

HOT ***SCOOP***

**A publication dedicated to Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association members
May-June 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

In This Issue

May-June 2019

From The Back Platform **3**

Diana Hyatt, PSRM President
March-April 2019.

Impossible Railroad C100 **3**

Reena Deustch, Chairperson
Reporting on progress on the Centennial
Celebration

Transcontinental Railroad **4**

Dick Pennick
A brief history of the building of the trans-
continental railroad.

Museum Services & Facilities Report **5**

Jim Lundquist, Museum Services Director

New Members **5, 6**

Alex Fiori, Membership.

Library Report **6**

Bruce Semelsberger, Historian & Librarian

Operations Volunteers **7**

Rich Paulus, Operations Officer

Museum Services & Facilities Photos **10**



Cover Photo:

Alanna Hyatt as the Easter Bunny

Diana Hyatt



From The Back Platform

By Diana Hyatt, President

March and April provided us with beautiful, cool weather and some rain but nothing as deluging as the previous months had experienced. The Bunny trains hopped into Spring on April 13th, 14th and 20th. This year we added the option of riding in our Café Observation Lounge, ATSF 1509 which was met with enthusiasm by our passengers.

This year's annual dinner date was adjusted to Thursday, May 30, 2019 at Tom Ham's Lighthouse. I would like to take this opportunity to inform our membership that the Annual Dinner is never a fundraiser, the price you pay is our cost. Every effort is made to locate

the most reasonable, centrally located, appropriate venue and it invariably seems to be Tom Hams which has all of the above attributes plus a great view and free parking. I hope you will consider joining us this year!

The PSRM Annual Dinner & Membership Meeting, now scheduled for Thursday, May 30, 2019 from 6:00 pm to 9:30pm. Another upcoming event is our Baja Railroad (BJRR) sponsored train ride and lunch from Tijuana to Garcia and return on June 29, 2019. Visit our webpage for tickets to both events: www.psrsm.org ►

Celebrate 100! Progress Report

By Reena Deutsch, Chair, PSRM C100! Planning Committee



The museum's C100! committee is focused on developing and executing plans for our year-long San Diego & Arizona Railway 100th anniversary celebrations. Activities confirmed so far are listed at psrm.org/Centennial. At this time, we would like to introduce the hard-working members of this small committee.

Bruce Semelsberger has been a PSRMA member since 1984 and is currently the Historian/Archivist for the museum library. He previously served as a board member, Trainman, docent, La Mesa Depot staffer, and fills

any other odd job that comes up including Hobo for North Pole Limited trains. PSRMA member Jake Schaible volunteers in the museum's archives and at the San Diego Model Railroad Museum library. As a life long ferroequinologist, he dreams of restoring SD&A #104. He is also researching for a new book based on newly rediscovered SD&A railway equipment, building records, and never before published images. Jim Price has been a PSRMA member for many years. He is past President of the San Diego Electric Railway Association and still participates actively at the National City Depot. He is the author of "Railroad Stations of San Diego County, Then and Now" and more recently "Discovering the Ghost Railroads of Central Nevada." Reena Deutsch, inspired by



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. 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.

John D. Spreckels' perseverance, has lectured on SD&A topics for almost 20 years and is the author of the book "San Diego and Arizona Railway – the Impossible Railroad." She is a PSRMA life member and is on the Board of Directors of the San Diego Model Railroad Museum.

We appreciate the offers of assistance by museum members who have

already stepped up to volunteer, but more help is needed; training will be provided. Please let us know if you want to staff a shift at our Maritime Museum exhibit on the Berkeley steam ferry on May 25, 26, or 27, or our PSRM-C100! table at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion at evening silent movie organ concerts on Aug. 31 or Oct. 31 or for any Sunday 2 pm organ

concert. We are now creating a list of folks who want to help out with one or both of our bigger events in Campo, the Sept. 7 SD&A Ground-breaking Festival and the Nov. 16 SD&A Centennial Celebration Day. If interested, please email C100@psrm.org and let us know. ►

2019 An Important Year For The History Of Railroads In America

by Dick Pennick

As the Museum's C100! committee develops programs this year to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the completion of our local San Diego & Arizona Railway rail line on November 15, 1919, the celebration of a much more monumental railroad endeavor will also be observed nationally this year.

