

RHS S.D. NEWSLETTER NO 3 MARCH 1965

1st ANNUAL S.D. COUNTY HISTORICAL CONVENTION... to be held at the Catamaran Hotel, San Diego, March 18, 19 and 20, 1965.

Exhibits and Displays, book displays and sales, museum exhibits of historic items, model railroad exhibit, antique car show, historic guns of the west, tours to sites of importance.

Advance registration may be made and check for \$2.00 to: First Annual San Diego County Historical Convention, P.O. Box 10571, Old San Diego Station, San Diego, California, 92110.

Late registrations may be made on March 18 at the Whaley House, or at the Catamaran Hotel. A complete brochure listing bus tours and all items on the program may be had from the above address if you have not been mailed one.

More information may be had by contacting our 3rd V.P., Gladys Skoen, 284-3449.

HOLIDAYS???? Continued from the Feb. Issue.....

We had a good story about our fine 1st V.P. arriving at Mazatlan during the night and sleeping till daylight and discovering his fine private car "Cyrus K. Holliday" and vacationing co-owners were no where to be found.....we did a wonderful thing, we sent the car to the beautiful city of Acapulco, Mexico---but the trains don't go to that there town! Jack got more sport out of that part of the story than the actual fun of his "missing" the car. Well, most of you that know where the trains go in Mexico probably figured it out, the car went on to Guadalajara...not Acapulco, someone said it went to Acapulco in a conversation and it just stuck there in the old brain and when the type was struck, thats how it came out.

CALIFORNIA SOUTHERN RAILROAD MUSEUM

180 "J" Street, San Bernardino, Calif. 92410

That is the address to make reservations for the first annual banquet to be held on March 9, 1965 at the Cathay Inn, 949 W. Highland Avenue in San Bernardino, 7:15 PM. (\$2.10 per person) If you wish to attend, include a self-addressed stamped envelope with your check. The program after the dinner will be about the L&N's famous Civil War locomotive, the "General", which is still in operating condition.

GOOD READING: The California Southern Express, subscription rate is \$1.00 per year, Chard Walker is currently the Editor & Publisher, send to museum office at the above address.

MARCH MEETING MONDAY, MARCH FIRST.

MONDAY, MARCH 1st, 1965 - 7:30 P.M. - 10:30 PM

Place= Santa Fe Railway Station, upstairs in the Safety Room.....

MEETING - PROGRAM - REFRESHMENTS - PRIZES.....

Be there, bring a friend, sign up a new member! PROGRAM- Bob Coyo will show slides on a very interesting rail operation....Transit in the Chicago area. Be on hand to view this show.

RHSofSD MARCH MEETING, MONDAY, MARCH 1st, 1965

FEBRUARY MEETING.....Some very fine 16mm film was viewed at the last RHSofSD meeting. The pictures were in black and white at the first portion, taken from 1930 onward, including the streamliners of the mid-30's and the fancy color schemes of the era. The films were also in good condition for the years that have rambed by since they were taken, the color shots of the original Milwaukee Road "Hiawatha's" and the 4-4-2 Atlantic types in streamlined shroud were great and some shots winding through the hills of the Cascade line were very interesting. The films were loaned to us by Mr. James Slocum and he did us the extreme pleasure of narrating the various scenes as the movies rolled along. He is spending several weeks vacation out in our sunny southland from his home in Wisconsin. Thanks to Mr. Slocum for a very enjoyable evening of very fine shots of steam in action and some colorful streamliners....action from the station roof at St. Paul were the tops in good steam action in and out of a yard.

RHSofSD EXCURSION CALENDAR????????

We can't tell you much, we should have the dates but nothing is confirmed at this time. COMING EVENTS: By bus, excursion to Palm Springs and a trip up Mt. San Jacinto on the world famous Aerial Tramway, probably during April..... by bus, excursion to Los Angeles Live Steamers meet in May, side trip to full sized home steam railroad.....by rail, excursion to Perris and O.E.T. museum streetcar operations, October.... Private car trip to L.A./Disneyland, using the "Cyrus K. Holliday" will be run at the first possible Sunday date.

