

Hot



Scoop

HotScoop Shovel Logo by Larry Rose

A publication dedicated to San Diego Railroad Museum volunteers

September 2000

MUSEUM NEWS

VOL XII NO IX

<<<Robert L. Miles May 22, 1935 to July 11, 2000>>> *Dick Pennick*



Photo by Randy Houk 5-29-99

Robert L. "Bob" Miles, a 4-year Museum member and volunteer, has taken his final ride to that Great Terminal which awaits us all. He was 65.

He passed away at his home in San Diego, which he shared with his long-time companion and Museum volunteer/employee Terri Gregory, after an unsuccessful battle with pancreatic cancer.

Bob was born in Long Beach, Calif. and spent part of his youth with a tinsplate toy train set and riding freight trains with his grandfather, a Conductor with the Southern Pacific Railroad out of Colton, Calif. It would be interesting to speculate on the possibility that, on one of those freight

train rides just after WWII, there was also a tall, young steam fireman named Richard Dick manning the left side of the steam engine at the front of the train! Dick, also a Museum volunteer, passed away earlier this year.

Bob enlisted in the U.S. Navy about 1952 and spent two tours in Southeast Asia as well as multiple assignments at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., before his retirement in the 1980's with the rank of Master Chief. After military retirement, he worked in government civil service as a Contract Administrator for programs that included the Tomahawk missile.

Bob and Terri eventually discovered the San Diego Railroad Museum and became members in 1996. The Museum had just completed its restoration of former Southern Pacific steam locomotive #2353, and Bob wasted no time getting involved with the Steam Team and other Museum functions.

In September 1996, he accepted the position of Manager of the Museum's steam locomotive program after the resignation of steam Superintendent Richard Dick. He became a Museum Trustee in 1998 and served on the Finance and Personnel committees. Bob also served as a private car service steward and as a voting member of the Qualification Board.

He and Terri had a travel trailer parked near the Campo Car Shop for several years, as part of a small community of trailers and campers set up by Steam Team members and others to provide temporary overnight accommodations. Bob and Terri shared many starlit evenings at their trailer with other Museum volunteers after a long day of effort.

Bob loved golf as well as trains, and was a member of the San Bernardino Railroad Historical Society, the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Museum, and the Poway Midland Railroad in Poway, Calif., in addition to the local symphony association and the Zoological Society.

Bob leaves behind his companion, Terri Gregory; a daughter, Barbara Miles of Chula Vista; two sons, Gregory of Santee and David of Chula Vista; his mother, Dorothy Miles of Indio, Calif., and four grandchildren.

Private services were held at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery.

The family suggests that, in lieu of flowers, memorial contributions be made in Bob's name to the American Cancer Society breast cancer research, San Diego Hospice, or the Steam Locomotive 2353 Fund in care of the San Diego Railroad Museum.

<<<Denby Jones>>> *The Jones Family*



Our family would like to extend a notice to members of the SAN DIEGO RAILROAD MUSEUM that DENBY JONES passed away due to complications of cancer on Aug. 28, 2000. Denby gave 100 percent of himself to the museum for untold weekends and years upon end. The past few years he spent away from the day-to-day operations of the Museum were even more difficult for him as trains were his life's ambition. Condolences can be sent to:

Mrs. Denby G. Jones, Jr.
4318 Mt. Herbert Avenue
San Diego, CA 92117

The memorial service for Denby will be on Friday, September 8 at 2:00pm at Holy Cross Cemetery in San Diego. The service will take place in the Mausoleum Chapel.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CEMETERY AND MAUSOLEUM
4470 HILLTOP DRIVE
SAN DIEGO, CA 92102

Take I-805 to Market Street offramp (near Hwy94) and exit east to Hilltop Drive and turn left. This street ends at the entrance to the cemetery.

<<<Facilities Report>>> *Jim Lundquist*

Lots of good news to report this past month.

