

# ***HOT SCOOP***

A black and white line drawing of a hand holding a long-handled scoop, scooping ice cream from a large bowl. The ice cream is being scooped into a smaller bowl. The drawing is framed by a decorative border with ornate corner pieces.

A publication dedicated to Pacific Southwest Railway Museum members  
September 2021



This issue of the Hot Scoop is dedicated to active volunteer, former board member and former Railfan of the Year recipient,  
John Shannon

1961



2021

**Pacific Southwest  
Railway Museum  
Association Inc.**  
[www.psrmm.org](http://www.psrmm.org)

### Train Operations

PSRM Campo Depot  
State Hwy. 94 at Forrest Gate Rd.  
Campo, CA, 619-478-9937  
Lat: 32°36.8"N Lon: 116°28.2"W  
Open weekends 9AM to 5PM  
See website for complete train  
schedule.

### La Mesa Depot Museum & Business Office

4695 Nebo Drive,  
La Mesa, CA, 91941 619-465-  
PSRM (465-7776)  
Saturdays 1:00pm-4:00pm

### PSRMA Board of Directors

Meetings are held on the 3rd Fri-  
day of the month at 6:30 PM,  
Lakeside Historical Society 12418  
Parkside St. Lakeside, CA 92040

### 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

Certification  
& Training: Mike Edwards  
Fundraising: Donna Spevack  
Gift Shop Mgr: Alanna Hyatt  
Historian: Bruce Semelsberger  
Hot Scoop Editor: Alanna Hyatt  
Membership: Gabe Zorbas  
Photographer: Alanna Hyatt  
Special Events: Diana Hyatt  
Steam Foreman: Jim Baker  
Volunteer Coord: Gabe Zorbas

# In This Issue

September 2021

## From The Back Platform 3

Diana Hyatt, President

## Remembering John Shannon 4

Dawn Shannon &amp; Diana Hyatt

## Board Briefs, August 2021 6

Stephen Hager, Secretary

## Board Member Nomination Results 7

Stephen Hager, Secretary

## Museum Services & Facilities Report 8

Jim Lundquist, Director of Museum Services

## In Memorium of Leroy Athey 9

Jarod Black

## PSRM Library Update 12

Bruce Semelsberger, Archivist

## Membership Report 14

Gabriel Zorbas, Membership Coordinator

## Volunteer Coordinator Report 14

Gabriel Zorbas, Volunteer Coordinator

## Volunteer Orientation 15

Gabriel Zorbas, Volunteer Coordinator

## Operations Report 15

Rich Paulus, Chief Operations Officer



### Cover

**John Shannon enjoying the  
fruits of his labors on Union  
Pacific coach car 576**

Alanna Hyatt



## From the Back Platform

By Diana Hyatt, President

Due to the summer heat, there does not seem to be an inordinate amount of things to report. Nevertheless, the Equipment Department has been keeping busy with ongoing maintenance of our aging equipment. The motorcars in particular have been uncooperative of late and demanding more attention than usual. If you have an interest in learning about these awesome pieces of railroad equipment, we could certainly use your help in Campo.

The Sunset Special trains have been a success and a welcome reprieve for our train crews as well with the cooler evening temperatures. The warm temperatures have not been kind to our onboard PA system and it has been intermittently deciding it will not be playing background music when Ken Kramer's voice is not narrating interesting factoids. Frank Denison is on top of this and it will soon be receiving a professional check-up.

Planning continues with our two biggest events: Pumpkin and North Pole Trains. Tickets for members went on sale August 1 and August 15 to the general public. The pumpkins have been ordered and Halloween decorations are about to be unpacked. The keepsake bells every child

receives on their trip to the North Pole have been ordered as well as the delicious hot chocolate served onboard. Santa has been booked and his elves are following behind. We will issue new songbooks this year as there were not many left in usable condition after the 2019 Christmas season. If you have a business or know of someone with a business who would like to sponsor one or more aspects of the North Pole trains, please contact our Director of Fundraising, Donna Spevack at [fundraising@psrm.org](mailto:fundraising@psrm.org). Sponsorships can range from a few hundred dollars and up, financing the cost of the cookies, elves, Santa, songbooks, etc. The private Pullman Robert Peary will soon be listed available for charter on the North Pole trains once the air brakes have received their 1.5 year overhaul. If you are interested in booking a ride on this car (it is perfect for groups of 15-20) during the North Pole event, please email Martin Caestecker at [reservations@psrm.org](mailto:reservations@psrm.org).

