

R.H.S. of S.D. NEWSLETTER #12

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO, Inc. - P.O. Box 9351, SAN DIEGO (Zone 9) CALIFORNIA.
**** NEWSLETTER NUMBER TWELVE **** 12 **** DECEMBER - 1962

DECEMBER MEETING

7:30 P.M. - MONDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1962 - IN THE REGULAR LOCATION: SANTA FE DEPOT, upstairs in the Safety Room.

Business portion of meeting starts at 7:30 P.M. 1963 election of officers.

PROGRAM: Our society president, Mr. Wendal Byers, will present a very entertaining film covering the recent Labor Day excursion of the Pacific Railroad Society. This trip covers Southern Pacific trackage from L.A. to Sacramento, Reno and Ogden....Union Pacific takes over at Ogden with big steam power, #8444, 4-8-4 type eastward to Cheyenne. This entire film is in 16mm color and runs for close to one hour!

REFRESHMENTS: Ladies!! Its your turn again, as requested at the November meeting.....bring us some of your own homemade Christmas cookies. All the ladies are requested to bring some cookies, contact V.P. Charles Rezek for any needed information regarding the cookies: CY-5-3626.

REMEMBER.....FIRST MONDAY IN DECEMBER....7:30 P.M., MONDAY, DECEMBER 3rd, 1962....RHSofSD.

PACIFIC RAILROAD SOCIETY

CARAVAN TO CUSHENBURY.....Several members from the RHSofSD traveled to San Bernardino on Sunday, November 11th to board the PRS excursion from L.A. to San Bernardino, Summit, Hesperia and a side trip out the Cushenbury line. The excursionists were treated to a box lunch, an organ recital and visit to the streetcar while at the top of Cajon Pass at Summit.

After leaving the main line at Hesperia the special train dipped down to cross the Mojave River and then began the long climb to Cushenbury Springs and a visit to the big modern Permanente plant of the Kaiser Company. There was a tour of this dust free cement plant.

From all reports the trip was a huge success and was enjoyed by all aboard. Running true to railfan excursion tradition, the train was a little late on the return trip....that gives you more for your money!

MONEY...MONEY...MONEY.....

We realize we frequently request donations....usually for some worthy cause at the Orange Empire Trolley Museum in Perris. With the last issue of the Newsletter we placed a donation form, again in this issue you will find handy renewal forms and DONATION FORM. We need funds for three reasons; CAR 54 RESTORATION WORK, DEL MAR EXHIBITS MAINTENANCE and for CAR 171 upkeep at O.E.T., Perris, Calif.

Thanks to those of you that have donated,

NOVEMBER MEETING AT THE WHALEY HOUSE.....

On Monday, November 5th, 1962 the regular monthly meeting of the RHSofSD was moved from the regular place in the Santa Fe station to the historic old Whaley House in Old Town.

The meeting was held in the old court room portion of the Whaley House. After regular reports and monthly business, our hosts, Mr. & Mrs. James Reading took over with a very informative history of the Whaley House.

Following the talk on the house the Readings took the group on a tour of this fine old home. All questions were answered and a very spine tingling tale of the "ghost" was told to the upstairs audience. It seems there is a ghost in the Whaley House and after hearing the story....its up to you to decide. There is no doubt that footsteps have been heard, many persons have heard them....three times the very well bolted windows in the "ghost" bedroom have been opened from the inside causing burglar alarms to go off. Each time the house has been properly locked!!

After the tour of the house we were treated to hot coffee, chocolate and lots of very, very good cookies and brownies.

We feel the November meeting was by far one of the best meetings held this year, how about you?? For those of you that missed it, you missed a good evening with the RHSofSD..... thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Reading for a very fine evening at the Whaley House.

2 ISSUES OF THE DISPATCHER COMING IN DECEMBER.

R.H.S. of S.D. NEWSLETTER

Official monthly publication for the Railway Historical Society of San Diego, Incorporated. Send all news items to the society address or to S.L. "Corky" Thomson, 3204 McGraw St., S.D. 17. News items must reach the editor not later than the 20th of each month.