First, the track gang has moved and rearranged the accumulation of "stuff" in the Visitor's Center. This allowed them to finish grading, put down ties and rails, and start spiking track #6. In addition, a street crossing made by Dick McIntyre was also installed outside the large door serving track 6. Next up, track 5. Great job, track gang! Signs over tracks 2,3,5 & 6 are now installed, lettered by Larry Owens.

A general cleanup is underway. The first order of business is at the Campo Depot. Plans for the recyclables are ongoing, and the plastic posts and plastic chains as well. The bathroom doors now use the standard equipment locks to both lock them open and closed. The broken, cracked or covered over depot windows are being replaced. Paul Broer has pledged to install a cooler with duct in the attic. The roof will be repaired. I need help staining the tables - perfect for a job between trains for a crewmember. The cleanup will extend around the yard too, starting with a path between the lower yard and the upper yard.

Several planning efforts are now underway. A minor maintenance around the depot area, to include underground electrical service, new fencing, new bathroom ramps and reorganizing will be starting this month. New electrical service to the Visitor's Center, shop area and AT&SF crane is being planned out. In addition, the Facilities Department is surveying our active volunteers - we need to hear from you regarding your needs for overnight accommodations. Several ideas are being discussed: a bunk room, a bunk trailer, a bunk railroad car and asking volunteers to fix up a room in the section house for their use. In addition, we need a place for the volunteers to park their RV's overnight (not permanently).

Please write (Jim Lundquist, 2414 Manzana Way, San Diego, CA 92139), call (619/470-7553) or e-mail me at Lundquist@sdrm.org with your ideas on how we can provide for your overnight needs while you volunteer for the museum. Our next meeting is September 18th - please attend if you are interested in helping improve our facilities and becoming involved.

<<<ATSF 1509 Wash-N-Wax Weekend>>> Sue Ann Taggart, Chief Steward

Last summer a number of great volunteers pitched in to wash and wax the Robert Peary and everyone agreed the car looked WONDERFUL! Well, it's time for ATSF 1509 to get the same treatment. Saturday, September 23 is the day, 9:00 a.m. is starting time, and Campo is the place. The car will be completely washed, rubbing compound will be used to get off the many years of oxidation, and finally a coat of wax will be applied. Your help would be very welcome. If you have a power buffer, we really need you and it! Bring your friends and relatives! If you work with a school or church youth group, Scout troop, or any other group of eager young people, rally them to help, too. Makes it go faster, makes it more fun, and like last year, everybody will get lunch. Plan now to come lend a hand. If you want more details, have some helpful ideas or want to "sign up", call Sue Ann at (858) 672-2318.

<<<From the Training Officer>>> Jim Baker

TRAINMAN'S CLASS

The Fall Trainman's class will be held on October 23 & 30 (Monday evenings) at Cuyamaca College, and on Sat., Nov. 4, all day (10 AM - 5 PM) at Campo. The College has scheduled the Monday evenings for Room D-113, from 6:30 to 9:00 P.M. The college's fee for the class is \$37.00. All Trainmen who have not taken this class, please plan to do so. Put those dates on your calendars now!

If you live in the Grossmont/Cuyamaca College District, look for registration information in their Community Learning "PREVIEW" catalog, which you should receive in the mail this month (don't confuse this with their regular College information which is also mailed out). If you don't live in the District, contact the Training Officer for information. Also, EVERYONE please pass the word about this class to your friends and neighbors. More crewmembers will always be needed in continuing and expanding our operations.

BRAKEMAN / SPEEDER OPERATOR CLASS

This class for is now scheduled for Nov. 14 & 21 (Tues. evenings) and Dec. 2 & 9 (Saturdays). The Tuesday sessions will meet at La Mesa Depot, from 7 to 9 P.M. and the Saturday sessions will meet all day at Campo. Speeder Operators need to take the Rules portion of the class (Nov. 14) and the first couple of hours of the Dec. 2, session. Remember, to become certified as a Brakeman, you must have first taken the Trainman's class and worked as a trainman. If you are interested, please let me know as soon as possible, so I can get the proper amount of training materials together. Fee will be \$25, for a Rule Book and Basic Training Manual.