Please keep in mind, we need LOTS of volunteers to make these events a success and put our best face forward. Please consider joining us! Contact our volunteer coordinator, Gabe Zorbas at [gzorbas@psrm.org](mailto:gzorbas@psrm.org).



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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:hotscoop@psrm.org).



## Remembering John Shannon

By Dawn Shannon & Diana Hyatt

One of our friends and beloved volunteers has left us for a heavenly train adventure. John Shannon was born on January 10, 1946 and passed away August 20, 2021 at his home in La Mirada from complications following heart surgery. John was born in Long Beach and spent most of his life in Los Angeles County.

He joined the Air Force in 1965 and was trained in ground support equipment. He spent the bulk of his service in Thailand. Along with his crew, he was the guy tasked with removing all top secret equipment from downed airplanes before the enemy arrived. Prior to his discharge, John contracted hepatitis and his service time was extended by six months. In 1970, he was strapped to a gurney and put on a transport plane with a refueling stop in Hawaii. The back of the plane opened up and someone onboard said, “take a look at Hawaii.” They then closed the doors and they were on their way to California, and that was the extent of John’s time in Hawaii.

In 1997 John married the love of his life, Dawn, and together they raised her

three children and more recently, enjoyed becoming grandparents.

In addition to John’s passion for trains, he frequently enjoyed spending a few hours in the late afternoon at Sunset Beach with his wife.

John could work on and fix anything. He performed carpentry, electrical, plumbing, auto repair, gardening, you name it, John would take it on. It could be said that John was anal-retentive but he had a very high standard for doing whatever he was asked to do. Some people took that to mean John was slow but he was really methodical and would work on something until it was done right. John also seemed quiet to most people, until they got to know him and he them. But he never missed out on much of what was going on. Often John would laugh at something someone said from quite a distance away—he had a great sense of humor.

About 2007, John became an active volunteer at Campo. His skills and personality meshed nicely with our Equipment Department but he could also be found per-

forming facilities maintenance tasks, operating a motorcar on the railroad for our Golden State trains and he could always be relied upon to help with Special Events. In addition to assuming the task of onboard electrician on most of our North Pole trains for years, he was also one of two stalwart behind-the-scenes North Pole riggers. It takes hours to set up the North Pole daily and at least an hour to button it up every night. John, along with Charles Smith have taken this task on for the past fifteen years.

In January 2009 John became PSRM’s Vice President. John was always level-headed and looked out for the best interests of the museum. As an integral part of the Equipment Department, John received the 2009 and 2012 Equipment Department awards, the 2014 Facilities Department award and the prestigious Railfan of the Year award in 2011. His personality, along with his multiple skills will be missed at Campo well into the future.

May you have good iron and clear signals until we meet again!



(left) John performing maintenance and repairs on GE 70-tonner SD&A 7285 inside the Campo CarBarn

*Alanna Hyatt*



(right) John was instrumental with the loading of the Imperial Bird in Commerce, CA

*Alanna Hyatt*



(left) John and Charles Smith put the finishing touches on the painstaking project of painting UP 576

*Alanna Hyatt*

(right) Undaunted by the enormity of the task, John tackles the steel floor supports on SD&A 350

*Alanna Hyatt*



(left) John cleans up nicely for a more formal affair: PSRM's 2012 Annual Dinner at which he received his 2011 Railfan of the Year Award

*Alanna Hyatt*



## Board Briefs, August 2021

By Stephen Hager, Secretary

The Board held its regular August meeting on the 20th. The directors attending were Diana Hyatt, Martin Caestecker, Stephen Hager, Rob Stebbins, Ron Hyatt, and Frank Denison. Board members Jim Lundquist and Mike Edwards joined the meeting telephonically. Volunteers Dave Smith and Gabriel Zorbas were also in attendance.