Completion of America's first transcontinental railroad, on May 10, 1869 will be celebrated, on the 150th anniversary of the driving of the final spike at Promontory, Utah Territory. Late author and civil engineer John Galloway, in his 1950 treatise "The First Transcontinental Railroad," called this "...without doubt, the greatest engineering feat of the nineteenth century."

Central Pacific Railroad, the west end of this herculean 1,800-mile endeavor, began at Sacramento, California in early 1863, with the end of the Civil War still two years away; Abraham Lincoln was the country's President. The Union Pacific Railroad, the easterly segment, broke ground for its westward push at the Missouri River in Omaha, Nebraska later the same year. The initial target for joining the two lines was Ogden, Utah Territory. By the end of 1868, there was great dispute over where the two companies would meet. After the dust settled, the choice was

made to join the rails in a wide valley at a spot up in the Promontory Mountains north of the Great Salt Lake called appropriately: Promontory (not Promontory Point, as mistakenly identified in scores of past and contemporary accounts.)

After several possible dates were considered, a day was finally selected and suitable arrangements were made for a final spike ceremony on Monday, May 10th, 1869. At least five commemorative spikes were presented to the ceremony committee, representing the various states and territories through which the new railroad was built, but only one was pure gold. California governor Leland Stanford, president of the Central Pacific Railroad, was invited to drive the gold spike, which had telegraph wires attached to broadcast the historic event to the rest of the country. At about 12:45 p.m. local time, the Central Pacific's locomotive, 4-4-0 Jupiter and Union Pacific's 4-4-0 No. 119, met nose to nose and the deed was done!

An interesting footnote to this story that directly affected the planning and construction of our San Diego & Arizona line, was the acquisition by the Central Pacific's C.P. Huntington and his three associates of a then on-paper-only railroad in the San Francisco area called the Southern

Pacific Railroad Co. The stated mission of this paper company had been to build a line down the coast and interior of California to San Diego and then east. When SD&A's John D. Spreckels was seeking funding for his new railroad east from San Diego, he privately contacted Edward H. Harriman, Chairman of the Union Pacific and later president of the new Southern Pacific Railroad of California, and broached the idea of a business partnership. The two entered into a financial arrangement whereby the SP would put up the money for the SD&A in exchange for a minority interest. Unfortunately for Spreckels, two years after grading began, Harriman succumbed to stomach cancer on Sept. 9, 1909. Track laying wouldn't begin until the following day. Mr. Harriman was finally laid to rest at the family estate in the Ramapo mountains of New York state on Sunday, Sept. 12, 1909. A month later, the SD&A purchased its first new locomotive, appropriately numbered 1.

Although the financial rug had been pulled from under Spreckels' feet, he soldiered on with his personal resources until his own death on June 7, 1926. In 1933, Harriman's old Southern Pacific assumed full control of the SD&A, adding Eastern to the corporate title. On Sept.

10, 1976, 67 years after Harriman's death, Hurricane Kathleen heavily damaged large sections of the SD&AE east of Jacumba and was considered for abandonment. But fate interceded; the newly-formed San Diego

Metropolitan Transit Development Board (MTDB) purchased all of the line west of Plaster City (except the 44 miles in Mexico) on August 20, 1979. And, as the late radio host Paul

Harvey used to say, "and now you know the REST of the story!". ►



Museum Services & Facilities Reports

By Jim Lundquist, Museum Services Director

In **Museum Services**, the library volunteers have been making great progress in building shelves and moving materials from the old Exhibits Lab into the library as well as moving shelving and materials from containers to other containers as a complete reorganization is underway. This is a huge undertaking. Our thanks to Bruce Deck as Docent during our heavy visitor days with tour groups and school groups. The membership runs smoothly with Alex Fiori and the La Mesa Depot is staffed on Saturday afternoons by Duane Dubke and John Powers.

