

HOT ***SCOOP***

A publication dedicated to Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association members
March-April 2016





**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 3rd
Friday of the month at 6 PM,
Trinity Church, 3902 Kenwood
Drive, Spring Valley, CA 91977

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Treasurer:	Dave Tomeraasen
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Photographers:	Frank Denison, John Wright
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New concrete in the Display Building between SP 2353 and SD&A 050.

Bruce Semelsberger



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

by Diana Hyatt

2016 started off as busy as its past two or three predecessors with lots of expectations and back-burnered tasks to be completed! On Saturday evening, January 2, a thank you dinner for the North Pole volunteers was prepared and served by the Hyatts on the Café Observation Lounge Car ATSF 1509. The menu consisted of slow roasted beef, bacon wrapped chicken in a forest mushroom sauce, loaded baked potato, French green beans, two soup choices, green salad with Southern Pacific dressing, fresh baked rolls and butter and an assortment of desserts. Train crew volunteers Rob Stebbins, Dick Pennick, Charles Siegle and Mike & Candy Obetz made it possible to take everyone for a train ride and complete the dinner train experience. Towards the end of the night, Alanna Hyatt received a completely unexpected surprise. Inspired by Alanna's keen interest in photography, Charles Siegle decided he was going to collect donations from volunteers during the North Pole Christmas trains and, thanks to many donors, Charles and Ashley

Lyon were able to purchase a new Nikon digital camera for Alanna; it was a bit of a tear-jerker for mom and daughter. Now, Alanna doesn't have to check out a camera from school every time she wants to take photos in and around the museum! I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this wonderful gift possible!

The following weekend, on Sunday, January 10, 2016, along with Alanna Hyatt and Nick Siegle, I attended the Christmas Train/Three Kings event in Tecate, B.C. This is the event founded by PSRM life member Charles Coval many years ago and is continued by his wife Margaret. This year, a total of 3,500 gift bags were assembled for needy boys, girls and infants from Tecate and the surrounding areas. Prior to the collapse of tunnel 3 in Mexico, PSRM provided the train that brings the Three Kings, Santa, the volunteers and at one time, the presents to the children of Tecate on the Sunday closest to the Epiphany. I remain hopeful that our train will once again play an integral and consistent role in this worthy endeavor as we last did on January 11, 2009.

On January 25th I was invited to preview the Tijuana & Tecate Railroad along with representatives from MTS, BJRR, PIR and ADMICARGA. Over the past two years, multiple governmental agencies within Mexico have worked together to fund and improve the railroad and its surrounding infrastructure. Just south of the international border crossing at San Ysidro, CA can be found the restored Tijuana Depot, a new multi-story office building housing office facilities for brokers, customs, Baja Railroad and ADMICARGA as

well as new yard tracks in a secured area. West of the yard there are several miles of newly laid track, a new, state-funded 40,000 square foot trans-loading facility in Garcia complete with a flash freezer, huge walk-in refrigeration and office space. Further east, a new, steel-girder bridge has replaced one of the aging trestles and even farther east, tunnel 3 has been day-lighted. Ties and rail have been laid from Lindero east to tunnel 4 and, as of this writing are only in need of ballast and tamping. Only one task remains to complete our re-connection with Tecate and that is the 101 year old deteriorating wooden portal on the west end of tunnel 4.

January also saw the relocation of the new Signal Science collection from Canyon City to Campo. Many thanks to Todd and Mason Clark for this wonderful addition to our interpretive exhibits collection! I am very pleased to announce another exciting PSRM acquisition that was finalized in January. PSRM has acquired a new piece of rolling stock deemed key to our interpretive railroad mission: a sleeping car that is a prime example of overnight rail travel during the 1940's and 1950's. Thanks to the Pacific Rail Society, PSRM was selected to receive the donation of a 1942 lightweight Pullman 4-4-2 sleeper, Imperial Bird. A 4-4-2 is comprised of four double bedrooms, four compartments and two drawing rooms. The interior of the Bird remains in its original and nearly immaculate condition, however, it will require some exterior body work and paint, at which time it will likely be returned to its Union Pacific Armour Yellow livery. Please follow the move on the museum's website and Facebook page as



Alanna Hyatt in the Display Building with her new camera. *Dave Tomeraasen*

we truck this 85' coach from City of Commerce to Campo in March, and please, feel free to contribute to its fund to aid PSRM in relocation and restoration expenses!