Rob reviewed the balance sheet and the profit and loss statement as of July 31st with the Board. He noted that ridership and excursion income for the month of July was above average compared to previous years. He also noted that the outside review of the PSRMA's accounting records and procedures was scheduled for the week following the Board meeting. The Board plans to meet early in September to come up with a budget for 2022.

I gave an update on the Coaster F40PH-2C locomotive acquisition. Turnover in

the Mexican Government at both the federal and state level due to the recent election has made it necessary to wait until the new batch of politicians take office before we approach them with a request to fund the reopening of Tunnel 3. We finally received the safe load rating for Bridge 60.93 (Dog Patch), which allows us to operate trains over the bridge for the first time in four years. We are still awaiting the load rating for Bridge 60.08 (Division). Martin reported that a contractor was scheduled to begin vegetation removal on the SD&AE Right of Way starting on the Sunday following the Board meeting.

A few months ago, the Metropolitan Transit System approached the PSRMA and offered to donate several thousand feet of used 90 lb rail that had been removed from the trolley system. Jim got MTS to agree to cut the welded rails into 39' lengths and load them onto our trailer; the PSRMA will need to

purchase the sawblades for MTS and provide the transportation from National City. The Board voted to authorize expenditure of \$3,500 to facilitate the acquisition of the rail and move it to Campo.

Ron reported that the New Holland backhoe was back from repairs and operating well, with the exception of a broken RPM gauge. The Equipment Department had begun electrical repairs on the Terex all-terrain forklift. However, the forklift still has major problems with the split differential, and Ron did not recommend investing further resources in keeping it running.

Diana received a proposal from JDL Enterprises to repair the wooden roof of the Mojave Northern #3 Steam Locomotive at La Mesa. The repairs will include all new wood and a weatherproof coating. The Board voted to authorize expenditure of \$4,700 to repair the roof and also discussed plans to fur-

ther secure the locomotive and exhibit train from trespassing and vandalism.

For several years, the Board has been looking to acquire the land upon which the Campo Depot, Campo Section House, and a portion of the PSRMA yard sit. This land is currently part of the MTS-owned SD&AE Right of Way. A couple of years ago, the PSRMA identified a 17-acre parcel of land adjacent to the right of way and Highway 94 at the north end of the Campo Valley. The landowner is willing to sell this parcel to the PSRMA, which could then be swapped for the aforementioned section of SD&AE Right of Way. At this time, the PSRMA needs to build a compelling case for MTS to agree to a land swap. Jim received confirmation from the County of San Diego that the 17-acre parcel could be rezoned as railroad right

of way, which would permit MTS to use the land for transloading, a customs processing site, or any other desired rail-related use. The next step in determining whether the land will be usable by MTS is to conduct a biological and environmental survey. The Board voted to authorize expenditure of \$2,500 to complete a biological and environmental review of the 17-acre parcel.

The PSRMA recently bid upon an all-terrain forklift located in Tracy, California through government surplus. This forklift has a higher capacity than the PSRMA's existing Terex forklift, and would be a fully functioning replacement for the former. It only needs new batteries and a new window. The PSRMA won the auction, and the forklift needs to be relocated to Campo. The Board voted to authorize expenditure of \$11,300 to pur-

chase the forklift, ship it to Campo, and unload it.

Martin received a quote to overhaul the PSRMA's website. This work will be funded by a portion of the marketing and advertising grant that was specifically set aside for this purpose. The Board voted to authorize expenditure of up to \$5,000 to hire Ikam Creative to redesign the PSRMA website. The Board also voted to authorize expenditure of the remaining \$5,000 of the marketing and advertising grant to continue funding media and advertising.

