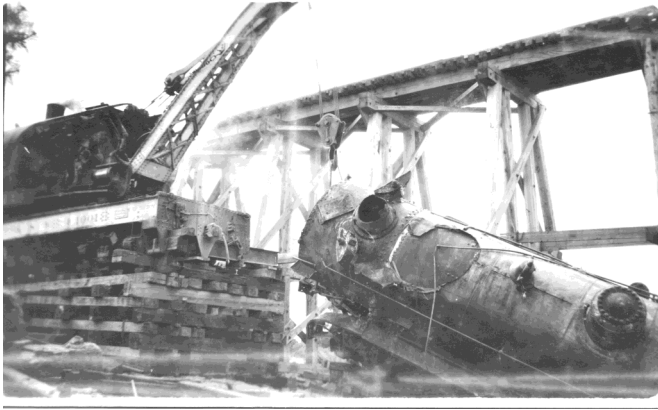
Engineer Maintenance of Way, El Paso & Southwestern System.

On the evening of July 19, 1915, 108 feet of bridge 2217 on the El Paso & Southwestern Railroad, near Indiolo, New Mexico, were washed out by a flood from a drainage area of 8.87 square miles, as shown on the accompanying map showing the bridge, drainage area and the sectional area of the water.

At 5 p. m. the water service foreman passed over the bridge on a motor car, at which time no rain was falling in the vicinity. At 7 p. m. a westbound freight train plunged into the flood through the washed out section of the bridge. At 9 p. m. the flagman of eastbound passenger train



No. 4 crossed the stream on foot from the west to the east end of the bridge around the latter and the wreck. This indicates the short duration and violence of the rainfall and flood. The engineer, fireman, one brakeman and two tramps were drowned, their bodies afterwards being found at points from 12 to 15 miles below the bridge. The train was composed principally of 100,000-lbs. capacity steel coal and coke cars. Several of these cars were washed down the water course to distances varying from 500 to 1500 feet from the bridge. Apparently, the section of washed-out bridge was swept from under the track without breaking the latter. Otherwise, the block signal to the east of the bridge would have stopped the freight train. Evidently, the latter broke the rails and bonding, for passenger train No. 4 coming from the west was stopped by the signal to the west of the bridge.



Ed. Note: EP&SW 290 is believed to have become SP 3450, (Schenectady, 1907.)

SOUTHWEST CHAPTER OF RAILWAY & LOCOMOTIVE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

February 12, 2014 at Avila's Mexican Food Restaurant

El Paso, Texas

President Steven Heetland called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Treasurer's Rick Brightman provided a financial recap Christmas Party/Dinner of 2013 : \$300 income, \$257.30 expenses, Profit of \$42.70 for 21 attendees (20 paid, LC RR Museum Director's meal was comped). Meal was from Lorenzo's Italian Restaurant in Las Cruces.

Announcements:

1. Rick Brightman announced upcoming lectures at the Las Cruces Railroad Museum:

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| March 11, 2014 | <i>Joe Gill, Silver City historian, "Regional Railroads"</i> |
| April 8, 2014 | <i>Lisa Neal, Hatch Public Library, "Train History in the Region"</i> |
| May - | <i>Open</i> |
| June 10, 2014 | <i>Zoe Richmond, Union Pacific "Intermodal Rail Yard in Santa Teresa"</i> |
| July 8, 2014 | <i>Pat Beckett, Las Cruces historian and author</i> |
| August 12, 2014 | <i>Joe Gill, Silver City historian, "Regional Railroads"</i> |
| Sept. 9, 2014 | <i>Charles Gruver, "Durango & Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad"</i> |

2. Status of Transportation Museum: Woody Bare announced the current location at Texas & Pacific Depot is being vacated, hopefully by the end of this week, and that storage is at a number of places: Santa Teresa Storage (T. Seward); Car Barn, a room at Alamo School in cooperation with Insights (for six months) , to name a few sites.



Southwest Chapter
Railway & Locomotive Historical Society

TO:

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EP&SW Flyer
March 2014



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3. Harvey Girls Lynn Brightman and Patricia Kidney reported :

January 31 – February 2, 2014: Harvey Girls acted as hostesses during the recent Trost Preservation Society of Tucson visit to El Paso by greeting the visitors as they arrived on Amtrak; assisting with Morris Brown's finale program and book sales, and, sending off the 50 visitors with a handout of the history Union Passenger Station Depot and the Harvey House Restaurant 1906-1948. Pres Dehrkoop and Patricia Kidney. Effective February 12, 2014, the Harvey Girls have completed and signed off on By-laws and Standing Rules, ready to obtain a bank account by the March meeting. Mailing address is Harvey Girls of El Paso, P. O. Box 3244, El Paso, Texas 79923. Email : harveygirlsep@gmail.com. Meeting site is Union Passenger Station Depot, 2nd Monday monthly from 2-4 p.m. 2014 officers are President: Patricia Kidney, Secretary Angela Amparan, Treasurer Prestene Dehrkoop.

Provided handouts for the March 9, 2014: 108th Anniversary Celebration at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology, 4301 Transmountain Road, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Newly Released documentary, "Harvey Girls: Opportunity Bound" by Katrina Parks will be shown at 2:30. Visitors will experience Harvey Girl Hospitality with Exhibits of the El Paso Harvey House Restaurant at the Union Station .

4. Patricia Kidney announced all Harvey Girl and Railroad related items removed for safe storage during the Railroad Museum's move out June 15-17, 2013 and kept at her home, are being returned to Prince McKenzie this date, who stated he wanted to put the items in storage. A letter of transmittal and inventory of said items was presented to Transportation Museum Treasurer Woody Bare in Prince's absence, as was a certificate of appreciation for Prince's support of the Harvey Girls' Vision.

Program : Slide show was presented by Phil Weborg "Day Trip of 1875 Engine #4 from Antonito to Chama Colorado, June 1990.

Next meeting: March 12, 2014 , Avila's Restaurant. Program: Rick Brightman "Railroads of the Civil War".