There are several good trips by other groups in coming months, watch for the brochures.

RHS of SD NEWSLETTER, published monthly by the RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO, INC., (A California Non-Profit Corporation) Mail to: P.O. Box 9351, San Diego, California, 92109.

1965 OFFICERS: President- Dwight E. Couch, Jr.
First Vice-President- John B. "Jack" Stodelle.
Second Vice-President- Walter H. Silberhorn.
Third Vice-President- Gladys "Trains" Skeen.
Recording Secretary- Robert H. Coyo.
Corresponding Secretary- Barbara J. Thomson.
TREASURER- Fred R. "Fearless Freddie" Finke.
Excursion Director- Seeth L. "Corky" Thomson.
Historian- Clifford G. Skeen.
Board of Directors (members)- Earle A. Swaine,
Charles J. Rezek and Donald J. Decker.

"FARES PLEASE" 1965 Dues are due again.....

The members have been renewing at a steady rate but some of you have not sent your check as yet. The following have paid up for 1965 and those with and * in front of their name have also donated to the Restoration Fund and/or to the motor car/work car for O.E.T.-----

Kent E. Anderson, J. Dean Archibald, *A.R. Aske,
Robert W. Balzer, Ivan R. Baker, Byron C. Bean,
*C.E. Bell, A.L. Bergquist, Karl W. Eland,
**Henry F. Egenhagen, Steve Bollinger, Robert M. Calkins, *Robert W. Carlisle, *Joel Chambers,
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*Stanley R. Lauferksi, *T.E. Lindsay, **George R. Licuellyn, **John Lund, L.W. McCleary,
*Morey McDonald, Charles T. Mann, *S.C. Mickler,
Daisy Miller, Roy Miller, John Montgomery,
*Alden V. Morse, George W. Overshiner, Donald L. Pope, *Andrew W. Proctor, *Loretta Proctor,
Warren F. Quon, *James E. Reading, Charles J. Rezek, George W. Rider, Frank H. Ropinske,
*Jonathan Sapp, *Sibley Sellow, *Idell L. Sidney,
Walter H. Silberhorn, Clifford G. Skeen, Gladys L. Skeen, Mrs. Christy Smith, **Murray S. Smith,
Worthington C. Smith, John B. Stodelle, Earle A. Swaine, *Louis J. Thomas, Fred L. Ticknor,
Barbara J. Thomson, Seeth L. Thomson, *Chard L. Walker, Raymond W. Ward, Beatrice E. Welker,
Robert N. Wheatley, F.H. Willard, Adele R. Williams, Paul L. Wilson, *Mrs. Mildred J. Weedy,
*Fred H. Worsfold, *William A. Kingston.
THANKS TO ALL OF YOU THAT HAVE ADDED A DONATION WITH YOUR DUES. IT ALL HELPS KEEP THE DEL MAR EQUIPMENT AND CAR 54 RESTORATION WORK GOING.
(More dues have been arriving, not listed.)

RAIL TRANSIT----- The Bay Area Rapid Transit in the San Francisco part of the state is having three test cars for the future B.A.R.T. lines assembled in the Western Pacific roundhouse and shops at Sacramento. The cars are being put together by the Budd Co. The new cars will run on 5 foot 6 inch gauge track. The three test cars are typical Budd design with fluted siding but they are rather boxy in appearance. They will have special glass windows over the trucks for test observation.

The first rail is down on the test track near Concord, Calif. The test track will be four miles long and will later become a section of the over-all transit system.

MEANWHILE, IN SAN DIEGO-----There is still a transit problem and talk of the bus company being taken over by the City of San Diego. There is also talk and planning for a proposed mono-rail system around Mission Bay Park and lines to downtown and up Mission Valley. This is not supposed to be a transit line for commuters, it would be more of a tourist type line as well as a possible test line for future transit use.

AND IN THE LOS ANGELES AREA-----The once big far reaching interurban line is almost just a memory. The world famous PACIFIC ELECTRIC is slipping into the past as Southern Pacific is stenciled on all the P.E. equipment. The parent road is drawing the P.E. into the S.P. system. The line of the "Big Red Cars" is no more, in those terms, you have to go out to Perris now if you want to see or ride the P.E. All of the important right-of-way for future rapid transit is slowly slipping away, the once great system when needed the most is gone.