The next special event at Campo is our annual Bunny Trains on March 19th, 20th and 26th. Be sure to bring the kids for a great time that includes a one hour train ride to the international border tunnel, a special gift from the Easter Bunny, an Easter egg hunt and a fun, holiday craft. Also, coming sooner than you think is the museum's Annual Dinner on Thursday, April 14th. Not only will we gather together to celebrate PSRM's 55th anniversary but also to honor our hardworking volunteers. This year the theme is black and white movies, so come dressed as your favorite black and white movie star or character! Bring plenty of cash for raffle tickets as Janet Paulus is busily working on another one of her famous train quilts. As always, donations for the raffle are gratefully accepted; I do have quite a few railroad books and videotapes already



The quilt is 62" L x 42" W featuring steam and diesel locomotives. *Rich Paulus*

and 456 Copley Dr, San Diego, CA 92111 things to bid on besides railroad books, videotapes, DVDs and train pictures – wine and chocolate are always good ideas! Tickets to the annual dinner can be purchased online so visit our website and buy yours soon!

On Friday, February 5th the Strategic Planning group met for its annual

review with Don Evans at the helm. At this meeting, it was firmly resolved that the time is ripe to hire a Director of Development whose main duties will be grant-writing and other forms of fund raising that do not involve huge, planned events. It has been painfully obvious to your leadership that in order to achieve more of our plans for the museum, more and greater outside funding sources are a necessity. Many of us would like to see PSRM blossom into its full potential during our lifetimes and as long as we continue earning the majority of our income and re-investing same, our progress will be visible but slow. Dick Pennick has volunteered to assist primarily myself in this latest big step. If you know of anyone already living and circulating in San Diego who may be a potential candidate, please drop me a line at dhyatt@psrm.org. This and a few other items have been in the works for awhile so I am expecting to have a positive and updated report for you in the next edition of the Hot Scoop! ►

Museum Services Report

By Jim Lundquist, Museum Services Director

This has been a very busy time for our department, as we have been completing many Museum Services Department projects.

First and foremost, the Signal Science Exhibit is set up and running. The goal is to have a grand public opening for our members, local school children, visitors and the press during the week as soon as the school groups can be scheduled (Diana Hyatt is scheduling). The exhibit has been working pretty well, with some maintenance and opening set-up issues.

Dawn Lundquist, Andy and Nancy Andretta and Jim Lundquist have

been rearranging the Display cases, furniture and displays inside the Display Building to make a more comprehensive exhibit experience. In addition, various cleaning of equipment and the building has been ongoing, with help from Frank Denison. After the display cases are arranged, we will seek out appropriate items from our collection to exhibit. Some signage has been placed to assist in understanding the exhibits with other signs under development. Additional displays are in the planning stage for the new concrete walkways recently placed inside the Display Building.

In the library, Bruce Semelsberger reports that funds for the pouring the concrete supports for the new containers are on hand and Brian Elmore will take care of that. We need about \$65,000 for the total library expansion of which \$3,000 is used for the foundation work. So far, \$7,075 was been promised and \$6,025 has been received. A big Thank You! goes out to those who have already given their support! We continue to register donations and organize shelves during the regular Wednesday and Saturday sessions despite some very chilly Campo mornings-below 30 degrees sometimes. We are almost done processing the large

backlog of books acquired during the time the collection was in storage, thanks to Dale Wagner, and then he will be free to assist Bob Underhill in ordering the shelves and removing duplicate works. These extras will then be available for sale to assist our budget. Even with the discount pricing we receive on archival materials through our membership in the Congress of History, these materials can be very expensive, particularly acid-free storage boxes and sleeves. The museum's gift shop and the offices in the car shop have had internet through a local provider the last few weeks and it seems a substantial improvement over the old DSL we had from AT&T, so we have asked the Board to extend it out to the library. This will allow us to receive email requests for research directly rather than through the website via relay which should speed up the process quite a bit for routine requests. Bruce is currently working on a large amount of material left to us by the late Richard Borstadt. Rich filled a number of roles for PSRM as well other organizations

during his regrettably short life and left a lot of old PSRM files and a large pile of photographs which are mostly unlabeled, so it may take some time to sort things out. So far, it appears that our Wednesday schedule remains unhindered through March but there are a number of Saturday conflicts. We will try to have at least one volunteer there each Saturday. Meanwhile, please keep us in mind for a donation! Another \$6,000 will get us two more hi-cube containers and we can begin relocating the small artifacts collection to the library site. It will be a big step forward to finally have the entire collection under one roof and on our computer network.

