

HOT SCOOP

A black and white illustration of a hand holding a long-handled scoop, dumping a pile of glowing hot coals into a bowl. The word 'HOT' is written in a large, bold, serif font on the left, and 'SCOOP' is written in a similar font on the right. The entire illustration is framed by a decorative border with ornate corner pieces.

A publication dedicated to Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association members
November-December 2015





**Pacific Southwest Railway
Museum Association, Inc.**
www.psrsm.org

Train Operations

PSRM Campo Depot
State Hwy. 94 at Forrest Gate Rd.
Campo, California
619-478-9937
Lat: 32°36.8'N Lon: 116°28.2'W

Open weekends 9 AM to 5 PM
Golden State trains depart at
11:00 AM and 2:30 PM.

La Mesa Depot Museum & Business Office

4695 Nebo Drive,
La Mesa, California, 91941
619-465-psrm (465-7776)

Open Saturdays 1 PM to 4 PM
Other times by appointment

Meetings of the PSRMA Board
of Directors are held on the 4th
Friday of the month at 6 PM,
Trinity Church, 3902 Kenwood
Drive, Spring Valley, CA 91977

Museum Officers

President:	Diana Hyatt
Vice-President:	Martin Caestecker
Treasurer:	Dave Tomeraasen
Secretary:	Robert Smith
Equipment:	Ron Hyatt
Facilities:	Frank Denison
Museum Services:	Jim Lundquist
Operations:	Mike Edwards

Museum Staff

Historian:	Bruce Semelsberger
Special Events:	Diana Hyatt
Membership:	Heather Wright
Steam Foreman:	Jim Baker
Gift Shop Mgr:	Heather Wright
Media Liaison:	Dick Pennick
Hot Scoop Editor:	John Wright
Photographers:	Frank Denison, John Wright
Certification & Training:	Mike Edwards

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The premiere issue of the museum's orig-
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concurrently with the *Hot Scoop* for a
time.

Cover Photo

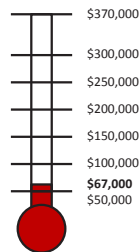
Volunteer Robbie Smith working in the shop rebuilding the oil filters for the SP 5119 (M&ET 613).
Jim Lundquist



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HELP US RETIRE THE MORTGAGE

The Railway Museum has purchased 19+ acres adjacent to the Campo Depot. Planning for Expansion our museum is underway. The mortgage totals \$370,000 total for the properties. Your donation will allow us to retire this debt and start construction of the new facilities. Make your checks payable to PSRM, Attn: Retire the Debt, and send it to 4695 Nebo Drive, La Mesa, CA 91941-5259.

THANK YOU for your donations.



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Holiday Help Needed!

By Diana Hyatt

If you have been waiting for some good Christmas volunteering your time at **YOUR** railroad museum, **HERE** is your opportunity! We are accepting volunteers in all positions for our North Pole Trains.

PRE-EMPTIVE PREPARING:
Before this season on November weekends: November 17th and 18th, November 24th and 25th, November 27th and 28th.

We need help planning and decorating the passenger cars, the Campo Depot (inside and out) setting up the North Pole table and interior and exterior of the site, setting up the food table and preparing the parking areas with grading and striping. The behind the scenes fun is quite long! Additionally, all S&SA coaches need roof awnings applied on an annual basis until we can afford to replace the steel roofs.

NORTH POLE TRAINS:
Fridays, November 27th, December 4th, 11th and 18th
Saturdays, November 28th, December 5th, 12th and 19th

During If you love acting, staging or just being helpful, this job is for you! We need 2-3 little people per night to dress as elves for the North Pole. We are also looking for Mrs. Claus' undernoses, leprechauns, candy canes, car packers are also needed to ensure guests do not lose themselves and have questions, unless empty seats in every car else have been sold to others. If you don't like being in the public eye, there are behind-the-scenes positions available also:

- During the day of the event, there are many tasks including:
 - Counting the train (Saturday morning and Sunday morning)
 - Outdoor set up for each passenger coach
 - Cooking lunch and dinner for our member volunteers
 - Archives check up
 - Counting and displaying cookies
 - Boiling gallons of water and mixing tea sauce
 - Loading the train with all the paraphernalia for the night
 - Unloading the train after each trip
 - Modifications: taking, washing, sanitizing beverage containers, ridding up spills, etc.
 - Parking and traffic control at the Depot
 - North Pole setup and tear down
 - Drying Santa and Mrs. Claus to the North Pole to arrive before the train

You've already told me you would like to help, PLEASE send me an e-mail at info@psrm.org so that I can schedule you around your availability. Remember, this event puts in nearly 50% of the museum's annual income. If I had just 8-12 people willing to volunteer for each of the eight days (and four Sundays when we do cleanup and prep) we are operating, it would be a huge help!

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The Hot Scoop® is a publication of the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum, Inc.

The opinions expressed in the Hot Scoop are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association, Inc., or its officers and staff.

Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association Mission Statement:

The Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association, Inc., is dedicated to preserving the physical legacy and the experience of rail transportation. Programs address the historical, social, economic and technical impact of railroading with particular emphasis on railroads of San Diego County and the systems with which they connected in the United States and Mexico.

The Museum is a member of the Association of Tourist Railroads and Railway Museums (ATRRM) and is a non-profit educational corporation. Donations are tax deductible under Sec. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Submission guidelines: All articles should be limited to no more than three single spaced pages and submitted in Microsoft Word format. Photographs should be in jpg format no larger than 8 x 10 inches at 150 to 240 PPI resolution, but please no cell phone pictures. Send all submissions to hotscoop@psrm.org.

The Hot Scoop is available in color via e-mail. To receive the electronic version in PDF format, reply to hotscoop@psrm.org and include your name, membership number and e-mail address. Note that if you opt for the e-mail version, you will no longer receive the printed copy.

Comments are always welcome. Send your feedback to the Editor at hotscoop@psrm.org.

From the Back Platform

Diana Hyatt, PSRMA President

An overview of the past year and a look at what's to come in 2016.

It is difficult to believe that 2015 is almost gone. There have been many changes at the museum this year; some visible and many behind the scenes. We have had somewhat of a changeover in our board members beginning with Dave Tomeraasen assuming the position of Treasurer earlier this year and the installation of our newest and possibly youngest board member to date, at the October board meeting. Please congratulate Martin Caestecker as our new Vice President! I am thrilled to have such a young, motivated, brilliant and passionate volunteer to share my experience and knowledge with during the coming years. At our Annual Dinner last April, Martin was the recipient of PSRM's Railfan of the Year Award. Thanks to his parents, he was infused with a love of railroading at a young age and along with his twin brother James, grew up in and around private cars. The Caesteckers are owners of a 1956 Vista Dome Lounge car, the *Silver Splendor*, which can be booked through www.larail.com. Martin has been instrumental, along with Spencer Piontkowski, in setting up our updated website and managing our outsourced ticketing service. Martin can also frequently be found assisting with mechanical tasks in the shop and filling in as train crew for our demonstration trains to the public.

We will be seeing a few other changes in museum staff as well after the end of this year. Heather Wright has resigned four of her positions with the museum due to her successful home business. Heather has been our Membership Coordinator for several years, this position falls under the Museum Services. I

f you are interested, please contact jimlundquist@gmail.com. Heather is also our Reservations Manager, interfacing with the general public for school trains, group sales and other difficulties created with the usage of our online ticketing service. Spencer Piontkowski has agreed to assume those duties. Heather is also our Gift Shop Manager, this position will be the most difficult of all to fill and will likely be shared by four people during the interim. Lastly, Heather assumed the task as our Work-camper Liaison. Since I am most familiar with this, and most situations surface to my attention, I will be assuming this position for the short-term. Heather's smiling face and talents in these four positions will be sorely missed and we are grateful she is providing us with several months notice in order to train her replacements.

