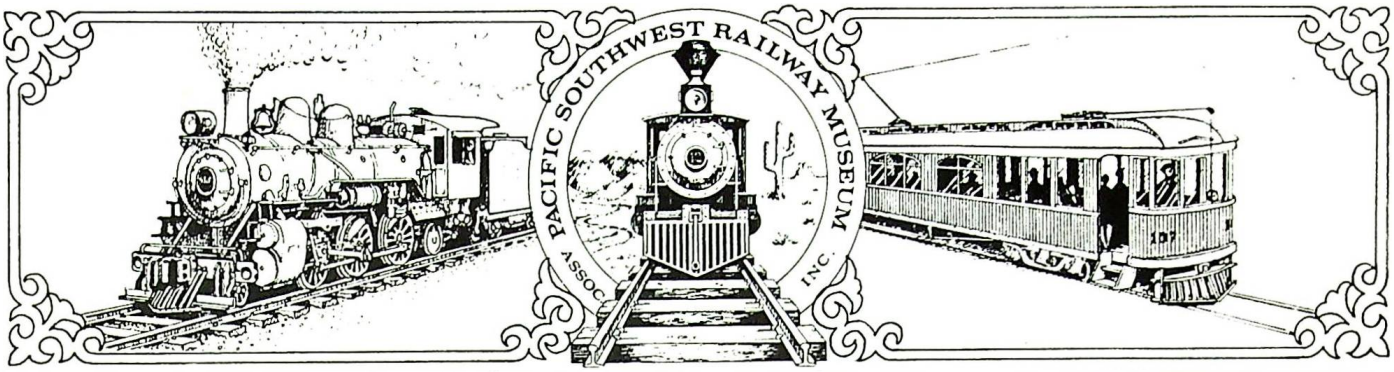
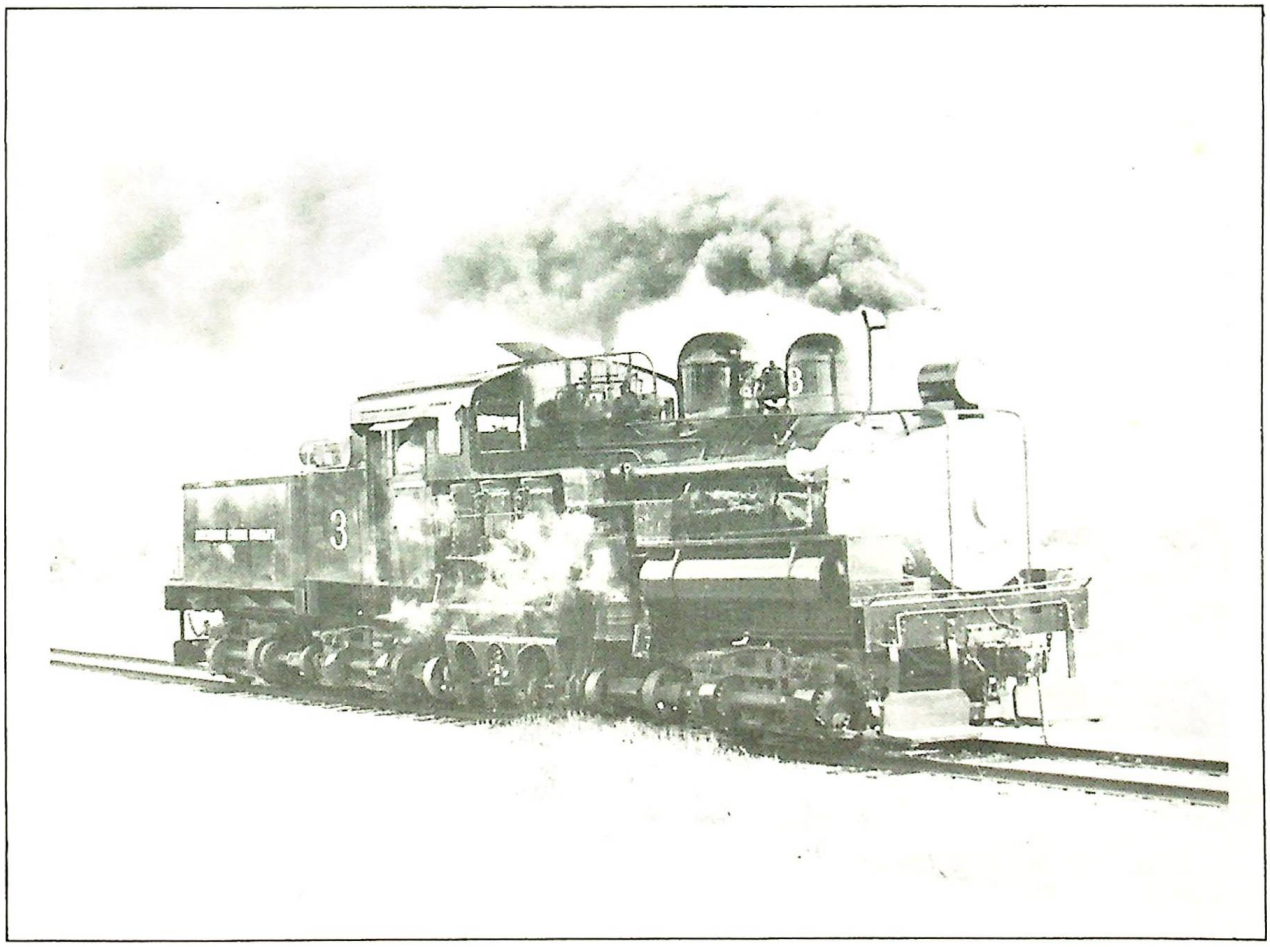