Thanks to Bruce Deck for being a Docent on the train.

Dick Ruppert and Ed Osborne have been working in the exhibits lab recently.

Facilities Report – Jim Lundquist

The big news is that Brian Elmore has completed the concrete pour in the Display Building. The new walkways

look terrific. Thanks to Dawn Lundquist, Glen Rogers and myself for minor assistance for cleaning up. We have spent \$15, 116.17 against the \$40,000 County grant to complete the Display Building. Several coordination and planning meetings have been completed with Ron Hyatt and Robbie Smith towards the new pour inside the Shop Building. That work should be starting very soon, starting with the clean-up of the Shop and the removal of rails and ties under track 13.

Dawn and Jim have been working to seal the Display Building to reduce the amount of dust and dirt that blows in. Jim completed weed spraying around the Campo Depot and the walkway up to the Display Building.

Jim met with the SDG&E contractor on site on Monday, February 15th. He has sent us a bid to replace various lighting fixtures around our property which is the subject of another agenda action item. ►



Dawn Lundquist



Bruce Semelsberger

THE GENERAL – Starring Buster Keaton

The Theatre (Pipe) Organ Society of San Diego, TOSSD, invites you to join them on Saturday, May 7th, 2016 as they present the legendary train-themed 1926 silent film “The General.” This film stars the famous Buster Keaton and is accompanied on our Wurlitzer Theatre Pipe Organ as it was when it debuted. Our guest artist is Christian Elliot, a world-class theater organist in high demand with a recognized talent for developing and performing authentic silent film musical scores. “The General” is set in the Civil War era and is sure to delight train enthusiasts of all ages.

The film is presented at the Trinity Church, 3902 Kenwood Drive, Spring Valley, CA 91977. Tickets are available at the box office on-site starting at 6:00 PM. There are no advance ticket sales. Doors open at 6:30 PM with the concert at 7 . There are handicapped parking spaces along with front door drop-off and pick-up, and plenty of free parking. Ticket prices are normally \$15 for non-club members, but members of PSRM will receive the group discount rate of \$12.00 per person, and accompanying children under 16 receive free admission. This is a family friendly event. Refreshments are served at intermission by the church school children for donations.

Our films are well attended by members of the Antique Automobile Club of America who drive their vintage cars to the show and display them proudly for everyone in attendance, starting at 6:00 PM.

Join us in experiencing what audiences did during the heyday of silent films in the 1920's, and enjoy a bit of film history involving vintage trains. For more information about TOSSD, visit our website at TOSSD1.webs.com. ►

New Members January & February 2016

Alex Fiori, Membership Coordinator

January

Satchel Hogan, Santa Maria, CA
Don DeMent, La Mesa, CA

February

Allos Family, El Cajon, CA
Richelle Rice, Las Vegas, NV
Patrick Stidman, Spring Valley, CA
Ken Quisenberry, Imperial Beach, CA
Dennis Gutshell and Family, La Mesa, CA
George Cataulin, San Diego, CA

Jeff St. John and Family, El Cajon, CA
Renato Sussex and Family, Holtville, CA
Rhonde Bumgart and Family, El Centro, CA
James Davis and Family, El Centro, CA
Gregory Opiteck, San Diego, CA
Cory Migneault and Family, Santee, CA
Gabriel Arvizu, San Ysidro, CA

New Life Members

Todd Clark, Canyon County, CA
Mason Clark, Canyon County, CA
Ronald McQuilliams, Campo, CA
Dorothy Wood, Ramona, CA

Thank you all for joining the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum!

membership@psrm.org

Brakeman Training Class

By Jim Baker

A hands-on class for the entry level train crew position, Brakeman, will be held this spring. The class is open to anyone, age 16 and above, who is interested in becoming a member of our volunteer train crew. (Don't let the brakeman title scare away any ladies.) Class size is limited to eight people.

