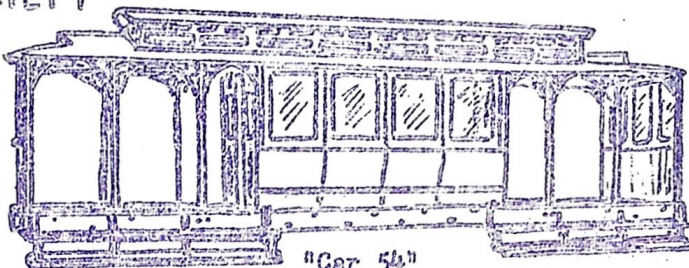


RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF SAN DIEGO, INC.

NEWSLETTER No. 1

No. One - JANUARY, 1964 - Page One

"HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE"



"Car 54"
Current Restoration Project, 1963-64.

R.H.S. of S.D.
ANNUAL DINNER

for 1964.

MONDAY EVENING
JANUARY 6th, 1964

MIDWAY CHUCK WAGON RESTAURANT - 2855 Midway Drive

Here it is that time of year again.....so soon!!

The regular dinner meeting of the year, the January meeting, MONDAY, JANUARY 6th, 1964.

ONCE AGAIN THE SOCIETY WILL DINE AT THE BEAUTIFUL MIDWAY CHUCK WAGON RESTAURANT IN THE "FIRESIDE ROOM" AS IN THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS.

There will not be a regular meeting downtown at the Santa Fe station in January, instead we have this once a year dinner to relax, enjoy good food, good neighbors, fellow railfans, and maybe even get around to installation of the 1964 society officers. There will be some good entertainment too.....plus maybe a nice door prize or two to some lucky persons.

PLEASE....MAKE RESERVATIONS IN ADVANCE!! It saves a lot of last minute work for the people in charge of the dinner.

*** MONDAY, JANUARY 6th IS THE DATE ***

At the Midway Chuck Wagon, 2855 Midway Drive, in the "FIRESIDE ROOM" at 8:00 P.M. The group will form and go through the food line all together at 7:45 P.M. from the front lobby. There are cocktails available for those that wish, in the LONGBRANCH, on the main floor, cocktail hour will be from 6:30 to 7:30 P.M. if you wish to meet your friends in the Longbranch Bar.

*** Everyone will get together at 7:30 P.M. in order to go through the food line at 7:45 P.M. Please be on time and make your reservations in advance this year to speed things along. ***

THERE IS A HANDY DINNER RESERVATION FORM ON THE LAST PAGE. DINNER WILL BE \$ 3.00 per person. Cost of the dinner includes your meal, tip, tax and door prize. (Cocktails are extra.)

DINNER MENU "All You Can Eat" Prime Rib of Beef, Fried Chicken, Barbecued Spare Ribs.

The Chuck Wagon features an assortment of salads, mashed potatoes, vegetables, you may have all you want, go back for seconds or thirds if you wish! Assortment of milk, ice tea, tea or coffee included. That Chuck Wagon PRIME RIB is deeeelishue!!!

1964 MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS ARE NOW PAYABLE.....

All you have to do to get on the list for 1964 is send your \$2.50 for regular membership or \$3.50 for family type membership and you are all set for another year of RHSoFSD membership.

Use the handy form on the back page for renewing your membership between now and the first of March, 1964. "DO IT TODAY"

LAST MONTH.....Some were missing, working at the electric show in Balboa Park, some just didn't make it and some unfortunately were ill and couldn't make it. It was a very enjoyable evening and the three films were all of interest to all. The Feather River Railway with Shays, Pacific Electric red cars and a farewell to steam on the S.P. in 1958.

Railway Historical Society of San Diego, Inc.
P.O. Box 9351, San Diego, California, 92109.

A non-profit group dedicated to the preservation and memory of all things pertaining to the rich rail history of the Southwestern United States. The R.H.S.of S.D. is a member group of the Orange Empire Trolley Museum, Inc.

