

RESTORATION DEPT.

Car 54 is once again becoming a shape, the shape of a fine old trolley car. It has been a long pull for a small group of hard working members....but it is finally showing results.

If you have been down to the Whalley House or if you saw the Union on Sunday, March 24th, you know that old car 54 is about to be reborn again. Jerry Macfadden had a very nice spread on San Diego streetcars in the Southwest section of the paper with pictures of 54 then & now.

There is still some work to be done, don't get the idea it is all over yet. Come on down one of these fine Saturday afternoons and do a bit of sanding or any other job you might be of help on. Better yet, come down in the morning and make a day of it.

Car 54 is our car, your car, be a part of this project, put in a few hours helping make this restoration project come to a fine shiny finish. That sad old relic of not to long ago is looking pretty sporty again and when you do some work on her now....it shows!! The workers have gone home after many a Saturday with that sad feeling that a full day of labor didn't seem to add much to the progress of the job...but now old 54 is shaping into something and all the long days of labor are becoming a reward.

When are YOU going to lend a hand? The car sits (proudly) alongside the Whalley House in the heart of historic Old Town. The restoration of car 54 takes place just about every Saturday. If you wish any information, call the man in charge, C.T. "Tommy" Mann: BR-3-8824

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Car 171 at Orange Empire Trolley Museum is due for another clean up and paint up. The next date will probably be the weekend of April 20th and 21st. This is not definite as yet but you might keep that date in mind for a trip to the trolley yards at Perris, California.

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Locomotive 104 and observation car 050 are due for cleaning and some painting soon. The work at Del Mar will be done in May and June in time for the 1963 county fair: June 28th thru July 7th. Keep the fair in mind too, there is a need for many helpers during the fair.

Streetcar 528 at Del Mar is also ready for a good going over before the fair. Don't forget these projects, you will be needed to help put the equipment in shape for the fair.

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APRIL MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 1st, 1963 - 7:30 P.M.

SANTA FE RAILWAY STATION, KETTER AND BROADWAY, SAN DIEGO. Upstairs in the Safety Meeting Room.

PROGRAM: Railroad films will be presented by JACK STODOLLE.

Refreshments will be served and there will be time for members and guests to talk to each other on their favorite subject....

TRAINS, TROLLEYS & TRACKS!!!

BE THERE....ON TIME.....7:30 P.M.-----
Short on business, long on entertainment.

MONDAY, APRIL FIRST, 1963 - 7:30 to 10:30pm

SUNDAY, MAY 5th 1963..... The ESCONDIDO PICNIC

SPECIAL will be rolling up the Santa Fe main.

Plan now to be aboard one of our first excursions from San Diego to Escondido. We had an excursion a few years back from Oceanside with coaches on the rear of the regular freight train....but we can't do that anymore....SO- Car our special train right out of the depot here in San Diego. Mainline high speed track to Oceanside Junction....then the easy slow pace of a back woods branch line, fun riding our own train on the Escondido line of the Santa Fe. This is normally a freight only line and our passenger train should arouse a bit of interest as we amble along through the Vista and San Marcos area on our way to our picnic in Grape Day Park, Escondido.

Fares for this trip are \$6.45 for adults and \$3.25 for children 5 to 12 years of age. Family Plan is \$18.00 for Mom, Dad and two of the children. There will be a box lunch for those not wishing to make a picnic lunch, it will sell for \$1.25 each.

MEMBERS Paid up for 1963: The fare is \$6.00 for adults. Children fare is still the same, \$3.25 for kids 5 to 12. WHEN ORDERING TICKETS FOR MEMBERS: The paid up member is entitled to the discount fare, on family memberships the wife is also entitled to the discount but there can be no lowered fares for children.

* * * The R.R.S.of S.D. NEWSLETTER, official monthly bulletin. News items must reach editor not later than the 20th of each month.
RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, Inc.,
Post Office Box 9351, San Diego 9, California.

1963 OFFICERS

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1st V.P.: Thomas W. Matson CY-5-1219
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Corresponding Secretary: Barbara J. Thomson
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Ernest C. Major AT-1-6351

Wendell Byers

Board of Directors meetings are held on the Wednesday prior to the regular monthly meeting. Members with any society business to be presented to the board are welcome to attend. In the Safety Room at 7:30 P.M.

STREETCARS IN L.A.????

There isn't much time left for the good old trolley car in Los Angeles. Final daytime FCC excursions will be made on Saturday, March 30th by the P.R.S. and E.R.H.A.of S.C.

Final night runs will be made by E.R.H.A. of S.C. at 11 P.M. on March 30, 1963. There are 60 tickets to be sold for the all night final run, did you get one? It looks like we will all be forced to do our streetcar riding at Perris in the future.

It is an old tale and we have said it on many occasions....but...it must be said often to get results. We can use cash donations for our streetcar 5¢ project. The money has been going fast on this work and the society can be helped financially by anyone interested. Every little dollar helps, have you sent one?

AND....our neighbors to the north have a real big financial problem. I speak of the big trolley museum, Orange Empire Trolley Museum at Perris. These fellows have more needs for cash at present than you can shake a stick at. They have lots of track and overhead supplies to purchase...right now! With the folding of L.A.M.T.A. trolley service, O.E.T. is going to get all the supplies possible for future work on the yards and line at Perris. If you feel you can afford it, send a few dollars to the O.E.T. at P.O.Box 501, Perris, California.

You may not be a streetcar bug but there is a great project going on at Perris, be it steam or trolley, the work done at Perris by members of O.E.T. has been terrific. Don't you ever forget that there is a chance someday for streetcar operations at Perris.

NEWS NOTES FROM HERE & THERE

The new streetcar type operation in the Leonardo shopping center in Fort Worth has now been opened. The system uses 5 rebuilt FCC cars from Washington D.C. The line connects the shopping center with a 5000 car parking lot. The cars can handle 500 passengers every 3 1/2 minutes and have been air-conditioned and doors worked over for floor level platforms.....

WESTERN RAILROADER has another interesting pictorial issue on sale. This is the March 1963 issue 278 on the Nevada County Marrow Gange RR. Subscription is \$1.00 for ten issues, single copies are 50¢, P.O.Box 668, San Mateo, Calif.

S.D.A.E. has been taking some good sized trains out the La Mesa-El Cajon line. We saw a 20 car train recently, with three of the little diesels really working up the Commercial Street grade to 25th Street. Most all of the cars were 50 footers and loaded, flats, boxes and mechanical roofers. Those 3 little diesels really got a chance to earn their pay on that run.....

A special Southern Pacific hydra-cushion flat car was rebuilt into the box car appearing odd car of the year. In order to ship the Convair built tail section to Lockheed Aircraft down in Georgia, it was necessary to take a large flat car and build a special car out of it. The big flat now resembles a doorless box car but it more resembles a large box of sheet metal. Side structure was built up and large sheets of steel were welded to the frame structure. It is a strange looking car to say the least. The tail section is placed on special jigs mounted to the car floor and is placed in the car from the top by crane. The car will be used between San Diego, California and the Georgia Lockheed plant exclusively for tail section shipments.

Originally the car was being built in the S.P. shops at Los Angeles but due to the fear of a strike the car was brought to San Diego. Work was done in the San Diego & Arizona Eastern freight yards. First shipment went east on Thursday, March 21st to the bust of our knowledge. Watch for this strange San Diego built car in the future on the S.D.A.E. It looks like it might be to large to make clearances but it is not, just looks that way!! Santa Fe and the Port of San Diego have the big new bulk loader at Tenth Avenue Terminal all ready for use. It was used last Friday to load a ship. (3/22/63) The official opening of this new facility will bring all forms of bulk loading materials from rail to ship to the port of San Diego, that is the hope anyway.

The loading facilities provide for car dumping into pits or by rolling an open top hopper in the car roller. Conveyors carry the goods from train to ship. There is quite a yard for storage of cars, full or empty.

EXCURSIONS

AT&SF SP SRR FRR

The Pacific Coast Chapter of Railway and Locomotive Historical Society will operate some excursions on the California Western "skunk" in April and May. For information on these trips write: Arthur Lloyd, 974 Pleasant Hill Road, Redwood City, Calif.---or---Don Thrall, 610 Arlington Ave., Berkeley, Calif. There are six week-end excursions planned on the "skunk".....

Roaming Tours will get off for a full week on Saturday, April 6, 1963 via Ferrocarril Sonora Baja California out of Mexicali and will be carrying excursionists over several Mexican railroad including the new Chihuahua al Pacifico. The trip covers this new railroad through the grand canyon of Mexico and some spectacular views of country just recently opened by the railroad. Contact: Wally Duthie, Roaming Tours, 2800 University Ave., San Diego 4, California.....

RAMONA by rail trip out of Los Angeles will again be sponsored by Orange Empire Trolley Museum. This trip went over quite big last year and will again be run from L.A. on Saturday, April 20, 1963 with a second trip from Pasadena on Saturday, April 27, 1963. Trips will be via Santa Fe special train direct to Hemet and the pageant. Fares include train, shuttle busses and barbecue dinner. Write: Orange Empire Trolley Museum c/o Ramona-By-Rail, P.O. Box 501, Perris, Calif.----

Sunday, May 5, 1963 is the date for a trip right out of San Diego for you home town members and friends. The Escondido line will be our destination and a picnic in Grape Day Park. Fares are reduced for paid up members, \$6.00 adults. Contact Corky Thomson if you are interested in helping on the train: 276-3266. Train will consist of streamlined air-conditioned chair cars with open door baggage car. Leave San Diego at 9:00 A.M. and return at 6:20 P.M. 5/5/63.....

Sierra Railroad #28 will roll again on the 8th of June and the 9th. "Jintown Express" will operate out of Oakdale to Jamestown on both days. Reservations limited to 3 cars, for information contact persons listed in first excursion at the top of this column, fare is \$14.80 from bay area.

Feather River Railway will be the feature of the grand excursion planned by the Sierra Mountain RR Club on Saturday, June 1, 1963. Two big 110 ton Shay locomotives will pull an open air train. This should be a wonderful trip through the beautiful country and on grades of 5 1/2 percent and curves of 28 degrees. This line will be put under water when the new Feather River Project is completed and will be probably the last chance to ride this portion of the F.R.Ry. For tickets and information: Sierra Mountain Railroad Club, P.O. Box 1015, Auburn, California.

***ESCONDIDO via Santa Fe & R.H.S. of S.D. 5/5/63

NEWS NOTES

Chihuahua al Pacifico has purchased eight new 1,600 HP diesel road switchers from Fairbanks-Morse.....first of the new yellow and blue freight colors on Santa Fe yard switchers has arrived in San Diego. If you want pictures of the old style switcher paint jobs you had better get the camera out. The latest arrival from the shops came in behind a bunch of AT&SF road engines on the regular night freight..... Go down and watch the S.D.&A.E. main line train to the valley, you will see quite an assortment of S.P., T&N and Cotton Belt power, everything from "A" cab units to all types of "Coops" and "B" units, in any style of order and all types of S.P. paint jobs from the latest to oldest....

The big Santa Fe container car in the April issue of Trains Magazine (Railroad News Photos) is similar in appearance to the flat car recently reworked on the S.D.&A.E. for the Convair built Lockheed tail sections.....

The big experimental coal fired turbine #80 of the Union Pacific is having difficulty with turbine blades. Seems the coal fired job wears out the blades in about 7,000 hours of use. Oil fired turbines get up to 100,000 hours of use from the blades. The 80 is a converted Alco passenger "A" unit and a Great Northern electric unit, followed by a big U.P. tender.

Union Pacific operates a combine car on the rear of the City of Los Angeles during the cold weather. When the train is lengthened at Ogden this combine comes into use with a boiler unit to heat the train which the regular units up front in the diesel cannot do in extremely cold weather. The special steam boiler works automatically according to outside temperature.

The Cyrus K. Holliday, locally owned private railway car will be used for a trip to Los Angeles by one of the owners, Jack Stedalle, serving as host to a group of local railfans. Those riding the private car will take a last look or ride on L.A. trolley cars or spend the day investigating local railroad yards. The car will be used on regular San Diegoan service.

The Western Air Lines owned San Francisco cable car on tires was in town recently and as usual caused quite a stir. It looks real novel to see a cable car driving around town.

Maybe we can fit old 54 with tires for local parades in future years???

GONE TO ETERNAL REST

JOHN H. GOREY - San Diego, California

PAUL M. HENRY - Vista, California

1963 Membership Cards Did you get your new card? All paid up members have been sent a new membership card to date. The paid membership card has the year printed in the center, each year from now on will carry through in the center of the card. If you have paid your 1963 dues and did not get a card, drop the society a post card and let us know.

1963 MEMBERSHIP LIST It would have been included with this issue of the Newsletter but time and a few renewals still coming in prompted us to wait until the May issue of the Newsletter. We currently have about 110 members paid up for 1963.

LAST MINUTE NEWS That article in the San Diego Union on Sunday, March 24th on San Diego streetcars by Jerry MacHullen has paid off. It was mentioned in there of the lack of a trolley pole for car 5%. One has been offered to us and will be picked up and placed on car 5%. Name of the donor will appear next month.

MOVING????? Please...send us a change of address notice! Seems it costs us 8¢ return postage every time one of our members moves, plus the original postage. Some of you move around quite a bit! Before we get the mail back with a change of address from the post office, resend it....you have moved again. 4¢ + 8¢ + 4¢ + 8¢ + 4¢ on a deal like that: 28¢. IF YOU PLAN TO MOVE....SEND US A CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE.....Thank You.

ESCONDIDO PICNIC TRAIN Brochures were delayed by a back ordered paper supply and should have been enclosed with this issue of the Newsletter. (if you happen to get it, the brochures arrived in time.) Plan now to be with us on the 5th of May!!

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ESCONDIDO TRIP Train leaves San Diego at 9:00 A.M., pick up extra passengers at Del Mar and Encinitas. Special stop at Carlsbad depot for people from Oceanside & Carlsbad. Off the main line at Oceanside Jet. and up the branch to Vista. Our train will pick up a welcome committee from Escondido at the Vista depot, including one of the first mayors and the present mayor and officials. Photo stops will be made at mile post 14 and possibly at MP 18. Arrived at Escondido: Band playing at the depot, lots of fan fair. PA out to announce loading of the buses or directions for walking to the Grape Day Park in the heart of Escondido. At the park, or at train, not sure yet!! The ESCONDIDO MOTORCYCLE DRILL TEAM WILL PERFORM FOR US!! PA set at park for making announcements. Escondido Model RR Association will sell cold drinks at the park, radio control miniature airplanes will be on display and flown. Other features being planned...sound like fun?

BE ABOARD The Escondido Picnic Train on SUNDAY, MAY 5, 1963 for a fun filled day aboard our own special SANTA FE TRAIN. Fares for members is \$6.00 adults, regular fare to the general public is \$6.45 adults. Children fare is \$3.25 for all kids 5 to 12 years old.

The RHEOFSD NEWSLETTER

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO, Inc.
P.O. Box 9351, San Diego 9, California, U.S.A.

(A Non-Profit California Corporation)

RETURN REQUESTED

John H. Andert
585 Otis Street
Chula Vista, California

The ESCONDIDO PICNIC TRAIN is rolling.....

SUNDAY, MAY 5th 1963...via SANTA FE all the way.

Be on board for a fun filled day riding the train!!!