There will be two sessions of the class; attendance at both sessions is necessary to complete the class. The two sessions will be held on April 2 and 16 (Saturdays), all day, at Campo. Prior to taking the class, it is suggested, but not required, that you take some “observation runs” with one of our presently qualified brakemen to see what all the job entails. To sign up for these, and the hands-on class, you need to be a member of the museum, and contact Jim Baker, the trainer, at baker@sdrm.org. After taking this class, you will need to take three observations runs, including any taken prior to the class, followed by a series at least six training runs with qualified brakemen. Trainees are evaluated by the brakeman, and at least three “qualified to operate without supervision” recommendations from three different brakemen are required to become qualified. Sixteen hours of classroom instruction and written examinations covering Safety & Security, the General Code of Operating Rules, (GCOR) and Air Brakes is also

required (two 4 hour classes and one 8 hour class). These classes will be held at various times in the Spring/Summer. Minimum age for qualification is 18.

More details are at the Museum's web site: www.psrn.org/brakeman-class/

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the HandsOn Instructor, Jim Baker, at baker@sdrm.org ►

Steam Whistling

By Jim Baker, Steam Foreman

September 2015—February 2016 Work

This report doesn't cover as many months as the title might indicate. We didn't work in December, due to our staffing North Pole Ltd. trains, and in January, due to really nasty weather.

As reported in the September-October *HOT SCOOP*, we had removed the springs and spring rigging from the front two driver axles so we could clean and examine the frame for cracks and welds.

So, in the last few months, we have accomplished the following:

Lots more needle gunning of the frame and cleaning of the frame, followed by dye penetrant testing to look for cracks. We already knew about one crack in a large weld on the left frame at the rear side of the cylinder saddle. The dye penetrant



Right frame, just forward of cylinder saddle. Frame is painted gloss black; welds are unpainted, looking shiny after cleaning. The pink is remaining dye that is in the "wrinkles" of the weld. It would show up as a line in any cracks.

Jim Baker

revealed another crack in the same weld, plus a crack just below a weld on the left, rear, pedestal, for the #2 driver axle. All the cleaned sections of the frame, except for the welds and crack were painted with Hammerite® gloss black paint. These areas were noted on a copy of the blueprints. At this point, we have probably examined about half of the frame.

We had previously noticed that the fuel tank was still about 40% full of fuel, of unknown composition and was at least 30 years old. Because of those factors, and the need to reduce the weight to jack up the rear end to remove the third set of springs, our waste oil hauler removed most of it in December. However, they were unable to remove the last of it. We did spend some time separating the fuel line and adding fittings to enable a direct connection to their truck. We were able to drain out the last 100 or so gallons, and transfer it to our waste oil tank in February.

Also in February, we jacked up the rear end about 6 inches to take the weight off of the springs so we could remove the third, and last set. However, because of clearance issues, we could not remove the spring



The cribbing and jacks used to raise the rear end of the engine.
Jim Baker

hangers without torch cutting the front one on each spring. (These would probably need to be replaced in restoration, so no big loss). Those springs and rigging are now ready to be removed, which we should accomplish in March. Of course this will be followed by more needle-gunning, cleaning, and dye testing.

Once we have as much of the frame we can get at, cleaned and dye tested, we will get a testing company to come out and check the welds for quality via ultrasound or x-ray.

The volunteers doing all this work were Rich Paulus, Bob Nickles, Jim Baker, Harry Lineback, and Dick Pennick. Many thanks to all of these.