NEWSLETTER Published monthly to notify members of society meetings, trips and activities and to bring railroad news items to the members. Send news items to the editor on or before the 20th of each month: Corky & Barbara Thomson, 3204 McGraw St., San Diego, Calif. 92117. (Newsletter printed on the P.B.&W. Ry. hand operated duplicating machine, courtesy of the Pacific Beach Model Railroaders Club, Inc.)

DISPATCHER Published quarterly as a feature and news issue, official publication of the R.H.S.of S.D. Eric Sanders, publisher and editor, 7861 Normal Avenue, La Mesa, Calif. 92041. (Back issues available from Eric Sanders.)

ORANGE EMPIRE TROLLEY MUSEUM Located just to the south of Perris, California. A working museum of streetcars, interurbans and various type railway equipment. Streetcar operations are presented on Sunday for the public, workers and members needed for all projects. For information on the museum activities write: P.O. Box 501, Ferris, California, 92370. (R.H.S.of S.D. is a member group in O.E.T.)

R.H.S.of S.D., Inc. Membership remains a low \$2.50 per year, family plan \$3.50. Membership in the society includes all issues of the Dispatcher, monthly Newsletter, reduced rates on society operated excursions, monthly meeting, etc.

The society meets on the first Monday of each month in the safety room, upstairs in the Santa Fe Railway station, San Diego, Calif. Our meetings are called to order at 7:30 P.M. The January meeting is the annual dinner and is not held at the depot.

R.H.S.of S.D. meetings are for the members but the general public is always welcome, friends, fellow railfans, visitors, will always find a warm welcome at society affairs.

Society business is conducted at the regular monthly board of directors meetings. These are held on Wednesday night, the week before the regular meeting. Board meetings are in the safety room and are open to members. If you have a gripe or problem, idea, etc., come to the board meeting, this speeds up regular Monday night affairs.

RAILROAD NEWS ITEMS The potash trains are still quite interesting and new to us here in San Diego. For a week or so after our last report the yard tracks for the bulk loader were empty. A small shipment came in early in the month of December but the hopper cars were all handled in the regular nightly freights. The big trains again came during the week of December 15 to 21, with eight units working the long solid drags of covered hopper cars. Two good sized trains were 100% potash, other cars came in regular trains. This action was on the Santa Fe, over in the San Diego & Arizona Eastern yards the big covered hoppers have been building up with a large shipment of alfalfa pellets for the port bulk loader.

Santa Fe has had a rash of crossing problems recently, on December 5th the northbound San Diegoan #77 with diesel #51 (3 unit Alco) hit a car in the fog north of Oceanside, the engineer didn't know he had hit a car. The car had missed the crossing in the fog and caught on the rails. The driver got out safely before big "Christine" #51 clobbered the auto. The lead truck on the diesel was derailed and rode free until it hit a turnout up the line, this caused all three units to go on the ground.

About 100 feet of track was damaged, the railroad built a quick shoe-fly around the disabled diesel and torn up track and service was back to normal. Passengers were rerouted by bus and train on the north and south of the accident. Friday morning saw a group of trains both passenger and freight coming into San Diego at about 7:00 A.M. #51 was picked up by a crane on Friday and headed to the shops.

The diesel taking Alco #51's place got in the news on Monday the 9th when a young fellow ran into the train at Sassafras Street crossing and demolished his auto and put himself in the hospital for some much needed repairs.

Next a car stalled on the tracks up in the Encinitas area and another San Diegoan did the honors of clobbering an auto, the owner had safely removed himself and wife from the car before getting hit. The TV news reported the San Diegoan paused momentarily, and proceeded on its way.

To keep things moving, a fellow didn't see the crossing warning signal at Beech Street the other evening and the slow moving train (only a block from the station) made a mess of his auto and the driver very fortunately didn't get seriously hurt.

On the 15th of December, back in Clovis, New Mexico, the Santa Fe Chief hit a truck at a grade crossing...CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE

RAILROAD NEWS ITEMS Continued from page 2....