L.A. M.T.A. EXCURSIONS

There are a number of excursions planned on M.T.A. streetcars since the announcement that all streetcar service will be abandoned in Los Angeles on March 31, 1963.

Here is the present listing of trips, there may be others being planned but at present these are scheduled.

SUNDAY, December 16th - Four-hour streetcar trip over LAMTA featuring PCC #3062. This car has been used in past years as a guinea pig for the company.

SUNDAY, January 13th - Four-hour trolley bus trip over trackless trolley routes 2 & 3. Leaves from Div. 1, Central & 6th Streets.

SATURDAY, February 16th - Tour of LAMTA streetcar lines featuring all-electric PCC #3165, the newest streetcar in Los Angeles. All proceeds to benefit fund to preserve #3165 at Orange Empire Trolley Museum.

NOTE: RHOFSO will try to utilize this trip to have a last ride on the trolley and to help aid the saving of car 3165 for the many years to come at O.E.T.

SUNDAY, March 30th - Afternoon excursion over LAMTA streetcar lines, featuring "mystery" equipment.

SATURDAY, March 30th - Last day of streetcar operation, excursion over LAMTA lines, this will be a day time excursion.

SATURDAY, March 30th - Special excursion over LAMTA streetcar system will be last car to operate in Los Angeles, following the last "owl" car to car barn early on morning of Sunday, March 31st. Late evening departure on Saturday night, 3/30/62.

For additional information on the above list of excursions and ticket orders:

ELECTRIC RAILWAY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA,
936 South Genesee Ave., Los Angeles 36.
(Telephone WEBster 1-9236)

DECEMBER MEETING DATE.....

MONDAY, DECEMBER 3rd - 7:30 P.M. in the Santa Fe station, San Diego, California.

BUSINESS, PROGRAM & REFRESHMENTS.

PRS-UP excursion featuring steamer #84411

GOLDEN WEST RAIL TOURS

Short notice for those of you that are not on their mailing list.....From Los Angeles on Santa Fe "hi-level" train to Barstow and a tour of the big Santa Fe shops at Barstow.

From L.A. the fare is \$9.75 for adults, from San Bernardino \$7.25 for adults.

There are 18 seats reserved for ticket buyers in the San Diego area, board train at L.A. or San Bernardino. If you order tickets, mention the space in car number three (3) and the seats reserved for San Diego.

At this late date a call to Corky Thomson for late space might be wise: 276-3266. OR.... call Golden West Rail Tours direct: in Los Angeles at Madison 8-1181.

This trip is a one day excursion on Sunday, December 2, 1962. * See Page 3 for address -

EXCURSION TO ESCONDIDO

Santa Fe all the way for the big spring picnic special. As a side trip member Mr. Pollard offers a view of his 0-4-0 12 ton Baldwin steam locomotive. This attraction is about one block from the train in Vista. The engine has passed static boiler tests and will soon be ready for final inspection.

PICNIC SPECIAL TO ESCONDIDO, MAY - 1963.

ROAMING TOURS

A gala New Year weekend in Mexico is offered from Saturday, Dec. 29th to Tuesday, Jan. 1st. from Calexico by train to Guaymas.

Contact Wally Ruthie, c/o Roaming Tours, 2800 University Ave., San Diego 4, California.

This is via Pullman on the Sonora-Baja Calif. and the Ferrocarril del Pacifico, rates vary according to accomadations wished.

ORANGE EMPIRE TROLLEY MUSEUM

With the final days of streetcar operation just around the corner in Los Angeles, there is a heavy demand for funds to purchase many valuable items from the MTA. This not only includes the purchase of several streetcars but many accessories, car parts, rail, ties, poles, fittings, overhead hardware, trolley and span wires, feeders, etc.