As we enter the last two months of 2015, we look forward to our annual North Pole trains operating on weekends between Thanksgiving and Christmas. All individual seats on our First Class cars are now sold out but there are still opportunities available to book the Robert Peary as a privately chartered car for your group of 20 or less. For more information, please e-mail us at reservations@psrm-org for date availability and pricing. There are coach seats available on most of the dates offered. Please note that we have added a 5:00 pm train every Friday, so this year we will be offering a total of 16 trains. The North Pole trains are our biggest fundraiser of the year and income from same allows us to operate our educational Golden State trains and pay many of our expenses in the coming 2016

calendar year. If you are able to help in any way, including as a financial sponsor, please contact me at dhyatt@psrm-org. There is also a flyer in this edition of the Hot Scoop that provides more information on volunteer opportunities.

Since we are on the subject of North Pole trains, I would like to thank Bruce Deck for purchasing a full pallet of Stephen's Hot Cocoa powder. We have been using this brand for at least eight years now and we order it directly from the manufacturer in Utah. Bruce normally makes all the hot cocoa for the four weeks of trains in addition to acting as our ticket agent in the Campo Depot Waiting Room. I am sure Bruce would appreciate some assistance with these tasks as well! A special thanks also goes to Heather Wright for pre-bagging all our hot cocoa cups and Dave Tomerassen for ordering two years' worth of cups last year! Our cookies this year will be made by Sprouts and although they are not sponsoring them or providing them as a donation, they have given us a wholesale discount; every little bit helps! Heather Wright could use help in printing and organizing the pre-sale tickets, this is a huge task for one person so please e-mail Heather if you would like to help at reservations@psrm-org.

This year we operated our popular Pumpkin Trains for seven days instead of the usual six as Halloween landed on a weekend this year. Robert Smith and Rosalba Duran drove to Fresno to pick up ten pallets of pumpkins. Epsilon Systems donated the use of their flatbed truck and one tank of fuel which saved us about \$1200 in shipping

costs. Haunted Train ghouls were primarily Cary, Alanna, Aaron and Ian Hyatt with help at the Pumpkin Patch by Rosalba Duran, Ron Hyatt and new members Whitney Wendell and her son Seamus. Thanks also goes to Whitney, Rosalba Duran and Gina Prantil for decorating our three SD&A coaches and the Campo Depot for Halloween! Halloween is always a lot of fun, especially the Haunted Train – every year we get many compliments which makes it that much more rewarding.

The Christmas Train also known as the Three Kings Train has continued on an annual basis even without the train aspect. On December 25, 2009 the redwood tunnel lining inside tunnel 3 (in Mexico) caught fire and a large portion of the tunnel collapsed, thus eliminating our Tecate and Garcia trains. Daylighting (taking the top off) of tunnel 3 began in August, 2014. Unfortunately, that area is largely comprised of decomposed granite and slides from the steep walls were inevitable and seem to have prolonged the project. It is unclear when the railroad will be sanctioned for passenger service but we were hopeful it would be in time for next years' Christmas Train scheduled for Sunday, January 10, 2015. Margaret Coval, co-founder of this event with her late husband

Charles Coval continues to manage and organize the event. If you would like more information or are interested in volunteering to assist in assembling the gift bags in San Diego or to volunteer at the actual event in Tecate, please go to: www.nlpoasandiegometro.com/index.php/christmastrain or e-mail Margaret directly at: miscoval417@att.net.

