



**A publication dedicated to Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association members
July-August 2016**





1961

2016

**Pacific Southwest Railway
Museum Association, Inc.**
www.psrma.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
Summer Hours (7/9/16—10/2/16)
Saturday: Museum Closed
Sunday 9 AM—5 PM; Valley Flyer
Caboose Train runs all day

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: Alex Fiori
Steam Foreman: Jim Baker
Gift Shop Mgr: Heather Wright
Media Liaison: Vacant
Hot Scoop Editor: John Wright
Photographers: Frank Denison,
Alanna Hyatt
Certification & Training:
Mike Edwards

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Smoke from the Border Fire as seen from the PSRM yard in Campo.

Robbie Smith



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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 × 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.

Museum Services Report

By Jim Lundquist, Museum Services Director

Another busy two months of progress in the Museum Services Department.

We had a very nice booth in the El Cajon "Main Street" special event last month. It was very well attended as we invited visitors out to see us in Campo. There were two of us manning the booth, which worked out very well, allowing break time to explore other booths. New exhibits are underway for additional booth opportunities.

Library

Your library crew has been active through the remainder of the Spring with three and sometimes four volunteers working most days. Dale Wagner and Bob Underhill continue to register, sort and shelve the book collection. Bob has identified many duplications as the books get arranged on the shelves. These can be sold in our gift shop or on the internet to raise funds for archival and other supplies.

Richard Finch has regularly taken time off from his other job as editor of the newsletter for the Electric Railway Association to sort and catalog our photo collection. Unfortunately, many photographs arrive without any information attached, so we have to look for clues in the photos as to railroad, place and date. Then we put them into acid free envelopes and file them by subject. Eventually, they all need to be scanned and put into the data base and there are thousands of them, so we won't run out of work any time soon.

We have been working on the huge backlog of donations that accumulated during the time the library was in storage and hope to catch up with current donations by next year.

Thanks go to long-time members like the late Eric Sanders, Rene

Scheuerman, Roy Pickering, Richard Pennick, Larry Rose and many others for their contributions; the acknowledgment has been a long time coming. Thanks to them we now have much of the documentation of the early days of our organization and those that preceded it as well as a wealth of stories, some of which have never been printed.

Donations also continue to roll in. In the last month we have received 16 boxes of books including many relating to equipment and to the logging industry from the estate of the late Richard Schleicher. Richard was a long-time stalwart of the Santa Fe Historical group. He and Larry Ochello shared space with us in the Santa Fe baggage building in San Diego for several years. Larry and his nephew brought the books down from San Bernardino. The most recent donation came just this week from Steve Bovee, owner of Reed's Hobby Shop in La Mesa and a friend of the library for many years; an antique conductor's desk purchased from a descendant of a former Santa Fe passenger conductor. The desk was made by the Sheets Manufacturing Company of Wapokaneta, Ohio, probably during the 1920s. The company made a lot of different kinds of desks between 1903 and the great depression. Another pending donation is for many albums of photographs of mostly branch lines throughout the west. These were taken during the 1990s and early 2000s and reflect

operations on rails that are already gone in 2016. And they're labelled!



The location of the upcoming library expansion.

Bruce Semelberger

The much needed expansion of the library facility is finally underway. Brian Elmore has poured the footings that the six new containers will rest on. Incorporated into the top of each is a section of rail donated by Brian that will allow the containers to slide into place easily. Next up will be the concrete floor for the work area which must be put into place before we can properly align the containers. Thanks to a couple of recent donations of funds, we believe we have enough money to pay for this phase, but that leaves us with no funding for any of the containers at this point, so please feel free to contribute to this effort! Any amount will help!

If we can get to the point of having the containers in place, we hope to find outside funding to help with the enclosing of the work space and the overall foaming which includes renewal of the existing coating. We already have a price tag of \$17,000+ for the foaming operation.

Display Building

In the Display Building, we have been busy adding signage and are

in the middle of putting together an exhibit of the railroads uniting the states using reproduced signs from major railroad events and an exhibit of passenger trains serving Southern California through Los Angeles Union Passenger Terminal. Recently, a video exhibit on John Spreckels has been added inside the #050. New steel stairs are

completed and installed which allow access to the RPO and #2353, replacing the wooden stairs.