All five diesel units were derailed as well as as well as ten cars, six were head end cars and four were passenger cars. About 25 passengers were taken to the hospital for a check up.

Following on this turn of events, the Union Pacific and Milwaukee Road got into the act. A derailment of the U.P. City of Los Angeles on the Milwaukee portion of the run was caused by a broken rail. The train was operating at 79mph and was thrown around into a pretty big mess by the derailment, no serious injury to any of the passengers was reported.

The same day a freight train was derailed on the Union Pacific and the City of Portland plowed into the wreckage. The engineer was able to slow the train enough before the impact to save doing any serious damage to the many passengers.

Santa Fe had a grade crossing accident in the San Joaquin Valley and the Southern Pacific had one on the coast line.

It has been a rough week or two for the railroads and for several automobiles at grade crossings, it has been strange luck that there have been no serious injuries in the various derailments of passenger trains.

Back in November the Santa Fe had a rock problem on the line between Williams Jet. and Phoenix, Arizona. Six units on a freight train plowed into a large boulder derailing all units and 29 cars out of 46. Some of the cars caught fire from a derailed gasoline tank car. After putting out the fire the wrecker was called to clean up the mess. On the way another freight derailed and the big hook arrived on the scene just in time to take care of the wreck, mighty handy service! After cleaning up the mainline mess the hook continued to the first wreck. It seems the cause of the one wreck was due to the head end diesels slowing down to stop and the helpers on the rear were still pushing....POP, eight cars came out of the middle!

Santa Fe moved several special passenger train movements to help military boys get home for Christmas from the San Diego area. There were no doubt many out of the L.A. area on the three roads. San Diegan streamliners have had a heavy quota of baggage cars during the mall rush for Christmas. The inbound trains are of unusual appearance, with all the baggage cars and express reefers tied on behind the passenger cars up front. At times when passenger business is heavy, they look more like transcontinentals. The two unit Alco diesels and three unit E.M.D. 300 series have been doing the headend work on trains of 12 to 15 cars. Friday afternoon always has a heavy train out of S.D. at 4:30 p.m.

DIESEL SCRAP NOTES The Southern Pacific has been doing away with some of its older diesels. Society member Richard Smith reports the S.P. had 5112 and 5107 spotted at Taylor roundhouse on tracks where they usually are stripped of usable parts before they are sold or shipped to the scrap dealers. About ten units were ready for movement to the butcher on Nov. 24, they were the 1015, 1321, 1379, 1395 and several of the big 6000 Alco passenger units. Also in the line up was the 1653, GE switcher with center cab which used to work the recently abandoned P.E. trackage at San Fernando.

MOJAVE NORTHERN The Southwestern Portland Cement Co. at Victorville is readying two hand-me-down Fairbanks-Morse diesels for service on the company's Mojave Northern. The engines are ex-U.P. 1366 and 1369, they are being painted in two tone green to match the smaller GE switchers all ready on the M.N. roster. The C-6-0 tank steamers No. 2 and 3 (Davenport) are to be kept in storage near the engine house and the company is refusing all offers for them.
Richard Smith, 12/1/63

MORE RAILROAD NEWS ITEMS Announcement was made at the November P.R.S. meeting in L.A. by a P.U.C. representative that a major line relocation is to begin within 12 to 18 months on the Santa Fe between Ludlow and Coifs. This will create a lessening of grades and a saving of about twenty five miles. The proposed relocation will be double tracked with provision for movement in either direction over each track. The Ludlow-Cadiz segment of the present main line will be single tracked and will serve as the link with the Parker Cutoff from Cadiz.

Look for the S.P. to start work shortly on its proposed Palmdale Cutoff between Palmdale and Colton utilizing Santa Fe trackage through Cajon Pass and San Bernardino. S.P. figures to save about 12 hours in routing cars around the L.A. yards. The Santa Fe is reportedly seeking rights to and from Mojave over the S.P. portion. More Trona Potash for San Diego export??