I would like to close this article with a reminder that your board is now in its second year of Strategic Planning for our organization's future. We have made some progress towards our goals and hold a monthly review at each board meeting in addition to our bi-annual reviews with our hired facilitator Don Evans. We now have a Volunteer Coordinator, Lew Wolfgang and are working towards a Handbook and complaint mediation process with Lew. Roger Garrett has agreed to act as our grant-writer/fundraiser on a pro-bono basis, the Board has adopted a brief set of Board Guidelines (a document in progress), a new core presentation about our organization has been developed for various uses, a core interpretive plan for the museum as well as a restoration plan for Carriso Gorge #050 are in their drafting stages, a list of desirable rolling stock that would enhance our collection has been adopted, possible expansion

plans are being investigated and followed, we have adopted a clear set of financial policies to reduce the damage caused by the revolving door in the treasurer's position, trestle repair costs have been obtained and evaluated for the wooden trestle at MP 66.77 (keep in mind, there is still much track work and weeding to be done on the seven miles of track east of there before we can operate trains to Miller Creek once again), a fund-raiser for land acquisition costs is now in place, funding sources for the development of a master plan are being investigated and donation opportunities have been integrated into our website.

All of these steps in achieving our goals take time, effort and dedication. If you identify or possess talents in any of the above areas, we welcome your assistance! We are also looking for assistance in identifying and developing new, permanent, outreach locations including expanding the use and operating days of the La Mesa Depot location at La Mesa Blvd. and Spring Street in La Mesa and restoring our REA van and turning it into a mobile classroom and outreach tool. I am looking forward to hearing from eager volunteers such as yourself! dhyatt@psrm.org. ►

Facilities Report

By Jim Lundquist, Museum Services

Work is progressing on improving the appearance of our facilities at Campo and La Mesa

We welcome back Glen Rogers who has taken to the backhoe to complete many projects around the site. Thanks Glen.

After years of trying to grow anything on the west end of the Campo Depot, Jim Lundquist threw in the towel and decided to brick in that end to match the rest of the depot.

Assisting in the job were Diego Lundquist, Dawn Lundquist, Eden Sandoval, Glen Rogers, and Jim Lundquist. It looks great now.

Our thanks to Rick Nortecoat for mowing down the weeds on our property to keep the fire danger down. Many thanks, Ricky. ►



Museum Services Report

Jim Lundquist, Museum Services Director

Interpretive activities and promotion of our seasonal trains continues.

Our thanks to Jeff Trimble, Dawn Lundquist and Jim Lundquist this past month for gathering various baggage carts around the museum property and putting them alongside the Display Building to create an exhibit. A new sign has been prepared which will explain the carts and how the railroads carried baggage, cargo and mail on trains.

Also, thanks to Dawn Lundquist, Glen Rogers and Jim Lundquist for cleaning up the front entrance sign and laying down mulch to keep any weeds from growing behind the sign. It's great to have Glen back with us after taking a part-time summer job.

The library group has continued doing their great work in the library at Campo.

I've seen Bruce Deck as a Train Docent – and we sure could use more of them.

We also had to replace the TV for the Steam Locomotive talk inside the Display Building. A request for a used TV from any member brought us a \$300+ donation from Tom Walker for a new one. It's in place and standing tall. Thank you Tom.

Several new signs are in the works for our visitor's education opportunities. There will be highlighted in future articles.

We are still looking for a take-charge volunteer for our La Mesa Depot. Someone who can organize exhibits and staffing. We'd love to have it open more days and hours during the week. If interested, please contact Jim Lundquist at 619-417-7059.

Our thanks for the Pumpkin Train banner and sign which was installed, in full view of the traveling public in the La Mesa Depot by Dick Pennick. John Powers, Dick Pennick,

Sid Saltstein and Duane Dubke assisted in staffing the depot for the two-day Oktoberfest, Oct. 2/3. Staff handed out a large number of Pumpkin Train/Santa Train flyers to families with children. Pennick wasn't satisfied and continued to hand out the flyers at markets, the annual Fall Festival at Del Mar, and retail establishments during the rest of the month. These special activity flyers are always available for the asking, for handing out in your neighborhood. Contact Dick at pennick@psrm.org for a PDF copy for you to reproduce.

Also, Dick sent out material to more than 60 private, charter, home-school and Montessori schools with information on our low-cost Third Tuesday "School Train" opportunities.