In **Facilities**, the western mine

village has been the main effort this past month, with Jim Tewksbury, Steven Pohjola and myself working up to six days per week on construction. It's looking GREAT. The village effort is wrapping up, with "mine shafts" using materials on site and the stream the next effort. Donations of material continue to be transported. I spent a day with the CDF crews taking on the downed branches and weeds in and around the section house. Steven and Jim spent a couple of days installing a new gate to allow access to the propane tank yard, with materials paid for by Ferrellgas. I also spent some time replacing the sewer pipe from

the Display Building toilet which was damaged during a storm drain sand cleanout effort, also by me. I have spent a few days gathering up concrete around our property in anticipation of the making base effort, with additional time required to finish. ►

New Members October, November & December 2018

Alex Fiori, Membership

October

Roy Zuill & Family
Monica Hendricks & Family
Peter Schaumann & Family
Heather Dorney & Family
Carol Bailey-Sumber & Family
Joshua Taylor
Jenniffer Morrissey & Family
Jordan McNally & Family
Julian & Cindy Erceg
Kathy Bolieu
Johnny Guy
Cory Axtell
Timothy Vaclavek

November

Kirsten Federspiel
Royce & Linda Chandler & Family
Mary Molitor
Vern & Christine Gunderson & Family
Rebecca Dembitsky & Family
Nicole McDonald & Family
Michael Gammond & Family

December

Ernest Tyler
Greg Hausler
Jackie Anderson

Charles Phlegar

New Life Members

Dan Crawford
Vincent Cooke
Nancy Jones
Jeannine Nagler
Dale Sampson

New Benefactor Life Members

Robert Schussler
Sandy Schussler ►

New Members January, & February 2019

Submitted By Alex Fiori, Membership

January

Scott Pierce & Family

February

Judith Kemp

Gretchen Diaz & Family

Chris Manzuk & Family

Ronald House

Gary Williams

Jim Tewksbury

Kelly OConnor

Don Szalay

New Life Members

Donald Pope

Membership Totals 2015 to Present

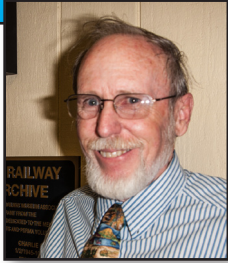
594 Members in 2015

680 Members in 2016

674 Members in 2017

573 Members in 2018

551 Members as of April 1, 2019 ►



Library Update

By Bruce Semelsberger, Librarian/ Historian

Hello to all you library friends and a special Hello to all those who stepped up to volunteer time helping at the library in March and April.

John Martin has taken on the task of scanning all of the missing issues of the Report and adding them to our website, while all of the following have spent time at Campo moving materials, building or reconfiguring shelves and labelling albums and drawers: Richard Finch, Mike Hillis, Bill Hohnhorst, John Lewis and Roy Pickering. Dale Wagner continues to work on the books, accessioning new arrivals as well as rearranging and labelling the existing inventory, a task he assumed from the late Bob Underhill.

The full extent of the expansion in terms of physical labor is probably not clear to those who haven't been out lately. The new library configuration is divided into sixteen areas and not one of them is unchanged during the expansion! The areas are designated with letters A through O. A and B comprise the office area. All of the archives in these areas

are moving into metal storage bays, including 14 full file cabinets and 8 large flat storage cabinets. All of the drawers have to be emptied and the contents temporarily boxed and moved, then the cabinets themselves are moved, contents of the drawers sorted and reinstalled. This all has yet to be done. It will then contain only computer and research desks and A/V equipment. Archival bay D, previously used for storage, is now insulated and all of the archives previously stored there have been moved and new shelving has been added to make access easier. Into Bay E was jammed an assortment of items including SD&A documents, photos, PSRM records, art works, maps and drawings. All but part of the SD&A records have been moved and when new shelving has been erected, bays E and F will be all SD&A records. Bay G contained magazines and a variety of other things on a crowded shelving arrangement. Shelves and other items were relocated and it now allows easy access to magazines and about one fourth of the books. Bay H has the rest of the books. Area C, the original work space, will have everything relocated

except work tables; this has yet to be done.

