Hot Scoop

Hot Scoop Shovel Logo by Larry Rose

A publication dedicated to Pacific Southwest Railway Museum members

June 2007 **MUSEUM NEWS** **VOL XX NO VI**

The Face of our Museum

Bob and **Sandy Schussler** and **Tom Gray**, three of the best trainmen in the world, took care of our passengers on our May 5th *Ticket to Tecate*. These fine folks make my job as a conductor so much easier, and represent PSRM in the finest tradition. *Randy Houk photo*

This is my final issue as editor of *Hot Scoop*. It has been my pleasure to serve PSRM members since the September 1998 issue. Many thanks to **Bob Schussler** and **Ed Duling** for their consistent efforts in getting the newsletter delivered to the La Mesa post office for mailing! **Robert Rael**, whose photos have already been seen in this newsletter, will take over as editor.

*** Operations Volunteers *** *Randy Houk*

We have a group of extremely dedicated, hard working people who continue to make the trip to Campo each Saturday, Sunday and School Train Tuesday to keep our demonstration trains running. We ran 16 trains in May, carrying more than 1300 passengers.

Jim Baker	Robin Becker	Darrel Bivans	Rich Borstadt	Ken Brown	Steve Clark	Roger Challberg
Dave DiGiorgio	Duane Dubke	Don Getz	Elaine Getz	Tom Gray	Kyle Jensen	Randy Houk
Don Pope	Seth Miller	Jim Lundquist	Bob Nickles	Jack O'Lexey	Dick Pennick	Larry Hieshetter
Red Schmitz	Bob Schussler	Sandy Schussler	Frank Stites	Rob Stebbins	Alex Fiori	Robin Wonders
Dave Tomeraasen		Bruce Semelsberger		Rich Paulus	Ann Ruppert	Dick Ruppert

Congratulations to our newest qualified brakemen **Rich Paulus** and **Ken Brown**!

*** Donations ***

Andrews, Thomas W.	General Fund	50
Arbuckle, John A.	Library Fund	25
Bovee, Steve	Library Fund	200
Deck, Bruce L.	Brochures	500
Finney, LCDR Charles D.	Library Fund	500
Kehr, Herbert G.	REPORT	100
Lundquist, James J.	Library Fund	240

*** Bob Erhorn programs Motorcar Radio *** *Dave Tomeraasen*

The recent installation of a Motorola radio in the MT-14 Motorcar is now complete thanks to the professional radio programming performed by **Bob Erhorn**, KD6GNB. Bob's amateur radio and commercial radio expertise proved invaluable to completing this installation. Bob has also worked on troubleshooting technical problems with the joint ECRA/PSRM radio weather station project (KA6DAC-11) at Campo. Bob is a long time member of ECRA (East County Repeater Association). He also volunteers for the San Diego County Mountain Rescue Unit. Thanks Bob for all of your help at PSRM. The photos show the external antenna at the rear left of the motorcar, and the radio control panel, microphone and speaker mounted to the motorcar ceiling. *Photos by Dave Tomeraasen*

*** Qualcomm Train Charter *** *Dave Tomeraasen*

On Thursday, May 17 a private charter excursion train departed Campo bound for Tecate, Mexico. The charter was for the Qualcomm Proto Express Team. Forty-one Qualcomm Proto employees arrived by motorcoach at the Campo depot. They were escorted to the Display Building for a tour of the inside displays. Once outside they walked to the Robert Peary and the 1509 for tours of those cars. A special 'drumhead' was placed on the 1509 to commemorate this visit. Next, everyone boarded the train at the 'Railroad Museum' and departed for Tecate. Upon return the train was quickly cleared by customs and immigration. Many smiling faces were noticed as everyone was boarding their bus for their trip back to San Diego. Thank you Qualcomm for bringing so many nice folks to visit our museum. *Photo by Dave Tomeraasen*

Here's a "Thank you" note from Qualcomm:

Hi Jim,

I wanted to thank you for your help in making our team builder a rousing success. The Tecate brewery tour went over very well, especially the free beer that flowed afterward....El Jardin did an admirable job serving 41 people although they didn't accept credit cards, we scraped up enough between me and my boss to cover. The crew was very helpful and we would appreciate it if you passed along our group's thanks to them as well.

