

HOT SCOOP



A publication dedicated to Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association members
March-April 2019





Pacific Southwest Railway
Museum Association, Inc.
www.psrn.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
See website for complete train
schedule.

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 6:30 PM,
Trinity Church, 3902 Kenwood
Drive, Spring Valley, CA 91977

Museum Officers

President:	Diana Hyatt
Vice-President:	Martin Caestecker
Treasurer:	Rob Stebbins
Secretary:	Stephen Hager
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:	Alanna Hyatt
Fundraising:	Donna Spevack
Hot Scoop Editor:	John Wright
Photographer:	Alanna Hyatt
Certification & Training:	Mike Edwards

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Cover Photo:

Jim Baker grinding on the stubborn brake
hanger pin
Harry Lineback



From The Back Platform

By Diana Hyatt, President

January and February have come and gone as we move forward with many exciting plans for growing our museum! In January the FRA provided us with a courtesy track inspection by geometry car, the high desert experienced heavy rainfall causing rock slides at various locations including a washout at MP 62.8 and our grant writer, Donna Spevack secured a \$13,000 grant from the Emery Foundation for our low-nosed GP-9, former SP 3709 which will be used towards batteries and fluids. There is also a page on our website dedicated to C100! events, check it out: <https://www.psrn.org/centennial/>

Thanks to all that much-needed rain there was an immediate need to perform track maintenance along the right-of-way without the direction of our Roadmaster, Glen Rogers who has been laid up due to knee surgery. Fortunately, Robbie Smith was able to lead the charge with assistance from Martin Caestecker, Kyle Cascadden, John Cenkner, Travus Clark, Stephen Hager, Ryan Hartman and Jim Lundquist. They got the job done and our weekend train rides can reach Canyon station again!

The Equipment Department has been diligently maintaining our demonstration train rolling stock thanks to Ron Hyatt, Stephen Hager, Martin Caestecker, Travus Clark, Jarrod Black and others. Jim Lundquist supervised the convicts who performed much needed sanding on the Birthday Party caboose and Pablo Martinez and Teresa Gonzalez cleaned up the aftermath left

in the Car barn. We bid farewell to Russ Walker who lost his wife to cancer at Christmas time and decided to sell his house and move to Florida to be near his son. Russ worked on many projects for the Equipment Department and ran errands during the week. He is an expert welder and machinist who will not be easy to replace. Good luck in your new adventure, Russ!

The Equipment Department earned some revenue with the recent sale of a boom truck purchased years ago and recently acquired a used scissor lift for use in the Display Building and Car barn. The heavy-duty forklift purchased a decade ago through DGS finally breathed its last and we are searching for a viable replacement as repairs are not cost-effective.

Jim Lundquist has been busy with facilities projects including supervising an electrician with some upgrades to the Car barn and installation of generator hookups at the Campo Depot and Car barn for use as backup power in the event of an SDG&E-directed power outage; which seems to be an unwelcome addition to existing in the back country in the last year and a half. Jim has also found assistance with the Descanso, Alpine & Pacific Mine Train installation at our Campo property where a scaled-down mining town is under construction.

Upcoming events include our ever-popular Bunny Trains on Saturday, April 13, Sunday, April 14 and Easter Saturday, April 20th with three trains



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 Heritage Rail Alliance and is a non-profit educational corporation. Donations are tax deductible under Sec. 501c(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.

daily departing at 11:00 a.m., 1:15 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. The PSRM Annual Dinner & Membership Meeting is now scheduled for Thursday, May

30, 2019 from 6:00 PM to 9:30 PM, and Baja Railroad (BJRR) sponsored train ride and lunch from Tijuana to Garcia and return on June 23, 2019.

Visit our web page for more information: www.psrn.org ►



Museum Services & Facilities Reports

By Jim Lundquist, Museum Services Director

Museum Services

Our thanks go out to Bruce Deck and Mike McIntire for coming out as docents on those days we have the large tour groups booked for a visit.

The library group has been working hard to relocate the materials in the old Exhibits Lab into the new expanded Library room. Hard work to be sure, and thanks to Paul Lundquist for coming down from Hemet to assist for a few days.

