



A publication for the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum members

January 2022



A bright moon shines overhead at the North Pole, the destination of our Museum's North Pole Limited trains. Many volunteers worked long hours to carry our happy visitors to Santa's home during eight days of evening trains between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Photo by Jim Lundquist 11/26/21



**Pacific Southwest Railway Museum
Association, Inc.**

WWW.PSRM.ORG

Museum and Train Operations

Campo Depot

Highway 94 at Forrest Gate Rd, Campo, CA

619-478-9937

La Mesa Depot Museum & Business

Office 4695 Nebo Drive, La Mesa, CA

91941-5259 619-465-PSRM (7776)

PSRMA Board of Directors

Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month at 6:30PM at the Lakeside Historical Society, 12418 Parkside St, Lakeside

Museum Officers

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Vice President: Gabe Zorbas

Treasurer: Dave Smith

Secretary: Stephen Hager

Equipment Dept: Ron Hyatt

Facilities Dept: Frank Denison

Museum Services Dept: Jim Lundquist

Operations Dept: Mike Edwards

Museum Staff

Fundraising: Donna Spevack

Gift Shop Mgr: Alanna Hyatt

Archivist: Bruce Semelsberger

Hot Scoop Editor: Jim Lundquist

Membership: Jarod Black

Photographer: Alanna Hyatt

Special Events: Diana Hyatt

Steam Foreman: Jim Baker

Volunteer Coordinator: Gabe Zorbas

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

On behalf of all the volunteers at the Railway Museum, I certainly hope your Holiday Season was joyous. It is during these times that the volunteers work many jobs in preparation and operation of the Pumpkin trains followed immediately with the North Pole Limited trains. These special event trains represent a substantial income to our Museum and take many volunteer hours to present. Further details on the volunteers and their actions were outlined in the previous issue of the *Hot Scoop*.

Due to these efforts, the *Hot Scoop* fell behind on our monthly schedule. This issue comes quickly behind our last to get you caught up on our activities. I know you would like to be kept up-to-date on our many activities and opportunities to participate in these great events. As the Museum Services Department Director, it is my goal to see that you receive the *Hot Scoop* along with the information you need to know about our great museum. With this goal in mind, I have taken on the task as Editor and hope to get timely information out to you each month.

Please submit photographs and articles (in Word, no tables) on your activities as a volunteer so that the membership keeps informed of the great progress we are making. Each month the deadline is the 25th.

I always welcome the opportunity to hear from you. You may reach me via email at JimLundquist@gmail.com

Jim Lundquist, Editor

Photo by Jim Lundquist 11/26/21



The three most important pieces of the railway museum: volunteers, donors and members.



The *Hot Scoop*® is a publication of the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association, Inc.

This issue will highlight all three, any one of which is missing would not make our museum viable. The volunteers complete all the tasks at no cost to the museum. Our budget would not allow us to hire paid help. The donors allow us to make improvements to the museum, as our admission fees cover only the reoccurring costs. The members are both volunteers and donors who keep the faith and allow us to present and preserve railroad history. Thank you to all three.

Volunteers: Operations Department. This past month, we have a list of those members who volunteered in the Operations Department which allowed us to run our North Pole Limited trains. The members who crewed our trains and the number of days volunteered are Colin Atwood 1, Jim Baker 3, Paul Bandemer 2, Jarod Black 3, Ken Brown 4, Mark Brown 3, James Caestecker 2, Martin Caestecker 1, John Cenknier 4, Stephen Hager 5, Mike McIntyre 1, Shaine Neale 4, Glen Rogers 2, Dave Smith 3, Rob Stebbins 1, Tim Wamsley 4 and Gabe Zorbas 2. 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: Jarod Black, James Caestecker, John Cenknier, Jake Cotton, Stephen Hager, Ron Hyatt, Ben Renard and Gabe Zorbas.

THANK YOU to all our donors which allows us to keep moving forward.

On behalf of all of us at PSRM, we would like to thank you for your generous donations in 2021 to the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum.