Board meetings take place on the third Friday of every month, except December, starting at 6:30 PM in the Lakeside Olde Community Church Hall at 9906 Maine Ave, Lakeside, CA 92040. All members are welcome to attend.

---

## **Board Member Nomination Results**

**By Stephen Hager, Secretary**

The board member nomination results are in! Petition forms for the positions of Vice President, Treasurer,

Director of Facilities, and Director of Operations were received and checked in time for the August 20th

board meeting, marking the end of the nomination period. This year, the incumbents ran unopposed for the

positions of Director of Facilities and Director of Operations. Incumbent Vice President Martin Caestecker will be stepping down at the end of his term this year. Volunteer Gabriel Zorbas submitted a petition to take his place. Incumbent Treasurer Rob Stebbins will also be stepping down at the end of his term this year. Volunteer Dave Smith submitted a petition to take his place. A sincere "Thank You!" goes out to both Martin and Rob

for their years of service on the board.

Because all of the qualified candidates are running unopposed, and because there are no special election affairs to be voted upon, there will be no election held this year. The board members for the 2022-2023 term are as follows:

Vice President – Gabriel Zorbas

Treasurer – Dave Smith

Director of Operations – Mike Edwards  
Director of Facilities – Frank Denison

The nomination period for the 2022 election will be announced in the Hot Scoop and nomination forms will become available in late June or early July next year.



## Museum Services and Facilities Report

By Jim Lundquist, Director of Museum Services

This month's report will focus on jobs all volunteers can do to assist the Facilities and Museum Services departments moving forward. My goal is to get additional members involved in your museum by finding the right job which meets your skill level and interests.

In town, the La Mesa Depot should be open additional days and hours. Downtown La Mesa is busy in the afternoons and weekends. Any volunteer with the ability to reach out and talk to visitors

would be a good fit. Training provided.

Also, in town, the La Mesa Depot needs some TLC. A wood working expert is needed to take care of wood rot and termite damage. This work could proceed at your own pace and hours as long as the interior of the Depot is left secure.

In Campo, we meet as a team to take on projects: weed spraying, tree trimming, weed whipping, painting, sanding, you-name-it the group takes it on. We

have tools and are more than willing to take you under our wing and have you join us. Come often or just come out when you are available. Notices of dates, tasks and times are sent out to you.

In Campo, the Library group meets on Wednesday and Saturday with a variety of library tasks. Again, no experience is necessary as the team will train you. It is not necessary to show up every week, come when you can.

In the greater San Diego County, we take out our float

trailer and expose thousands of people to our railway museum. A vehicle to haul the trailer is required, as is a friendly wave from that vehicle. Training is provided.

BTW – do you have a parade in your city or neighborhood? If so, let us know. This is a fun job, usually on a Saturday and usually over before noon, and is easier with an assisting partner.

As you can see, there are MANY opportunities for you to become involved in saving and presenting San

Diego's railway history. So, how do you get involved? That part is EASY. Simply call Jim Lundquist at 619-417-7059 or email [Jim@psrm.org](mailto:Jim@psrm.org) and let him know of your interest.

Since the last report, Jim Lundquist made a presentation at the Alpine Kiwanis Club. A powerpoint presentation of railway history, focusing on San Diego and our railway museum, was enjoyed by the group.

In addition, Dawn and Jim Lundquist took the float out

to parades in Coronado and Pine Valley – as always – a hit with the crowd.

Frank Denison and Jim Lundquist spent a lovely day in the sun weed whipping around the Display Building and in the yards outside the Shop Building in Campo.

Our thanks to the great group in the Library, lead by Bruce, Gabe in Membership and Alanna with the Hot Scoop. Each month they do a fantastic job for us – all as volunteers!



## In Memorium of Leroy Athey

By Jarod Black

August 3, 1931-August 13, 2021

It is with a heavy heart that we announce the passing of Leroy Athey, long time museum member and former owner of the Descanso, Alpine & Pacific Narrow Gauge Railway.

