



A publication for the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum members

June 2023

FAMILY FUN ON MAY 6TH & 7TH AT CAMPO DAYS



Jump houses, food, fire trucks, music, vendors plus the usual train rides and exhibits were all enjoyed as hundreds of visitors came out for Campo Days.

Photo by Jim Lundquist 5/6/23



**Pacific Southwest Railway Museum
Association, Inc.**
WWW.PSRM.ORG

Museum and Train Operations

Campo Depot
Highway 94 at Forrest Gate Rd, Campo
619-478-9937

La Mesa Depot Museum & Office

4695 Nebo Drive, La Mesa, CA 91941
619-465-PSRM (7776)

PSRMA Board of Directors

Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of the month except Dec at 6:30PM, A link to join the Zoom meeting will be provided on our website at members.psrn.org.

Museum Officers

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Vice President: Gabe Zorbas
Treasurer: Dave Smith
Secretary: John Cenkner
Equipment Dept: Robert Smith
Facilities Dept: Frank Denison
Museum Services Dept: Travus Clark
Operations Dept: John Cenkner

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Hot Scoop Editor: Jim Lundquist
Membership: Carl Brooker
Steam Foreman: Jim Baker
Volunteer Coordinator: Gabe Zorbas
Asst. Dir. Of Facilities: Jim Lundquist
Station Master (La Mesa): Timothy Miller
Social Media Mgr: Jason Drenkow

MEMBERS

UPCOMING EVENTS



June 17th, 7PM - membership lecture in La Mesa PD Community Room

June, July, August - On Saturdays, Golden State trains leave from Campo at 10:30am, 12:00pm, 3:00pm and Sunset Special trains at 7:00pm.

September - On Saturdays, Golden State trains leave from Campo at 10:30am, 12:00pm, 3:00pm and Sunset Special trains at 6:30pm.

June, July, August, September - On Sundays, Golden State trains leave from Campo at 10:30am, 12:00pm and 3:00pm

We recommend checking the web site at www.psrn.org the day before your visit to confirm the schedule.

Annual dinner featured great food and renewed friendships.

All the details are found in this issue of the *Hot Scoop*.

Campo Days draws large crowds at all the Campo museums

On the weekend of May 6 and 7, all the public museums in Campo came together to present our history and family activities in Campo. Our museum, together with the Motor Transport Museum, the Mountain Empire Historical Society and the Camp Lockett Event and Equestrian Facility, jointly promoted a free event for the public. Special activities were found at each site within the Campo valley. Music, food, bounce houses, stagecoach rides, emergency car extractions, rail fire truck, horse events and mutton busting for the little children were some of the events enjoyed by the public.



Our museum had a great turnout of both visitors and volunteers, making it a fun day for all involved. Above, President Stephen Hager operates the 1931 SD&AE firetruck as Grace Brown worked the business end of the firehouse. Later in the afternoon, crews from CalFire came over to see the historic fire engine do its thing.

Photos by Jim Lundquist 5/6/23



The *Hot Scoop*® is a publication of the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association, 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., (PSRMA) its officers or 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 they 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 Editor@psrm.org

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 e-mail version, you will no longer receive the printed copy.

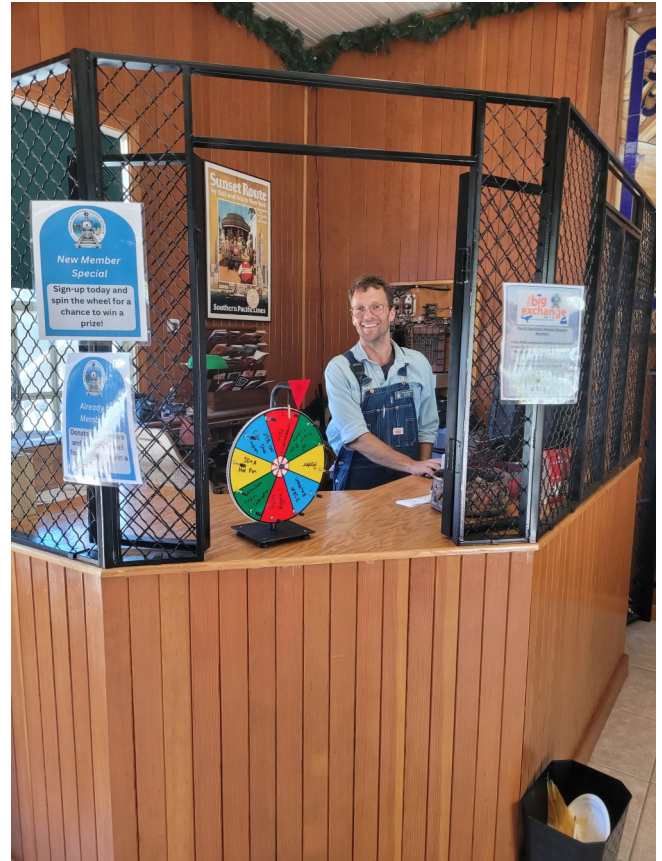
Comments are always welcome. Send your feedback to:

Editor@psrm.org



Dave Tomeraasen drove the electric cart between the Exhibit Hall and the Campo Depot while Carl Brooker was selling membership to our visitors.

Photos by Jim Lundquist 5/6/23



*Photos by
Dave
Tomeraasen
5/6/23*





Music, food, local vendors and museum information table staffed by Bruce Semelsberger were all present at Campo Days.

Photos by Dave Tomeraasen

5/6/23



BG Miller inside the Exhibit Hall.
Photo by Jim Lundquist 5/6/23

At the end of the day, volunteers sit down and relax, knowing that we provided both educational as well as fun activities for families and friends who came out to enjoy **Campo Days 2023**. If you missed it, look for more of the same next year as we present Campo Days 2024.



Providing an opportunity to get together as a family to enjoy trains, history and the great outdoors - that's what PSRMA does best at our museums - both in Campo and La Mesa. Well done, volunteers.

Photos by Dave Tomeraasen 5/6/23

Annual Dinner featured great food and renewed friendships

Once a year, the museum calls together our members in order to review our progress and reward our volunteers. It is also a good time to visit with other volunteers and members in a non-work environment. This year's event was no exception, as a good time was had by all.

President Stephen Hager was the MC on the evening of May 12th. He outlined the great progress all the volunteers had accomplished in 2022, and the future plans for this coming year. All volunteers who tracked their hours were recognized, as were the recipients of the department awards.

Congratulations to Mark Landguth, a new volunteer to us in the past two years, for taking on the UP #576 seat upholstery project as well as the project manager for the North Pole Limited trains this past year!

All photos by Jim Lundquist 5/12/23





Mark Landguth awarded the 2022 "Railfan of the Year - Top Honor



Each year at our Annual Dinner, our Museum recognizes one special volunteer who went over and above to assist us in this the year just past. This year's top award went to Mark Landguth. Mark put together a booth and staffed it bringing attention to our museum, then took on the reupholstering the chair seats in our historic Union Pacific #576 chair car, and finished up the year by being the project manager of our North Pole Limited trains. Even further, he is simply a really nice guy, always with a smile and good things to say. But, he's just getting started. After only two years with our volunteer museum, he is already looking around for his next pro-

Membership Meeting – Saturday, June 17th at 7pm

Come one, come all to Pacific Southwest Railway Museum's second lecture of 2023! On Saturday, June 17th, at 7:00 p.m., PSRM will host a member's lecture for all members and friends of the Museum.

PSRM Archivist Bruce Semelsberger is the keynote speaker. Bruce will present the history of the South Bay RR, the history and importance of San Diego's only "true" interurban line, and the railroad's unfortunate demise. Bruce will also take questions at the conclusion of his presentation.

Museum President Stephen Hager will open the lecture with a brief Q&A on current museum operations and future plans. The meeting will be held at the La Mesa Police Department's Community Room at 8085 University Avenue, La Mesa, CA 91942 (a few short blocks from PSRM's own La Mesa Depot). Light refreshments will be served. In addition to the in-person presentation, we are pleased to offer a Zoom live-stream of the meeting as well for those members and friends who are unable to attend in-person.

Due to space constraints, in-person attendance is limited to the first 40 individuals to RSVP. You can RSVP for either in-person or virtual by emailing membership@psrm.org. Those attending virtually will receive a Zoom link the day before.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Community Outreach Continues as the Float gets back on the Road

Promoting our museum, with our many family activities available, is an ongoing effort for our museum. We remain “one of the best kept secrets in San Diego.” One of the ways to promote is through our float, which brings joys to the hundreds, sometimes thousands, of attendees of the local street fairs throughout the county. On Saturday, April 29th, Jim

**Linda Vista
Multi-Cultural
Fair & Parade**

Lundquist took our float to Linda Vista for their fair. In

this case, it was the only float in the parade. It is always received warmly, with people waving and yelling with joy as “Hank the Handcar Monkey” pumps the handcar down the street on the trailer.