See you at Campo soon. ►

Fund Raising Projects

Jim Lundquist, Museum Services Director

The museum has several fund raising projects available for your consideration.

As the year winds down, please take this opportunity to remember your museum and support the cause(s) closest to your heart.

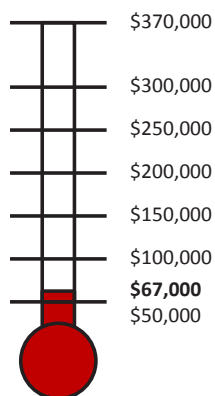
The "Retire The Mortgage" campaign continues. We have raised over \$66,000 towards a \$370,000 mortgage for the 19+ acres we have purchased adjacent to the Campo Depot. This is a terrific start.

We need interlocking jacks to lift any equipment we have, primarily used to change out wheel sets.

We are looking to double the storage capacity of our existing library

in Campo to allow for additional donations and to sort out our current collection.

Funds are needed to restore SD&A #050 "Carriso Gorge" business car to its 1919 appearance.



HELP US RETIRE THE MORTGAGE

The Railway Museum has purchased 19+ acres adjacent to the Campo Depot. Planning for Expansion our our museum is underway. The mortgage totals \$370,000 total for the properties. Your donation will allow us to retire this debt and start construction of the new facilities. Make you checks payable to PSRM, Attn: Retire the Debt, and send it to 4695 Nebo Drive, La Mesa, CA 91941-5259.

THANK YOU for your donations.

The steam program needs funds to make cosmetic repairs to all steam locomotives and for the possible restoration of Coos Bay #11 which is being evaluated as a viable candidate for an operating steam engine.

There is a need to restore and maintain category 1 equipment, in particular the ATSF 1509, Robert Peary, Santa Maria Valley Railbus.

Funds are also needed to restore and repaint the following locomotives

to their original Southern Pacific schemes and to accomplish ongoing maintenance: SP 5119, SP 7304 and SP 3709. ►

Tour Scheduled at Campo

Another museum tour has been scheduled for January 9, 2016

All members are invited to join Jim Lundquist, Director of Museum Services and long-time member, at Campo for a comprehensive tour of our museum to include background information on Campo history, the history of the railway and the history of our railway museum. We will go on a “behind the scenes” tour and meet other volunteers doing work

at the museum, and will attempt to enter and visit every car or locomotive we have an interest in. Here’s your opportunity to see first-hand our people, our equipment, our museum. This special event is free to all members and will start at the Campo Depot on Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 11:00AM, immediately after the train departure. We will walk the

entire site, returning to the Campo Depot prior to the 2:30PM train departure. Those wishing to take the train can use your member passes for a free train ride as well that day. Jim would prefer to know your interest in attending – please drop him a quick email at Jim@psrm.org. Hope to see you soon at Campo. ►

Help Wanted

Your railway museum is in need of volunteers for several positions and activities.

I can guarantee you will feel great about your involvement, knowing you are helping the community and preserving railway history. Here are some available opportunities.

First, we start by saying a huge THANK YOU to Heather Wright for taking on the duties of Membership Secretary for the past couple of years. She is now taking on more

paid work responsibilities and needs to step aside. Heather reports that she spends anywhere from 0 to 4 hours per week at home welcoming our new members and sending out renewal forms to our existing members. Heather is available to train the new volunteer in what she does in this position. If you can assist us, please contact Jim Lundquist at 619-417-7059 or email at Jim@psrm.org and he will get you started in your new position. We thank you in advance for your consideration and assistance.

In addition, we are looking for able body workers willing to work hard outside. The Operations Department/Maintenance-Of-Way team members will soon start training to work with “FORM B” operations. This will include the radio communications procedure between the Employee-In-Charge (EIC) on the ground and the locomotive.