Send any donations you can spare, especially for saving PCC #3001, #3165 and some other very valuable rolling equipment.

ORANGE EMPIRE TROLLEY MUSEUM, P.O. Box 501,
Perris, California.

RHOFSO HELP SAVE A STREETCAR?

There is a Salt Lake City streetcar in our area, it can be taken to Perris if funds can be raised to transport it.....contact member Tom Matson, evenings: CY-5-1219

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO, Inc. - NEWSLETTER - No. 12 - DECEMBER, 1962.PITTSBURGH & LAKE ERIE RR

A recent letter from John W. Barriger, the president of the P.&L.E. thanks us for mentioning the recent luncheon held here in San Diego for him and he wishes to state his sincere regret in not having more time while visiting the west coast. He would have liked to have spent several days here in San Diego.

Mr. Barriger says it will always be a great pleasure to see any members when they happen to be in the Pittsburgh area.

GALA NEW YEARS RAIL EXCURSION.....

* Golden West Rail Tours, 215 W. 5th, Rm 323, Los Angeles 13, California offers a deluxe guided tour to Guaymas, Mexico, over the long holiday weekend. From L.A. via the S.P. Sunset Limited to Tucson, Arizona, by bus to the border at Nogales and then via Pacific Railroad of Mexico to Guaymas.

Contact the above address for the New Year trip or the Dec. 2nd "hi-level" excursion... phone in L.A. is: MADison 8-1181.

1963 RENEWALS We started asking for our new year membership dues early, in this way we are in hopes of having everyone paid up by March of 1963. See the blank on rear page.....
PAID UP FOR 1963 ARE THE FOLLOWING-----

Marion T. Charles of Rancho Santa Fe, Tom W. Sefton of San Diego, Carlyle D. Taylor of S.D., Louis J. Thomas of Cucamonga, Charles B. Pollard of Vista, Robert H. Coyle of S.D., W.H. Peterson of S.D., Warren D. Gent of S.D., S.C. Mickler of Tampa, Florida, K.C. Christ of Denver, Colorado, Murray S. Smith of S.D., George R. Llewellyn, Jr. of Silverdale, Washington, Byron C. Bean of S.D., A.L. Bergquist of Del Mar, Barbara J. Thomson of S.D., Seth L. Thomson of S.D.

If your name did not appear on this list it has not been forwarded to the Newsletter yet. In regards to the members that did not ever get a 1962 membership card.....we promise that everyone will get a 1963 card!! We are sorry for the mix up with the '62 cards and will see to it that it does not happen again.

We wish to thank the above 1963 renewals for adding a donation along with their dues.....

LOUIS J. THOMAS, MURRAY S. SMITH,
GEORGE R. LLEWELLYN, Jr.

RAILROAD CALENDARS FOR 1963.....

Mt. Rubidoux Chapter of the Pacific Railroad Society offers a dandy big 11x17 spiral bound 1963 Railroad Calendar for \$1.25..... 180 "J" Street, San Bernardino, California.

They make swell Christmas gifts, order a half dozen and make a railfan happy!!!

A GREAT LOSS TO OUR SOCIETY

It is difficult to write about the loss of someone such as our very good friend and fellow member, Richard V. Dodge. Our society knew him as a constant contributor to the Newsletter, a wealth of knowledge in many issues of the Dispatcher, author of his fine book, Rails of the Silvergate. Dick Dodge was the entire society wrapped up in one man. He was constantly traveling, snapping pictures, collecting more and more information on all the railroad history available to him.

Dick Dodge was at the things he loved to do right up to his passing away, he could be found searching through the old files at the public library, arriving or departing from the Santa Fe depot, attending society meetings, contributing his vast historical knowledge to issue after issue of the Dispatcher or just entertaining us with tales of his many trips and the places he had been.

Richard V. Dodge passed away of natural causes Wednesday, November 14th, 1962. His graveside services were held at 2:00 P.M. on Friday, November 16th at Mt. Hope Cemetery.

