

**Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** John S. Thostesen Family papers  
**Dates:** 1916-1986  
**Collection Number:** MS 470  
**Creator/Collector:**  
**Extent:** One half box + 1 oversized folder  
**Repository:** California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives  
Sacramento, California 95814  
**Abstract:** Papers collected by John S. Thostesen while he worked as an engineer for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and those of his wife, Marie. Material includes dues receipts from the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen, and Veteran's Association of the Burlington Lines membership cards. Marie Thostesen's papers include membership cards from the Veterans' Association Ladies' Auxiliary and passes to travel on the railroad.  
**Language of Material:** English  
**Access**  
This collection is open for research at our off-site storage facility with one week's notice. Contact Library & Archives staff to arrange for access.  

**Publication Rights**  
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**Preferred Citation**  
John S. Thostesen Family papers. California State Railroad Museum Library and Archives  

**Acquisition Information**  
Gift of Patrick Hopkins [great-grandson of John and Marie Thostesen], 2014.  

**Biography/Administrative History**  
John S. Thostesen was born on January 22, 1888 in Nebraska. He grew up in Nebraska and went to Colorado College in Colorado Springs. In 1916, John joined the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad as an engineman. By 1926, he was an engineer on the Sterling Division. He belonged to the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen. He retired in 1955 or 1956. Mr. Thostesen died on December 30, 1957 in Sterling, Colorado. Marie (Thurman) was the wife of John S. She was born on October 10, 1898 in Lordsburg, New Mexico. The Thostesens were married on February 22, 1936 while they were living in Denver, Colorado, but later moved to Sterling, Colorado. Both Thostesens were active in the Veterans' Association of the Burlington Lines.  

**Scope and Content of Collection**  
Papers collected by John S. Thostesen while he worked as an engineer for the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad and those of his wife, Marie. Material includes dues receipts from the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen & Enginemen, and Veteran's Association of the Burlington Lines membership cards. Marie Thostesen's papers include membership cards from the Veterans' Association Ladies' Auxiliary and passes to travel on the railroad.