Look forward to making this an annual pilgrimage.....

Regards,
Robert

*** President's Report *** *Jim Lundquist*

This is a crazy, busy time for our railway museum. So many projects, so many volunteers, so much investment in saving history. Where to start?

Brian Elmore and family, along with a little help from **Jim Lundquist**, are going "full steam ahead" on our #1 priority project, the improvements to our public facilities at the Campo depot. This month, the new electrical panel has been installed, wiring to the depot, wiring to the new restroom, the underground plumbing for the new restroom, water lines to the restroom and new inside electrical wiring at the depot has been started or finished! In addition, **Larry Rose** and **Frank Stites** have started on the handrails for the baggageroom landing. Larry and Jim also cleaned up the west end of the depot and installed a donated storage rack from **Home Depot**. It's really fun right now to arrive at PSRM – Campo to see what progress all these efforts by so many people has accomplished during the week. Come on out to see what we are doing. Brian keeps me busy midweek arranging for the delivery of blocks, wiring, pipes, mortar, etc to keep him going forward. We have been blessed to have donations by local companies who believe in what we are doing – **RCP Brick and Block** for bricks, **Teamsters** for transportation and **Mission Valley Plumbing** for toilet fixtures. Please see another article for a photo and more details. All I can say is WOW! It is terrific to see the coming together of a dream of improvements for our public started four years ago.

Seth Miller and Jim Lundquist recently paid a visit to the California State Railroad Museum to finalize the acquisition of the S-2, and to "show the flag" at several other railroad museums and operations in the state. It was a terrific visit, which might lead to other acquisitions down the road.

The final vote of the deaccession of the Porter 25 ton locomotive to the California State Railroad Museum was: 212 Yes, 9 No, 2 Withhold, 2 did not indicate and 2 did not sign the ballot envelope. With a total vote of 237, the proposal passed. I thank every member who participated, and I thank you for your support of finding good homes for equipment which we do not need. These kinds of trades are now happening throughout America, and especially here in California. It's a win-win for all involved.

Our most recent Brakeman class is now producing results! We have two new Brakemen, **Rich Paulus** and **Ken Brown**. Others are moving through the training also, and we hope to say hello to more volunteers in train crew this summer. Speaking of summer and train operations, the operating department recently came to the Board and asked that we reconsider our schedule this summer. The Board heard that the recent training program for Brakeman needed to continue this summer. The Board's action was to direct that either the *Golden State* or the *Ticket to Tecate* plus the Railbus run on Saturdays with the Railbus on Sundays. Compounding this effort is the new requirement that the Railbus be operated by a qualified Engineer. My stated goal of every potential volunteer being qualified for every operating position – from Engineer to Conductor to Brakeman to Motorcar crew is doubly important when these new to us requirements come forward. Having the ability for one volunteer to operate a locomotive, crane, motorcar, forklift, backhoe, electric cart or whatever greatly increases the flexibility of our weekends and the ability to accomplish work on our site.

My thanks go out to the **Carrizo Gorge Railway** for their cooperation in relocating the graffiti covered hopper cars which were stored on the siding at Campo depot. These cars looked terrible, blocked the views of the Campo valley and took up valuable storage space. CZRy is also working to find a new home for the former CNW bi-level commuter coaches which will free up more space and views. Since the unloading of sand has stopped at the depot, the air quality has greatly improved, with the dust levels getting back to normal. These improvements have been noticed, with our personal thanks conveyed to both CZRy and the **SD&AE** management. Our wish and goal is that this increased level of cooperation continues forever between our two organizations.