Dick Dodge was born in San Diego and spent most of his life here. Dick retired from the San Diego Gas and Electric Company in 1954 after 30 years with the company.

Since his retirement, Dick has spent most of his time traveling and writing. His big day of writing came when his book, "Rails of the Silvergate" was published and is now in its third printing. He has written many fine articles for our Dispatcher over the years.

Those of us that knew Dick Dodge will all miss this gentleman. It was a pleasure to have known him, let us remember him as he was..... always a chuckle and some bit of unusual humor from one of his recent trips, a bit of news, a tale of something new along the right-of-way.

Dick Dodge has departed at the age of 73, he lived a full and interesting life, more than that, he brought much to many of us with his travels and writing..... Dick has departed on another journey. Maybe he is alongside a big steam locomotive up there in the land of the great beyond.... thanks for everything you did for us all, Richard V. Dodge, and thanks for the privilege of having known you.

PACIFIC RAILWAY JOURNAL.....

Two styles of 1963 railroad calendars---- 11x17 spiral bound for \$1.50 steam or electric. Small desk type, 108 pages, 60 pictures, \$2.00 P.O. Box 91, San Marino, California.

CTC GOES AUTOMATIC

In the latest issue of the Southern Pacific Bulletin we read of the new system of C.T.C., or Centralized Traffic Control which is being put into service along the S.P. San Joaquin Valley Route.

This new system of CTC places the valley line into one of the most technically-advanced rail lines ever built.

The railroad has just recently finished the new installation through the valley between the big valley towns of Fresno and Bakersfield. The new system is being added to the north from Fresno to Sacramento. This new CTC makes push button railroading obsolete. The present addition will be completed in the spring of 1963 and it puts trains in complete automatic movements on 300 miles of track. This makes this a completely automatic electronically operated railroad, signals, powered turnouts, all operated from a master panel at Bakersfield.

The expanded CTC and a microwave radio system is part of a \$7 million improvement in the San Joaquin Valley.

The new system has moved train meet sidings away from communities along the railroad wherever possible to eliminate long freights making meets in built up areas. New and longer sidings are being built at the outskirts or in open country where there is little or no highway cross-traffic. The new CTC sidings allow many train meets to be made without either of the trains making a stop. The old sidings located in or near towns will be retained for future business and industry, through trains will no longer block crossings while making meets.

The work north of Fresno is presently placing 10 CTC sidings, each are 1.6 miles long and are spaced about 9 miles apart. There are 11 such sidings between Fresno and Bakersfield. Later in the project the last stretch into Sacramento will be completed.

Trains approaching one another on the Valley Line advance signals which they automatically clear by their forward movement. The trains are shown on the master board at Bakersfield where the CTC operator can assume overriding control if a change in programming is necessary. On the old non-automatic CTC, the dispatcher pushes buttons to open or close the switches, the new automatic system will utilize the microwave radio communications system and transmit coded impulses to CTC line circuits. Timing is so precise that more than half the meets are made non-stop at 30 MPH on the siding while the main line train passes by non-stop.

NEWS NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE

The latest report on the big K-M German Diesel-Hydraulic locomotives is: the 9000 was in service, the 9001 and the 9002 were both broken down with the same problem, broken shaft in the transmission units. One was in the shop at Sacramento the other at Roseville. One was due from Tracy with a freight but at the end of a two hour wait, was never seen..... the big roundhouse at Roseville has been torn down.....S.P. 4294 looking good in the park at Sacramento.....Santa Fe 2921 looking very sad in the park at Modesto. This big beauty of the rails is in need of painting and repairs, looks very shabby. That is the 4-8-4 which should have been donated to San Diego! Huge long Pullman special in San Diego last week, 6 unit passenger diesel for power..... Southern Pacific has come up with a new device to synchronize grade crossing warning signals with train speeds. Named the "Grade Crossing Predictor", the new device electronically activates signals and gates at crossings. The transistorized circuits predict within a split second when the train will reach the crossing and then activate the warning signals according to the train's speed. This system always has been needed and should help to prevent many future grade crossing accidents. It can even distinguish between through trains and switchers, it won't halt traffic for a switch engine unless it is actually going to cross the intersection.....The S.P. trains 51-52 The San Joaquin Daylights, look like backwoods locals, about 4 or 5 coaches, several head end cars, no domes.....contrast, Santa Fe coast line San Diegans looked good over Thanksgiving holidays, 14 and 15 car trains!..... S.D.&A.E. has new service area for diesels in San Diego, by the newly installed turntable near 8th Street crossing.