Dick Pennick, William Crawley, Glen Rogers, and Rich Paulus replace several worn ties along the right-of-way.
John Wright

Safety procedures for the MOW team, proper flag protection for the track section to be worked on and the EIC's procedure to grant trains authority to transit the work zone. This training and coordination with train crews will permit MOW teams to do small section tie replacement, gage rod placement, culvert clearing and other maintenance activity on weekends when more of our PSRM membership is available. A typical MOW team would consist of a member with MOW experience and trained as an EIC plus two to three others (or more). We invite any PSRM member interested to participate, training dates will be announced. We will also train for gang cars & cart (trailer) operations. Please contact Glen Rogers, SD&A/PSRM Road Master at 949-35101528 or email at glenrogers@cox.net.

Other tasks looking for leaders in Campo are:

A leader to set up a display apartment in the section house. We have some twenties/thirties era furniture like a headboard, a table, some chairs, a washtub and washboard, maybe a player piano and rolls, and I'm sure we could get other suitable things donated.

Someone to set up an REA demo office in the northwest corner of the display building. We can use the counter in the horse car, we have furniture (desk and chairs), a roll paper cutter, and lights from the San Diego REA office, typewriters, REA signs, maybe a teletype machine, a coat rack, and so on.

Three people to set up three displays in the horse express car. The horse stalls in the east end, a mechanics shop in the west end using the overhead rack to suspend some big rr part, (and we've got 6-7 boxes of hand tools that can be displayed),

and an exhibit about adaptive reuse of rail road things (the horse express mechanics shop is an example of that) and so is the conversion of the San Diego Santa Fe Depot baggage area to an art museum, and others.

People to pick up the baton for artifact registration, and to improve on the procedures that are being used now.

Setting up and interpreting the evolution of caboose designs with a caboose row.

Setting up signs explaining the different kinds of freight hauled in different kinds of cars.

Someone to organize our lantern collection, using some lantern reference books we have.

If you can assist, contact Dick Ruppert at 858-459-2573 or email d_ruppert@yahoo.com. ►

New Members and Donations

Heather Wright, Membership

We acknowledge new members and recent donations.

We would like to welcome the following new members to PSRM:

Dennis Frerking	Karey Wingfield
Matther Wendell	Justin Sherwood
Edward Clare	Perry Edwards
Tina Brady	Helen McKinley
Cassia Knighton	Anita Karim

Barry Ealson	Patrick Howland
Bob Stagnaro	Karey Wingfield
Gary Haupt	Linda Scott
Sonny Levoit	Cary LaBounty
Robert Salas	Tina Kessler
Eileen Graham	Rick Rainwater
Ashley Lyon	Sierra Shapery
Matthew Heinemann	

The museum would like to thank the following individuals for their generous donations:

Tom Walker—TV for Display Building

Bruce Deck—Hot Chocolate for North Pole Limited

Paul Lundquist—golf cart and canopy. ►



A volunteer photographer recently did some filming of our trains *Jim Lundquist*

Glen Rogers supervises a crew replacing ties along the right-of-way. *John Wright*



Holiday Help Needed!

By Diana Hyatt

If you have been waiting for some good CLEAN fun volunteering your time at **YOUR** railroad museum, **NOW** is your opportunity! We are accepting volunteers in all positions for our North Pole Trains.

PRE-EMPTIVE DECORATING:

Before the season on November weekends: November 7th and 8th
November 14th and 15th
November 21st and 22nd

We need help cleaning and decorating the passenger cars, the Campo Depot (inside and out), setting up the North Pole trailer and interior and exterior at the site, setting up the hobo camp and preparing the parking areas with grading and striping. The behind the scenes list is quite long. Additionally, all SD&A coaches need roof sealant applied on an annual basis until we can afford to replace the steel roofs.