Our regular work days are the second Friday and Saturday of the month. We can always use more help. Come out and get dirty! Questions? jbaker@psrm.org ►

Signal Science Exhibit Donated

By Jim Lundquist

We are very excited to announce the donation of a multi-part hands-on exhibit titled “Signal Science” which presents the science of

them on large steel pallets to allow them to travel. They added electronic signs for some and hard signs for all to tell the public the details of

how and why the signals work. The Clark’s original idea was to take the exhibit on the road with displays in various museums across the country—like the Chicago Museum of Science and Industry for example. That idea wasn’t pursued and Todd went looking for a new home for the exhibit with an announcement

on Trainorders. My email lit up with this news, and I had already been aware of it due to my membership in the chat room. I immediately offered a new home for the exhibit at our museum, and starting looking for people who knew the Clarks. The Caestecker family, speaking on behalf of our museum, made positive contacts with Todd. Last summer, the Lundquist family stopped by the exhibit warehouse in greater LA on the way back from Yosemite for a first hand view and visit. Later, Todd and Mason visited our museum and the Display Building.

Late last year, Todd had an appraisal completed and made the decision to donate the exhibit to us!

Planning got underway to relocate the exhibit. The Hyatts and Robbie Smith visited the exhibit also to assist in relocation plans. Todd and Mason brought down the scale train layout which demonstrates how railroad block signals function on January 1st. Dawn and Jim Lundquist hosted them overnight. Robbie secured a stake bed truck and a pickup truck and trailer, Jim and Dawn brought up their trailer, Rob Stebbins rented a u-haul truck, and we rented a forklift in LA. All of the above plus Cary Hyatt, Aaron Hyatt, Charles Siegel, Roger Garrett along with Todd, Mason and Donnalee were involved in moving everything to Campo. Unloading it all were the same volunteers minus



The introductory sign for the new Signal Science exhibit in the display building.
John Wright

railroad signals to the public. Signal Science features many types of railroad signals found track-side along the railways— both modern and historic —all restored and in working condition along with appropriate descriptive signs. Some have videos which go into great detail and changes the signals during the video as trains pass. This awesome donation came to us from Todd Clark, of the web site Trainorders.com, with an appraised value in excess of \$250,000. In January, the exhibit was set-up inside the Display Building and has been enjoyed by our recent visitors.

Todd Clark has been gathering various railroad signals for the past decade. He and his son, Mason, had a dream of presenting railroad signals and how they worked. They purchased and acquired signals, then took them apart, sand blasted, painted them, and reworked all the electronics. They then mounted



Union Switch & Signal Style S semaphore showing a stop indication. In the foreground is the interactive display.
John Wright



the Clarks plus James Caestecker. The following weekend, the same volunteers put the exhibit back together with the Clark family down for assistance and a visit.

Since that time, Dawn and Jim have been arranging our Display Building to take advantage of the new exhibits and general cleanup and displays. Our visitors love the new exhibits and we are so proud and lucky to be able to present such a high quality product. This represents a terrific donation. Please plan on coming out sometime soon to visit us. Many thanks to the Todd Clark family and we welcome them as our newest life members as our way of saying thank you. ►

**Western Railroad Supply Auto Flag #5
(Wig-wag.)** *John Wright*

Museum Behind The Scenes Tour Scheduled

Join us on Saturday, April 9th at 11:30AM in the Campo Depot for a in-depth behind the scenes tour of our facility at Campo. We will review the history of our museum, as well, as a complete tour, meeting some of the hard working volunteers along the way. The tour should end before the 2:30PM train departs for those wishing to ride the Golden State train. ►



Uh Oh...

On Friday, January 8, 2016 a track inspection conducted by Rich Paulus and Jim Baker revealed several large boulders that had toppled onto the track just west of mile post 63. This was likely due to a recent storm that passed through the area. The track was red-flagged for the weekend and a crew removed the obstructions the following week. ►

Rich Paulus inspecting the large boulders obstructing the main at Milepost 62.9 *Jim Baker*



PACIFIC SOUTHWEST RAILWAY MUSEUM

Annual Dinner and Membership Meeting

Thursday, April 14th, 2016
6:00 PM to 9:30 PM

Tom Ham's Lighthouse
2150 Harbor Island Drive
San Diego, CA 92108

\$50 Per Person

Tickets may be purchased online at: www.psrsm.org

Please purchase tickets or RSVP no later than Monday, April 11, 2016.

RSVP to Diana Hyatt, dhyatt@psrm.org

*This year the theme is Black and White movies, so
come dressed as your favorite black and white movie character.*

6:00 PM: Social Hour

7:00 PM: Buffet Dinner

8:00 PM: 2015 in review, award presentations, and raffle.

No Host Bar