APR.-MAY '80 **REPORT** No. 165

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of the PACIFIC SOUTHWEST RAILWAY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION, Inc.



SHAY NO. 3 LIVES !!

P.S.R.M.A.'s three-truck Shay lifted her pop valves for the first time in eight years last month and rolled down the two miles of track at Miramar N.A.S. to the tune of a Nathan four chimer that had been silent for much too long. The return of Number 3 is the result of much volunteer sweat and tears and the full story is in this issue of REPORT, which has been shortened due to heavy staff work load and cost cutting pressures from the Board of Directors so more projects like this can be financed.

STEAM...

P.S.R.M.A.'s Shay #3, dormant for eight years, came to life March 9th and again on April 5th with the melodic wail of a four-chime steam whistle announcing the return of "King Steam" to San Diego County. The museum's foot-troops have been sweating a long time to get our 100 ton sidewinder back in operation, and the cover photo by the editor of this sheet is ample evidence of an outstanding effort. The museum's 45 ton diesel locomotive was used as an air source to light a fire in the 1923 Lima product and keep it going until enought pressure had been raised to run the blower on steam. Ken Helm and John Ashman were the firetenders for both steaming sessions and most of the regular restoration crew took a turn at the throttle and yanked the whistle cord for the pure joy of it!

The first steaming sessions brought to light several problems such as a balky injector on the engineer's side and the expected steam leaks here and there that will require new packing in the air compressor and one of the three cylinders. Some of these problems were corrected for the second steam-up and no new problems were encountered, as the engine was operated for 20 miles or so during each steaming.

About 600 gallons of bunker C fuel oil was consumed from the 1,000 gallons or so that was still in the tank from the locomotive's last steaming in 1972. The high cost of fuel has reduced most museum and commercial operations of steam locomotives to using auto crank case drainings to get a fire going but the purists on the Shay crew have not yet decided on what to do for fuel on any further operations of the engine at Miramar. It is expected that the engine will be fired up only sparingly the rest of the year to test rebuilt and repacked appliances and that the formal coming out party will be saved to inaugurate our permanent home in Campo. With most of the restoration crew busy on other projects, the Shay crew for the past few months has been Ken Helm, John Ashman, Russ Sargeant, Paul Horky and Dick Mc Intyre. Many thanks to these folks that made #3 wheeze and snort under steam again and to the 700 members of P.S.R.M.A. who loyally support this and other museum restoration efforts.

State Senator James Mills, California's number one mass transit advocate and Amtrak board member, was on hand for the April 5th steam-up and is shown here admiring the cab of No. 3 with P.S.R.M.A. President Jim Lundquist. The senator, a known rail buff, accepted a turn at the throttle along with most of the restoration crew who took an afternoon off from other museum projects to enjoy the fruits of their long labor to return our Shay to service.