If you would like to assist the museum in the community outreach effort, all you need is a vehicle with a trailer hitch, some spare time on usually Saturday mornings, and a willingness to smile and wave at the people! If you are interested in assisting, please contact Jim@psrm.org to learn more about this effort. In addition, please drop Jim a note if your community has a parade coming up.



Photo by Jim Lundquist 4/29/23

Looking Back - Museum History by Decades

40 years ago - June 1983 - 750 members enjoy “Big Bash at Campo” with music, food and drink. Two wooden trestles burnt in Carriso Gorge, shutting down the SD&AE Railway. The first switch from the SD&AE onto our property in Campo was installed.

30 years ago - June 1993 - looking towards the donation of the “Jacumba cars.” FGEX 56415 repainted. Work finishing up on SP #2353 steam locomotive. Work underway to restore AT&SF #1509 Cafe-Observation coach.

20 years ago - June 2003 - Cleanup of waste oil, filters, dirty dirt and “stuff” at Campo is wrapping up as we transitioned away from supporting a freight operation returning to our museum mission. Efforts to repair GP-9 SP #3873 are close to being finished.

10 years ago - June 2013 - Library exterior is painted.

La Mesa Depot painting and restoration project is ongoing



Hot Scoop

While the banners keep flying.

Photos by Tim Miller 5/2/23



June 2023



Two weeks later, the painting crew has made great progress. Additional sanding was required, along with replacing some of the boards which had gone bad. The grey paint is the primer. The final color will be a match for the original colors, which were researched

by Travus Clark, Jarod Black and Gabe Zorbas. Our thanks to them for their efforts.

Photos by Bruce Semelsberger 5/16/23





Maintaining Equipment is an Ongoing Effort by the Volunteers

One of the major attractions for our visitors at Campo is the operation of real historic trains. These, of course, require regular maintenance, including the support equipment. On May 6th, motorcar UP 2644 was in the Shop Building over the inspection pit being worked on by Ken Brown and Tim Wamsley. Motorcars are used for inspecting the railway as well as fire protection running behind our trains. Without these volunteers, we simply could not remain open to the public.

Photos by Jim Lundquist 5/6/23



Welcome new members

by Carl Brooker, Membership

I am happy to report that this was a very successful month for membership due in part to our pitch for memberships at Campo Days. At Campo Days, in conjunction with the Gift Shop, we were offering on the spot memberships with their membership card printed that instant with our new membership card printer. We also had a prize wheel you could spin to win a prize if you bought a membership.

During just the two Campo Days we sold 28 new memberships. By comparison, in April 2022's single Campo Day we sold 0 memberships and in the entire month of May 2022 we sold six memberships.

PSRM is excited to welcome the following thirty-three new family, individual, senior, and student members of our museum; Alec Thilenius & Dena Hayman, Ruby Acosta, John Adams, Tatiana Anderson, Alexandra Arkhipov, Paola Arroyo, Janet Castaños, Cheryl Courtney, Megan Dagley, Rory De Boer, Kenneth Dorswitt, Jack Dowling, Concepcion Gama, Giuseppe Ghio, Jes-

se Glancy, Manley Golson, Jean Granger, Yuwen Gu, Debbie & Mike Hayes, Chuck Henry, Joseph Hollis, Frederick Humphrey, Amira Kaddoura, William Krafsig, Samuel McInvale, Jeff Mezzocchi, Daniel Montano, Christina Moore, Jeffrey Osborne, Janine Schiro, Harish Sundaram, Bruce Watson, and Qingyi Zhu.

Further more, Shawn Carroll and Malinda DeFoor joined PSRM as Contributing members while Maureen Colahan joined the museum as a Supporting member. Their support helps our organization grow.

Lastly, Steven Labriola joined the museum for the first time by purchasing Life Membership number 336! PSRM's Life Members are some of the museum's hardest working volunteers and most diligent supporters. When you see Steven around the museum give him congratulations and look for his name engraved on the Depot's life member plaque.



Jacumba cars update

Richard Finch reports that the cleanup of the coaches in Campo is finishing up with plans to move on to the scrap and paint phase. Richard will be there every

Sunday from 10AM to 4PM unless announced otherwise on the volunteer call out email and would love to see more volunteers to assist him.

