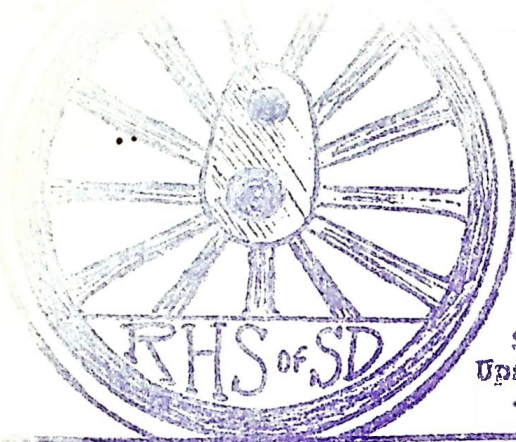




NEWSPAPER
No 10

OCTOBER - 1961

R.H.S. of S.D. MEETING FOR OCTOBER WILL BE
HELD ON MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 2nd, 1961 -
Santa Fe Railway Station, San Diego - California
Upstairs, in the Safety Room - 7:30 to 10:30 P.M.

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, INC. - NEWSLETTER No. 10

NEWS NOTES FROM HERE & THERE

PAGE 1

The circus came to San Diego recently, at a very opportune time for the group of RHS of SD members attending the September meeting on Monday the eleventh. Just as the meeting was about to start, word was passed that the circus train was due in 15 minutes. Most of the people at the meeting went downstairs and out on the platform to see the circus train roll through the depot. After a short wait and a false alarm headline that turned out to be an Alco switcher working the yard, the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus rolled in with 3 unit diesel #340 on the point. The long specially rebuilt cars make a very smooth and neat appearing train, although not nearly as impressive as in the old days of 3 or 4 complete trains of flats and animal cars, bunk cars and bright painted sleeping cars for the performers. But just the same the circus still is something a little "different" from the regular trains. The circus was in town for showing dates of Sept. 13-th thru the 17-th. The train was made up on Monday the 18th of Sept. and headed north to San Bernardino with future transfer to Union Pacific on Oct. 5th. Last year they left town to the south, over the S.D.&A.E. via Carrizo Gorge!!

The Del Mar race season is history for another year but this was a big year for rail travel via Santa Fe to the seaside horse track. The regular daily race specials were in service and trains up to 16 cars were observed.
(Continued on page three of this issue)

COME ONE.....COME ALL !!!!!!

THE OCTOBER MEETING SHOULD PROVE TO BE VERY INTERESTING AND REAL GOOD ENTERTAINMENT.....

3rd VP Earle Swaine has set up a full evening of entertainment with ROY & DAISY MILLER giving us about two hours of films in color with a running narration on their recent trip to Mexico. The Miller's made the trip in 1960 and returned this year to better their record last year, more and better pictures. It's the usual thing, go somewhere, take pictures, see all you can see..... and then go back and do it better!!

Business portion of the meeting will probably be held to a minimum, this will allow a full two hours of fine entertainment by the Miller's.

Please try to be seated by 7:30 P.M. for the business portion, it is our hope to start the program by 8:00PM or shortly after. (This will allow the later comers a chance to see and hear the whole program.)

"THE MILLER'S IN MEXICO, 1961"
This is not just a movie of steam and streetcars, but one of many things and places.....come join us for a pleasant and educational evening....

MONDAY NIGHT, OCTOBER 2nd, 1961.....
meeting starts at 7:30 P.M.
There will be an intermission at the half way point for refreshments.....
and a nice raffle prize!!

"The NEWSLETTER" Official monthly publication of the Railway Historical Society of San Diego, Inc. Information on society meetings, trips, railroad news items, activities, etc. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the RNSoFSD.

Donny & Barbara Thomson.....Editors.
Send news items to 3204 McGraw Street,
San Diego 17, Calif. (Broadway 3-5081)
(Have deadline: 20th of each month)

RAILWAY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, INCORPORATED.
Post Office Box 9351,
San Diego 9, Calif.