The Shay is an easy steamer and had no trouble popping off at the 200 p.s.i. operating pressure. Even the blowdown was spectacular and served as a great capper to a long awaited day of steam locomotive operation in San Diego.

Membership News

by Tanya Rose

I'm proud to announce that we are now 700 plus members strong and have added to P.S.R.M.A.'s growing number of professional railroaders our very first Santa Fe Special Agent, Bob Downing! Maureen McNertney, a hostler-fireman and J. E. La Pee, a retired storekeeper for the S.D.& A.E. also grace our roster as well as the following people who have joined most recently.

REGULAR MEMBERS

Nathalie A. Allain
Rita E. Cloud
James H. F. Collins
Ed Springer
Rose M. Ludwig
Maureen McNertney
F. Daniel Smart
Charles H. Wade
Paul R. Wissler
J. E. La Pee
Pauline S. Palhegyi
Bill Rice
Daniel Robirds

FAMILY MEMBERS

Bonnie J. Dixon & John W. Pritchett
Duane B. & Carol J. Dubke
H.A. & Anabel Greenwalt
John T. & John T. II Reynolds
Shelby E. & Charlotte Ross
Frank & Grace E. Willard
David, Janet, Heather & Diane Casey
Robert & Jacqy Downing
George A. & Ann Marie Glaeser
Albert J. & Marian K. Jacobs
Burton & Catherine Kuck
Robert R. & Marjorie La Briola
Walter & Ella Ludlow
George J. & Arthur Mitchell
Randy & Janet Schlotthauer
J. Richard & Betty H. Teague

CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

Audree Reynolds
Kris Kaiser
Ralph Morgan

GENERAL MEETING MAY 2ND

Steam railroad movies from the extensive collection of local railfan Corky Thompson will be featured at P.S.R.M.A.'s quarterly get-together at the La Sala Room in the House of Hospitality, Balboa Park, Friday evening, May 2nd, at 7:30 p.m.--Bring a friend!

EXCURSION NEWS

On Saturday, June 14, the La Mesa Historical Society will sponsor a tour to the J. Paul Getty Museum in Malibu. The tour will leave La Mesa at 7:00 a.m. and return by 6:00 p.m., with a pick-up stop in Mission Valley.

The J. Paul Getty Museum contains one of the finest collections of Greek and Roman antiquities, Baroque and Renaissance paintings and 18th century decorative arts. These collections are housed in a magnificent reconstruction of the Villa dei Papiri--a Roman seaside villa that was buried in volcanic mud when Vesuvius erupted in 79 A.D. destroying both Pompei and Herculaneum.

Luncheon, which is available in a cafeteria-style tea room located on the museum grounds, is not included in the price of the tour.

The cost of the tour is $17.00. The deadline for reservations is June 2nd; however, space is limited and the tour may fill before that date. Please make your check payable to the La Mesa Historical Society and send it with a self-addressed stamped envelope to LMHS Tour, 8671 Tulare St., La Mesa, CA 92041. For information call Dorothy Griner or Donna Regan at 460-3726.

CABOOSE DONORS

The following folks have added their names to the caboose plaque that will be displayed in our A.T.& S.F. wooden "shack" with generous donations toward the preservation of this classic relic of the great age of rail: G. J. Mitchell, Jr., Lorraine M. Espinoza, Darryl Bustamante, and Ralph and Marian Lazear.

PHOTO OF THE MONTH: A steam powered P.S.R.M.A. mixed train is clearly shown in this shot by David Black taken April 5th, 1980, from the edge of the Miramar golf course. All of the museum equipment at Miramar is shown in this shot except 45 ton diesel #7485, private Pullman ROBERT PEARY, and one tank car. The Shay is so powerful that even the entire museum collection in tow wouldn't give it a good workout. Carrying the markers this day was ex-Union Pacific heavyweight coach #576.

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST RAILWAY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION INC.

P.O. BOX 12096 SAN DIEGO, CA 92112

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
La Mesa, CA
Permit No. 205

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST RAILWAY MUSEUM ASSOC. INC.

Return Postage Guaranteed
Address Correction Requested