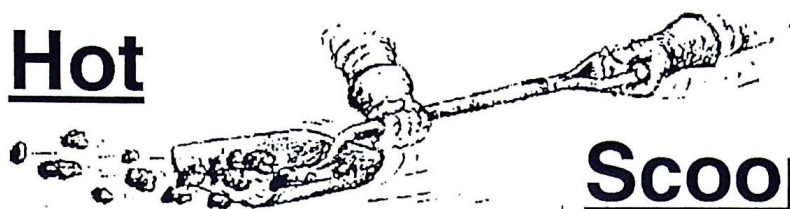


# Hot



# Scoop

A publication dedicated to the volunteers of the San Diego Railroad Museum

November 1997  
VOL IX NO XI

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1050 Kettner Blvd.  
San Diego, Ca.  
92101

## CAMPO NEWS

*Lew Wolfgang*



### The HotScoop is back!

It has been far too long since the HotScoop has crossed your mailbox. I want to apologize for the hiatus, the fault was solely my own. Work and family responsibilities got in the way and my own desire to continue prevented me from passing the responsibility to someone else.

It is my goal to get each future issue into your mailboxes before the first of each month, starting December 1st. If I don't hold to the deadlines, I will voluntarily offer myself up to be drawn and quartered.

It is the mission of the HotScoop to get time-sensitive information to you about the Museum's operations and responsibilities, as well as disseminate information not appropriate for the Report. The HotScoop currently goes to about 135 active Museum volunteers. If you know of an active volunteer who isn't on the list, please let me know and I will add them. If you have information that you would like to include in a future issue, please send it to me at:

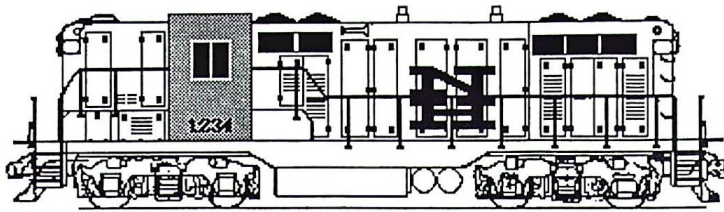
*San Diego Railroad Museum*  
*Hotscoop Editor*  
*1050 Kettner Blvd. San Diego, CA 92101*

Or, if you have email:

*Hotscoop@sdrm.org*

### Email

Speaking of email, we have two "mail lists" that are available for member's usage. The first is called "foamers", the second "humdingers". Foamers currently has thirty-three "Museum members only" recipients who may be reached by sending a message to "foamers@train.sdrm.org". Messages should contain



topics of interest specific to the Museum and railroading. "humdingers@train.sdrm.org" provides a way to pass jokes and other non-official business. Many folks are on both lists.

If you would like to get on either/both of the lists just let me know.

If you have an email address that I don't know about you should also consider sending it to me. We have been using email to exchange Museum business for years now, and as more folks get email access the value increases for all of us.

Another service now available to members is "Museum Address Forwarding". If you have an email address, say "fizzle-blast@foobar.com" and you are embarrassed to give it out because it is so nerdy, we can set up a forwarding address for you. Thus, mail sent to "hunk@train.sdrm.org" will be forwarded (without human intervention) to your nerdy address. For example, you can send mail to Bob Miles at "bob@train.sdrm.org" and he will get it at his real ISP address of "rmiles@no.good.for.nuttin.bell.com". You can trade in your "other side of the tracks" address for one on the prestigious "Boardwalk" side!

#### Deputy Director of Museum Railroad Operations

Denby became ill recently, and we all are hoping for his rapid recovery. Until then, I have been appointed Denby's Deputy to act in his stead in all matters. I have been in close contact with him and Win Mott, so if you hear something from me, consider it as coming from Denby too.

#### Wild-land Fires

The Museum was responsible for starting a brush fire at Clover Flat recently. It was apparently caused by a mechanical malfunction in Locomotive 1820. While the Museum has always been careful about fire safety, this incident served as a wakeup call to our responsibilities to ourselves and our neighbors. The California Department of Forestry can and will shut our operation down if they consider our renewed fire prevention program inadequate. I can hear

some of you saying, "Ha! They can't touch us, we operate under the FRA!" Well, forget it. CDF does have jurisdiction over railroads. If those railroad operations are threatening lives and property, CDF has both a legal and moral obligation to rectify the problem.