Work in the "back 8" continues for the preparation of the new library site. Recently, an additional 5 big box loads of scrap or trash has been hauled out. Brian Elmore expects to have the electrical service installed and active this month. There is still a lot more work to go – more organization of materials, grading, etc, but, the effort continues.

Larry Rose and Jim Lundquist have begun discussions of putting our master plan and visions for our museum in a prospectus along with a basic financial needs statement to accomplish our goals. This will take many hours to pull it together, and then be approved by our Board. When it is finished, I hope to be able to send a copy out to every member for their use.

I hope to see every member out at Campo this summer. Please look me up to say hello if you can make it. Remember, you can ride our *Golden State* trains or the Railbus for free by showing your membership cards. See you soon.

*** New Restroom Building at Campo Depot *** *Dave Tomeraasen*

After much planning, construction started May 1st on the new public restroom building being built next to the Campo Depot. **Ed Duling, Brian Elmore, Jim Lundquist** and **Larry Rose** worked as a team for six months to secure our building permit from the County. Funding for this project came as a $40,000 grant from the County of San Diego and from donations from our members. **Mission Valley Plumbing** donated 50% of the plumbing fixtures. **RCP Rock** donated all of the brick and the **Teamsters** donated all of the transportation to the site. Brian Elmore is the main volunteer heading the construction project, along with his wife, daughter, son, and Jim Lundquist. Trenching is complete and pipes for water, sewer and electricity are in place. Next, the steel rebar will be installed and the concrete foundation will be poured. Expected completion for the building is scheduled for the end of July. The old restroom trailer will then be removed and sold. Thanks to all who are working so hard on this much needed project. *Photos by Dave Tomeraasen*.

View towards the Campo Depot.

Brian Elmore

*** New Hot Scoop Editor ***

After nine plus years of doing a terrific job for us, this is Randy Houk's last *Hot Scoop* as editor. Please tell him thanks when you see him for a fine job.

Our new volunteer Editor is **Robert Rael**. Robert is a new member with experience in editing a community newspaper in San Diego. When the call went out via email for a new volunteer, Robert jumped right in – in true PSRM fashion. Robert has been at Campo several times with camera in hand. We look forward to seeing his work published in the *Hot Scoop* in future issues. Please continue to forward articles of interest to the email address of "Hotscoop@psrm.org", which will automatically be routed to Robert. In order to consistently meet the monthly mailing schedule, Robert will have to establish a clear cutoff for all articles and stick to it. I hope our volunteers in Museum Service, Operations, Equipment and Facilities can regularly write articles and submit photos of their work projects for all to see.

We rejoice for the time given by Randy and the new volunteer Robert. Our Museum exists solely by the hard, dedicated work given freely by our volunteers. Thanks to you both for your time.

*** STEAM WHISTLING *** *Jim Baker, Steam Foreman*

We had another pretty good work weekend in May. On Friday, May 1, **the foreman** was joined by **Larry Owen, Rich Paulus, Bob Nickles**, and **Dick Pennick**. While Rich continued his work needle-gunning 2104, the rest of us worked on the Coos Bay. First, we got about a dozen more tubes cut off of the front tube sheet. But this is still very slow work. Since I had just found out about a hydraulic cutter that is supposed to cut a tube in about 15 seconds, we stopped the torch work. **Ron Hyatt** thinks we can get Board approval to buy/rent this from funds in the Steam account (Board approved this on 5/19).

We then went to work on removing the wash-out plugs on the bottom of the boiler and the front, bottom corners of the firebox. It appeared that these had not been removed in a LONG time. It will be necessary to have these out to wash out the boiler, once we get the tubes out. We managed to get the ones on the fire box out with no problem, but it took a lot of heat and a LONG cheater bar to get out the boiler belly plugs.