RNSoFSD meets on the first Monday of each month in the Safety Room of the Santa Fe Ry. depot in San Diego, 7:30pm. Membership is \$2.50 per year, includes monthly Newsletter and feature articles in the DISPATCHER, four to six issues a year, membership reductions in fares on excursions. The RNSoFSD owns and maintains the following museum items:
*San Diego & Arizona Eastern steam locomotive # 104, 2-8-0 type Baldwin built.
*San Diego & Arizona open end observation car # 650, truss rod, wood sides.
*San Diego Electric Ry. PCC streetcar # 328, streamlined, last car purchased.
*San Diego Electric Ry. "california type" streetcar # 54, formerly a cable car.
*San Francisco Municipal Ry. streetcar # 171, "Iron Monster" all steel car.
*W. S. Gypsum Co. narrow gauge railway inspection car, 3 foot gauge coach.
Note: first three are located at the San Diego County Fairgrounds, Del Mar, Calif., #54 located at the parking lot next to 418 Tenth Ave., San Diego and presently being restored., #171 is at Perris, Calif., on the Orange Empire Trolley Museum trackage. The narrow gauge car is located at El Cajon, Calif., pending a final place for display.
.....Members are urged to take an active part in the maintenance and restoration of all railway equipment. Work parties are held periodically on the Del Mar equipment, #54 is usually being worked on every Saturday afternoon.

UNION PACIFIC DIESOL DIESELS

The U.P. has picked up eleven new diesel locomotives, all were former demonstrators. They bought the four Alco DL-64C 2,400 HP hood units, also the four G.E. U-25-B 2,500 HP hoods, and last but not least, the three big G.E./E.M.D. SD-24 2,400 HP hood units.

SOUTHERN PACIFIC DIESEL-HYDRAULICS

The S.P. has tested the new Krauss-Maffei diesel-hydraulic locomotives on the Austrian Federal Railways mountain grades up to Sommering. They are buying three of the big 4,000 HP G-C type units, the Rio Grande is also taking three. The October issue of TRAINS magazine has a very informative article on these locomotives, pictures & cutaways.

This report may or may not be true, your Newsletter editor was recently informed that the S.P. has taken delivery of the big non-electric drive diesels and they are at present in test service in northern California. Watch for some confirmation of this story shortly, if true, remember, you heard it first in the Newsletter!!

One of the impressive points of the new K-M diesel-hydraulic locomotives is the ability to brake a heavy train on downgrades with a system called hydro-dynamic braking, the big locomotives show very little signs of wheel slip without use of air brakes....and there are no traction motors to burn out! The K-M's were also stopped on a heavy upgrade and they restarted the train and reached proper running speed with little difficulty.

These big "odd" looking diesels may pave the way to another big change in locomotives on American Railroads. They can't have the traction motor problem with the big Voith Transmission, Cardan Drive Shafts and Maybach Bevel-Gear Axle Drive. The engine is a lightweight, high speed diesel made by Maybach, it is a 4 cycle, V-16.

If the Krauss-Maffei's are here and in service as we have reported, news of tests on the S.P. and Rio Grande should soon be released.

SANTA FE freights in and out of the San Diego area have been averaging from 6 to 8 units, GP-9's, F-7's and a few of the big SD-4's.

Continued from page one---
NEWS NOTES FROM HERE & THERE

FIRE THREATENS BAY AREA MUSEUM

PAGE 3

Here on Del Mar: There were more than the usual number of special charter trains to the turf by the surf this season. All extra, or special charter trains were streamlined light-weight equipment and included numerous lounge cars and diners. Some of the once familiar round end "San Diegan" observation cars were also used. One of the last of the fancy charter trains was a consist of: Coach, Coach, Diner, Lounge, Diner, Diner, Dome, Coach, Lounge, Coach. It wasn't checked to closely but appeared that one or two, the diners, may have been combination diner-lounge or some such arrangement. The dome was one of the Super Chief style, with private lounge area in the downstairs portion. At least four specials were noted and there must of been more from reports handed down to us from railfans. The regular DEL MAR RACE SPECIALS were made up of the old heavy-weight standard cars with the Del Mar Snack Car in the middle, the big combination cars were used on the ends of the trains. (they are converted into lounge cars.) Week days there was one train and on Saturday two.

The Railway Locomotive Historical Society (Los Angeles Chapter) is going to operate the big 4-10-2 three cylinder Southern Pacific locomotive which has been on display at the L.A. County Fairgrounds at Pomona. In a card from Dick Dodge, he states that the 5021 will be steamed during the 1961 fair and will operate on about 900 feet of track. The boiler has been checked, stay bolts and everything is in excellent condition. The mud scale and rust have been cleaned out of the tender and the R&LHS boys were giving her a kerosene bath mixed with water on the 9th of Sept. This news was given Dick by C.A. Parker of the P.R.S. For those of you wishing to see a mighty 4-10-2 type engine come back to life, it will be worth a trip to the L.A. County Fair this year. The fair ends on Sunday, Oct. 1.

Pickering Lumber Co. has sold Shay #8 to the Feather River Ry.

The Bay Area Electric RR Association, acquired a tract of land for an operating railroad museum at Rio Vista Jct., in Solano County, California. The purchase is being accomplished through a separately organized company, CENTRAL VALLEY DEVELOPMENT CORP., which was incorporated last March.

