

The

November
2005



Trainmaster

The Official Publication of the
Pacific Northwest Chapter,
National Railway Historical Society
Portland, Oregon



Pacific Northwest Chapter Timetable #520

Membership Meetings: Nov 18, 7:30 PM, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 SE Powell Blvd.

Exact location and date of the December meeting is still being considered, due to the excursion trains being operated that day. It is known, however, that the meeting will start at 6:30 PM due to the annual potluck beforehand, and that Darel Mack is planning to due his ham again. See you at 6:30!!!

Board of Directors Meetings: Nov 10, Dec 8, Room 208, Union Station, 7:30 PM

Lending Library: Nov 19 & 26, 1:30 to 4 pm, check-out subject to loan agreement.

Programs at Upcoming Meetings:

- November 18 – Chapter member Mark Reynolds, MAGLEV-ELECTRODYNAMIC SUSPENSION (LEDS) TRAIN SYSTEMS. We will have a video and other presentation materials.
- December 16 – Annual Potluck and Chapter Elections
- January 2006 – Ed Immel will present China in Steam

**December 9-11, 16-18 Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation – Oregon Museum of Science and Industry
Holiday Express pulled by SP 4449 See Page 2 For Details**

Notable Non-Chapter Events:

Dec 11, 2005 – SP&S #700 will deliver Santa to Vancouver, Washington (from <http://www.sps700.org>)

January 21st, 10 AM to 3 PM, SP&S Historical Society Swap Meet, Airport Holiday Inn, Portland



LAST TRIP, photo by Martin Adams, Astoria Railway Preservation Association, 10-3-2005. From left to right: Kendall Nichols – PNWR Engineer, Dan Orr – *mountain man*, Ed Immel – ODOT Rail Division, Andrew Englehorn*, Jan Zweerts – PNWR Conductor & PNWC-NRHS Member, Joseph Witt*, Sarah Tselbins*, Chelsea Carpenter*, Jennifer Dolan*, Molly Whedbee* (next to sign), and Charles Barker – Owner, Lewis & Clark Catering*. Also pictured: ORRX 31, a RDC-3 built July 1956, formerly BC Rail 31 and originally GN 2350. Picture taken next to the Astoria depot, at the end of the A-line. Article by Arlen L. Sheldrake

Go By Train 2005 Convention Video

The official *Go By Train 2005* Convention video produced by Chapter member Joe Harper is now completed and has been shipped out to 100+ pleased customers. This 100+ minute video provides excellent coverage of the main rail events of the 2005 NRHS Convention. This video is available in either VHS or DVD formats at \$19.95 each. Add \$3.95 postage and handling for the first copy to the same address and \$1.25 for each additional. Foreign orders add \$15.00 for first copy and \$4.00 for each additional. All profits from this project are going to the Pacific Northwest Chapter, NRHS. Make checks payable to Joe Harper, specify the format desired and send your order to: Joe Harper PO Box 1110 Centralia WA 98531 USA

Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation and Oregon Museum of Science and Industry to have Joint Excursion Train December 9-11, 16-18 using SP #4449 All Aboard the Holiday Express!

December 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, and 18 the **SP 4449** will be pulling passengers on the Oregon Pacific Railroad. This event is a fund raiser for the Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation in its mission to create a permanent home for the City of Portland's steam locomotives.

This event is a first time partnership with the possible ORHF neighbor OMSI. Coordinated with the train schedule will be the movie showing by OMSI of *The Polar Express* on the **IMAX** screen. The train will include heated coaches and it's rumored that Santa will even make an appearance! Tickets for this event will be available only thru OMSI and we suggest you purchase them early as the demand could exceed the limited seating capacity.

Helpers are needed for this event! From station and rolling stock decoration, to ground help, we need volunteers to make this a successful event. Contact ORHF volunteer coordinator Gus Kamp at 503.997.4148.

The PNWC-NRHS will be providing the Car Host staffing. Contact Darel Mack (503.723.3345 or dhmdlm@aol.com) if you are available for Car Hosting on any of the above dates.