The Behind-the-Scenes tour was well received on March 2nd by our members. Another tour is scheduled for Saturday, April 6th at 12:30 PM. Please email Jim@psrm.org

one week before the event so proper plans can be made.

There are many opportunities for volunteering in the Museum Services Department. We need someone with a trailer hitch to take the parade float around the county. Multiple Powerpoint programs are under construction, with many opportunities to show them around the County. We also need cleaners for the equipment and displays in the Display Building. The La Mesa Depot could be staffed more hours if additional volunteers were found. The Library always needs more volunteers. On-board Docents, and

Trainmen are also needed. As you can see, there is a lot of work going on at our museum. Many tasks are being completed by volunteers during the week. If you are available, I'd like to invite you to join with us. Simply call Jim Lundquist at 619-417-7059 or email Jim@psrm.org and let me know you can assist. We go out 2 to 3 times per week – join for one day or all! Love to hear from you.

Our continuing thanks to the department volunteers – in our Library, La Mesa Depot, Membership and publishing the Hot Scoop. Thank you one and all.

Facilities

The news this month starts with a new, energetic volunteer, Jim Tewksbury. Jim has completed western towns on his homes in Descanso and Alpine. The February 2019 San Diego Home and Garden magazine featured his Alpine efforts. Jim and Dawn Lundquist met Jim while walking around Alpine and were invited to a “nickel tour” of his handiwork. Once we saw his western town, we asked if he would like to construct a village along the mine train. He said he'd love to and immediately began soliciting donations of materials. Very

soon, we had lumber donations from La Mesa Lumber, various east county citizens and even found sheet metal in Holtville which he purchased for us. Just like that, the mine train exhibit was expanded to include the very essence of early California history: railroads, mining (gold was the reason California became a state) and agriculture. Under construction is a village to highlight mining history with buildings representing what mining towns provided to miners. Jim Tewksbury has led the effort, supported by Jim Lundquist, Stephen Pohjola, Dawn Lundquist,

Frank Denison, Irv King and Terry King. Many weekday work parties are underway, and we could always use more volunteers and donations of construction materials.

All of San Diego County has been hammered by lots of rain, and Campo was no exception. What is now known is where the water wants to run, and lots of washes will need additional work with pipes and water drains.

Stephen Pohjola and Jim Lundquist have spent several days clearing out a location for a future donation and

a storage container. Moving very heavy pieces of steel was time consuming and just plain hard work.

The DAP Depot Buildings now have electricity and water, thanks to Jim Lundquist, Stephen Pohjola, Dawn Lundquist, Frank Denison, Adolfo Rico and Ron McQuilliams. Dan Corrado was hired to complete the electrical installations.

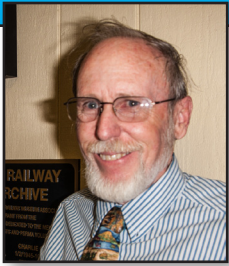
Also underway is the installation of new electrical service out to track 11 for our new jacks. Thanks to Jim Lundquist, Stephen Pohjola, and

Adolfo Rico joined by Dan Corrado to complete the electrical installation. Still unfunded is the \$12,000 necessary for two concrete pads upon which the jacks will rest, as a railroad car or locomotive is raised.

Thanks to Diego Lundquist and Gene Knapp for installing the new memorial bricks at the Campo Depot.

As you can tell, much is being accomplished by our hard working volunteers. If you would like to join us as we build our museum, we work both weekdays and Saturdays,

depending upon availability of the volunteers. Our group sessions involve between 2 to 5 volunteers. We would love more help with all skill sets welcomed. Simply email Jim@psrm.org or call Jim at 619-417-7059 and join our happy group! Love to see you. ►



Library Update

By Bruce Semelsberger, Librarian/ Historian

Your library has been a busy place indeed, even through the holiday season, and into 2019. With the availability of the new extension, a plan was drawn up for making the best use of it and doing the work in the most reasonable manner. Strange concept.

The new work area, as soon as painting was complete, became the receptacle for much of the new steel shelving (over \$5,000.00 worth purchased with your donations) which arrived in parts and on pallets and takes up a considerable amount of space. Since then, the work area has also seen the arrival of two large donations and some of the material from the car shop Exhibits Lab storage space, so it has filled rapidly, albeit temporarily. The last two months have also seen the arrival of several other donations, currently in the old work area. We continue to process these as fast as possible, but

the data entry process by its nature cannot be done quickly.

