

"CNW Historical Society Archive Fund Raising

The society, which I think ranks at or near the top of the list of such organizations dedicated to a single railroad and its predecessors has, over the years accumulated a large collection of C&NW photos, records, maps, timetables, documents, etc. It is recognized as a leading source of information about the railroad for authors, historians, railroad families and any number of other interested parties. The collection has been housed at locations in WI, IL and IA, none of which is adequate in terms of space for the material and the dedicated members who work to organize and research the material. Additionally, it now looks as if one of them will have to be vacated in a year or so.

After much study and consideration the society has made arrangements to construct a building to support its mission and house the archives at the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, IL and is currently raising funds to finance the project. The building is planned to resemble one of the C&NW's "downtown" ticket offices. The goal is \$500,000 and to date, about \$150,000 has been raised.

I feel like the C&NW was one of the most interesting of all railroads and preserving its history is a noble cause which I'd urge anyone with an interest and ability to do so to support. The building will include a "Wall of Memories" on which you can purchase a tile with your name or the name of someone who was important in your life. Check out their web site "cnwhs.org" for details on how to help.

Chris Burger"

I hope all's well with you. This year is the 50th anniversary of my hiring out on the C&NW and I'm hoping to make it to one or two of the Veterans meetings. Maybe I'll see you there.

Thanks.

Chris