On Saturday our crew was **Mike Lucek, Bob Nickles** and the **Foreman**. We cleaned out a lot of junk, moved a wooden work platform out of the way, and installed a red flood light at the bottom, rear of 2353's firebox. The fire door was secured open. Now our visitors can get a good look inside!

Then back to the Coos Bay. Last month, **Alex Fiori** joined us, and was able to squeeze around the throttle and actually get into the boiler. He wasn't available this month, so the Foreman took a chance, and he managed to get into the boiler. (Then he was worried if he could get back out.) The throttle is attached to the dry pipe with two hooked bolts, which are covered with scale. With the others observing for safety and to pass in needed tools, I managed to do a pretty good job of needle-gunning the scale off of the two bolts that hold the throttle to the dry pipe, along with several other bolts that will need to come out. Next, we'll try heating the bolts with the torch. (And I did manage to get back out without resorting to taking off my clothes and applying grease)

Our next work weekend will be June 8 & 9. I'll schedule a rental of the tube-cutting tools for that weekend, so that is where we will direct our efforts.

For further information or questions, please contact the Steam Foreman at **baker@sdrm.org** or 619-670-7441. All are welcome to come out and get dirty with us. Hope to see you there!

It's been great to see long-time members **Ann** and **Dick Ruppert** at Campo recently. *R Houk photo*

*** Web page info *** *Randy Houk*

Don't forget that our web page has a link for our volunteers: www.psrm.org/members/. You can see old issues of the *Hot Scoop*, the *Report* and crew callboards. The username is "**volunteer**" and the password is "**2353**". There you can see our updated archive of *Hot Scoops*.

*** Dates of Note ***

	June	**July**	**Aug**
School Train	19	17	21
Tecate Train	2 & 16	21	18
Board meetings	**23**	**28**	**25**
Museum Services meeting	19	17	21

The next board meeting will be Saturday, June 23, 2007 at 9:00AM at PSRM – Campo

Your Board usually meets the last Saturday each month, 9 AM at PSRM - Campo.
Museum Services meets the 3rd Tuesday, 7 PM at Ted Kornweibel's house, 6334 Lake Decatur Ave., San Diego.

*** Article Submissions ***

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

*** Phone numbers and e-mail *** Web: www.psrm.org or www.sdrm.org

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MUSEUM BOARD OF DIRECTORS **email: board@psrm.org**

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Steam Foreman, Jim Baker	(619) 670-7441	baker@sdrm.org

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2008-2009 BOARD POSITIONS

In accordance with the bylaws, for all members in good standing, we will be electing four Board members for two year terms from 2008-2009. The positions open for election will be: Vice-President, Treasurer, Operations Division Director, and Facilities Division Director. Any ten (10) Regular Members in good standing may nominate any other Regular Member in good standing for the position of an executive officer (and concurrently director) of the corporation (namely the Vice-President and the Treasurer), provided the person so nominated evidences in writing a willingness to serve if elected. Any ten (10) Regular Members in good standing may nominate any other Regular Member in good standing for the position of Division Director (namely the Operations Division Director, and Facilities Division Director), provided the person so nominated is associated with the corresponding division of the corporation, as described in Section 4.12 of the Bylaws, and evidences in writing a willingness to serve if elected.

Each nominee may submit a maximum 200 word statement with their qualifications, vision and intentions respecting the office to which nominated. All petitions and any statements are required to be turned in the Secretary of the Museum not later than 5:00 PM on Thursday, September 6, 2007. Address all petitions to: Secretary, PSRM, 4695 Nebo Dr, La Mesa, CA 91941-5259.

Thank you for your interest in serving our Museum.

PETITION FOR BOARD

I, _____, being a member in good standing of the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum, do hereby submit this petition signed by at least ten members in good standing, to stand for election for the position of _____. I agree to serve the Museum in this capacity until the next election for this position.

Signed this _____ day of _____, 2007. _____

The following members in good standing support this candidate for the above position (must contain at least 10 signatures, write legibly):

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____

_____ _____