Here is a chronological recap of major accomplishments. With the help of volunteer Bill Hohnhorst, we began assembling the new shelving starting in the bays designated for large and small artifacts. Much of this shelving is heavy duty steel and each shelf can hold between 1,000 and 2,000 pounds, needed for items such as caboose stoves and teletype equipment. In two days of working with Bill, and working alone on other days, those bays were done and a third bay for boxed records is now also complete. Thanks Bill!

As soon as those first two bays were done, we began cleaning and transferring boxes and other items from the car shop space. This space was exposed to water damage and high temperatures in summer, so each item has to be examined and sometimes re-boxed before it can be

moved. About ¾ of the contents have been transferred, but much needs to be stored in a permanent location before there is sufficient space to bring more items to the library. While this project has gone on, volunteer Dale Wagner has made steady progress in accessioning the large influx of new books, beginning with the donation from the Underhill estate. A new volunteer, Paul Lundquist, also arrived and worked on accessioning small artifacts for several days. Besides recent donations, about half the objects in the car shop had not been previously processed either, so this is a huge help.

Making the artifacts accessible is a priority, as we have requests from some of our partners in the C100! SD&A centennial year to borrow items to assist in exhibits in their own locations. Some of these partners include the San Diego Model Railroad Museum, the San Diego

Maritime Museum and the Imperial Valley Desert Museum. For current information on the centennial events, please visit the centennial section of our PSRM website.

By the end of the month, all of the new shelving had been built in the new area and work is beginning to transfer items from the old bays. Some material is boxed, but much is in cabinets where each drawer has to be removed and transported over, then the empty steel cabinets moved and the drawers re-installed in the new area. Some wood shelving also must be disassembled and re configured in the new area, so more assistance there would be really helpful.

At the same time, the library has also experienced problems with the internet wi-fi system, so an extension was made to a more central location,

then a call was made to AT&T and their technician, working mostly in the rain, was able to coordinate with Paul on site and solve the intermittent service problem. The wi-fi now extends throughout the library and is available for staff and visitors.

Of course, other requests for information continually come in and we try to field those as best we can. Finding things is sometimes difficult in the midst of this reorganization so it often takes longer than anyone would like.

Concerning the large cash bequest from the Underhill estate; a fund has been established to use this money for library and interpretation needs. One of the first important purchases will be a large format scanner and printer/ plotter which will handle maps and prints up to 48" wide. With this equipment we will be able

to copy all of our maps and other large documents for sale to researchers and other institutions, so we have the opportunity to recoup some of our investment as well as provide faster and safer service without the need to transfer items to commercial venues. We are currently researching what new equipment is out there.

Lastly, there is a new opportunity for a volunteer to help the museum from the comfort of home by scanning a stack of old issues of the museum Report that have been missing from the website. The back issues are already assembled and waiting for anyone with a flatbed scanner and computer and some time working at leisure to complete the task. If interested, drop us a line to the library email address: psrmlibrary@att.net. ►



Wonderful programs are planned for the museum's year of celebrating the San Diego & Arizona Railway's centennial. Some recently added events include participation in the Congress of History's annual conference (Mar 29-30), Motor Transport Museum's open house (Apr. 27), Maritime Museum's Festival of the Sea over the Memorial Day weekend (May 25-27), Baja Railroad's Centennial train ride in Mexico (Jun 29), Poway Train Song Festival (Sep. 15), and Imperial Valley Desert Museum's train event (Oct. 26). All upcoming events which

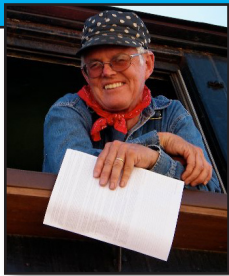
Celebrate100! Report

By Reena Deutsch, Chair, PSRM C100! Planning Committee

have been confirmed, including the major ones on Sep 7 (SD&A Ground-breaking Festival) and 11/16 (SD&A Centennial Celebration Day), are listed at psrm.org/Centennial with further information. Please plan to attend as your schedule allows.