Alex Gilman, Anonymous donor(s), Axel Vogt, Bruce L. Deck, Carol Bailey Sumber, Carol Lundquist, Carol M. Mandra, Carrie Brown, Cass Witkowski, Chad E. and Cybele Baker, Daryl Leininger, David Lyman, Derek D. Bass, Eugene Hager, Frank Sheffield, Gregory A. Gjerde, Jack O'Lexey, Jacqueline Whaley, James H& Rita F. David, James O. Bartlett, James W. Blinn, Janet Moyer, Jeffrey D. Trimble, Jeffrey Haslam / Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, Joann Chew-Cuadras, John and Jan Cenker, Julie Edwards, Karen M. Marsh, Karlene J. Akers, Kathryn E. Titus, Lenora Porcella, Lisa R. Hamann, Lynn Swanson, Lynnette Lockwood, M. Dawn Beebee, Mana Monzavi, Margaret Ruiz, Mark Lundguth, Mark Offenbach, Michael and Heidi Palmer,

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., (PSRMA) or its officers and staff.

PSRMA Mission Statement:

PSRMA 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 emphases on railroads of San Diego County and the systems with which the connected in the United States and Mexico.

PSRMA is a non-profit educational organization operating under section 501(c)3 of the tax codes. Donations may be tax deductible.

PSRMA is a member of the Heritage Rail Alliance.

Submission guidelines: All articles should be single spaced and submitted in Microsoft Word format. Photographs are also welcomed. Send all submissions to JimLundquist@gmail.com

The *Hot Scoop* is available in color via email. To receive the electronic version in PDF format, send an email to editor@psrm.org and include your name, membership number and email. Note that if you opt for the mail version, you will no longer receive the printed copy.

Comments are always welcome. Send your feedback to:

JimLundquist@gmail.com

Michael Bloom, Michael S. MacDonald, Mike Armstrong, Nancy C. Brown, Network for Good, P. Allen and Virginia D. Copeland, Qualcomm, Randi Thorson, Richard A. Hatch, Rick L. and Sandy J. Rowe, Roark Stump, Robert Bealo, Robert Stebbins, Ron Dewing, Roy Athey, Shelley Presswood, Sherwin and Gertrude Dorris, Shirley E. Selkirk, Stephen Hager, Susan Rea, Sybyl Yacuzzo, Terry G. Baker, The Robert and Audrey Zinser Endowment Management Fund, Thomas B. Evan, Thomas Uter, Timothy D. Schroepfer, Trudy Seeley, Victor Rampulla, Walter H. Barber, Wendy N. Woiles and Zac Keane.

If there is anyone that has donated and left of this list, please know that we appreciate your donation and apologize for the oversight.

Please note that Anonymous donors are persons that have made donations, but we are respecting their wishes not to be published.

Thank you, Donna J. Spevack ; Administrator of Fund Development

fundraising@psrm.org / (619) 606-6231

Membership Report November-December 2021

By Jarod Black, Membership Coordinator

My first two months as Membership Coordinator have yielded a continued steady growth in our organization's active membership. At the time of this writing, renewal notices have gone out for members expiring at the end of December and January, with February soon to follow. I am currently working to improve the system for collecting hardcopy membership applications submitted at the Campo Depot Gift Shop each week. It is important that our new members receive their membership packets and are able to redeem their membership benefits in a timely manner.

Looking forward to 2022, my goal is to continue to refine our membership processes and infrastructure in anticipation of our forthcoming proprietary internal membership database under development by Martin Caestecker. This new system will further streamline our payment processing and membership data entry.

Please welcome the following members to our organization:

December

Chad Cooper, Jeff Blunk, Lynne Schneider, Sara White, Sofia Esquivel Banaga.

November

Andrew Judd, Edwin Colon-Melendez, Jeff Chisdak, Jesus Solano Escamilla.

Current Active Members: 635

thank you!

members
donors
volunteers



BG and Tim Miller guide our visitors in parking cars.