Plans are being drawn toward the elimination of much of the Union Pacific Pasadena Branch. The use of Santa Fe's parallel main between L.A. and Pasadena would bring an end to the street running in Highland Park and through South Pasadena.

The construction of a high school next year on the site of the S.P.'s freight station will apparently bring about the abandonment of that roads Pasadena Branch. No industries are served on this line between Pasadena and the mainline junction at Alhambra.

(Thanks go to Richard Smith for the news.)

EXCURSIONS The recent Golden West trip from the L.A. area to Calico was enjoyed by RHSofSD member, Don Decker. Don spent the afternoon looking things over at the Barstow yards. Golden West is planning an L.A.-San Diego Santa Fe trip using hi-level cars on January 19th, 1964.

The RHSofSD "VISTA STEAM SAFARI" will be on Saturday and Sunday, January 11 & 12, 1964. This will be for society members and will feature the operation of the little 0-4-0 steam locomotive at the Pollard Machine & Foundry Works in Vista.

Mr. Pollard has promised us two days with steam. He will fire the engine on Saturday and have back and forth operation for those wishing to attend on Saturday, January 11th from about 1:00 P.M. to 3:00 P.M. Drive your own car to get there on Saturday. The Pollard location is 735 Mercantile, Vista.

On Sunday, January 12th we hope to get a good sized group of RHSofSD members together and go to Vista by charter bus. If you wish to go on the bus, kindly notify excursion director, Corky Thomson as soon as possible, 276-3266.

The charter bus will pick up members along Broadway in downtown San Diego and at the Civic Center parking lot. Pick ups will be made where ever needed on the northward trip out US-101 to Old Town. A stop will be made to see our old car 54 at the Whaley House and pick up any additional members at that location. Let us know where you wish to board, we will give a time.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12th, 10:00 A.M. departure, downtown San Diego, FARE: \$2.50 Roundtrip. (no lunch included) Return at approximately 3:00 P.M. See order blank on last page for bus tickets.

If there are not enough bus tickets sold on Wed., Jan. 8th we will arrange to go up in our own automobiles and pick up anyone needing transportation to Vista. Please order your tickets as soon as possible to insure the charter bus trip to Vista. Bring a lunch or buy it in Vista. (Contact Corky Thomson, 276-3266 after 4:P.M.)

On Saturday, Feb. 15th, the Orange Empire Trolley Museum will sponsor a member trip from Pico-Rivera station on the Santa Fe to Barstow. Excursion will be open to RHSofSD members due to the fact we belong as a member group to O.E.T. This will be a "railfan" railfan trip, strictly for the true rail bug, limited to 150 persons. Fare will be \$10.00 per person, no half fares. Equipment will be one "A" unit diesel, baggage car, coach and observation car 1509. That's it!!

Lunch at Fred Harvey restaurant in Barstow, not included in fare. Several well planned stops for pictures both directions. San Diego people will connect with special at Fullerton, using San Diegan both ways. Contact RHSofSD excursion director Corky Thomson if you are interested. (call 276-3266 after 4:00 P.M. week days.)

WARNER PROP. 2-6-0 The seldom seen Baldwin (1875) mogul was recently fired up for use in the movie "Cheyenne Autumn" now in production. The ex-Hobart & Southern #5, a three footer, was relettered AT2SF for a back lot sequence.

The engine was again used a few nights later for a TV film on the same set.

The dummy mockup constructed years ago for "Ticket to Tomahawk" is back before the camera. Owned by Hoyt Hotel in Portland, Oregon, the engine has been rented by Filmways to serve as a stand in for Sierra #3, the Hooterville Cannonball in TV's Petticoat Jet. The dummy is used for non-action sequences on a sound stage. This cuts the high cost of recurrent location work on the Sierra RR. The fake steamer will eventually be placed in the hotel parking lot.

