



# REPORT

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Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Assoc., Inc.

**AUGUST 1975**

**NUMBER 115**



## STEAM HIGHLIGHTS JULY MEETING

It was a packed house on July 25th that stopped, looked, and listened to Mr. Ace Wischstadt's fascinating animated account of his love affair with trains, beginning almost at the time of his departure from the womb, and extending uninterrupted to the present day. Ace flirted with scale model railroading, as many of us have done and some of us still do, until bitten by the "live steam" bug years ago. Live steam locomotives are also scale models, built to a variety of scales, but distinguish themselves by the fact that they operate with live steam just like their full-size counterparts. Ace brought with him one of his  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " scale locomotives, a model of the Central Pacific Railroad's famous "C. P. Huntington", which attracted a great deal of close scrutiny by those present. The cab was complete with working miniature steam gauge, throttle, Johnson bar, and the array of tiny piping and valves necessary for the proper functioning of any steam locomotive, large or small. Mr. Wischstadt extended an invitation to all PSRMA members and friends to join him and other Chula Vista Live Steamers for a day of steam and steel at the Rohr Park layout on August 9th & 10th. Guests should have an opportunity to ride behind some of the steamers, with the permission of the engineer. Bring your lunch, your kids, your friends and neighbors, and plan to have a good time. Lots of grass, picnic facilities, and a big children's playground are available free of charge.

## NOMINATIONS MADE FOR 1976 LEADERSHIP

At the July 25th general meeting, the following members were nominated to take part in the October general

election:

for president:

H. C. Kerr, Jr. Herbert G. Kehr.

for Vice President & Gen. Manager:

W. George Geyer

for Secretary:

no nominations

for treasurer:

Eric Sanders

for Director:

H. C. Kerr, Jr. Larry L. Rose

for review committee:

H. C. Kerr, Jr., Herbert Kehr, Jack Stodelle, W. Vernon Cook (inc.), Stanton Kerr (inc.), Eric Sanders(inc.)

Since no valid nominations were received for the office of Secretary, nominations for this position will be accepted up to and including the October general meeting, at which time nominations for Secretary will be closed and the general election held. Should you be a regular (voting) member, or a contributing member willing to upgrade to Regular, and you would like to serve on the Board of Directors for one year, don't hesitate to nominate yourself by sending a note to President Dick Pennick at 9584 Upland Street, Spring Valley, CA 92077. In general, the Secretary is required to attend one Directors' meeting a month and three general meetings a year, recording the minutes and distributing copies to the Directors.

Candidates for contested positions are invited to submit a campaign statement to REPORT for inclusion in the September "campaign" issue. Statements should be submitted to the editor no later than August 20th, and should be no more than 200 words in length.

#### BOOK DISCOUNT OFFERED TO MEMBERS

Dr. Dan Marnell, PSRMA member, has recently gone into the book business and has graciously extended a 20% discount off the list price of any rail book in print to any PSRMA member. If you are in the market for any current rail book, don't buy elsewhere until you have checked in with the good doctor. His phone is 582-6737. Thanks, Dan! Your offer is much appreciated.

#### MUSEUM NEEDS LADIES' HELP

The officers and directors of PSRMA have long felt that interested non-member wives and girl friends of members could perform a valuable service for the Museum by organizing and planning fund-raising activities, similar to those sponsored by churches, PTA's, and other non-profit groups. The major ingredient required was someone to get the gals together and coordinate their activities.

Well, at last we have a member who has had experience in this and who is willing to get the interested women together for the betterment of the Museum. Her name is BARBARA PARKER, and she can be reached at 465-6387. If you're a woman and you would like to share in your husband's or boyfriend's hobby, please give Barbara a call.

#### GROSSMONT BOOTH STAFFERS NEEDED

Due to staff errors or other problems, three booth dates at Grossmont Shopping Center have gone unused so far this year, and only three dates remain for our use this year. This is another very important public relations activity for the Museum, so if you are interested in spending a lieisurely day (10 a.m.-5 p.m.) at beautiful Grossmont Center handing out brochures and talking to people about PSRMA, call Herb

Kehr (273-1074). All information, brochures, props, etc. will be provided by PSRMA.

