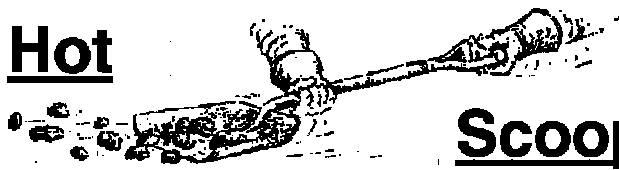


Hot



Scoop

HotScoop Shovel Logo by Larry Rose

A publication dedicated to San Diego Railroad Museum volunteers

April 2001

MUSEUM NEWS

VOL XIII NO IV

*** Spring Festival & Old-Time Days Update *** *Dick Pennick*

Final preparations are going well for this 2-day Museum extravaganza, to be held in the main parking lot of our Campo facility over the weekend of May 5th and 6th.

With the recent addition of several hundred tons of commercial sand awaiting sale at the south end of the parking lot, some members have suggested the event's name be changed to "Spring Festival & Sand Castle Contest"! However, Carriso Gorge Railway principal Gary Sweetwood reports he will do whatever it takes to reduce the impact of this huge man-made mountain by Festival time.

There is going to be a high demand for members to help with all of the planned train operations, interpretive programs, ticket sales, trouble-shooting, etc. Please plan to make yourself available for this very important weekend, which is intended to showcase the museum and its historical mission in a way that will introduce thousands of new folks to the fun and exciting things we do at Campo and elsewhere.

For docent roles, call Mike Retz (619) 466-8808 or email mikeretz@aol.com. For train operations and trouble-shooting duties, Mike Edwards is the man at traindancer169@hotmail.com. For all other general assistance roles or information, call Dick Pennick at (619) 463-2276.

It's shaping up to be a truly memorable, exciting and fun weekend. Come out and celebrate Spring with us at Campo on May 5th and 6th! Gates open at 9 a.m. both days. If you would like an event flyer give me a call. **SEE YOU THERE!**

*** Annual Dinner *** *Ann McVeagh*

The awards winners are as follows:

Rail Fan of the Year: **Jim Polloreno**
Gold Spike: **Dwight Koller**
Silver Spikes: **Ken Kahan** and **Paul Lannen**
Jack Stodelle Award - **Ted Kornweibel**
Roger Challberg Award - **Dick Pennick**
Director's Award - **Mike Edwards**

Special Awards went to:

Bob and Sandy Schussler for their work with the Interpretation Program
Mike Reading for his work and efforts to keep the Coronado Branch Line open
Jack O'Lexey for his continuing efforts in a variety of programs

The International Humanitarian award went to **Margaret and Charlie Coval** for their monumental effort in organizing the 3-Kings Train to Tecate every year (easily the biggest event with which the museum is involved during the year.)

A special Media and Promotion Award went to **Marianne Gerdes** for her work on the PBS film "The Impossible Railroad", fund raising and editing the "Report". And last but not least the Eager Beaver Awards went to newcomers **Josh O'Brien**, **Seth Miller**, **Melissa Taylor** and **Tommy Batts**.

And a Special thanks to all the volunteers that did not get awards this year. Your work is especially appreciated. Being unsung does not mean unseen! And a *Thank You* to all that attended the Annual Dinner. It is the only time during the year when we can see and visit with our colleagues in a purely social event and catch up with everyone's news. See you all next year. And if anyone has suggestions regarding the dinner please call me at the office.

***** Smooth Operations ***** *Robin Becker*

Saturday the 24th was sure a busy day for our operation. A very large group to Tecate (Ed. 370+), a good turnout for Miller Creek, a really quick turnaround for the Tecate train then off to Miller Creek for the *Trains Unlimited* folks and some photo runbys. Hats off to all the crews. All the while this was happening Jim Baker, Bob Nickles and Dwight Koller were working away on #2353.

With the debates over the changes going on, sometimes it's easy to overlook all the hard work. Whether it's Mike Edwards, Operations, Steam, Facilities, Mechanical, Jim Polloreno, and on and on - thanks to all the people that are giving so much time and effort.

***** Hazmat ***** *Jack O'Lexey*

The area under the Diesel tank where the 5-gallon buckets catch oil needs attention. I would like someone to build a metal containment around them, with maybe a door on one side and a sheet of metal on the top that overlaps the sides.

***** Museum Financial Report *****

Financial report not received by press time.