NORTH POLE TRAINS:

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Saturdays, November 28th, December 5th, 12th and 19th

Duties: If you love acting, singing or just being helpful, this job is for you! We need 2-3 little people per night to dress as elves for the North Pole. We are also looking for Mrs. Claus' and even some lovable, crusty hobos! Car-packers are also needed to ensure guests do not seat themselves and leave numerous, useless empty seats in every car that have been sold to others. If you don't like being in the public eye, there are behind-the-scene positions available also:

- 1) During the days of the event, there are many tasks including:
 - Cleaning the train (Saturday morning and Sunday mornings)
 - Onboard set up for each passenger coach
 - Cooking lunch and dinner for our member volunteers
 - Kitchen clean up
 - Counting and distributing cookies
 - Boiling gallons of water and mixing hot cocoa,
 - Loading the train with all the paraphernalia for the night
 - Unloading the train after each trip
 - Miscellaneous tasks: washing/sanitizing beverage containers, mopping up spills, etc.
 - Parking and traffic control at the Depot
 - North Pole setup and tear down
 - Driving Santa and Mrs. Claus to the North Pole to arrive before the train

Even if you've already told me you would like to help, PLEASE send me an e-mail at

dhyatt@psrm.org so that I can schedule you around your availability. Remember, this event pulls in easily 80% of the museum's annual income. If I had just 8-12 people willing to volunteer for each of the eight days (and four Sundays when we do cleanup and prep) we are operating, it would be a huge help!

Report

Of San Diego County Rail Museum Activity

Issue 1

Published by the Dispatcher, La Mesa, California

January 5, 1960

50 IS STILL AROUND

As recently as one year ago San Diego & Arizona Eastern locomotive #50 was in the Bay Shore yards. Even today this locomotive may still be around - although in a junk yard. In December usable rail was removed from San Diego streets.

With the passage of time acquisition of railroad equipment becomes increasingly difficult and prospects for a San Diego County Travel Town and/or an operating rail museum appear to dim. It appeared to Douglas Duncan, Charles Gerdes and Eric Sanders that interested persons should meet and review the Museum situation. A letter of invitation was written and a mailing list was hastily compiled. If YOU did not receive a notice please consider this report as a belated but cordial invitation.

MEETING NUMBER ONE

Twelve persons on October 17, 1959 met in the Balboa Park Organ Pavilion Office and reviewed rail museum activity available to San Diego County railfans. Discussed also was the feasibility of establishing an operating rail museum in this area. The group agreed that a second meeting should be held and that there should be a further exchange of ideas. Certain individual assignments were made.

Discussion concerned the problems and challenges inherent in a museum project. It became apparent that the establishment of and the operation of an operating rail museum is a monumental undertaking. On the other hand it was also clear that a local operation did not need to start from scratch. The Railway Historical Society of San Diego, Inc. now owns two operating street cars and the body of a third. A few lengths of rail and some ties are also on hand. One of the members present owns the body of Birney street car.

All present at the meeting agreed that the RHSofSD would be and should be

involved in a museum project if one should be initiated. Many felt that a museum should be within the RHSofSD framework; some felt that results would be better obtained through the organization of a separate single-purpose group.

Land acquisition appeared to be a prime problem. Railroad access was deemed to be highly advisable. Sites suggested, including line and off-line locations, were: National City waterfront, Rose Canyon locations, former NC&O roadbed above Sweetwater Dam, former San Diego & Phoenix roadbed in Otay Valley, an Otay gravel pit site, and former Balboa Park street car right-of-way.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

Second meeting for those who are interested in San Diego Rail Museum activity is scheduled for Sunday, January 17, 7:30 p.m. in the Balboa Park Organ Pavilion office. YOU are cordially invited. Come and bring a friend. Notify interested persons.

Rolling stock discussed at the meeting included the previously mentioned street cars, Salt Works equipment, and other "light railway" equipment. Jack Stodelle stated that one group of San Diego railfans was actively interested in acquiring an operating steam locomotive.

Problems in powering a street railway system were outlined. Role of the Orange Empire Traction Co. trolley museum at Perris in local planning was discussed. Street car 171 is at Perris, RHSofSD has contributed financially and several San Diego area railfans are members.