#### AUGUST HONOR ROLL

The Museum thanks the following members and friends whose welcome contributions have furthered the goals of PSRMA during the month of July:

Bob Bailey (donated series of 8 x 10 blowups of Ollie Johnston's steamup on May 10th).  
San Diego Scaffold Co. (donated use of scaffolding for work on car 1509).  
C. R. Treat Plastering Co. (donated use of scaffolding for work on car 1509).  
George Canaris (donated use of his property to store locomotive parts and lumber).

#### MEMBERSHIP NEWS by Herb Ruiz, Director of Records & Personnel

PSRMA extends a cordial welcome to the following new members:

John Carmichael, 1770 Avenida del Mundo, No. 1207, Coronado, CA 92118 (2,7)  
J. David Coleman, 4651 Felton St., San Diego, CA 92116 (2,7)  
John Will, 4359 Claremont Dr., San Diego, CA 92103 (2,7)

Also the following Contributing members:

S. E. Hussey, 20 Second Ave., Chula Vista, Ca 92010  
Robert L. Purvin, Jr., c/o Marinos & Styn Attorneys, 111 Elm St., San Diego, CA 92101  
Virgil Yelton, 1831 Alto View Dr., San Diego, CA 92139

Address changes:

Herbert Yaklin, Box 0124, San Diego, CA 92115  
Bill Kingston, 3834 Fourth Ave., San Diego, CA 92103

Delete following members:

Lawrence Marsh Joel Shapov

Please don't forget to send address changes to me at 8029 Longdale Dr., Lemon Grove, CA 92045. Returned mail costs money that cannot then be used for Museum purposes.

#### AUGUST TRAINS FEATURES SANTA FE STEAM

Local Santa Fe freight agent Bill Archambault, who gave a most excellent and memorable program at our April general meeting, passed on to your editor the other day a news release issued by the railroad's P.R. department in L.A. The release announced the forthcoming article in the August issue of TRAINS magazine, featuring Santa Fe's well-known 2-10-4 steam locomotive. The 20,000 word article was written by Lloyd Stagner of Newton, Kansas, a Santa Fe relief agent. Featured with the text are photos and drawings of the giant steamers, a four-color cover of 2-10-4 # 5021, now stored in the roundhouse at Belen, New Mexico (last stronghold of these grand work horses), and a letter from Santa Fe president John S. Reed reflecting on the merits of these engines. The steamers were last used on the hill between Belen (pron. beh-LAIN) and Mountainair, N.M. until about 1960. The 5021 has 30" x 34" cylinders, 74" drivers, and weighs 538,000 pounds without water or tender. TRAINS can be found at The Whistle Stop, Mike's Model Shop in El Cajon, and other locations throughout the County.

#### SD & AE NOTES

Track rehabilitation continues on the La Mesa branch: new ballast, new ties, etc. An unexpected addition was MILEPOSTS! MP 12 is in La Mesa, just south of La Mesa Blvd. MP 17 falls along Marshall Ave. in El Cajon, just north of Main street. Posts are about 12 feet high with a metal flag-type sign at the top, displaying the milepost number. ---- The ex-Illinois Central, ex-Black Hills Central coach, recently purchased by George Straza for his personal use, was completely repainted the other day in Amtrak red, white, blue, and silver at Straza's Jet Air Engineering Co. siding in El

Cajon. ---- SD & AE train crews are now on the "pool" system. Mainline crew goes to El Centro one day, El Cajon the next, and so on. So the La Mesa branch crew, for example, runs over the branch every other day. Any crew ending up at El Centro on the weekend is bussed back to San Diego. ---- Train 452 on July 5th was seen running late through National City with 3 engines and 9 cars. It is not unusual for the motive power to be inconsistent with the size of the train because, since SD & AE uses S.P. pool power originating in L.A., and since SD & AE deadends in San Diego, any engines used on the train into San Diego (451) must be returned the same way on the outbound run (452) regardless of the size of the train.

