

March Meeting Notes.....

The meeting of March 2, 1959 was called to order by president L.W. McCleary in the Safety Room of the Santa Fe depot. The treasurer, Fred Finke, reported the following balances: General Fund \$304.81; kitty \$25.86; excursion fund \$63.35 and restoration fund \$77.90.

2nd VP Tommy Mann reported on maintenance of our equipment, he also stated that the S.P. quoted the lowest rate for moving S.F. Muny Ry streetcar #171 from San Francisco. S.P. quoted a half rate fee of only \$180.00 S.F. to L.A. Loading costs would be extra in S.F. as well as unloading at Del Mar.

Excursion Director Wally Duthie made a report on the Sonora-Baja California RR excursion. The trip will be between Mexicali & Riito. Charter bus service from S.D. to Calexico.

Members voted to reconsider a motion tabled at the Feb. meeting, the motion made by Dick Dodge, to abandon the #171 project. Dick had felt that the project was not local in nature, that it was costly and that the Society should devote its energies to the maintenance of the present projects. (A motion was made to authorize the president to contract with the S.P. to move the car was voted down.) The motion to abandon the project was defeated.

Jack Stodelle announced that the attorney, Mr. Charles E. Burch, Jr. cancelled our bill for preparation of the Articles of Incorporation.

Bill Kingston of the Whistle Stop donated the raffle prize, a nice book, "Locomotives in Our Lives".

Program of the evening featured a talk by Carl Eichenlaub, Supt. of the San Diego & Arizona Eastern Ry. Mr. Eichenlaub talked briefly of his experience with the company dating back to 1914, about floods, earthquakes and fires in the Carriso Gorge, and about modern railroad trends. Specifically, he stated that the El Cajon branch was doing well.

The raffle and coffee hour closed the evening's program.

APRIL MEETING.....

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1959.....
SANTA FE DEPOT, SAFETY ROOM.....
MEETING STARTS AT 8:00 P.M.

* PROGRAM *

Closing date for the HERALD CONTEST is 7:45 P.M. April 6. If you mail your entry to L.W. McCleary, 5805 Estelle St., S.D. 15, be certain it is posted not later than Sat. to insure delivery. There is a prize for the best entry.

MR. MORGAN P. JONES, A.T.&S.F. Freight Agent, will talk Santa Fe railroading at the April meeting. With emphasis on freight handling, he will bring Santa Fe from its 23-mile beginning to its present several thousand mile system.

Several selected films will be shown after Mr. Jones completes his portion of the program.

REFRESHMENTS & THE RAFFLE TOO.

MONDAY, APRIL 6, 1959 - 8:00 P.M.

The San Diego Division of the Pacific Coast Region of the National Model Railroaders Association will hold their Spring Meet at the Del Mar Fairgrounds on SUNDAY, APRIL 5, from noon until 4:30 P.M.

The Pacific Beach Model Railroaders Club is host club for this meeting.

All interested in railroading in general are invited, this is not a meeting for N.M.R.A. and P.C.R. members only. This is an open meet for railfans of all gauges, steam, diesel or electric.

An auction of various model RR. items will be held to bolster the meager treasury of the San Diego Div. There will also be a raffle for new kit equipment.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

ALL AFTERNOON, PLENTY OF COFFEE.

The P.B. club will have the HO Pacific Beach & Western Ry. in operation all afternoon. R.H.S. of S.D. will have the #104 & #050 open.

If you wish to go by train, take Santa Fe #75 at 1:00 P.M. San Diego transportation will be furnished to and from the fairgrounds by P.B. Return on train #74, S.D. at 5:00pm.

HERALD CONTEST.....

We want a suitable herald for our organization. See what kind of an artist you are, take a crack at designing....submit your herald to L.W.McCleary, 5805 Estelle St., San Diego 15, Calif. OR-- bring it to the April meeting, turn it in before 7:45pm.....a prize to the best entry.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY.....

The May meeting will mark the tenth anniversary of the Society. The program will be a surprise.... Why not come even if only to see who may be surprised!!

WE WANT PICTURES, WE WANT TO SEE YOUR PICTURES!!!!

Let the other guy see your snap shots, slides and movies. BUT---- first cull your pictures of bum shots and near duplicates; second, be prepared to explain your pictures giving us the what, where and who is it; third, send a card or a note to 3rd VP William H. (Bill) Snyder, 1125 Cuyamaca Ave., Chula Vista, Calif. with information on what you have so that he may plan for your showing at future meetings. Fourth, look at the other guys pictures so you will know what to and what not to do when taking pictures. (Also....can you bring your own projector??)

DON'T FORGET DEPT.--

At the April meeting, Monday April 6th.....our speaker will be Mr. Morgan P. Jones of the Santa Fe Ry.

Business portion of the meeting starts at 8:00 P.M. BE THERE.... BRING A FRIEND, sign up a new member!!!

UNTIL YOU HEAR DIFFERENTLY....

Member Fred L. Ticknor sends us a card with change of address:

FRED L. TICKNOR, c/o General Delivery, MANSURA, LOUISIANA.