ALONG THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY COAST-----Our rail service has been cut back but not entirely lost. The Santa Fe "San Diegan" service isn't what it used to be but the trains are still running. The highways and airlines have cut into the revenue but even with the mail contract gone the shorter versions of a once thriving rail passenger business rolls on. Maybe if the trains can hold on long enough the future needs of a good transportation system between San Diego and Los Angeles will see the revival of the once busy and proud service. The trains run a bit short during the week and sport a single ALCO unit but they are running. Weekends are still 8 to 15 car trains on the peak runs.

NEW TRACK IN ROSE CANYON----- The new line in the north end of San Diego is going in nicely, a faster curve at Elvira, welded rail and a longer double track. The new south switch is in and the old turnout has been removed at this writing. Several signals have been relocated at Pacific Beach and in Rose Canyon also.

BAD WEATHER----- The Northwestern Pacific is as good as gone, that was the way it looked a short time back after the worst rains and flood waters in history took the horrible toll of a section of Northern California. Local papers have had articles on the floods and several of the big magazines have covered it. S.P. has a story in their current issue of the Bulletin. N.W.P. is still rebuilding, the S.P. main line is operating normally. It kind of makes one recall the Temecula mess of years ago and the end of railroading to San Diego via Elsinore and Fallbrook....it can happen, even today, when old man weather takes a turn for the worse, it CAN happen, I wonder what Mission Valley or the Sweetwater Valley would look like if we had a good 5 to 10 inches of rain???

MUSEUM....MUSEUM, WHICH WAY TO THE MUSEUM??

Presently the nearest railway museum is at Perris, California, the Orange Empire Trolley Museum. It is our great hope to establish an operating museum in the San Diego area too. The Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association is working toward that goal. This group originally was formed by some of the RHSofSD members who wanted action on a museum site. They have had a long hard struggle as did the RHSofSD for all of these years but as a group dedicated to this one goal it looks like they are getting closer to their dreams. Several possible locations are being considered, among which has been the hope of leasing the southern end of SD&AE track if the Coronado Strand tourist railroad becomes a reality. Keep after that dream fellows, one of these days things will swing in the right direction and that long sought after operating museum will be here. We need a place to display our many collections of historic interest too.

ORANGE EMPIRE TROLLEY MUSEUM....they need you and they need financial help, that is an old story but a true story. YOU can help the progress by lending a working hand on weekends or sending a few dollars to help with some of the current projects...O.E.T. P.O. Box 501, Perris. The Seventh Anniversary will be celebrated on Feb. 27-28, 1965. A good chance to go up and see the progress of the museum, learn of the future goals, etc., ride the streetcars!!

BLITHE-RIPILEX via Santa Fe and O.E.T.-----

A wonderful way to spend a weekend, aboard a chartered train, riding out in the wildest biggest hunk of the U.S.A. you ever saw and visiting a town that we thought kind of poorly and out of the way. Blithe turned out to be a bright spot on the horizon as we approached it late Saturday afternoon, Feb. 6th, it turned out to be a very bright spot as we arrived. The people of Blithe really did things up proud for the excursionists. Special bus transportation to our very lovely and NEW motels, bus service to a very fine and delicious pit barbecue dinner, all you could eat! A slide show on a very interesting yearly boating trip down the Colorado...held yearly, with hundreds of boats participating in the overnight trip on the river. All of the food and entertainment was given us by the Blithe Chamber of Commerce and the Junior Chamber. Our hats are off to the people and fathers of Blithe for a very well done performance.

The entire two day trip was a wonderful way to spend a weekend, O.E.T. did a fine job and Santa Fe deserves a pat on the back too. We had a two unit Alco (A-A) and a string of good old heavyweight cars including old faithful 1509 on the rear end. Some good branch line railroading and some fine high speed main line running.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

(please include ZIP number)

Enclosed is my () Check () Cash () Money Order for \$ _____ to cover the below checked items:

1965 RHSofSD Membership.....\$ _____
 Donation to Restoration Fund.....\$ _____
 O.E.T. gasoline work car fund....\$ _____

Enclosed is check for P.B. Club Dinner:

\$ _____ for _____ dinner reservations.
 My phone number is (for confirmation of order)

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, INC.
 P.O. BOX 9251, SAN DIEGO, CALIF., 92109.