Rail-related Centennial talks continue to be scheduled, presented by museum volunteers to various community, history, and other organizations. If you know of any groups that would like PSRM to provide a speaker or to loan our portable centennial exhibit, please ask them to contact us at the museum website psrm.org.

PSRM's C100! needs volunteers to sign-up for many tasks, but one specific one is to take a 3- or 6-hour shift at our exhibit on the Berkeley steam ferry over the Memorial Day weekend as part of the Maritime Museum's Festival of the Sea. We will be integrated into its existing "Steam transforms San Diego" exhibit. At least two volunteers are needed for the entire run of the festival. Training will be provided. Please email C100@psrm.org if interested in this or other Centennial volunteer opportunities. ►



Steam Whistling

By Jim Baker, Steam Foreman

July 2018 to February 2019 Accomplishments

The primary focus of the Steam group is the Coos Bay #11 steam locomotive. Essentially what is being done is to take it apart, document what repairs need to be made, and to make it easier for the experts that will be needed to hire to complete the repairs to restore it to operation. So far about 150 separate parts have been inventoried. That doesn't count multiples of the same thing, *i.e.* 8 brake heads or 27 super-heater units. The major work that will need to be contracted out is to replace the lower third of the side sheets in the fire box, replace the hub liners on the drivers, and replace the lower third of the smoke box. Once this preparation/documentation work has been completed, it will be incorporated into the museum's master plan.

To bring readers up to date, things slowed down a bit during the present time frame. The primary reason was that Jim Baker, the foreman, moved. He had lived in the same 1800 square foot house for over 50 years, and moved to an 800 square foot apartment in a retirement complex. As can be imagined, it took quite a bit of time to downsize. As a consequence, the July, August, and October work sessions were canceled. And, as usual, work wasn't done in December, due to all hands being required for the North Pole Ltd. trains.

However, the group did manage to get some things done.

As readers may recall, in 2017, the

Coos Bay's saddle tank was moved from one flat car to another. It was determined that the first car was more suitable for Maintenance of Way's (MOW) use to distribute the 1,000 new ties along the line that were installed by our contractor. However, the second car, to which the saddle tank was moved, still had a lot of supplies for the rail crane on it (cables, chokers, spreader bars, etc.). In September, they managed to get the two flat cars near each other, and carry all that material from one car to the other.

Also in September, the front support for the Johnson Bar quadrant in the cab was removed to allow access to more stay bolt caps that need to be removed and cleaned. And, an easy job was to cover with white paint the blue plastic coating on the compressed air line we installed earlier in the year. This was done on the sections that are exposed to the sun to protect the plastic from UV damage.

In November, one of the two work days was spent switching. When the cab is removed, hopefully some time this year, the parts flat car will be coupled to the Coos Bay, the cab will be lifted with the Santa Fe gantry crane, the flat and engine shoved forward, and the cab set down on the flat. However, a wheel truck off of one of our coaches had previously been set out immediately east of the Coos Bay so that nothing could be coupled to the Coos. To move the truck elsewhere, several cars had to be moved off of Track 11, where the

Coos Bay is, and move several cars off of Track 9, the location where we were directed to put the truck. After those moves were made, and the truck moved, all the other cars needed to be put back in their original locations.

As has been mentioned earlier, two pins that support brake hangers from the engine's frame have been defying all attempts to remove them. Somehow, one of them came out easily on the umpteenth attempt to do so. After making more attempts on the other pin, it was decided to cut it off at two spots: between the brake hanger and the outer support, and between the brake hanger and the frame. That left only the inner third of the pin in place.

Some repairs were done to the barrier in the cab of SP 2353 that is in the Display Building.

In January, more work was done on the pin mentioned above. At this point the foreman thinks that someone needs to be found that is experienced in using a torch that can cut out the pin without damaging the socket it is in. Another dozen stay bolt caps were removed, cleaned and replaced.

February brought more switching and moving of parts from one car to another. This time, a flat car that has been in the Display Building for a number of years was moved out to make room for another car to take its place. That flat car also had a number of Coos Bay parts on

it. That car and the Coos Bay parts flat car were coupled together and a fork lift was used to move the parts from one car to the other. Now, instead of having parts spread on three different cars, the parts are all on one.