Photo by Jim Lundquist
11/26/21



NORTH POLE LIMITED

Christmas is such a special time at Campo. The operation of 16 special evening trains over four weekend nights all by volunteers is truly amazing. Starting years ago with run down commuter coaches and an abandoned depot, we have brought joy to the thousands of riders to the North Pole and their visit with Santa. We have also brought great joy and pride to the volunteers who know that all the hard work is appreciated. There are a great many tasks, large and small, which start happening months in advance of the event, all undertaken with pride as we know our visitors love our trains. *Photos by Jim Lundquist 11/26/21*



Display Building improved with a new banner over interior entrance

The interior of our Display Building used to look rather industrial. For several years, improvements to exhibits have been hung on the walls to make it more welcoming. The latest is a new 10 ft high by 30 ft wide high resolution photograph banner of the Goat Canyon Bridge on the SD&AE Railway in the middle of Carrizo Gorge. The bridge has been designed a local Civil Engineering landmark by the American Society of Civil Engineers with a plaque below the banner on display.



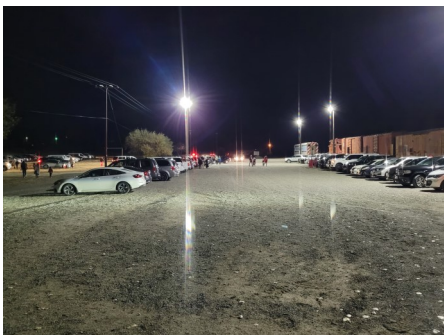
Photos by Jim Lundquist 1/4/22

Thanks to Jason Drenkow for hiking into the gorge in October 2020 for the photo, Jim & Dawn Lundquist for the donation of the banner and Jim and Allen Jones for installing the banner over the holidays.

Volunteers are reminded to please log hours

All volunteers are reminded to please log in volunteer hours. It's simple and easy to do.

Go to <https://members.psrn.org>, click on the link which says [Enter Volunteer Hours](#) and follow the prompt. The Museum seeks grants, some of which require matching a portion of the grant. The value of the volunteer hours counts towards the matching requirements.



New parking lot lights installed

Thanks to Frank Denison, Jim Lundquist and Steve Pohjola for the installation of new and brighter LED lights at the Campo Depot. The older lights had fallen over and needed to be replaced with new poles, new conduit, new wiring and new lamps.

Photo by Jim Lundquist 11/26/21

Members only area on web pages

A reminder that on the www.psrn.org pages is an area with lots of information for our members, including past issues of the *Hot Scoop*, By-laws, Board minutes and Articles of Incorporations as just a start. Hover over the Membership+ and the Members-only area. You will need a log in and a password, which will be passed onto you if you email membership@psrm.org

Sign up for notices of volunteer projects

Send an email to volunteer@psrm.org to receive notices of upcoming projects.

Tunnel 4 fire by Jim Lundquist. As the new year began, we learned that tunnel 4 on the SD&AE, which is located on the border with Mexico about half way between Campo and Tecate at Mile Post 60, was burnt again. Many years ago, the eastern portal in USA was burnt removing the timbers which protected the first hundred of so feet of the portal. In January 2022, the western wooden portal in Mexico was also burnt. It too only protected the first 60 or so feet of the portal. The rest of the tunnel was unlined. It is hoped that the tunnel didn't get too hot and create cracks in the rocks. The temporary fence was installed by Customs and Border Patrol to discourage trespassing along the tracks between both countries.