A San Diego native, Roy was born on August 3, 1931 and spent the majority of his

career supervising inmates in the San Diego Honor Camp system. When he retired in the 1980's, Roy took a walk with his son on their two and a half acre parcel located off Alpine Heights Road. He envisioned a railroad, but not just a scale model railway in the garden, a full-sized narrow gauge railroad running in his backyard. Roy bought a few pieces of mining equipment and began laying track in 1989. The 24" gauge rail-

road was short, extending only a few hundred feet near the driveway. There was no locomotive, so equipment was moved by hand and by gravity. In 1990, Roy opened the Descanso Alpine & Pacific Narrow Gauge Railway to the public and began giving free rides on Sundays from 1-3pm, a ritual he continued for the next 27 years.

In October 1990, Roy pur-

hased a derelict 2.5 Ton Brookville Locomotive, originally built in 1935 for the Carthage Crushed Limestone Company. Roy's wife Willa cried when the rusted hulk arrived in the driveway of their Alpine home. Roy and his longtime friend Casey spent the next three years painstakingly restoring the locomotive to operation.

Construction on the railroad reached the high point of the property at a location Roy chose to name "High Pass," clearly a nod to the station known as "HiPass" on the San Diego & Arizona Railway. Here, completion of a balloon turning loop required the construction of a 112' foot long curved wooden trestle, which held the unofficial record as the longest two-foot gauge trestle in the United States for many years. When completed, the railroad mainline extended .34 of a mile meandering up and down five and six percent grades, over four timber trestles, and through several extensive cuts. Roy retired his chicken coop and converted it into a locomotive shop complete with inspection pit and constructed a magnificent depot with an adjacent freight house.

I first met Roy at the San Diego Garden Railway Convention in 2000, when I first rode on the Descanso, Alpine & Pacific Narrow Gauge Railway. As you can

imagine, riding a full-sized backyard mine train made quite an impression on a bright-eyed 4-year-old. It wasn't until December 2007 that I returned to the Descanso, Alpine & Pacific and expressed an interest in helping Roy out with his weekly railroad operations. I began as an "Extra Board" Brakeman, working only when the regular brakeman, Micah, was unavailable. After Micah left for college I became Roy's regular brakeman until the railroad ceased operations.

In the following years, Roy became an invaluable mentor to me as I began to take on a more invested roll in the maintenance of the railroad and equipment. He did not have a machine shop, nor did he possess any of the common heavy machinery or welding equipment used in maintaining a narrow gauge railroad. Roy did have his grandfather's coal-fired blacksmith shop, but in later years he used it mainly for demonstrational purposes rather than actual fabrication. A drill press, a sledge hammer, a chisel, a grinder, and a bandsaw were Roy's tools of choice and he utilized them with innovative expertise. He demonstrated numerous times how the job of a mill could be completed on a bench grinder and a drill press.

After 27 years of public operation and nearly 15,000 passengers hauled, Roy made the decision to close the Descanso, Alpine & Pacific Narrow Gauge Railway in October 2017. The railroad and its equipment were donated to the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association. Roy and Willa sold their Alpine home and moved to Lemon Grove shortly thereafter. On April 10, 2021, Roy attended the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Behind the Scenes Tour and rode the Golden State excursion. He expressed how impressed he was with the progress on the new mine train exhibit and how he enjoyed the new onboard automated narration by Ken Kramer.

Roy passed away due to sudden health-related complications on August 13, 2021, ten days after his 90th birthday. He is survived by his wife, Willa, several children, and grandchildren. The railroad equipment and depot of the former Descanso, Alpine & Pacific Narrow Gauge Railway are now onsite at the museum in Campo awaiting further development of the new Mine Train Exhibit.



Roy was always ready to teach kids about railroad-ing whether it was the use of lanterns at night or how to throw a switch to move equipment to another track.

*Left Jodi Siccardi*



*Right Tomoko Ohkubo-Kuo*

Roy wanted to make the guest experience as realistic as possible and built the Descanso, Alpine & Pacific Depot complete with the agent's ticket window, through which you would receive your complimentary ticket.