Operations Volunteers for April 24 to May 21, 2023

by Rich Paulus, Chief Operations Officer

Train Service - those who are qualified train crew members, speeder operators/crew, and trainees who have helped us run 18 Golden State trains, 8 Campo Days Golden State trains with First Class service, and the number of days they have volunteered through May 21: Colin Atwood 4, Paul Bandemer 2, Ken Brown 2, James Caestecker 2, Kyle Cascadden 2, John Cenknier 5, Donovan Chorny 2, B. Golson 1, Stephen Hager 1, Charles Karayan 2, Jim Lundquist 1, Amira Kaddoura 1, Shaine Neale 1, Rich Paulus 2, Duke

Schweikert 2, Rob Stebbins 2, Tom Ulrich 1, Tim Wamsley 1, Gabe Zorbas 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: Kyle Cascadden 1, Stephen Hager 1, Charlie Karayan 1, Jim Lundquist 1, Steven Pohjola 1, Glen Rogers 1, Roark Stump 1.

Yard switching - these are the volunteers who have worked in PSRM yards this period: Jim Baker 2, James Caestecker 1, John Cenknier 1, Stephen Hager 2, Rich Paulus 2, Duke Schweikert 1, Tim Wamsley 1.

There were a total of 52 volunteer-days this period.

From the Back Platform By Stephen Hager, President

May was another busy month at the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association. On May 6th and 7th, we participated in the Campo Days event. This was a two-day joint event put on by PSRMA, Mountain Empire Historical Society, Camp Lockett Event and Equestrian Facility, and the Motor Transport Museum. Each organization offered free admission to the public over the weekend while hosting a wide array of vendors and performers. PSRMA hosted multiple local food vendors, artists, bands, and even a bouncy castle!

In addition, we brought out the 1931 San Diego & Arizona Eastern Railway rail-mounted fire truck that is on loan from the California State Railroad Museum. CSRM first loaned the fire truck to us in 2019 to help ring in the centennial celebration of the San Diego and Arizona Railway. Since then, CSRM has extended the loan several times. We are fortunate to be able to keep this important artifact so close to where it originally operated. The fire truck was ordered by the SD&AE Railway to protect the numerous wooden trestles and tunnels in and around Carrizo Gorge and spent a good portion of its life based in Jacumba, just 26 or so rail miles from our museum!

The fire truck has a built-in water tank and a positive displacement pump that is powered by the Ford Model AA engine through a power take-off. The pump was also designed to be able to suck water out of a nearby lake or pond if the onboard water supply was not sufficient. That said, given the dry climate and rugged terrain in Carrizo Gorge, it is hard to imagine that there would have ever been an available adjacent natural water supply for the

truck to use in practice! On the Saturday of the Campo Days event, we did hourly demonstrations of the truck's water pumping capabilities. After 90+ years, the truck still runs like a top, thanks to the excellent restoration done by CSRM!

During the event, we ran four Golden State trains per day, complete with First Class service in ATSF 1509 and with Coaster 2103 on the point. Coaster 2103 has a big following with the local railfan community and we are happy to see so many new people engaging with the museum as a result. Keep an eye on the museum's social media pages for future dates when we will be operating this locomotive.

The evening of Friday, May 12th was the 2023 PSRMA Annual Dinner. Like in previous years, we handed out the annual department awards and volunteer hours awards, reflected on the successes of the past year, and watched a slideshow of photos taken at the museum. To view the slide show, visit: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g6nKzx7xA4iroCgp_-Um8WsbYpRttRda/view. If you take any photos at the museum this year that you would like to have featured in next year's slideshow, please send them my way! We were also visited by a representative from the office of San Diego County Supervisor Joel Anderson. The representative presented certificates of recognition to all volunteers who have served the organization in the past year. If you were not able to make it to the dinner, you can pick up your certificate in Campo the next time you are at the museum. Congratulations to everyone who received awards this year, and thank you for your service to the organization!

As always, if you would like to get in touch with me, please send a note to president@psrm.org. Until next time, keep it on the high iron!



Jim Lundquist, Frank Denison and Dawn Lundquist changed out broken emergency lights in the Exhibit Hall on May 25th. *Two left photos by Frank Denison, right photo by Dawn Lundquist.*



A pair of 1952 EMD products, F7A's #300 and 311 stand ready for departures at San Diego's mission style station in July 1972. Both locomotives were leased to AMTRAK between June 1971 and August 1973. They were unique in that neither had the typical Indian head logo on their sides. *Facebook photo*