All the Gold Spike Life Members are now recognized on plaques inside the Campo Depot Waiting room.

Many thanks go to Ron Hyatt and Robbie Smith for their continued maintenance and care of our Signal

Science exhibits. Also, thanks to Bruce Deck for the same effort on the model train exhibit. Thanks also to our usual volunteers for their continuing efforts in staffing the La Mesa Depot. Also, thanks to Alex Flori for maintaining the membership roster as he travels across the country driving trucks. ►

Facilities Report

By Jim Lundquist, Museum Services Director

Many volunteers going the distance these past two months has allowed us to make substantial gains in our physical plant. The major effort has been to complete the work funded by the County grant to lay concrete inside our Shop Building. After removing the rails and ties on track 13, we dug the footings, and Brian Elmore was contracted to install concrete footings for the rail. The rail was remounted on the footings, with considerable effort needed to attach the rails. Then we welded on steel to keep a flange way open after we poured concrete. Brian again came back and brought with him additional hired help to pour out the slab on both tracks 13 and finished up on track 12. It can now be stated that the slab is drying, with a seal coat planned for the second week of July. Volunteers completing this work have been Robbie Smith, Martin Caestecker, John Shannon, Charles Smith, Cary Hyatt, Earl Soladay and James Caestecker. It was a substantial effort by these volunteers, and our thanks go out to them. Many of these same volunteers will be back in the Shop working on equipment as soon as the sealing is completed.



Brian Elmore and his crew finishing with the concrete pour in the shop building.

Robbie Smith

ing up is the painting of the Campo Depot. The paint is on hand, and we could use your assistance. Please call or email Frank Denison to get involved. ►

We also ordered two 40-yard roll-off dumpsters in which Glen Rogers placed the used ties which were left behind by the previous freight railroad and hauled off to the hazardous waste dump in Chula Vista. This involved three days of hard labor by Glen, as well as close to \$3,000 in costs. The County has been asking us to remove the ties for a while, and that makes four loads gone so far. We expect an additional 4-6 loads will be required to get them all off the property.

Glen Rogers has also been working with the CDF crews to remove vegetation on our property to reduce the wildfire dangers. The recent Border Fire reminds us of just how important that effort is.

There are many facility projects is the works. Most need more volunteers and a project manager. The next job com-

Border Fire Licks at PSRM Right of Way

By James Caestecker, Track Foreman

On June 25, 2016, a Volunteer Maintenance of Way Crew consisting of Track Foreman James Caestecker, Speeder Operator Alex

Fiori, and MOW Crewman Dave Tomeraasen conducted a secondary track inspection along PSRM's Trackage between MP 59.9 and 66.6.

Foreman Caestecker, with camera in hand, wanted to check on and document condition of the track and to document any damage to the track

and the surrounding Right of Way after the passing of the Border Fire. The Border Fire was battled by almost 2,000 Firefighters from all over California and consumed more than 7,000 acres of brush. There were two areas of our Trackage most directly impacted by the fire: Chicken Ranch (about MP 63) and Dog Patch/Division (MP 60-61). Upon arrival at the MP 63 Cut, we encountered two large rocks between the tracks which had been reported by Robert Smith and Glen Rogers earlier in the week. James and Alex were able to lift the

smaller rock and Dave Tomeraasen assisted with the larger rock. After struggling for a few minutes with the larger rock, a CalFire hand crew under the direction of their Captain, Garrett, helped James and Alex push the large rock out of the foul. After clearing the obstruction, the mow team continued along, surveying the burn area which followed the north side of the tracks for some distance between MP 63 and MP 62. The burn picked back up again on the north side of the tracks near MP 61 and continued all the way to the

Campo Creek, which is just outside of Tunnel #4 at Division. Foreman Caestecker was happy to report that no major damage was done to the track, however, we are still keeping a close eye on the places where rocks fell and where the bulldozers crossed the track to ensure that no damage was done to the railhead. The department would like to thank Alex and Dave for coming out on such short notice and to Robert Smith, Charles Smith, and John Shannon for their help. ►



A portion of the flame front of the Border Fire.
(Exact location unknown) *Robbie Smith*



A panorama of the area burned by the Border Fire in the vicinity of Mile Post 60 (Division.) At left center is the bridge over lower Campo Creek and Tunnel 4. *James Caestecker*



The concrete telephone booth and Division station sign remain untouched amid the charred countryside.