STREETCAR NUMBER FIFTY FOUR

WE NEED HELP!!! EVERY SATURDAY, WORK IS being done on our famous old streetcar 54. WHERE??? In Old Town, San Diego....right by the Whaley House.

YOU ARE NEEDED, JOIN THE RESTORATION OF CAR 54, any or every Saturday. Contact 2nd V.P. Charles "Tommy" Mann for more information.... phone BR-3-8824.

Work on the Bal Mar exhibits and the 171 at Perris is also being planned. Your help is needed on all of these projects!!

2 NEW ISSUES OF THE DISPATCHER ARE COMING SOON!

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO, Inc. - NEWSLETTER - No. 12 - DECEMBER, 1962.

The nominating committee for the 1963 society officers presented the following names to the membership at the November meeting: for President, Earle A. Swaine - for 1st V.P., Thomas W. Matson, - for 2nd V.P., Charles T. Mann - for 3rd V.P., Mrs. Gladys Unbarger Skeen - for Recording Secretary, Wallace Duthie - for Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Barbara J. Thomson - for the office of Treasurer, Fred R. Finke - For Excursion Director, Seth L. Thomson - for Historian, Dwight Couch. No nomination were made from the floor.

1963 Nominating Committee.

BLANKS ARE PROVIDED BELOW FOR YOUR 1963 RENEWAL DUES, NEW MEMBERS APPLICATIONS AND DONATIONS. Paid up for 1963 are the following: Charles, Taylor, Softon, Thomas, Follard, Coxe, Peterson, Gent, Mickler, Christ, Smith, Llewellyn, Bean, Bergquist, Thomson. (Barbara & Saeth)

IF YOUR NAME ISN'T ON THE LIST AS YET, SEND IN YOUR 1963 DUES. ADD A FEW BUCKS FOR ONE OF THE IMPORTANT DONATION FUNDS. (Cards will not be mailed until after the first of the year.) Lets have every 1962 member renewed by March 1st.....and some of the old members back on the roster! AND....some new members, come on you older members, sign up a new member...NOW!

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RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY of SAN DIEGO, Incorporated
Post Office Box 9351, San Diego 9, California

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM FOR 1963

Enclosed is my.....CHECK () MONEY ORDER () CASH () for my 1963 membership dues.

Amount.....\$2.50 Regular () \$3.50 Family () \$2.50 Sustaining () \$1.50 Junior (under 18 yrs)

NAME: _____ Phone No. _____

ADDRESS: _____

I am interested in: Steam() Diesel() Electric() Excursions() Restoration Work()
Helping Run the Society() Holding Office() Committee Work() Museum Work()

I belong to the following railroad clubs:
(Use back of form for additional space)

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RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, Inc.
P.O. Box 9351, San Diego 9, California.

DONATION FORM CAR 54 RESTORATION ()
DEL MAR EXHIBITS ()
STREETCAR 171 ()

Enclosed is my donation for the above project/s

Name. _____

Address. _____

Amount of donation: \$

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, Inc.
P.O. Box 9351, San Diego 9, California.

NEW MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 1963

Please send application form for membership in the RHSofSD to:

Name. _____

Address.

Enclosed is my 1963 dues ()
I will pay upon application ()