



## LAKE SUPERIOR TRANSPORTATION CLUB

Lake Superior Museum of Transportation and Industry

506 WEST MICHIGAN STREET • DULUTH, MINNESOTA 55802

### NEWSLETTER

January 16, 1975

THE NEXT MEETING will be held at 7:30 P.M. Friday, January 24 in the Multi-media Room of the Heritage Center adjacent to the transportation museum. Please use the transportation museum entrance. Plans for the coming year will be discussed. The program will feature several color films by Frank King of Canadian Pacific steam, Rio Grande narrow gauge steam in the 1950's, Twin City street cars, and more. Refreshments will be served.

DECEMBER'S MEETING was one of the best attended in many months. A standing-room-only crowd in the Multi-media Room saw several 8 mm. films by Frank King of steam railroading across the country from East Broad Top narrow gauge to Southern Pacific mainline steam in the Southwest. An unexpected delight was the showing of some 16 mm. color films by Bob Heyer of railroading in North Dakota and Montana in the 1940's and 50's. Included were NP branchline steam and gas-electrics and NP, SOO, and Milwaukee mainline trains.

1975 MEMBERSHIP DUES are now payable and a statement has been enclosed as a reminder to those who have not renewed. Also enclosed is a member information form. We ask that this form be completed by everyone and mailed with their 1975 dues to the address shown at the bottom of the form. The information provided on the form will help the club officers in planning activities.

WEDNESDAY EVENING continues to be the model railroad work night at the museum. Contact Jim Long (724-8128) or Ed Knych (525-6244) for further details. Thursday evenings are scheduled for equipment restoration work at the museum. Contact Tom Gannon (525-3390) or Dale Carlson (624-4496) for details. Saturday remains the main work activity day at the museum. Hours are 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

MODEL RAILROADERS working at the museum on a recent Wednesday were treated to two color films by John Blamey and two by Frank King who were experimenting with a new projector and screen in the media room.

ELEVEN MEMBERS JOURNEYED to St. Paul on December 8 to visit the Twin City Model Railroad Club at the St. Paul Union Depot. A very good time was had by everyone. Their O-scale railroad has been an attraction in the Twin Cities for more than 30 years. Their HO scale railroad, known as the Lake Superior, St. Paul and

Winona, went into operation in 1969 and is a fine example of a well-planned and well-engineered model railroad. It has over 400 feet of mainline track and 275 track switches. Timetables and train orders govern all train movements on the railroad. Features such as walk-around controls, a telephone communication system and "fast time" clocks make for a realistic railroad operation. The highlight of our visit was the operating session. Transportation Club members split up into two- and three-man crews and with Twin City Club members operated time freights, local freights, passenger limiteds, and yard switching jobs. The "inexperienced" crews gave the dispatcher a few anxious moments but found the exposure to timetable operation to be an education. We look forward to more visits in future months. The Twin City Model Railroad Club is open to the public Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9:00 and is well worth the visit.

PLANS FOR AN ANNUAL MEETING are being made. A charter and by-laws will be ready for approval by the membership. An election of officers will be held at the meeting also. The present officers were appointed when the club was formed. Since some two years have passed and the projects begun by the present officers are well under way, it is time to give others an opportunity for leadership.

During the past two years it became evident that certain positions that had been created should be modified due to changing needs. Also, additional leadership would be needed in certain areas not recognized previously. Therefore, the officers have developed an organization structure that is believed will meet the needs of the club.

To assure a smooth changeover at election time, all positions will be for two-year terms and only five positions will be open for election in any one year. The positions are: President, Vice-President-Administrative, Vice-President-Liaison, Secretary, Treasurer, Director-Equipment Restoration, Director-Displays, Director-Model Railroad, Director-Operations, and Editor. Positions to be open for election this year are: Vice-President-Administrative, Treasurer, Director-Equipment Restoration, Director-Displays, and Director-Operations.

A nominating committee has been formed to recommend a slate of candidates for this election. The committee consists of Charley Summers, Bob Mortinsen, and Dave Carlson. Members who wish to be considered for an officer position should contact any member of the nominating committee before February 1, 1975.

It should be noted that holding an elective position in this club carries a degree of responsibility with it. The membership is growing steadily and, more importantly, the demands on our organization are increasing daily due to the approaching opening of the museum. Once the museum is open to the public, the subsequent operation and maintenance functions will become a major responsibility. The operation of excursion trains in conjunction with the museum will be possible only if the club's commitment to the museum has been met. This museum has the potential of being one of the

finest of its kind in the country and our club can be a major part of it. To assure this, we need capable leaders who are willing to devote a significant part of their time to this end.

THE CLUB NEEDS a 2 or 4 drawer file cabinet in good condition in which to keep club records and materials. If any member knows of one that may be donated or offered at a reasonable price, contact Dave Carlson at 722-5097.

THE HERITAGE CENTER office is receiving requests daily for tours through the transportation museum. Such tours would have to be guided and restricted to a limited number in the interest of safety and effectiveness. The Heritage Center does not now have the staff to handle such tours. If any member of the transportation club would be willing to help by being available for a given day or part of a day each week to serve as a tour guide, please contact Dave Carlson.

SECURITY in the museum has been somewhat of a problem in recent months. Due to the limited staff working in the Heritage Center complex, it is difficult to properly control visitors. To avoid possible personal injury or loss of property it is imperative that those working in the museum see that all doors are secure and locked when leaving. This includes both museum and Heritage Center doors and railroad equipment doors. Please note also that a separate ADT system controls the Heritage Center and no one should enter the building from the transportation museum evenings or weekends.

Wayne Olsen  
President

David Carlson  
Secretary