Membership: \$3.50 Regular, \$2.50 Junior (under 18)
 \$3.50 or more Sustaining, \$4.50 Family.
 Additional donations may be included for the Restoration Fund or the O.E.T. motor car fund.

NEW MEMBERSHIP () RENEWAL ()

SPECIAL: PACIFIC BEACH MODEL RAILROADERS CLUB, ANNUAL DINNER & INSTALLATION OFFICERS, THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1965 - 7:30 P.M. Midway Chuck Wagon, \$3.50 per person, covers dinner, tax, tip and DOOR PRIZES. Make checks payable to: PACIFIC BEACH MODEL RAILROADERS CLUB, INC. (P.O. Box 9351, San Diego, California, 92109)

THURSDAY, MARCH 11, 1965 P.B.&W. DINNER.

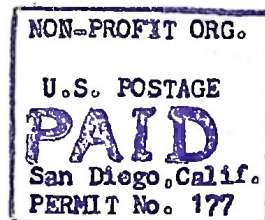
WE ARE NOT TRYING TO PUT THE OLD HAND OUT FOR DONATIONS ALL THE TIME JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT. ANY MUSEUM GROUP OR HISTORICAL ORGANIZATION, CLUB OR RAILFAN GROUP MUST HAVE A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF WORKING CAPITAL. IF THE GROUP IS BUILDING A WORKING MUSEUM SUCH AS THE ORANGE EMPIRE TROLLEY MUSEUM AT PERRIS....THE NEED FOR CASH BECOMES EVEN GREATER, AS DOES THE NEED FOR HONEST SINCERE WORKERS TO CARRY ON THE WORK. THE RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO IS ALSO IN NEED, OF FUNDS AND WORKERS. THIS YEAR WE ARE NOT PROMISING YOU ALL THE "GOODIES" YOU WILL GET BY JOINING OUR GROUP, JUST THAT BY BECOMING A MEMBER OR IN RENEWING YOUR OLD MEMBERSHIP, YOU, WILL HAVE HELPED TO KEEP THE SAN DIEGO & ARIZONA EASTERN STEAM LOCOMOTIVE No. 104 IN A REASONABLE STATE OF PRESERVATION, YOU, WILL HAVE HELPED TO SUSTAIN THE LIFE OF WOODEN OBSERVATION CAR No. 050 OF THE SAN DIEGO & ARIZONA, YOU, WILL HAVE ADDED ANOTHER YEAR TO THE LAST OF THE SAN DIEGO PCC CARS, S.D.E.Ry. No. 528, YOU WILL HAVE MADE COMPLETION OF THE BIG RESTORATION JOB ON CAR No. 54. THE VERY ANCIENT BUT VERY WELL PRESERVED OLD SAN DIEGO STREETCAR. (Once a cable car!) YOU WILL HELP IN THE FUTURE OF SAN FRANCISCO STREETCAR No. 171 AT PERRIS, U.S. GYPSUM NARROW GAUGE CAR AT EL CAJON AND THE FUTURE OF ALL OF THIS EQUIPMENT AND THE HELP WE AS A GROUP MIGHT GIVE TO THE ORANGE EMPIRE TROLLEY MUSEUM AT PERRIS....WHICH MIGHT ONE DAY ALSO SEE SOME STEAM POWER SAVED.....YOU WILL BE HELPING CARRY ON A JOB STARTED BY OTHERS, CONTINUED BY SOME AND IN THE HANDS OF THE CAPABLE. YOUR DUES ARE A DONATION, A DONATION TO THE ABOVE LISTED RAILWAY EQUIPMENT AND THE FUTURE OF THAT EQUIPMENT.....SEND IN YOUR RENEWAL NOW....IT'S TIME YOU KNOW!

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