This event is made possible by the generosity of Dick Samuels and the crew of the Oregon Pacific Railroad.

LETTER RECEIVED FROM CORA JACKSON, October 26, text as follows;

PNWC-NRHS

Attention: Board of Directors

Subject: "Thank You" Flower Presentation

I wish to express my thanks to you and all the members of the Chapter for the lovely flower arrangement presented to me at the Oct. 21st meeting and delivered to me at my home on Saturday Oct. 22nd by Al and Judy Hall as a thank you for my participation in Chapter activities and furnishing refreshments at Chapter meetings for a long time.

It has been my pleasure to supply refreshments at all meetings and am sorry I am not in a position to continue.

Cora Jackson

2ND ANNUAL *TRAIN TOYS FOR TOTS*

Al Hall reminds you that this December the Pacific Northwest Chapter will conduct their second annual **Train Toys for Tots** gift drive. Last year's collection was a huge success, and as usual Al is planning on beating the previous record.... WITH YOUR HELP! Also invited to participate with us this year are other local area rail groups and museum organizations. Please bring new, (but not gift-wrapped) children's train toys or books to the **December 16** meeting or contact Al Hall if you cannot attend but want to donate. Gifts may be in boxes for protection as long as the boxes are not sealed. Don't forget...the December meeting is also a POTLUCK. You may contact Al at 503-699-5042 or via his email address alhall@aol.com. Let's all do our very best to support **Train Toys for Tots** so many needy children can have a "train" happy holiday season.



This picture was taken during our December 2004 meeting. Seen presenting a few of the 82 train toys to the Marine Corps Reserve are Ron McCoy, PNWC president, Al Hall and Keith Fleschner.

The Grande Dame

"Beneath this centenarian's splendor, years of neglect and political wrangling have etched deep lines of character." This excellent 8-page article by Alexander Craghead in the November 2005 issue of *Trains Magazine* is **your** call to action. If you care about this NRHS designated historic station you will take action (if not you then who?). The owner of Portland's Union Station is the Portland Development Commission. The PDC Executive Director is Bruce Warner (222 NW Fifth Avenue, Portland OR 97209). The PDC is a part of the City of Portland government. The Mayor of Portland is Tom Potter (1221 SW Fourth Avenue Room 340, Portland OR 97204). Thanks to Alexander each has received a copy of the magazine. (Did you note the neat picture of Chapter member Jim Abney in his PRPA (SP&S 700) polo shirt?)
By Arlen L. Shel Drake

Oldest Railroad Station in Oregon Continues to Hang On (barely)



PERRYDALE DEPOT, Polk County Oregon, photo by Arlen L. Sheldrake, 10-9-2005.

The Perrydale depot, believed to be the state's oldest depot and one that dates back following the construction of the three-foot gauge Dayton Sheridan & Grand Ronde Railroad, which began operation on September 1, 1878. Evidence suggests the depot dates to 1879-1880. Late in 1878 construction began on an extension from Broadmead to Dallas and in January 1879, rails had been laid as far south as Smithfield (south of Perrydale) but they didn't finish the final four miles to Dallas until June of 1880. A similar depot at Ballston, which probably dated to the same era, was torn down a few years ago after standing (leaning, actually) in terrible condition for a long, long time. The Oregonian Railway Timetable #1, the successor to DS&GR RR, published in 1881 (copy in Ed Culp's book *Stations West*) shows the depot at Perrydale in operation. History information provided by Bob Melbo.

Too far gone to rescue: according to the Oregon & California Rail Road & Transportation Museum newsletter. This organization attempted in 2004 to acquire the depot from owner Polk County but after investigation found that the building, in their opinion, was beyond saving. Source: www.osrm.org/newsletter.

Perrydale was named by William Perry, a pioneer landowner. The post office was established in 1870 and ran over a hundred years to 1971. Source: Oregon Geographic Names, 7th Edition, 2003.

[Note: Originally the Perrydale depot was scheduled to be torn down in July, 2005. Obviously, the depot continued to hang after that date, based on Arlen's photo date.]