***** Buckman Springs: A Home For Man, Pre-Historic Times To The Present *****

from the Mountain Heritage publication, submitted by Mike Retz

Buckman Springs, comprised of six small carbonated springs on the eastern side of Cottonwood Creek, has been a home and gathering place for man from pre-historic times. Hundreds of years before Europeans arrived here, the area around the springs was occupied by Native American peoples whose descendants are known as Kumeyaay Indians. Today the Kumeyaay reside in nearby reservations such as Manzanita and La Posta. While today the Kumeyaay no longer occupy the area in the immediate vicinity of the springs, they regard it as an important part of their ancestral home. They were traditional hunters and gatherers, acorns being an important food staple.

Amos Buckman, for whom the area was named, came from Massachusetts, arriving in San Diego during the 1860's. He worked as a carpenter in San Diego and prospected in the eastern portion of San Diego County in the 1870's. He staked claim near the rest stop at the Agua Soda Springs, as they were known then. As early as 1880, Buckman attempted to bottle the spring water and sell it in San Diego. He turned his homestead into a campground for visitors who drank and bathed in the effervescent waters, which contained lithium as well as high concentrations of silica and iron. Throughout the decade, the spring water was popular as a tonic and elixir in San Diego and the East County.

By 1890, however, Buckman's health failed, along with his dream to develop a resort and spa. He died eight years later. If the springs had been warm instead of cold, they might have been more popular. Also, if their location had been less remote and barren, and the high iron content had not left a coat of metallic orange in the bottles, the resort might have materialized.

In 1901, Buckman's daughter Winifred, and her husband, Bruce Casebeer, formed a partnership with W. S. Waterman to market the water. In the first thirty years of the century, the water, then known as California Club Water, sold under many trade names and in different bottle sizes. Bottles used around 1910 were large, but in the 1920's, 24 half-pint bottles to the case sold for \$1.50 and \$2.00 for a pint size, delivered free.

Meanwhile, the location was an important stop on Old Highway 80, famous in the early days, along with Jacumba, as one of the only two spots between El Centro and San Diego where a steady stream of water was available for filling radiators.

The Depression of the 1930's shut down the business, and it was not revived again until January 1940. A Los Angeles syndicate attempted to market the water to hospitals, making it available by medical recommendation from doctors, but this plan, too, failed. The water was still available for overheated radiators, however, until Old Highway 80 became Interstate 8 in 1975. Then this function, too, passed into memory.

***** Web page update ***** *Randy Houk*

New to the Photo Gallery **Conductors** page this month is newly qualified Jim Polloreno. See Jim at <http://www.sdrm.org/gallery/people/conductors>. I am now also working on son Dave's high school baseball website. Dave has been pitching for about the same length of time that he's been coming out to Campo with me. I'm extremely proud of our youngest brakeman for both of these endeavors! <http://powayusd.sdcoc.k12.ca.us/MCHSbaseball>.

Don't forget that our web page has a link for Volunteer Services. You can see old issues of the Hot Scoop and a link to the Code of Federal Regulations. The username is "volunteer" and the password is "2353".

If you're receiving this via U.S. Mail and have recently gotten **E-mail**, please send an email to hotscoop@sdrm.org so we can add you to the 'members' list. We save postage that way!

*** Year 2001 Dates of Note ***

	April	May 5, 6	June
Spring Festival			
Staff meeting (1900 at Solar)	2	7	4
Campo to Tecate	14, 21, 28	12, 19, 26	9, 23, 30
Steam Train	21, 22	19, 20	
School Train	17	15	19
Brunch Train	22	13	17
Dinner Train	7		2
Wine Train	14		9
Board meeting (1830 at Solar)	26	24	28
Museum Services meeting (1900 at Solar)	25	30	27
Deadline for HS articles	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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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
Director of SD&A Railway, Mike Edwards	(619) 417-8970	edwards
Director of Campo Complex, Jim Polloreno	(619) 478-2140	polloreno
Research, Bruce Semelsberger	(619) 264-7282	
Library, vacant		
Operations, Mike Edwards	(619) 417-8970	edwards
Safety, vacant		
Environmental Affairs, Jack O'Lexey	(858) 274-4449	olexey
Restoration, Ted Kornweibel	(619) 461-0098	kornweibel
Mechanical, Darren Apedaile	(619) 589-1966	apedaile
Steam, Dwight Koller	(619) 478-9348	koller
Diesel, Darren Apedaile	(619) 589-1966	apedaile
Training, vacant		
Trainmen/Guides, Bob Schussler	(619) 698-1458	schusslerb
La Mesa Depot, Jim Polloreno	(619) 478-2140	polloreno
Facilities, vacant		
Volunteer Coordinator, Steve Kostelak	(619) 741-5217	kostelak