



Hampton & Branchville #44

Steam locomotive #44 was built by Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia, Pa. in January 1927. It was built for the Hampton & Branchville Railroad, at the time, a logging railroad at Hampton (Miley), SC. The locomotive has never been out of the state of South Carolina since being purchased by the Hampton and Branchville Railroad. Retired 1959, it was sold to the Charleston SC Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society in June, 1969. It was used by the Charleston chapter in the 1970 NRHS national convention held in Charleston along with Southern Railway steam locomotives #4501, #630, #722 and #1 2-4-2 "One Spot" privately owned by Cole and Marion Walters. After the convention, it was said to be used in and around the Southern Railway freight yard in Charleston. Ownership was transferred over to the South Carolina Railroad Museum on June 10, 1991.

A committee known as "Project 44" was created January 1, 2009 to carry out the planning, assessment, fund raising, restoration, crew training and operation of locomotive #44. It is our goal to have the locomotive restored to operating condition for use on the South Carolina Railroad Museum's operating railroad. Any donations are greatly appreciated and are tax deductible. The Museum is a 501 (c) (3) organization. Make checks payable to The South Carolina Railroad Museum and in the memo line put Locomotive 44.

Donations can be mailed to: Project 44
PO Box 512
Winnsboro, SC 29180

Specifications are:

Wheel arrangement: 4-6-0 ten wheeler
Builder's number: 59751
Boiler pressure: 180 psi
Cylinders: diameter – 19"; stroke – 26"
Driving wheel diameter: 51"
Length of engine and tender: 56' 7 ¼ "
Tender capacity: 5,000 gallons of water and 8 tons of coal

Project 44
Steam Locomotive Restoration
P.O. Box 512
Winnsboro, SC 29180
scrmsteam@yahoo.com

The South Carolina Railroad Museum has started planning for one of the most ambitious and exciting projects undertaken by this organization since it was established in 1973. We are restoring steam locomotive #44 for operation on the Rockton, Rion, and Western Rail Road. This engine can be seen at the entrance of the SCRM in Winnsboro, SC, where it has been on static display for many years.

A committee known as "Project 44" was organized by Marty Chaney and Rufus Timms on January 1, 2009 to carry out the planning, assessment, fund raising, restoration, crew training and operation of this locomotive. It is the goal of this committee to have this locomotive restored and operating as quickly as possible.

The assessment phase of this project was completed on March 17, 2009 by Jeff Parrott from Restoration Solutions of Knoxville, TN. A thorough inspection of #44 was made to determine the condition of the locomotive and provide cost estimates for restoration. The results of this assessment are extremely encouraging. The current condition of #44 is much better than expected so the cost of restoration will be significantly less than what is normally required for this type of project. The total cost could easily have been as much as \$800,000 but our cost will be a third of that amount (this also includes cost of a building to house and secure the engine). This was a pleasant surprise for everyone.

Needless to say, this is a tremendous opportunity for SCRM to create additional interest in and revenue from the operation of our rail road. Preservation of #44 is especially important to the museum because it is truly a South Carolina locomotive (it is the only engine of this type located in SC at this time and it has never operated out of the state). The 4-6-0 wheel arrangement (or ten wheeler) is not as common as other types of road engines that operated in the early 1900's. Of 72 standard gauge ten-

wheelers listed in the US today, (www.steamlocomotiveinfo.com), only 5 are operational and 6 are currently being restored for operation. The history and specifications of #44 are attached, it really is one of a kind.

This brings us to the fund raising phase of Project #44. To kick this project off, we are selling Project #44 tee shirts for \$15.00. They are navy blue, come in all popular sizes and can be purchased at the Rockton station. Next we have had a coloring book designed by Jenni Timms (Rufus's daughter in law) for the Project #44 we are selling those at \$3.00. They also can be purchased at the Rockton station. Next, we commissioned Frank Crowe, a popular Georgia artist, to paint Hampton and Branchville #44 pulling freight across the Salkehatchie Swamp in the South each copy signed and numbered by the painter. A total of 150 prints were made so be sure to reserve one as soon as possible, I expect they could become very collectable. They can be purchased at the Rockton station or by calling Marty Chaney at (803) 261-1144 or Rufus Timms at (803) 445-6751 for a minimum donation of \$30.00 each. We have also had interest from businesses in the Columbia area to support Project #44.

Jenni Timms has taken the "Project 44" into Fort's Pond Elementary in Pelion, South Carolina and is now selling the shirts and coloring books through the schools PTO as a fundraiser for the Project 44. She can be reached at (803) 354-2208

Thank you in advance for anything that you may be able to do to help us with this project.

Marty Chaney
Rufus Timms
Jenni Timms
Project 44

Locomotive #44 Print



© Frank Crowe 2009

Hampton & Branchville 4-6-0 #44 - Miley, SC
H. W. B. B. #44 pulling a freight across the Santee/Savannah Swamp in the Lowland Low Country.

Copies of this print can be acquired for a donation of \$30 or more towards the restoration fund of ex-Hampton & Branchville steam locomotive #44. The picture was painted by railroad artist Frank Crowe of Calhoun, Ga. All prints are signed and numbered. It depicts locomotive #44 pulling a freight across the Low Country swamp lands of South Carolina on the Hampton & Branchville Railroad. The size of the print is 12" x 18". The actual picture size is 10" x 14". Prints can be acquired at the South Carolina Railroad Museum's gift shop or by calling Marty Chaney at 803-261-1144 or Rufus Timms at 803-445-6751.