Steam-Up Results Reported

Al Hall reports that the annual steam-up in Brooks resulted in the following income for the Antique Powerland Museum Association (note: This is **NOT** the chapter's concessions sales from this event, though we might dream I suppose...)

Gross Income	145.8K
Expenses	(50.3K)
Net	\$95.5K

The Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association (ONPA) sent a request to join APMA which was approved. ONPA plans to build a 30' x 60' building for their museum.

2006 Nominations

The Chapter Nominations Committee is pleased to announce the following Nominations for 2006 Chapter positions:

President	= Arlen Sheldrake*	Director At Large, 2006-2008	= Charles Stevens
Vice-President	= Keith Fleschner*	Director At Large, 2006-2008	= Mark Reynolds
Secretary	= Jim Long	Director At Large, 2006-2007	= Jim Hokinson
Treasurer	= Ken Peters	Director At Large, 2006	= Gerald Schuler
National Director	= George Hickok		

*Note: Effective 12/31/2005 both Arlen and Keith are resigning their Director At Large Positions thus necessitating the election to fill the additional Director At Large 2006-07 (Arlen's position) and 2006 (Keith's position) positions.

Nominations were also being accepted during the October 21st Membership meeting. This information was mailed October 17th via first class postcard to all Chapter members.

Rolling Stock and President's Update

Our Rolling Stock volunteer coordinator Keith Fleschner extends special thanks to Charles Stevens, Ken Peters and Karl Westcott for attending the regularly scheduled Rolling Stock Work Party this past Saturday. Keith offers this update:

Work continues on the 3300

The steam lines were removed from both ends (they can be easily reinstalled if needed but this protects them and the car from damage in movement as they hang down very low.) The baggage space got a nice cleaning so that one can now actually walk in that end of the car. Work on the roof continues, but the end of that project is in sight.

In the Mt. Hood:

For the floor in the corridor Charles Stevens produced a design for a new access cover to replace one that has rusted away under the carpet.

Keith reminds all that each month the Rolling Stock Work Party is held the day after the monthly Membership meeting.

The Chapter's S2 locomotives remain at the site in the NW industrial area, despite us having been notified nearly two months ago that they must be removed. This is a very difficult situation, as these engines are missing brake and other safety equipment required by rules before they can be moved.

Chief Mechanical Officer Pete Rodabaugh has tried valiantly, yet unsuccessfully, to find another place to move these engines. This situation poses real potential danger to the Chapter, in that at any moment we could face a lawsuit or other legal action to force removal. This could force the Chapter to possibly scrap them both in-place, a proposition that could be terribly expensive. Moving them by truck or special low rail car is also a very expensive proposition and does not answer the primary question of "where". This is yet another reminder that while we hold equipment in a perceived attempt to spare them from destruction, it is not without risk. As the recent vandalism of other organization's rolling stock further proves, this risk is made much greater by the fact that we don't own a single square foot of right-of-way anywhere to store, repair or protect our rolling stock.

Tom Walsh, our scheduled guest speaker for the last Membership meeting, was a no-show, but we ended up having a really fantastic impromptu program thanks to Dave Brown of the 4449 & ORHF groups. He brought a privately produced DVD which features the very best high-definition footage I have ever seen of the SP4449 and SP&S700 running at mainline speed. Better yet, this footage was from the Chapter's pride & joy accomplishment, the Western Star NRHS Convention special to Wishram and back.

The DVD starts at the Brooklyn Roundhouse with members of the locomotive crew hopping into a 70's muscle car just as the theme to "The Dukes of Hazard" start! Very funny, very good footage, it received a well-deserved round of very loud applause by the Membership. I'm looking into what it will take to get a copy so we can screen it again in the future. I also gave a short presentation from my recent trip to Japan, showing some great images of the Japanese Rail system, it's equipment and stations. (Thanks again to Dave Brown for bringing the DVD, and to Dr. Dave Van Sickle for bringing the video projector "just in case".

By the way, 4449 groupie Dave Brown was visiting the Chapter to speak about the upcoming Holiday Express steam trains to operate this Christmas season along the Springwater corridor. OMSI will be handling all the ticket sales in conjunction with the showing of the movie "Polar Express" in their massive OmniMax domed theater. The 4449 will be the motive power for the trips, running roundtrip from OMSI to the Sellwood area and back. ORHF will receive all proceeds for the train ride ticket sales. As a member of ORHF your Chapter has pledged to provide passenger cars at no cost, with ORHF covering all movement and operation costs.

Those familiar with the movie might observe that the SPS700 more closely resembles the engine in the movie, but word on the telegraph wire is that the 700 will be busy out on the rails again this Christmas in the Vancouver area as it was last year.

Congratulations to Darel Mack who is the recipient of this month's President's Special Recognition UNSUNG HERO AWARD.

As a good example of the motivation for the Unsung Hero award, Darel and Diana Mack provided this month's refreshments, now that Cora has taken a well-deserved retirement. Your Board of Directors raised personal funds to purchase a really beautiful floral arrangement for Cora in appreciation, but she was not able to attend the meeting.

Thanks to Al Hall who volunteered to be your ambassador by delivering the flowers to Cora on Saturday.

Al reminds you that this December we will conduct our second annual Train Toys For Tots drive. Last year's collection was a huge success, and as usual Al is planning on beating the previous record. We are officially inviting other rail groups in the area to join us. Please bring new, boxed (but not gift-wrapped) toys to the December meeting or contact AL HALL if you cannot attend but want to donate.

{see your new Membership Directory for his contact info)

BOOKMARK YOUR CHAPTER'S WEBSITE and keep an eye out for interesting events. (thanks to member Mark Whitson for mastering our website at no cost)

www.pnwc-nrhs.org

See you next month, if not sooner.

Ron McCoy

Note: Minutes Printed Last Month were from the September 16th Meeting, and were mislabeled August minutes by Trainmaster Editorial Staff.

PNWC-NRHS, Membership meeting minutes October 21, 2005

Chapter President Ron McCoy called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm, and welcomed guests Dave Larson, Dave Brown and Gus Kamp.

ORHF Representatives Dave Brown and Gus Kamp spoke about the upcoming "Holiday Express" train, which is a partnership between ORHF and OMSI to run family excursion trips on the Oregon Pacific Railroad between OMSI and Oaks Park during two weekends in December.

All proceeds from train ticket sales will benefit ORHF. OMSI is providing ticket sales and marketing, and ORHF member organizations are donating the use of the rail line, equipment and staffing to operate the trains. The Chapter Board of Directors agreed at its October meeting to donate the use of the 6200, 6800 and Mt. Hood for the Holiday Express. Dave and Gus outlined the details of this event to the members in attendance, answered questions, and asked for an informal show of hands of those who would be willing to volunteer as car hosts. Over a dozen hands went up. Gus is the volunteer coordinator for the project, and said that volunteer opportunities other than car hosting will be available. Ron thanked Dave and Gus, and encouraged all who had helped out during the 2003 "Springwater On The Willamette" event, or who wished they had, to take advantage of this opportunity to serve the public for as little as a 90-minute shift, and enjoy working a holiday trip on the Springwater line.

Membership Chair Diana Mack reported one new member this month, Adam Phillips of East Meadow, NY. Ron said that all members should by now have received a copy of the 2005 membership directory, which was distributed to all members. Anyone who has not received their copy should contact Diana by e-mail at pnwc@pnwc-nrhs.org or by phone at 503-723-3345.

The October Trainmaster contained a typographical error in the headline over the minutes of the September membership meeting, which incorrectly titled them as the August minutes. With that correction, a motion to approve the September minutes, made by Arlen Sheldrake and seconded by Keith Fleschner, was approved.

Jean Hickok continues to work on planning a Thank-You party for

2005 NRHS Convention volunteers, with assistance from others.

Schedule complications have resulted in the event being pushed back to a tentative date in early December.

Copies of the proposed Chapter budget for 2006 were available at the meeting. The Chapter by-laws state that the budget proposal should be distributed at the October meeting, to be voted on at the December meeting. Ron pointed out that although the 2005 budget expenditure for rolling stock had been revised upward, the

2006 figure is much lower, because the proposed 2006 budget does not rely on any income from the 2005 convention. The board felt that it was not wise to rely on any convention income until it is known what income will be realized from the convention.

With the approach of the December officer and director elections, nominations are in order to fill the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary, National Director, and two Director-at-Large positions. Due to an error, the list of nominations received to date did not appear in the October Trainmaster. To rectify this omission, a special postcard was mailed to all subscribers to the Trainmaster. Ron later opened the floor for additional nominations, but none were made. Al Viewig has volunteered to assist Elections Committee Chair Jim Loomis with the logistics of the December election.

Keith Fleschner said that the search continues to find a new home for the Chapter's S2 diesel switchers. These historic Alco locomotives are from the Portland Terminal Railroad, and are believed to be the first diesels put into service in the Portland area. Keith also said that the purchase of new wheelsets for the Mt. Hood is moving forward, but he did not yet have an estimate of when the Chapter would be taking delivery of the wheelsets.

The Chapter has received a proposal from the Port of Tillamook Bay to do a light remodel of the Chapter's car #1220 into a covered open-air car suitable for service on the POTB. This car was originally a Great Northern coach, and later saw service with New Jersey Transit. It is currently used for storage. Keith said the Rolling Stock Committee will continue discussions with the POTB to come to agreement on the nature of the work to be done on the car.

Last month, Cora Jackson announced that she would not be continuing as the Chapter's hospitality coordinator. The Chapter board took up a collection to purchase a floral arrangement to thank Cora for many years of service, and Al Hall volunteered to deliver the flowers to Cora.

Library Chair Irv Ewen said that Ralph Johnson will be staffing the Lending Library at Union Station Room 1 from 1:30 to 4:00 on October 22, and Irv will be staffing on October 29. John Willworth had lots of videos available for checkout, including the SP Shasta Line and the Frisco 1522.

Al Hall announced that the Chapter will again participate in the United States Marine Corps' "Toys for Tots" drive this holiday season.

The goal is to exceed 100 train-oriented toys and books for children aged 3 to 15. Please bring new, unwrapped toys to the December potluck meeting, and help spark the next generation of rail historians.

Ron presented the "Unsung Hero" award for October 2005 to Darel Mack, in recognition of many years of service as Car Host Manager, a former board member, coordinating the annual banquets and holiday potlucks, and general handyman who donates materials, labor, and transportation for the Chapter's "observation platform" display.

In other news:

Kenn Lantz expressed the Chapter's condolences in announcing that former Chapter member Orin Knee of Portland passed away October 20.

Jim Long said that rare-mileage fans should ride the Coast Starlight to Los Angeles departing Seattle or Portland on October 22. On October 23, the Starlight will take a detour from Sacramento directly to Los Angeles via the San Joaquin Valley

and the Tehachapi Loop. It is believed that Amtrak has used this detour only once, in 1974.

Ron said that the Morton, Washington railroad depot on the Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad has been moved by the Cowlitz River Valley Historical Society. City of Morton Mayor Bob Worsham is also the President of that group. Both the City and the Society helped with the lunch served to the participants in the Go By Train Mt. Rainier Double Header Special, and a portion of their proceeds from that lunch went to the depot restoration fund.

Ron reminded everyone to sign in and enjoy refreshments provided by Diana and Darel Mack. He adjourned the meeting at 8:51 pm.

In the absence of Joe Walsh from the Washington County Commuter Rail project, members enjoyed an informal video presentation by Dave Brown of a "chase car" video of the Convention's Wishram steam double-header, and a look at Ron McCoy's photos of the rail system around the Tokyo suburbs of Shiki and Ikebukuro Japan, and Narita International Airport.