James Caestecker



Fire Retardant covers the tracks at the Milepost 63 Cut. Notice the two large rocks in the gauge.

James Caestecker

In Memoriam Capt. Richard Joseph "Dick" Schleicher (USN, ret.)

Former PSRMA member, Dick Schleicher, took his final ride on January 13, 2016 from the effects of multiple myeloma (bone marrow tumors).

Capt. Schleicher held a degree in Mechanical Engineering from Villanova University. His final duty assignment was Chief of Staff, Naval Training Center, San Diego.

After retirement, Dick taught chemistry & physics and volunteered for the Operation Lifesaver program, promoting public safety around railroad properties throughout the region. He was a model railroader and for a time was Director of Education for the San Diego Model Railroad Museum in Balboa Park. He was also president of the Santa Fe Railway Historical & Modeling Society.

Another former member, Ed Smith, had set up a volunteer "Railfan Patrol" in late 1977 to monitor suspicious activity on railroad property in the San Diego area. Over time, using CB radios to alert railroad police, the Patrol earned a strong following in the industry. In March, 1978, the Railfan Patrol was adopted as an officially-sanctioned activity of PSRMA, with Smith as the coordinator. In 1981, when Ed was forced to leave the San Diego area, PSRMA member Dr. Mark Cramer was appointed to replace Ed as the head of the Patrol.

By 1984, Dr. Cramer's busy medical practice forced him to relinquish his Railfan Patrol duties. Capt. Schleicher stepped up to the plate to fill the void, and with other museum volunteers, including the late Tanya Rose (former wife of long-time PSRMA volunteer Larry Rose), the Patrol continued its surveillance work in San Diego and other areas. By November, 1986—while PSRMA's Campo museum site was still under development—the Patrol boasted 55 active members. However, by 1988, changes in local railroad management and other factors conspired to curtail the Patrol's work and eventually, the Patrol passed out of existence.

PSRMA is honored to recognize Capt. Schleicher's service to the museum. He leaves his widow, Margaret, and his son, Ray and four grandchildren. Services were held on January 25, 2016 in San Diego.

(Prepared by Dick Pennick, with assistance from Margaret Schleicher and other sources). ►

New Members May & June 2016

By Alex Fiori, Membership

May

- Kim Haworth
- Benito Juarez
- Kevin Sebzda
- Brain Sebzda
- Timothy Sebzda
- Tong Saetia
- Diego Romero
- Jeff Lastofka
- Andrew Douglas
- Robert Moore
- Kelly Weiss
- Timothy Pawlak
- Michael McIntyre

- Leslie Wilson
- Michael Reading
- Edward Wheaton
- Linda Gillet
- John Miller
- Robert Pina
- Sara Zakaria
- Gregg & LeAnn Leyden
- Jose Holquin
- Chris Sawaya
- Arthur Niebla
- Lonnie Easter
- James & Merry Russell
- Rodger Barwick

- Donnal Barwick

June

- Larry Randel
- Juan Llamas
- Steven Johnston
- Lisa Ihm
- Tim Holbrook
- Thomas Dobson
- Alan Gobel
- Roger Beedon
- David Mckinsey

Thank you all for joining the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum! ►

Membership Totals 2015 & 2016

Jan 2015: 17 Members

Feb 2015: 54 Members

Mar 2015: 53 Members

Apr 2015: 21 Members

May 2015: 28 Members

Jun 2015: 33 Members

Jul 2015: 55 Members

Aug 2015: 47 Members

Sep 2015: 40 Members

Oct 2015: 21 Members

Nov 2015: 22 Members

Dec 2015: 44 Members

Sub Total: 435 Members

Life Members 2015: 180-L

Gold Spike Members 2015: 18-GS

2015 Membership Total: 631

Jan 2016: 6 Renewing Members + 2 New Members = 8

Feb 2016: 33 Renewing Members + 13 New Members = 46

Mar 2016: 34 Renewing Members + 18 New Members = 52

Apr 2016: 17 Renewing Members + 37 New Members = 54

May 2016: 30 Renewing Members + 29 New Members = 59

Jun 2016: 27 Renewing Members + 9 New Members = 36

Sub Total: 484

Life Members 2016: 186-L

Gold Spike Members 2016: 18-GS

2016 Membership Total: 686

Join Us For an Adventure Into México



August 6, 2016

Highlights include:

- **Rare Mileage train ride on the Tren Turístico from Estación Tijuana to Estación García**
- **Tour Baja California Railroad's brand new facility at Estación García**
- **Carne Asada barbeque lunch provided by BJRR**

Tickets On Sale Now!

\$35 for PSRMA Members

\$50 for Non-Members

Full Details at PSRM.org/BajaBBQ



NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR 2017-2018 BOARD POSITIONS

“Year A” directors (**President, Secretary, Equipment Division Director and Museum Services Division Director**), shall be elected to a full two-year term.

Any ten (10) Regular Members in good standing may nominate any other Regular Member in good standing for the position of an executive officer of the corporation or the position of Division Director, provided the person so nominated evidences in writing a willingness to serve if elected and the person so nominated is associated with the corresponding division of the corporation, as described in §4.12 of the Bylaws.

In accordance with the Bylaws, for all members in good standing, we will be electing one Board member per position to complete the 2017-2018 term ending December 31, 2018. The positions and their primary (but not sole) responsibilities include:

1. **President:** shall, subject to the control of the Board, be the general manager and chief executive officer of the corporation and shall supervise, direct, and control the business, affairs and officers of the corporation. The President shall preside at all Board meetings. The President has the general powers and duties of management usually vested in the office of President, general manager and chief executive officer of a corporation and such other powers and duties as the Board or the Bylaws may prescribe.
2. **Secretary:** shall keep or cause to be kept, at the corporation's principal office or such other place as the Board may direct, a Book of Minutes of all meetings, proceedings, and actions of the Board and of committees of the Board. The secretary shall keep or have kept at the principal office in California, a copy of the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, as amended to date. The Secretary shall give, or cause to be given, notice of all meetings of the Board, and of committees of the Board required by the Bylaws to be given. The Secretary shall keep the corporate seal in safe custody, and shall have such other powers and perform such other duties as the Board may prescribe.

Each Division, in cooperation with the Board, shall be managed by a director specifically elected to the position who shall establish procedures, policies, rules and regulations necessary for the safe and efficient operation of the division, and all property and equipment under its jurisdiction.

1. **Equipment Division Director** is currently deemed responsible for the maintenance and repair of all rail mounted and rubber tired vehicles belonging to the museum and works directly with the Operations Division Director.
2. **Museum Services Division Director** is currently deemed responsible for public outreach, museum promotion and interpretation. Our Southwest Library and museum membership are two primary areas within this department under its jurisdiction.

**PACIFIC SOUTHWEST RAILWAY MUSEUM
PETITION FOR BOARD POSITION**

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, in order to stand for election to the position of _____. I agree to serve the Museum in this capacity until the next election for this position. You may also submit a Statement of Candidacy of 250 words or less that will be included with the ballot materials.

Signed this _____ Day of _____, 2016

Signature: _____.

The following members in good standing support this candidate for the above position. At least 10 signatures are required below.

PRINT NAME:

SIGNATURE:

ALL NOMINATION FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN 5:00 PM, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2016
TO:

PSRM
Attn: Robbie Smith
4695 Nebo Drive
La Mesa, CA 91941

BRICK ORDER FORM

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



Engraving Information

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.

1																			
2																			
3																			

Payment Options

Visa/MasterCard

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____ CVC _____

Recurring charge for _____ months

Signature _____

Or

Mail this form along with your check or money order to:

PSRM Brick Fundraiser

4695 Nebo Dr, La mesa, CA 91941-5259

PSRM is a 501(C)3 California Non-Profit Corporation

PRINT YOUR NAME:

ADDRESS:

CITY:

STATE:

ZIP

PHONE (Please include area code):

E-MAIL: