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**THE TRAINMASTER**

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PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER  
 NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
 (an Oregon Non-Profit Corporation)



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# THE TRAINMASTER

Number 177

October 1974

## PNW CHAPTER TIMETABLE

Friday REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING (3rd Friday of each month)

18 October The October meeting of PNW Chapter will be held in Burlington Northern's Safety Assembly Room which is located on the right side of N W 11th Avenue extended, about two blocks north of its intersection with N W Hoyt Street. If more directions are needed at meeting time, telephone 221-1300, ext 325.

The usual refreshments will be available during the intermission between the business session and the program, arranged for by Cora Jackson.

Program will feature slides (and/or movies) of railfan's activities during the last summer. PNW Chapter members are asked to bring a dozen or so slides taken during the summer recess which would be of interest to the group. Also, there will be a slide review of the NRHS National Convention held in San Francisco during the Labor Day weekend. Contact Walt Grande, program chairman, ('phone 246-3254) if you would like to participate in this "members' night" presentation.

Sunday Depart from Portland Union Station via chartered Trailways buses for an estimated arrival time in Yakima, Washington at 8:45 AM. Board the recently refurbished streetcars from Portugal, Portugal for four hours of riding over the 38 miles of lines of the Yakima Valley Transportation Company. Return to Portland is scheduled for 6:00 PM.

27 October

5:30 AM

Cost of this event is \$25 per person. For tickets use the order form attached to the flyer sent out in an earlier mailing or pick one up at the meeting.

NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER

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"PNW Chapter Timetable", cont'd

Saturdays & Sundays  9 & 10, 16 & 17, 23 & 24  November	COLUMBIA GORGE MODEL RAILROAD CLUB ANNUAL SHOW  Hours of operation of this annual public show are from 1:00 PM to 8:00 PM on the three weekends indicated. This is a once-a-year opportunity for railfans and interested modelers to view Portland's largest operating model railroad. The 20 ft by 50 ft layout will have over 40 locomotives and 300 cars on display.  Admission fees are: 75¢ for adults, 50¢ for children under 12 years of age, and 25¢ for scouts in uniform. The clubroom is located at 3405 North Montana Avenue in Portland. (Telephone 281-8591 if directions are needed.)
Friday  15 November  8 PM	REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  Unless otherwise noted, the November meeting of PNW Chapter will also be held in the BN Safety Assembly Room. Refreshments will be available as usual between the business session and the program. Program to be announced. Reserve the date now, noting that it will be an early "third Friday".
Every Saturday  12:01 PM	INFORMAL CHAPTER LUNCHEON  Yaw's Top Notch Restaurant in the Hollywood District of Northeast Portland (on N E 40th Avenue, west side, between Hancock and Tillamook Streets) is where this weekly event takes place. The "railroad-bunch-for-lunch" gathers for their mid-day repast at a large table reserved for them in the seating area on the west side of the building.  This is a good time of year to "Fall" into the habit of joining fellow railfans at this un-official weekly function of PNW Chapter. No reservations required. The menu takes into account all sizes of appetites (order a trayfull or a trifle).
Friday  20 December	NO MEETING

## QUALIFICATION TESTS FOR NRHS MEMBERSHIP?

Resolute pursuers of foreign steam locomotive operations will be pleased to learn that the rapid expansion of their numbers does not appear to be leading towards any weakening of the required qualities of fervent enthusiasm, cunning initiative, and true determination to achieve one's objectives, whatever they may be. The following memorandum, a copy of which was passed on to us by a double agent of a national association, proves how railway enthusiast's clubs are taking measures to ensure that the level of membership qualifications is in no way diminished.

Ed Immel

National Railway Historical Society

Hole-in-the-Wall Chapter

## Memorandum to Committee:

It is noted that, while the number of members continues to increase at a satisfactory rate, the standards of membership are declining in some respects. As you will recall, the society's principal objectives, as set out in the rules, are to "encourage and develop the study of steam locomotive traction wherever it is to be found....", to "utterly ignore any aspects of railway operation not connected with history and tradition", and "to devote all space, time, and energy to these purposes". Notwithstanding, this clear identification of the rules is being violated.

In view of this alarming situation, it is recommended that future applicants for membership be examined competitively to ensure that they may have suitable ferroequinological aptitudes. Appended are details of a number of tests which could be used for this purpose. Supervision would be carried out by experienced members of the club committee. Selection would be restricted to successful candidates.

The committee is requested to give this urgent matter close consideration and make any recommendation as it may see fit.

C. P. Coopy  
Hon. Secretary

October 4, 1974

4  
NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER

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"Tests for NRHS Membership?", cont'd

Introduction to Tests

Each test consists of two parts which are intended to measure respectively the candidate's physical fitness and initiative (quickness of thought). It is the intention that both parts of a test should be taken at the same time. The two parts may be taken separately, but this will be noted in awarding marks.

For all tests dress will consist of heavy walking shoes, tattered gray flannel trousers, worn sports coat, and a thick ankle-length raincoat. This garb to be worn regardless of weather. In addition, the candidate will have hung about his person a movie camera, two 35mm still cameras, a light meter, and a pair of binoculars in a case. He will carry a worn-out Eastern Airlines flight bag containing two heavy timetables, several maps, assorted foreign language phrase books, two large illustrated books on steam locomotives, a five days supply of Ritz crackers, five cans of Coca-Cola, two spare pairs of socks, and a tooth-brush (total weight 25 lbs).