*Karen Beth Perlman*



*(bottom left)* Roy Athey operating the Brookville locomotive with Jarod Black riding the front of the engine.

*Jarod Black*

*(bottom right)* Standing in the doorway of the DAP Depot, Roy gives a few of his guests a history lesson about wooden railway trestles.

*Karen Beth Perlman*





## PSRM LIBRARY UPDATE AUGUST 2021

By Bruce Semelsberger, PSRM archivist

Although the hot summer weather will remain at Campo for some time, the official season is coming to an end. A lot has transpired at your library, so I will attempt to summarize. The staff grew along with the collections and we gladly added Russel Ray as a regular. Russel has a varied background and a diverse set of skills which have proven very useful. He and Richard Finch are much better at the digital technology than I, so I felt confident in ordering new digital electronic equipment and getting it to work properly. Using funds left us by the late Robert Underhill, we added a CZUR book and document scanner, a top of the line Epson V850 photo scanner and a Wide-Tek48 large-format map and drawing scanner. These devices are now all arrived, checked out and integrated into our computer network as of last Wednesday. Once we have mastered all of the intricacies we will have the ability to digitize anything in the library!

On a related front, Russel is working on converting the extensive group of Word files that details the SD&A documents we received from the San Diego History Center last year into a single

searchable PDF file. This will turn a previously slow and arduous task into a fast and simple one. I anticipate new and wonderful discoveries to emerge from this ability to simultaneously search the varied and disparate files for a common datum.

The scope of the collections has continued to increase as well. The large donation we received from long time member Imre Quastler has been accessioned into the collections but still remains to be physically integrated. Spurred by the large number of new books involved, we began the reorganization of the book section of the library which had been left incomplete with the passing of Bob Underhill and ill health of Dale Wagner. It is now three-quarters completed, including the removal of many duplicates and leaving space for all of the new additions. Other new donations are still arriving; among the largest are those of the late Douglas Duncan and the still very much alive Dick Penick. Doug left us books, artifacts and a lot of magazines, some of which go back to the first issues. Dick is weeding out drawings and

other items in order to open up space around NC&O car number #1 which he intends to donate to PSRM. Other donations received and pending will be detailed in a later report.

Richard Finch and I located a large cache of artifacts in our racehorse express car earlier in the summer. They had been stored previously by Dick Ruppert and his crew during their attempt to inventory all of our artifacts. Many had been accessioned and were in our database but others, mostly acquired from the estate of Thomas Sefton, had not, and some had been buried under other stored items. We removed, photographed and accessioned items until the weather grew too hot. As soon as it cools down, we will resume that process and see what we find. The last batch included the surprise find of the early SD&A dispatcher's telephone system dialing panel, so who knows what else will turn up!

Lastly, the library has recently been used as the location for a small training class, a function for which it was designed in the begin-

ning. When all of the boxes of books are emptied onto the shelves, space for larger groups will again be available. Any additional help would be greatly appreciated! We have suitable tasks for all abilities, so please drop me a line if you want to donate some of your free time.  
psrmlibrary@att.net.



(left) Library volunteer Richard Finch uses the new Epson V850 photo scanner.

*Bruce Semelsberger*

(right) The CZUR book and document scanner allows scanning of articles without taking apart the binding. The software compensates for the distortion at the center and copies as if the page were completely flat.

*Bruce Semelsberger*



(right) The pièce de résistance: the Wide-Tek48 large-format map and drawing scanner. This will allow the scanning of just about every large document in our South-west Railway Library collection.

*Bruce Semelsberger*





## Membership Report, August 2021

By Gabriel Zorbas, Membership Coordinator

It was another hot month, and another slow month for new memberships. Despite the heat, however, our membership continues to rise!

**Current Active Members: 594**

**Percent Change: +2.0%**

### New Members for August

Paul Alvarado

Christof Erickson

Carl Prante

Paola Arroyo

Christina Gunderson

Erica Sarson

Caroline Collins

Vern Gunderson

Michele Walter

Jacob Cotton

Elizabeth Medina

Catherine Doan

Jana Miller

## Volunteer Report, August 2021

By Gabriel Zorbas, Volunteer Coordinator

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR A MULTI-WEEKEND PROJECT!**

Halloween is fast approaching, and that means another exciting season of Pumpkin Express trains. There is a lot of work to be done before we can run the trains! We are looking for three to four volunteers to lend a hand with the decorations over the next few weekends. Decorations need to be put up around and inside the depot, the Display Building, and our passenger coaches. Assigned tasks may include

climbing a ladder and lifting items above your head. If you can help out, please email [volunteer@psrm.org](mailto:volunteer@psrm.org), or you can give me a call at 619-251-1954.

### **ACY Box Car Update**

A big thank you to Frank Najera for helping with the boxcar. Thanks to Frank, the remaining boxes of materials were cleared, and the wooden mezzanine was completely dismantled. Next up: heavy-duty shelving will replace the mezzanine. Once all the material removed from the box car has

been sorted and filed, the focus can shift to the renovation of the upstairs business office.

### **Volunteer Hour Tracking**

Beta testing continues on our new volunteer hours tracking program. I expect that it will be ready by October. Once launched, an email will be sent to all volunteers with detailed instructions on how to use the new system. (Do not let the “detailed instructions” part of the sentence fool you. It is straightforward and easy to use.)

---

---

# Volunteer Orientation

The Pacific Southwest Railway Museum invites you to the next Volunteer Orientation, scheduled for September 19, 2021 at 10:30 AM.

The orientation is open to any and all who are interested in volunteering with the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum. The only prerequisite for volunteering is a current, active membership. The orientation will be held inside the waiting room of the Campo Depot, located at 750 Depot St, Campo, CA 91906. The orientation will last approximately 4-5 hours and lunch will be provided! Attendance size is limited, so be sure to reserve your spot ASAP by sending an email to [Volunteer@psrm.org](mailto:Volunteer@psrm.org)

---

---

## Operations Volunteers for August 2021

### Rich Paulus, Chief Operations Officer

#### Train Service

Those who are certified/qualified crew members and speeder operators/crew who have helped us run 29 Golden State trains and 4 Sunset Specials over the month, and the number of days they have volunteered:

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Colin Atwood      | 2 |
| Jim Baker         | 1 |
| Paul Bandemer     | 2 |
| Jarod Black       | 2 |
| Ken Brown         | 3 |
| James Caestecker  | 2 |
| Martin Caestecker | 1 |
| John Cenkner      | 3 |
| Travus Clark      | 1 |
| Stephen Hager     | 2 |

|                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| Randy Houk      | 2 |
| Alanna Hyatt    | 1 |
| Diana Hyatt     | 5 |
| Charlie Karayan | 3 |
| Jim Lundquist   | 1 |
| Mike McIntyre   | 1 |
| Shaine Neale    | 4 |
| Rich Paulus     | 1 |
| Glen Rogers     | 1 |
| Dave Smith      | 2 |
| Rob Stebbins    | 2 |
| Tim Wamsley     | 2 |
| Gabe Zorbas     | 1 |

#### MOS

Maintenance of signal volunteers who conducted electrical and mechanical

maintenance and testing of highway crossing signal systems this month:

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Chad Baker        | 1 |
| Christopher Baker | 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:

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Glen Rogers | 7 |
| Roark Stump | 1 |

This totals to 52 volunteer-days in Operations during the month of August 2021.



## Sunset Special Train Ride!

Join us Saturdays for our 7:00pm train ride. Departing every Saturday evening until October 2nd, beat the heat of the day and enjoy a relaxing sunset train ride through East County's rugged backcountry.

Visit us at [www.PSRM.org](http://www.PSRM.org) to reserve your tickets

For information on special events and more visit our website at [www.PSRM.org](http://www.PSRM.org)



FOLLOW US ON

Instagram

@PacificSouthWestRailwayMuseum



Find us on  
facebook

@SanDiegoTrain