Thus, the Museum's Executive Director implemented a standing rule requiring that fire protection be provided for all Museum excursions during official fire season. If a fire speeder or other approved protection is not available for an excursion, then that excursion will be cancelled. No ifs, ands or buts. Canceled.

As part of the Museum's renewed fire suppression efforts, a new Department headed by Bill Walker has been implemented. It will be Bill's responsibility to create a team of Museum members with the mission of providing excursion (and Miller Creek) fire protection.

This is a new effort, if you are interested in becoming involved, please contact Bill or myself. The fire crews will maintain and operate the fire-speeder and tank-car/caboose equipment. The tank-car has been fitted with a water pump and fire-hose (new and improved equipment is being considered) while additional fire equipment has been located in the Santa Fe Caboose. Remember, each excursion requires a fire team, meaning that Tecate-trip-Saturdays require two crews: one for Tecate and one for Miller Creek.

Membership in this new team is open to all Museum members in good standing. There will be no requirements to serve in other positions first. However, motorcar operators will be required to attend Jim Baker's Brakeman class and successfully pass the Museum's Rules Test. Fire-speeder operators will be trained by Allan Dillane, who has assumed the responsibility of Motorcar Foreman. Allen has already started on equipment renovation and could use a hand in that department too.

As you can see, fire suppression has become vital to the successful efforts of our Museum. **We need your help.** Ask around, maybe some of your "non-f

oamer" friends would be interested in this new effort.

#### Code of Ethics

We, as members of a non-profit organization, with a responsibility to serve the public, have to be held to the highest ethical standards. The Operations Rulebook is a good place to see what is expected of us, and I hope to bring up additional points in future HotScoops.

Today, I would like to talk about donations. From time to time, we as members may be asked to accept donations from the public in the behalf of the Museum. If a member of the public wants to write a check, be sure that you ask them to put the San Diego Railroad Museum as payee. Remember to deliver the check to the Campo Gift Shop or the Business Office as soon as possible. Try not to accept cash donations yourself. Direct the donor to the Gift Shop where the transaction can be properly processed. Remember, a seeming impropriety is as bad as the offense.

#### Schedule Change

In order to increase the tour time available for our Miller Creek passengers, the departure time for Train #1 will be moved from 12:01 to 11:00 effective January 3, 1998. This will also allow for a more leisurely lunch break between trains for our overworked crews. Train #3 will continue to depart at 2:30 P.M. as usual.

#### Refresher Training

The Museum's FRA Authority to Operate stipulates that periodic refresher training be given to all operating personnel. In addition, engineers require eight hours of classroom time annually. Training Superintendent Jim Baker has scheduled this training in conjunction with the annual Rules Test class. There will be two tracks of three classes each to accommodate the different position requirements.

The classes will be given at the La Mesa Depot from 7:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M. on each of the following days.

##### Track A

Jan 6  
Jan 7  
Jan 12

##### Track B

Jan 14  
Jan 19  
Jan 20

If you are a brakeman, you may attend any ONE of the six classes.

If you are an engineer certified after January 1994, you may attend any ONE of the six classes.

If you are an engineer certified before January 1994 you are required to attend ONE of the track A classes and ONE of the track B. The Annual Rules Test will be given on January 24 and 25 at Campo, January 26 and 27 at the La Mesa Depot.

#### Brakeman Class

Jim Baker is giving brakeman classes on November 19 and December 3. There is room in the classes for those folks interested in taking the brakeman class to count toward their Motorcar Operator certification. (see Allan's article) The hands-on Campo portion of the class is sold out at this time, but is not required for Motorcar Operator certification.

#### Lights Out, Lock Up

Facilities Superintendent Thomas Lee Braginton has reported that person or persons unknown are leaving the Campo site unlocked on Sunday evenings. He recently noticed that the Steam Team Boxcar was open and unlocked, as was the Carbarn. Please, pick up your tools and police your area before leaving the property, especially on Sunday evening. Last one out, turn out the lights and lock the doors.