Fred will notify us when he returns to his La Mesa address.

RAIL TRIP: SUNDAY, MAY 17, 1959!!!!

RHS of SD RAIL EXCURSION.....

Excursion Director Wally Duthie announced the Sonora-Baja Calif. Railroad trip for May 17th.

Arrangements are being made for charter bus service from San Diego and points east to Calexico. From there, transportation to the train is being planned.

This will be an all day event including the trip over and return. Rail operations will extend about 50 miles each way. Due to time consumed getting over to take the trip and the return travel time, the rail trip cannot run too far. Speed restrictions for trains on the Baja-Calif. RR don't allow us to long a trip.

Although not a real long trip is planned, it will be well filled with photo stops, and stops for any spots of interest along the line. One very interesting point: the one way bridge over the Colorado River. This bridge is used for all forms of travel, it is a single lane, one way bridge, for cows, horses, dogs, goats, pigs, people, automobiles and Sonora-Baja Calif. RR trains. The traffic across the bridge moves in one direction at a time.

Our final southern destination, Riito, is the last point with a wye to turn or train without going much deeper into Mexico, and time will not permit.

At this date, our plans for the gas-electric have gone out the window. It seems the gas car is used to sell supplies along the line and our trip is the day after pay day. This means the gas car is very busy as a commissary car. We will have a diesel instead.... this will allow a larger train, so we can take a bigger crowd if the extra space can be sold.

Equipment will probably be the important feature, we hope to mix the passenger cars, some ex-S.P., the Swiss built cars and what ever else they might have.

Final price on roundtrip fare is not known as yet but we hope to keep it below \$10.00, rail & bus.

CARRISO GORGE FILM.....

Our 16mm film has been making the rounds on the rental loan plan. The film was first sent to the Central Coast Railway Club in San Jose, Calif. It has just recently been back east to the National Railway Historical Society, Philadelphia Chapter.....Roger W. Fredrick, VP-Programs, writes us that the film was well received by all. The scene that showed streetcars in downtown S.D. really produced a round of applause.

Central Coast has requested the film for another meeting up in the bay area in April.

The 16mm version of "Carriso Gorge the Magnificent" was produced by restoration of the original 35mm copy. With rental fees, we hope to pay for the expense of having the film converted to 16mm, and when possible, have another copy made. It is hoped to add sound to a future issue of the picture. Our good 1st VP Jack Stodelle is having a new title strip made to replace the original that was too badly damaged to be used. The name of our group will also be put on.

The film is available at \$2.50 rental to interested groups. The film runs approx. ten minutes, has train shots in the gorge, around Chula Vista and views of San Diego in the early twenties.

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO, INC., P.O. BOX 9351, SAN DIEGO 9, CALIFORNIA-----

Newsletter: Official Publication of the Society, issued monthly as an advance notice of meeting date, to give brief coverage of past meeting, bits of interest, trip dates, etc.

Send any news items to Corky or Barbara Thomson, 3204 McGraw St., San Diego 17 or call BR-3-5081.

DISPATCHER: Four quarterly feature issues and four news issues per yr. Included in membership to R.H.S. of S.D., \$1.00 per year to non-members.

Eric Sanders, Editor - 7861 Normal Ave., La Mesa, Calif. (HO-9-1288)

R.H.S. of S.D. MEMBERSHIP: \$2.50 per year, includes Newsletter & Dispatcher. (\$3.50 family plan)

NEWS NOTES.....

S.P. is experimenting with the carrying of highway trailers loaded with new automobiles on flatcars, (piggy back on piggy back) first results have been promising.

Final blast- the 14th large one at the Great Salt Lake fill project was touched off Feb. 9 in a driving snow storm.

An automatic mail-order plan is now in effect for S.P. commuters on the San Francisco-San Jose line. You can buy tickets on credit, they mail the monthly commute tickets and send the bill at the end of the month, just like the gas & lights.

S.P. took delivery of 2,349 new freight cars during 1958. This gives the S.P. a fleet of over 81,000 cars. Continuation of this plan brought delivery last month of the first of 1,450 specialized cars to be acquired in 1959 at a cost of about \$22 million. First cars to be delivered were 100 new 85-foot piggy back cars. 50 of the cars will be light-weight passenger cars, to be used primarily for mail, baggage and express. There will be 500 wide-door box cars, 800 insulated box cars with Hydra-Cushioned under frames. In addition to the freight equipment, S.P. is taking delivery of 70 new diesels at a cost of \$13.5 million. These new "Diesels" will be delivered this month.

It is rumored that the San Diego & Arizona Eastern is running some freight trains over the hill with as many as four geeps. Haven't been down to look see but that sounds like some good sized trains to require so much power. Also...S.P. business cars came in with one diesel, special train recently.

Santa Fe hasn't had the helpers out at Sorrento very often lately, freights trains seem a little less tonnage although there are some long ones. The daily way freight stops on the Morena CTC siding almost every morning for a "meal" stop at local cafe across Morena Blvd. at Bay Park. If you have seen the train, crewless, that's the reason. "See you at the meeting"