Addison Laflin, Jr., Secretary of the Association, writes that a big brush fire, which started near Elmira, burned over 40,000 acres. (one of the recent of many many northern and central Calif. brush and forest fires) At Rio Vista, on Sept. 2nd, a barn, all former trolley poles along the Sacramento Northern right-of-way, as well as Pacific Gas & Electric poles were completely destroyed. Even the water tower was in flames for a short while.

Tenants occupying houses on the C.V. D.C. property were ordered to evacuate but the dwellings were saved. Some fence posts, a pile of 400 RR ties and some lumber were consumed on the museum land. Fortunately the three cars, including two from Portland, Oregon, and the temporary wooden ramp were spared.

Diablo Vista, the Bay Area Clubhouse, escaped the fire but the tornado-like wind blew off one-half of the sheet metal roofing, ripping sections of the wooden rafters with it.

All gasoline trucks in Solano County were requisitioned to haul water for fire fighters.

(Thanks to Dick Dodge for this news.)

BIG RED CAR

The MTA car from the Long Beach line intended for the Bay Area Electric group is not going back to the bay area after all, according to a note in the Western Railroader, the cost of the car is too high, due to a re-bid on the sale of the cars. The 1706 was to have gone north, the green & white 1543 has been sold to Travel Town as we reported last month and the 1528 went to Perris and the O.E.T., purchased by Walt Abbeneth. This is a tough break for the B.A.E. losing the 1706.

EXCURSION NOTES

SATURDAY, SEPT. 30th - SUNDAY, OCT. 1st
Steam on the Sierra Railroad, the R.&L.N.S. will operate two "Mixed Trains" over the Sierra, leaves Oakdale with locomotive #28 at 10:00 A.M., returns at 6:00 P.M. Fares \$11.00

SUNDAY, OCT. 8th- RRSofSD Charter bus trip to O.R.T. at Ferris, Bob Bobb's "O" gauge "Paradise Valley RR" in the Riverside area, U.P.'s 2-8-0 #6051, possibly the S.P. 2-8-0 at Bloomington and S.P., U.P., S.Fe. crossing at Colton and 3751 in San Bernardino, Cajon Pass and the Descanso at Summit. (see last page of this issue.)

SUNDAY, NOV. 5th- Golden West Railfan trip via Union Pacific to "Calico". Leave East L.A. at 8:30 A.M., return about 8:30 P.M. Fare, \$11.75
Golden West Railfans, 215 West 5th St. Room 232, Los Angeles 13, Calif.

SUNDAY, NOV. 12th- RRSofSD charter bus or by private auto to Mexicali from San Diego, then by rail on the Sonora Baja California to El Centro and return, sightseeing in quaint Mexican town, cross the Colorado River below the border. Contact Wally Duthie for further information.

FOR THE TRAVELER.....SAT., NOV. 11th-
UNION PACIFIC STEAM LOCOMOTIVE #844, will power special train from Cheyenne, Wyo. to Ogden, Utah. Fare, \$22.50 (844 is a big Alco 4-8-4 type) write to Arthur Lloyd, Pacific Coast Chapt. R.&L.N.S., 974 Pleasant Hill Road, Redwood City, Calif.

NEW YEARS WEEK END, DEC. 29th to JAN. 1st- R.H.S.ofS.D. Chartered Pullman trip over the Ferrocarril Sonora Baja California and Ferrocarril del PACIFICO from Mexicali to Hermosillo and Guyamas, Sonora. Possible use of the new private observation car along with Pullman cars. Contact Wally Duthie for further information.

OCTOBER MEETING, MILLER'S & MEXICO
Monday, October 2nd, 7:30 P.M.

PRIVATE RAILWAY CAR FOR S.D.

The big deep red open platform car purchased by a group of RRSofSD members and local rail minded citizens is due soon from the east.

The private observation car will be used on trips by the group, it will also be available to RRSofSD and other interested parties for charter service.

Jack Stedelle recently went east to complete arrangements for final purchase of the car and transportation of the car to San Diego. It will be parked on track three by the freight house, just off Broadway across from the depot.

ORANGE EMPIRE TROLLEY MUSEUM NEWS.....

The annual meeting of the OET will be held at Ferris on Saturday, Oct. 7th- 8:00 P.M., at the museum grounds.

The power plant is almost repaired, it is hoped to be ready by the weekend of Oct. 7th-8th.

All rail from Terminal Island jobs not yet to museum but due for final clean up during October.

The latest "blimp" MTA car and the SDRAE combine are being "leap frogged" up the right-of-way, snap track style.