SINCE THE MEETING

Dick Pennick reports that the Sweetwater Canyon roadbed may be taken over by a governmental unit for highway purposes.

The site is potentially zoned and a portion is zoned for industrial use.

Doug Duncan and Jack Stodelle report that a Rose Canyon location is desirable and also that a Mission Bay site should be investigated.

Eric Sanders reports that Mr. James Reading, official of the San Diego Historical Shrine Foundation and RHSofSD member, stated that a recent survey for an on-line site for a Travel Town produced negative results. Reading stated that a site in the proposed Sycamore Canyon Park would be ideal but it is unlikely that the land would be made available. He also stated that an operating museum is a project which deserves study. He added that it would be a project of considerable magnitude but one that should not be regarded as impossible of attainment.

Bill Morrison, Douglas Duncan and Jim Reading have suggested possible sources of power for an electric operation. Charles Gerdes also told the Report that he felt the power situation is possible of solution.

An Orange Empire Traction official contacted by the Report indicated that his group welcomes support from San Diego area railfans. He stated that several San Diegans are now members and that the museum is closer to San Diego than it is to Los Angeles. OET is a going concern, he said, and is, even now, preparing for operation.

It should be noted that Mayor Hodge of National City at one time met with RHSofSD officials to discuss the possibility of railroad operation in a National City Park.

It would appear that interested persons have several choices. They are:

- a. Limit activity to more adequate "caretaking" of presently owned equipment.
- b. As a group or as individuals offer active support to the OET museum.
- c. Study the National City project.
- d. Initiate long range study which might lead to the establishment of a San Diego area Travel Town with or without operation. This might be at Del Mar or at some other site.
- e. Plan definite work schedules at Del Mar or at private projects.
- f. Meet on a continued study basis.
- g. Or, plan for the establishment of a San Diego area operating museum.

Present at the October 18 meeting were: Fred Reif, Dick Dodge, Lyle Judd, Eddie Junghans, Wally Duthie, Jack Stodelle, Dick Fennick, Bill Morrison,

(Continued on next column)

REPORT

Published by the Dispatcher in the interests of San Diego County Railroad Museum activity.

Address communications to: Eric Sanders, 7861 Normal Ave., La Mesa, Calif.

AN EXPLANATION

In Issue 1 of the Report an attempt has been made to record the discussion that took place at the October 18, 1959 meeting of individuals who have expressed a varying degree of interest in railroad museum activity. The Report has also attempted to bring the problem up-to-date. Here's hoping that no individual has been misquoted.

Interested persons are urged to attend the January 17, 1960 meeting.

Continued from column one

Dwight Couch, Charles Gerdes, Douglas Duncan and Eric Sanders. All but one of those present were RHSofSD members. The moderator made it clear that any interested person is invited to attend the next meeting.

MUSEUM NEWS

The Canadian Railroad Historical Association has adopted the name "The Inter-provincial Railway of Canada" for its museum operations. Acquired on Nov. 21 were Canadian Pacific 4-4-0 #144 and Courtaulds' (Canada) Limited electric locomotive #7.

Oregon Electric Railway Historical Society Inc. has acquired Dept. of Public Transport, New South Wales, Sydney tram #1187. (The editor rode this type tram as a boy in Manly Beach, N.S.W.)

AS SPACE PERMITS

For a three dollar contribution OERHS offers a regular membership with several items including a picture of the Sydney tram.

Subject to ICC approval the D&RGW has sold the Silverton line to a non-profit group. Sale includes one locomotive, 10 passenger and some work and freight cars.

Four unit locomotives now pull SD&AE freights averaging 70 cars per train. A caboose has replaced comb #208. It alternates with combines 174 and 175.

BRICK ORDER FORM

Each brick is 4" x 8". Minimum Donation \$100 each — 1-3 lines of inscription, 20 characters per line



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Each line has a maximum of 20 characters, including spaces and punctuation. Please print clearly; use capital or lower case letters and make sure the information is spelled correctly. All inscriptions will be centered.

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