Looking at tunnel 4 western (southern) portal on fire from the Mexican side. The border is just inside the tunnel. *Photo from internet*



Looking at tunnel 4 from the eastern (northern) portal at the fire from the Mexican side. The gate is considered temporary. *Photo from internet*

Brakeman Training Classes

By Stephen Hager, Brakeman Class Instructor



A hands-on class for the entry level train crew position, Brakeman, will be held this February. The class is open to anyone, age 16 and above, who is interested in becoming a member of our volunteer train crew (don't let the brakeman title scare away any ladies.) Class size is limited to eight people. There will be two sessions of the class; attendance at both sessions is necessary to complete the class. The two sessions will be held on February 5th and 12th (Saturdays), all day, at Campo. Museum membership is the only prerequisite; no prior railroad experience is required! Visit the brakeman class webpage to view more details and information on signing up: <https://www.psrn.org/brakeman-class/>

Editor note: Hundreds of members are started their volunteer activities with this class. After successful completion of the class, you will be assigned to work with existing crew members to become proficient. As you work up your hours, you can become a Conductor and become eligible to be trained as an Engineer. It all starts with this class. JOIN US. It's fun and rewarding.

For information on operating hours and special events please visit our website at WWW.PSRM.ORG.



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Signs reprinted and updated with a kind donation

The signs at our railway museum were showing their age with sun damage making many too dark to read. It was a pleasant surprise to receive this letter from members Mark Landguth.

1 December 2021

To: Pacific Southwest Railway Museum

From: Mark Landguth, San Diego, CA. 92117

Subject: Donation For Campo Outdoor Signage

Find enclosed a restricted donation of \$4,000 specifically to be used to replace the weather damaged outdoor signage at the Campo site. The existing orientation of the signage is not to be changed unless the visitor experience is enhanced. Orientation based on minimizing weather damage is not to be considered.

All the indoor and outdoor signage and story boards at the Campo facility are first-in-class. I have been to the best museums throughout the world, and I can honestly and proudly say the PSRM stands up with the best in this category. I appreciate the effort and professionalism Jim Lundquist has put forth to make this possible. Few visitors will actually read all the signage and story boards in a given museum, but all will carry away conscience and unconscious impressions of what they saw and experienced. The look and feel of the signage matters, and it carries the message of our mission statement.

Lastly, big donors, large businesses, government officials, and politicians naturally want to associate with winners and the best-in-class when the money goes out. We must constantly promote and protect what we already are within the constraints of our current resources. We only need 100 million or so to put the PSRM on the short list of the best railway museums in the world.

Regards,

(signed Mark Landguth)

These funds have already been put into use with renewed signs at both our Campo location and the La Mesa Depot. Here's Steve Pohjola installing one of the new signs at Campo which discusses railway history within San Diego county. There are many signs throughout our museum highlighting various themes involving railway and local history. The next time you are at either location, check out how smart they look again. Many thanks Mark, for a great and timely donation.

Photo by Jim Lundquist 1/6/22



The PSRM Invites You to our Volunteer Orientation!

The Pacific Southwest Railway Museum invites you to the next volunteer orientation!

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 1-2 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

Dates for our Orientation!

Sunday, January 23rd, 2022

Sunday, March 20th, 2022

North Pole

This is the destination of our North Pole Limited trains, as Santa awaits the arrival of the train with children of all ages. Charles Smith, along with Pablo Gonzalez, made sure the accommodations were acceptable for the jolly old man. Arriving here is the highlight of our visitors onboard the train.

*Photo by Jim Lundquist
11/26/21*



REMINDER: ALL MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO THE VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION ON EITHER JANUARY 23 OR MARCH 20. PLEASE RSVP TO: VOLUNTEER@PSRM.ORG

Please submit all articles (word document, no tables) and photographs of your museum projects to share with our members by the 25th of each month. Send articles and photos to: JimLundquist@gmail.com

Brakeman class starts February 5th and 12th (Saturdays), all day, at Campo. Museum membership is the only prerequisite; no prior railroad experience is required! Visit the brakeman class webpage to view more details and information on signing up: <https://www.psrn.org/brakeman-class/>



Christmas is over

Just like that, the North Pole reverts to Canyon as the station sign is reversed (see the first page cover photo). Both Canyon and the North Pole are the same station, located about 4.3 miles west on the SD&A Railway. Jim Lundquist is completing the task of changing the sign, assisted by Dawn Lundquist.

*Photo by Dawn Lundquist
1/4/22*