#### THANKS DUE FAIR STAFFERS

Our hats are off to those wonderful members and their wives who gave of themselves to make the PSRMA booth at this year's Southern California Expo a success.

More than 400 new names were added to our excursion mailing list and uncounted numbers of fairgoers were introduced to PSRMA, thanks to our capable booth hosts and a snappy, new brochure. Special thanks also to George Geyer, in whose hands rested the difficult task of arranging and coordinating staffers. Thanks, too, to the disassembly crew that packed up the booth after the Fair ended and stored it away for another year. They were: Ron Zeiss, Dan McLean, Rob & Mickie Sides, Al Vartanian, and Ron Milot. Member Buck Hathaway loaned his own slide projector for use in the booth, and although mechanical problems plagued it throughout the Fair, Buck's generosity was much appreciated. Dick Pennick again provided the slides.

Here then is the Honor Roll of members and families who helped make PSRMA what it is:

Mr. & Mrs. Albert Vartanian  
Mr. Ronald Milot  
Ms. Frieda Butler  
Mr. & Mrs. Clayton Fairweather  
Mr. Jack Gleeson

Mr. H. C. Kerr, Jr.  
 Mr. Cass Witkowski  
 Mr. Herbert Kehr & son  
 (Mrs.) Mary Ann McVeagh  
 Mr. Richard Hathaway, Sr.  
 Dr. Daniel Marnell  
 Mr. & Mrs. Robert DiGiorgio  
 Mr. & Mrs. Gaylord R. Sides  
 Mr. Larry Rose  
 Mr. Richard E. Pennick

and Jack Linn. Steve Rosefeld also made an appearance. Special thanks to Buck Hathaway for loaning the use of his portable generator. Channel 10 News covered the event, but it didn't make the tube.

**MORE RESPOND TO 1509 APPEAL**

Please add the following members to the list of lenders to the 1509 loan project:

(Mrs.) Angeline Mroz  
 Mr. Ronald L. Milot  
 Mr. Jack C. Linn

Additional loans and/or financial statements are needed to assume the existing loan. Please give Dick Pennick a call (463-2276) for more information.

**TWO 1509 DATES IN AUGUST**

If you haven't yet managed to make it out to one of the restoration sessions, please circle **TWO** dates for August: Saturday, Aug. 16th & Saturday, Aug. 23rd. Much work still remains to be done, so don't assume others will carry the ball. Call Dick Pennick at 463-2276.

**CALENDAR**

- August 9-10: Live steam operation, Rohr Park, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Free.
- August 16: Bicentennial preparation, car 1509, MCRD, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (463-2276)
- August 23: Bicentennial preparation, car 1509, MCRD, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (463-2276)
- August 23: PSRMA booth, Grossmont Shopping Center, La Mesa (273-1074)
- September 2: Directors' meeting, SDT & S Bank, San Diego, 7:30 p.m. (291-4,87)

**MUCH ACCOMPLISHED ON CAR 1509**

The July 26th restoration session on car 1509 saw significant progress toward the December 31st deadline for complete restoration of the car, thanks to the fine efforts of the following hard-working members and friends:

Larry Rose, Peggy Secor, Rob & Mickie Sides, Dan McLean, Dick, Victoria & Warren Pennick, John Will, Colen Flagg, Jerry & Michelle Gilmer, Arcelia Tapia, Buck Hathaway, Dick Hathaway, Ken Helm,

**EDITOR:** Dick Pennick, 9584 Upland Street, Spring Valley, CA (463-2276)  
**CIRCULATION:** Ron Zeiss

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**Association telephone:** 280-1781

**BACK ISSUES:** A limited supply of back issues is available at 25 cents a copy. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a list of all back issues available.

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