In preparation for removing the cab and fuel tank, a number of nuts and bolts were loosened and lubricated, and the fuel tank overflow pipe removed.

The volunteers doing all this work were Rich Paulus, Jim Baker, Harry Lineback, Tim Wamsley, Mike Lucek, and Dave Smith. Many thanks to all.

In the next few months it is hoped to get the cab and fuel tank lifted off the Coos Bay and set on the parts flat car. Prior to doing this a few people are

needed to help with a bit of work that the members of the presently available team are not qualified to do:

1. A welder. There is a break in part of the front of the cab wall that needs to be welded, and some temporary braces need to be welded across the doorways to make the cab more rigid for moving.
2. Possibly the same person as 1), but a person who is good with a torch to cut out the brake hanger pin without damaging its socket.
3. A rigger. Someone to give advice as to the best way to rig the cab and fuel tank for lifting.

Those needs are not immediate,

since some wiring work on the gantry crane is needed to get it operational. But, for those who may be interested in helping, now is the time to start thinking about it. Hopefully the crane work will be done in March.

The regular steam work days are the second Friday and Saturday of the month. More help, especially with the three help positions mentioned above, is always welcome. Come out and get dirty! Questions? Contact the foreman: jbaker@psrm.org

See you at Campo! ►



Here are some of the Coos Bay parts that were moved from one flat car to the other.

Jim Baker



Dave Smith hooking up the smokebox front in preparation for moving it with the forklift.

Jim Baker

Operations Volunteers for January - February 2019

By Rich Paulus, Chief Operations Officer

Train Service - those who are certified/qualified crew members and speeder operators/crew and trainmen who have helped us run 36 trains and 2 days of Valley Flyer and the number of days they have volunteered:

Jim Baker	3	Hector Gonzalez	3	Shaine Neale	4
Ken Brown	1	Stephen Hager	6	Bob Nickles	1
James Caestecker	1	Ryan Hartmann	1	Rich Paulus	2
Martin Caestecker	2	Randy Houk	1	Dick Pennick	4
Travus Clark	1	Alanna Hyatt	2	Glen Rogers	2
Mike Edwards	4	Diana Hyatt	3	Rob Stebbins	4
Alex Fiori	1	Jim Lundquist	2		
Jon Frost	3	Mike McIntyre	8		

Docent - these are the volunteers who have been docents aboard our trains or for groups this period:

Jim Baker	1	Bruce Deck	2
Teresa Gonzalez	1	Mike McIntyre	1

MOW - maintenance of way volunteers who have assisted Roadmaster Glen Rogers and Track Foreman James Caestecker in maintaining tracks and right-of-way this period:

Jim Baker	1	Martin Caestecker	2	Kyle Cascadden	2
John Cenker	2	Travus Clark	1	Stephen Hager	2
Ryan Hartman	1	Jim Lundquist	2	Robbie Smith	3

Yard switching - these are the volunteers who have worked in PSRM yards this period:

Rich Paulus	1
Dave Smith	1
Martin Caestecker	1
Ron Hyatt	1

Plus Jim Lundquist and James Caestecker did switching at the end of December 2018 that did not get reported last time.

This totals to 81 volunteer-days in January and February 2019.

Museum Services and Facilities Photos



Babs Rosenberg planting donated plants on February 12th.

Dawn Lundquist



Sheet metal was donated for the mine town. Jim Tewksbury, Steven Pohjola, Bill Walsh and Jim Lundquist drove to El Centro to pick up the donation.

Jim Lundquist

The new exhibit on California history is under construction. It will feature railroads, mining and agriculture and how each played an important role in making California great. These photos show the mine village under construction .





New to the La Mesa Depot

La Mesa Depot Monthly Coffee/Meet and Greet



Please join our hosts Diana Hyatt, President and Donna Spevack, our Administrator of Fund Development, on April 23, 2019, at 9:00 am, for a Meet and Greet coffee at the La Mesa Depot, located at 4695 Nebo Dr., La Mesa, CA 91941. Please join us for tea, coffee and treats and learn about our programs, memberships, financial planning, volunteer opportunities and more

Can't join us for coffee? Please call us and we will be glad to speak with you. Call Donna at (619) 606-6231 or email us at fundraising@psrm.org.