#### Sign In Sheet

Thomas Lee maintains a sign in sheet for Campo workers at the front-gate booth. If you come to Campo to work during the week, please sign in and out. Thomas Lee uses this list to determine who is on the property for safety reasons. If you don't sign in and manage to knock yourself silly in the North Forty, it could be several days before we find you. If the coyotes don't get you, the migrants will!

#### Monsoon Season

The rains are almost upon us. Aside from all the obvious things we need to do to prepare, I want to remind you about open containers of oil. Don't leave containers outside and uncovered. The rain will just float the oil up and over the side. We don't need to incur cleanup costs to dispose of contaminated soil!

#### Maintenance of Way Speeder News

Allan Dillane

The brush fire started by the 1820 has started a lot more. We have reviewed

our fire fighting capacity and taken steps to minimize our fire risk in the future.

Paul Broer and Craig Spingola have rebuilt the G-2 gang car (Paul's Mobil Outhouse) and Bob Haney and Dick Culp are in the process of renovation the MW Fire Trailer. When completed, these will be painted red and will be permanently set up to follow the Miller Creek Trains.

We have added a tank car and the Santa Fe caboose to provide a fire fighting capability to our Tecate and Jacumba trains. CDF provided a fire fighting training class for maintenance-of-way crews and will offer the class again at a time to be announced.

Our big challenge is to train sufficient speeder crews to man these operations. In late November and early December Jim Baker (670-7441) will offer a brakeman class which will provide most of the training needed to qualify as a speeder operator. Allan Dillane (582-4264) will offer a speeder training course. NOTE: The speeder training course only qualifies you as a speeder operator, not as a brakeman. Those people who qualify as speeder operators and/or who volunteer as speeder crew members together with those working on tie replacement will earn credit towards the special maintenance-of-way speeder trips to the Camp High Bridge on a space available basis.

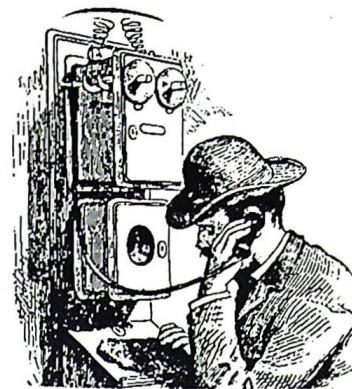
#### Upcoming Dates of Note

##### November

Tecate trips 8, 22  
Museum Services Meeting 26  
Lunar Limited 15  
School Days 18  
Board Meeting 25  
Report Deadline 8

##### December

Tecate trip 6  
Staff Meeting 1  
Museum Services Meeting (none)  
Lunar Limited 13  
School Days 16  
Santa Train 13, 14, 20, 21  
Campo Christmas Special 14  
Local Special 26, 27, 28 (\$3.00)



#### PHONE NUMBERS SDRM ADMINISTRATION

|                                            |          |
|--------------------------------------------|----------|
| Museum Phone.....                          | 697-7762 |
| Business Office, Pat Blackmore.....        | 595-3030 |
| Business Office Fax.....                   | 595-3034 |
| HotScoop Editor, Lew Wolfgang.....         | 553-3106 |
| La Mesa Depot.....                         | 465-8444 |
| Campo Depot.....                           | 478-9937 |
| Campo Car Shop.....                        | 478-9451 |
| Campo Caretaker, Thomas Lee Braginton..... | 478-9344 |
| Campo Gift Shop.....                       | 789-4210 |

#### DEPARTMENT HEADS

|                                                 |                       |
|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Facilities, Thomas Lee Braginton.....           | 478-9344              |
| Director of Museum Services, Rich Borstadt..... | 294-9321              |
| Research, Bruce Semelsberger.....               | 264-7282              |
| Director Railroad Ops, Denby Jones.....         | 279-2419              |
| Deputy Railroad Ops, Lew Wolfgang.....          | H-662-1963            |
| Director of Fire Services, Bill Walker.....     | 599-1247              |
| Chief Trainman, Mike Retz.....                  | 466-8808              |
| Safety Officer, Lew Wolfgang.....               | H-662-1963            |
| Library, Roy Pickering.....                     | 462-3392              |
| Operations, Mike Reneau.....                    | 466-5402              |
| Restoration, Ted Kornweibel.....                | 461-0098              |
| Steam, Bob Miles.....                           | 280-8529              |
| Training, Jim Baker.....                        | H-670-7441 W-467-6476 |