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Long

Chapter Officers

President: Ron McCoy (04, 05) 503.244.4315
Vice President: David Van Sickle ('04, '05) 503.297.3807
Treasurer: Kenneth I. Peters ('04, '05)
Secretary: Jim Long ('03, '04, '05) 503.313.7382
National Director: Gerald Schuler 503.285.7941

Chapter Directors-at-Large

Ralph Johnson (05, 06, 07) 503.654.1930
Arlen Sheldrake (05, 06, 07) 503.223.7006
George Hickok (finish out term for 2004,05) 503.649-5762
Bob Jackson (03,04,05) 503.231.4808
Keith L Fleschner (04, 05, 06) 503.516.9272
William D. Hyde (04, 05, 06) 503.666.5530
NRHS Regional Vice President: Gerald Shuler. 503.285.7941

Committee Chairs

Activities: Darel Mack 503.723.3345
Archives: Chuck McGaffey 503.223.2227
Meeting Programs: Ralph Johnson 503.654.1930
Concessions: Ted Ahlberg 503.579.2131
Al Hall 503.699.5042
Car #76 Restoration: Keith Fleschner. 503.516.9272
Excursions: Darel Mack 503.723.3345
Car Host: Darel Mack 503.723.3345
Finance: See *Vice President*
Library: Irv Ewen 503.232-2441
Membership: Diana Mack, 503.723.3345
Museum: Glenn Laubaugh, 503.655.5466
Public Relations: Gerald Schuler, 503.285.7941
Memorial Funds: Gerald Schuler, 503.285.7941
Rolling Stock: vacant, contact Ron McCoy
Chief Mechanical Officer:
Peter Rodabaugh, 503.771.8545
Car Rental Agent: Bob Jackson. 503.231.4808
Safety Officer: Keith Fleschner 503.516.9272
2005 NRHS Convention Chair:
Arlen Sheldrake 503.223.7006
Chapter Rep., Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation:
Arlen Sheldrake 503.223.7006



The Trainmaster is the official news-

letter of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. It is published monthly for the benefit of its members. Articles which appear in the *Trainmaster* do not express the official position of the organization on any subject unless specifically noted as such. Material from the *Trainmaster* may be reprinted in other publications provided credit is given as to the source, except in cases where the article originated in a third party publication and special permission was given to the *Trainmaster* to print the article here. Please address contributions, correspondence, and exchange copies of newsletters to:

Attn.: Trainmaster Editor
PNWC-NRHS, Room 1, Union Station, 800 N.W. 6th Avenue,
Portland, Oregon 97209-3794

Voice: (503) 226-6747, Fax: (503) 230-0572

Chapter E-Mail: pnwc@pnwc-nrhs.org

Trainmaster E-Mail: trainmaster@pnwc-nrhs.org

<http://www.pnwc-nrhs.org>

ISSN: 0041-0926

Editor: Glenn Laubaugh, (503) 655-5466

Circulation: George Hickok (503) 649-5762

Mailing & Distribution:

Maxine Rodabaugh (503) 253-4241

Janet Larson (503) 253-7436

Darel Mack (503) 723-3345

T-M Deadline: 20th of previous month on most months.

Membership in our Organization is available to anyone with an interest in railroad history. Rates are: \$35 total - \$15 for Chapter, \$20 for National

Please be sure to inform the membership chair at Membership Services, PNWC-NRHS, P.O. Box 2384, Portland, OR 97208-2384 of any changes in the status of your address.

Inside this Trainmaster, you will find:

Convention Video (page 2)
Last Run of Explorer (page 1)
Letter from Cora Jackson (page 2)
2nd Annual Train Toys for Tots
Event (page 3)
Union Station in *Trains* (page 3)
Oldest Oregon Station Near End
(page 4)
2006 Nominations (page 5)
Chapter Update (page 5)
September Minutes (page 6)

**Excursions to
Be Operated at
OMSI in
December:
See Page 2 for
Details**

**Please note correspondence containing
address changes on the exterior of the
envelope for fastest processing.**

The *TRAINMASTER*
Pacific Northwest Chapter
National Railway Historical Society
Room 1, Union Station
800 N.W. 6th Avenue
Portland, OR 97209-3794

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. Postage
Paid
Portland, OR
Permit No. 595