(R. Smith, 12/1/63)

LAST MINUTE NEWS A recent S.D.S.A.E. shipment of alfalfa pellets was a record 800 ton loading at the bulk loader.....Christmas week potash shipments heavy, several long solid trains of covered hoppers running each direction..... The Newsletter is late due to Christmas, don't delay in making your dinner reservation for the 6th of January. Contact Gladys Sheen, 284-3449, or get your check in the mail with order form on back page.....**HURRY, DON'T PUT IT OFF.....** After you get your dinner reservation in, how about the Vista trip, are you going on Saturday or Sunday? Let Corky know, 276-3266 (after 4pm) If you wish to go by bus on Sunday, be sure to make your reservation and get your check in..... Late Christmas mail from the wrecked U.P. train came in on Christmas day, San Diegan had a big load of mail on tail end.....The Escondido model railroad club has their car 112 moved to Grape Day Park from track by depot. The car is on a section of track in the park, a model railroad layout will be built in it.....Speaking of model railroads, the Pacific Beach club is now grading right-of-way at Lel Mar for their 7 1/2 inch gage 1 1/2 inch scale trains. Next work day will be Sunday, Jan. 5th and Jan. 19th. Anyone wishing to help are asked to bring a shovel, rake or hoe, OR plenty of words of encouragement. Layout is on Mike parking lot.....P.B.&W. also announces normal "HO" operation resumes at the fairgrounds on Tuesday, Jan. 7th, 8 to 10 pm.... 1964 dues are coming in, partial list of those paid is on address page, if you paid but aren't listed, we will list you next month, use the handy form for renewal.....National Model RR Week is Jan. 18th to 26th, watch for local club activities. P.B.&W. will operate "HO" time table operation on Tuesday & Thursday evenings from 8 to 10pm at the fairground, visitors welcome. SEE BACK PAGE FOR VARIOUS ITEMS, RENEWALS, THE SOCIETY DINNER AND THE VISTA STEAM TRIP.....

**** 1964 ANNUAL DINNER AND INSTALLATION
OF SOCIETY OFFICERS, JANUARY 6th.

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, INC.
P.O. BOX 9351, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, 92109.

PLEASE RESERVE _____ PLACE/S FOR.....Name. _____

DINNER \$3.00 PER PERSON.

Address. _____

ENCLOSED IS \$ _____ PAYMENT.

I understand the dinner will be at the Midway Chuck Wagon, 2855 Midway Drive, San Diego.
Cocktail hour, 6:30 to 7:30 pm in the Longbranch Bar. Dinner line will assemble at 7:30pm.
The group will go through the food line for a choice of Prime Rib of Beef, Fried Chicken,
Barbecued Ribs, etc. at 7:45 pm and we will dine in the FIRESIDE ROOM at 8:00 pm.

(All you can eat, go back for seconds!!)

MONDAY, JANUARY 6th, 1964.

(for information, contact Gladys Ekeen, 284-3449 or

Barbara Thomson, 276-3266 after 4pm)

I will see you all at the Chuck Wagon, FIRESIDE ROOM, Signed;

MIDWAY CHUCK WAGON, 2855 Midway Drive, San Diego, Calif.

(Make checks payable to the RHSoFSD)

Enclosed is CHECK () CASH () MONEY ORDER ()

*** CUT ALONG X LINE ***

***** POLLARD MACHINE & FOUNDRY
0-4-0 STEAM LOCOMOTIVE TRIP*****

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, INC.
P.O. BOX 9351, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, 92109.

Please reserve _____ seats on the special charter bus to Vista, Sunday, January 12, 1964.

CHARTER BUS FARE \$2.50 PER PERSON.

Name. _____

ENCLOSED IS \$ _____ PAYMENT.

Address. _____

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12, 1964

I will board bus at: Grant Hotel, Broadway side, 10:00 A.M. () At the Whaley House
Santa Fe Railway Station, Broadway side () in Old Town ()
Civic Center Parking Lot, north side () *Elsewhere ()

*Pick me up at: _____ along the
route up U.S. 101 between Old Town and Encinitas.

I plan to drive up on Saturday () If you wish to go on Saturday, please send the form in
for a count of members going, plus the possibility of sharing the ride to other members.
(Contact Corky Thomson, 276-3266 for any additional information, call after 4:00 P.M.)