A REAL FIND!!! OET has uncovered two L.A.Ry. "Huntington Standard" streetcars about to be disposed of at the site of Century City. (Back lot, 20th Cent. Fox) Cars are complete, slightly altered for prop use in movies but can be returned to original condition easily. They are numbered 151 & 152, went out of service in 1932! The cars are being purchased for \$350 each (higher for just one) and donations are needed.....Box 501, Ferris, Calif., mention donation is for Operation 20th Century Fox Trolley Cars.

Visit OET via Cajon Pass trip Sunday Oct. 8th, our drive up any weekend, always plenty to do and see.

Santa Fe may donate some rail to the society, work party will be needed to load and haul it to Del Mar on Saturday October 7th- contact Wally, BR-3-8824.

Our sincere sympathy is extended to member Clifford Skeen on the loss of his father recently.

RRSofSD President, Dick Pennick has officially turned in his resignation due to going into military service.

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, INC.

PRESENTS

RAILFAN RAMBLE 61st

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH 1961

VIA
AIR-CONDITIONED
CHARTER
COACH

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO SEE THE ACTIVITY AND PROGRESS BEING MADE AT PERRIS, CALIFORNIA BY THE Mt. Rubidoux Chapter of the Pacific Railroad Society AND THE WONDERFUL COLLECTION OF STREETCARS AND INTERURBANS, TRACK WORK, POLE AND WIRE INSTALLATION AND OPERATIONS OF THE VERY ACTIVE "Orange Empire Trolley Museum" YOU WILL HAVE OVER AN HOUR TO INSPECT, PHOTOGRAPH AND ENJOY THIS WONDERFUL COLLECTION. Coffee and donuts will be available while at the museum.

AT RIVERSIDE WE WILL VISIT THE BIG "O" GAUGE MODEL RAILROAD OWNED BY BOB BABB, The Paradise Valley RR. THIS IS QUITE A SYSTEM AND WELL WORTH THE TRIP.....FOLLOWING THE "O" GAUGE EXHIBIT WE WILL STOP TO TAKE PICTURES OF THE Union Pacific LOCOMOTIVE #6051, 2-8-0.... THEN TO COLTON AND THE S.P./U.P. AT&SF CROSSING.....FOLLOWED BY LUNCH AND A VISIT TO THE SAN BERNARDINO YARDS AND THE BIG 4-8-4 ON DISPLAY, Santa Fe #3751....GOOD VIEWS FROM THE OVERPASS OF YARDS, ROUNDHOUSE AND SHOPS.....OUR CHARTER COACH CONTINUES TOWARD OUR GOAL....UP CAJON PASS, JOINT AT&SF/UP TRACKAGE....WE WILL STOP WHENEVER THE RAIL ACTIVITY IS WORTH IT, ACCORDING TO TRAINS WE ARE FORTUNATE TO SEE.....

"SUMMIT" The top of the double track hill, the old streetcar "Descanso" may be visited and photographed, meet our good friend and member, Chard Walker.....watch the trains go by.....Summit can be a very active spot if we are lucky, there are a number of scheduled trains in case the freight is light. When the sun becomes low in the west, we will head our bus for home and watch the railroad as we go.....a dinner stop on the way home and probable return around 9 to 10 P.M., SUNDAY, OCT. 8th, 1961.

This is a catch as catch can trip, we will follow, photo, watch, any and all rail action that can be found. Bring a lunch, there will be a cold box on our bus for keeping your soft drinks cold, bring your own thermos for hot coffee. (Special stops for passengers along US-395 by advance arrangement only)

BUS WILL LOAD AT 15th & "L" Street...6:30 A.M.---DEPARTURE AT 7:00 A.M.
FOR TICKETS AND INFORMATION: Wally Duthie, 228 W. Washington, San Diego 3.
Phone- CY-5-6309 (CY-5-3403 evenings after 7)

PLEASE ENCLOSE A SELF ADDRESSED ENVELOPE WITH PROPER POSTAGE WHEN ORDERING.

Tear off here Make all checks and money orders payable to: Tear off here

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO, Inc.

"RAILFAN RAMBLE 61"
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8th

Name .

Address .

Phone . PLEASE SEND ME:

My check/money order PARES.

for \$ is en-

closed with self addressed, stamped envelope) at approx. 9 to 10 P.M.

TICKETS: \$7.75 per person
(no half fares)
(PHS of SD members, deduct 50¢)

S.D. Transit Charter Coach departs
15th & "L" St. at 7:00 A.M. sharp.
Bus will be ready for loading at
6:30 A.M., please be on time!
Return to San Diego on Sunday eve.