Moving to the newly constructed area, Archival bay J now houses the photo art and video collections and is essentially completed. Bay K will house timetables, maps and blueprints and oversized archival items. It is about 1/3 completed, with special racks to hold the hundreds of rolled maps yet to be constructed. Bay L will now house PSRM records, ephemera (misc. paper) and newsletters exchanged with other museums. Only the PSRM records have been installed and they need to be sorted. Bay M holds files and records of other regional railroads, Official Railway Guides and oversized maps in a special rack (not yet constructed). Bay N contains large artifacts moved from the former Exhibits Lab and is mostly complete. Bay O holds smaller artifacts and overflow of large artifacts. Most of this material has been transferred but needs to be unboxed, stored on shelves and in cabinets and labeled. New work area I will have a 30' long folding table arrangement along one wall and can double as a small theater for

meetings and presentations. This explains the new physical layout. Most of the new steel shelving has been erected, but the job of relocating the heavy file cabinets and constructing the map shelving remains and volunteers are eagerly welcomed!

Lastly, we will be loaning some artifacts and documents to other museums who are creating SD&A related exhibits as part of our centennial. A

new outgoing loan form has been prepared and presented to the museum Board and some processing, packing and transporting will be required, so here is another volunteer opportunity. Also, some hobos will be needed for the two main C100! events in September and November. If you ever wanted to be a hobo if only for a day here is your golden opportunity! Drop me an email and

I can make it happen. The address is: psrmlibrary@att.net.

Due to C100! events and other commitments, I cannot be at Campo every Wednesday and Saturday, so here is my schedule for the next several weeks: April 27 3-5 PM, May 1, May 8, May 15, May 18, May 22, May 29, most of June except the 1st, 26th and 29th. ►

Operations Volunteers for March - April 2019

by Rich Paulus, Chief Operations Officer

Train Service - those who are certified/qualified crew members and speeder operators/crew who have helped us run 48 trains and 2 days of Valley Flyer and the number of days they have volunteered:

Colin Atwood	2	Travus Clark	2	Mike Obetz	
Jim Baker	3	Alex Fiori	2	Rich Paulus	2
Jarod Black	5	Stephen Hager	6	Dick Pennick	8
Ken Brown	2	Ryan Hartmann	2	Glen Rogers	2
Mark Brown	2	Randy Houk	2	Dave Smith	1
Nathan Brown	1	Alanna Hyatt	1	Rob Stebbins	2
James Caestecker	1	Diana Hyatt	4	Dave Tomeraasen	4
Martin Caestecker	2	Jim Lundquist	5	Tim Wamsley	3
Kyle Cascadden	7	Mike McIntyre	7	Gabriel Zorbas	1
John Cenkner	8	Shaine Neale	5		

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

Bruce Deck	2	Jim Lundquist	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	Stephen Hager	1
-----------	---	-------------------	---	---------------	---

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

Jim Baker	1	Rich Paulus	1
-----------	---	-------------	---

This totals to 116 volunteer-days in March and April 2019.



John Cenkner helps out in the shop.

Alanna Hyatt



Jarod Black assists with the 92-day inspection of SDA 7285

Alanna Hyatt



Stephen Hager, Robbie Smith and John Cenkner work on the front axle of the heavy duty forklift while Jarod Black supervises.

Alanna Hyatt



Hands-on Brakeman trainee class with instructor Stephen Hager.

Alanna Hyatt



Stephen Hager and Jarod Black work on low-nose GP-9, SP 3709 in the shop.

Alanna Hyatt



Kyle Cascadden assists with work on low-nose GP-9, SP 3709.

Alanna Hyatt



The Easter Bunny delights our young passengers in ATSF 1509.

Diana Hyatt



Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019, crew members. Left to right are Kyle Cascadden, Jarod Black, Colin Atwood, Mike McIntyre and Shaine Neale. Missing is Conductor Alex Fiori.

Dave Tomeraasen



SD&A

SAN DIEGO & ARIZONA RAILWAY

**100th Anniversary
1919-2019**