In all tests attainment of the final objective (or objectives) will be of considerable importance. The candidate will not be deemed to have reached a suitable standard if he misses a train or produces a blurred photograph on more than one occasion. However, the persons marking the tests have the right to use discretion over such matters if they consider the candidate has suffered from an excessive number of unforeseen misfortunes.

Test Number 1

Train 1 arrives at Steamdepotville at 13:06 and train 2 leaves at 14:45.

The roundhouse lies one mile distant from the station. Make your way to the roundhouse, see the foreman, take 50 locomotive numbers, 15 still photographs, 3 minutes of movies, and 2 minutes of tape recordings. Return in time to catch train 2. (Credit marks will be given for food and drink consumed during this period.)

On your way back to the station you pass an interlocking tower. Bonus points will be awarded if you can talk your way into the tower, using your NRHS membership card as a pass.

Test Number 2

From the cafe terrace of your hotel you suddenly see the last compound 2-8-2-tank of the Landvonfremddampfzeugen Staatsbahn approaching at 60 miles per hour. The train, a half-mile distant at the moment of sighting, will pass under a bridge 200 yards away. Temperature of the outside air is 80 degrees Fahrenheit. Obtain two good still photographs at fairly close range, or 20 seconds of movie film. (Credit marks will be awarded for tape recording obtained in addition.)

"Tests for NRHS Membership?", cont'd

You have not finished paying for your long-finished coffee and apple pie. You speak little Landvonfremddampfzeugian. Settle matters calmly with cafe owner, blond assistant (female), three policemen, and ten assorted citizens who have pursued you down the street from the cafe.

### Test Number 3

Boarding the "Dour Lenzian" express at the rear because of your late arrival, you have only five minutes to reach the front vestibule and set up your tape recorder before reaching Buchhaus Hill, where the engine (one of Lower Ruritania's last Pacifics) will give its most impressive performance. It is a National Public Holiday (unforeseen), and the nine-coach train is packed, with people standing shoulder to shoulder in the corridors. Achieve your objective in due time.

The middle vehicle is a dining car where a meal is being served. The chief steward is very strict on prohibiting passengers passing through during meal service. Talk your way through.

### Test Number 4

The last week of steam operation from Scheiensburg to Hoffentlich takes place during a very cold January. You visit the line on a day when the temperatures do not rise above -5 degrees F. You travel out and back on the two main trains of the day. On both trains you occupy the front passenger combine (steel-bodied and unheated). You are without gloves or scarf. Obtain 30 minutes of tape recordings of the engine, 10 minutes of movie film, and a detailed log of both runs.

In addition, your area season ticket takes you only three-quarters of the way from Scheinensburg to Tredwitzkare. It is also routed for a shorter line than the one you are traveling. Furthur, this railway company does not usually issue reduced rate tickets on board. Make the required journey without purchasing more than a cheap day return from Tredwitz-Hoffentlich. (Credit marks will be awarded if you can act so stupidly that the conductor does not attempt to charge you for this portion of the journey.)

Adapted from September 1972 issue "Railway Magazine" article by R. G. Harman

## PNW CHAPTER NRHS

## Summary of Minutes, Regular Meeting, 20 September 1974

The September meeting was called to order by PNW Chapter President Roger W Sackett at 8:20 PM in the Burlington Northern Safety Assembly Room.

Minutes of the previous meeting, held on 21 June 1974, were approved as read.

Roger Sackett reported that the Chapter's sleeper-lounge car "Mount Hood" has been repaired and repainted in Amtrak colors. The "Mt Hood" was operated via Amtrak to Oakland, California carrying many PNW Chapter members who attended the NRHS National Convention in San Francisco during the Labor Day weekend. Several rentals and/or leases for the car are pending. The committee in charge of the "Mount Hood" is actively looking for a location in the Portland area to store the car.

Ed Berntsen, Western Region Vice President of NRHS, announced the appointment of PNW Chapter member Ed Immel as the new western news editor for the NRHS Bulletin. Ed Bernstein also announced formation of the new Southern Nevada Chapter.

Ed Immel announced that the Chapter will sponsor a trip to Yakima, Washington on Sunday the 27th of October to ride the Yakima Valley Transportation Company's new trolley cars. Transportation to Yakima will be via chartered bus. Fare for the event will be \$25. Departure will be at 6:00 AM from Portland Union Station.

Ed Immel also announced that the Chapter has for sale side elevation drawings of the SP&S Z-6 articulated locomotives for \$7 each.

Leonard Woodford displayed a copy of the spot plate from the Shay locomotive "Peggy" as a possible sale item.

Roger Sackett stated that he will schedule a work party to clean up the locomotive display enclosure at The Oaks Park.

Walt Grande, program chairman, announced that the October program would be slides and movies of the 1974 NRHS National Convention, summer activities, and possibly UP 8444.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM for refreshments arranged for by Cora Jackson.

Program: Slides and movies of German Steam Locomotives by Ed Immel.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Storz, Chapter Secretary