***** CUT ALONG X LINE *****

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, INC.
P.O. BOX 9351, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA, 92109.

***** RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR
1964 RHSoFSD MEMBERSHIP *****

Name. _____ Phone No. _____

Address. _____ Age: _____ Birthdate: _____

\$2.50 Regular \$3.50 Family Plan

Please renew my membership for 1964, enclosed is \$ _____ check() cash() money order()
(make checks payable to RHSoFSD)

Enclosed is additional donation for the Equipment & Restoration Fund \$ _____
(receipts will be mailed for dues and donations with 1964 cards)

1963 memberships expire on March 1st, 1964.....send in your 1964 dues NOW. (include your new ZIP code number.)

PARTIAL LIST OF PAID UP 1964 MEMBERS: William C. Allison III, Alan R. Aske, Karl W. Bland, W.L. Clark, Terry E. Durkin, Efrain A. Galvez, L.T. Gotchy, Louis J. Haake-Elsa Haake, Douglas Harley, Louis F. Henshaw, Donald J. Ladenberger, Donald L. Pope, L.W. McCleary-Ruby McCleary, Andrew W. Proctor, Loretta Proctor, Jonathan W. Sapp, Warren F. Quon, Thomas W. Sefton, Idell L. Sidney, Mrs. Christy Smith, Worthington C. Smith, Barbara J. Thomson, Seeth L. Thomson, Chard L. Walker, Robert L. Weaver, Robert N. Wheatley.

Thanks to the above members for sending in their 1964 dues early, and thanks to those of you that added a little something extra for the Equipment & Restoration Fund.

A hearty welcome to the following NEW members that joined us since October for 1964: and were not listed on the November membership list. They are the following: Karl W. Bland, Efrain A. Galvez, Louis F. Henshaw, Donald Luis Pope, Robert N. Wheatley, Bernard J. Daveney.

WE WISH TO WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS AND WE ARE IN GREAT HOPE THE LOCAL NEW COMERS WILL JOIN US IN OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES. A good way to get acquainted is to come to the January dinner meeting. After that you are all set and part of the group, join us for the trip to Vista to see RHEofSD member C.B. Pollard and enjoy operating his 42¹/₂" gage steamer. There should be plenty of time to get acquainted and becoming part of the RHEofSD family.

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, INC. ANNUAL DINNER MEETING.....

MONDAY, JANUARY 6th, 1964.....Midway Chuck Wagon, 2855 Midway Drive, San Diego.

\$3.00 per person, includes everything, dinner, tax, tip, door prizes.

FOOD, plenty, ALL YOU CAN EAT! Get your reservation phoned in now or get your check in the mail.....NOW!!

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO, INC. ALL MEMBER VISTA STEAM SAFARI.....

SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, JANUARY 11th and 12th.....735 Mercantile, Vista, California.

SATURDAY: Via your own transportation, approximately 1:00 to 3:00 P.M.

SUNDAY: Via special charter bus, a group party, starting downtown on Broadway and making pick ups where ever you need to be picked up.

SUNDAY STEAM SAFARI: Charter bus starts picking up at 10:00 A.M., Arrive at Vista around 11 to 11:30 A.M. Bring a lunch or buy one in Vista. Coffee will be available at the Pollard Machine & Foundry Works. We will steam the 0-4-0 until about 2 or 2:30 P.M.

Return to San Diego with an arrival around 3 or 3:30 P.M. FARE ON BUS: \$2.50 Roundtrip. (Contact excursion director Corky Thomson for SATURDAY or SUNDAY, we wish to know how many members to expect on each day. We must have enough for the bus on Sunday or the bus will be cancelled, make reservation for bus by Wed. Jan. 8th, mail or phone.)

Newsletter # 1-1964

RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
OF SAN DIEGO, INC.
(A Non-Profit Organization)
Post Office Box 9351, San Diego, Calif.
Zip Code: 92109



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