RULE OF THE MONTH

Rule 8.8 requires that when switches are equipped with locks, the lock must be kept locked when the switch is not in use. When making any movements over these switches, the lock must be placed in the hasp; the lock must be locked when making a facing point movement.

General Order #1, under Rule 8.8, modifies the above rule to state that the lock may be left unlocked when switching in yard limits with light engines, empty freight cars, or UNOCCUPIED passenger cars. The lock will be locked during ANY movements in Mexico.

Example: When switching during the make-up of empty passenger trains at Campo Depot, the switch lock does not need to be locked during any facing point movements. However, when either a Tecate or Miller Creek train, with passengers, is moving onto the Passing Track on return to Campo, the switch locks MUST BE LOCKED. Note that this would also apply to the derail on the passing track for Tecate trains.

<<<Air Brake Test Stand>>> *Dick Pennick*

Our second-hand air brake test stand in the Brake Room at the Campo shop needs a lot of work to bring it up to a level where it can perform the job it was designed for.

W. Vernon Cook has been added to the list of donors for this important project. Thanks to all that have so far chipped in to this very worthwhile endeavor. We have less than \$300 to go to accomplish our goal.

<<<Web page update>>> *Randy Houk*

I have added new photos of Jo and Richard Pope, Steve Kostelak, Greg Perrin and Mike Edwards. These folks and others can be seen at <http://www.sdrm.org/gallery/people/>.

<<<Year 2000 Dates of Note>>>

	September	October	November	December
Staff meeting (1900@Solar)	5	2	6	4
Campo to Tecate	16,23	7,21,28	4,18,25	2,16
School Train	19	17		
Brunch Train		8,22	5	3
Dinner Train				9
Carrizo Gorge Speeders		21,22	18,19	16,17
Coronado Branch Speeders		1	5	3
Trainman class		23,30	4	
Brakeman class			14,21	2,9
Board meeting (1830@Solar)	26	24	28	
Museum Services meeting	27	25	29	
Deadline for HS articles	28	28	28	28

<<<Article Submissions>>>

Please submit articles in pure text (.txt) or MS Word (.doc) format. E-mail to hotscoop@sdrm.org is preferred. Send address changes to the editor.

<<<PHONE NUMBERS and e-mail>>>

Web page: <http://www.sdrm.org>

SDRM ADMINISTRATION

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Museum Phone (La Mesa Depot)	(619) 697-7762	
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HotScoop Editor, Randy Houk	(858) 672-0111	hotscoop
La Mesa Depot	(619) 697-7762	
Campo Depot	(619) 478-9937	
Campo Car Shop	(619) 478-9451	
Campo Caretaker, Thomas Lee Braginton	(619) 478-9344	

DEPARTMENT HEADS

		@sdrm.org
Executive Director, Rich Borstadt	(619) 294-9321	borstadt
Research, Bruce Semelsberger	(619) 264-7282	
Library, vacant		
Operations, Lew Wolfgang	(619) 662-1963	wolfgang
Safety, Jack O'Lexey	(858) 274-4449	olexey
Restoration, Ted Kornweibel	(619) 461-0098	kornweibel
Mechanical, Gary Sweetwood	(619) 561-9402	
Steam, Dwight Koller	(619) 478-9348	
Diesel, Darren Apedaile	(619) 589-1966	apedaile
Training, Jim Baker	(619) 670-7441	baker
Trainmen/Guides, Bob Schussler	(619) 698-1458	schusslerb
La Mesa Depot, Jim Polloreno	(619) 590-2892	polloreno
Facilities, Jim Lundquist	(619) 470-7553	lundquist