

# The Trainmaster

September,  
1998



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



## September / October Meetings:

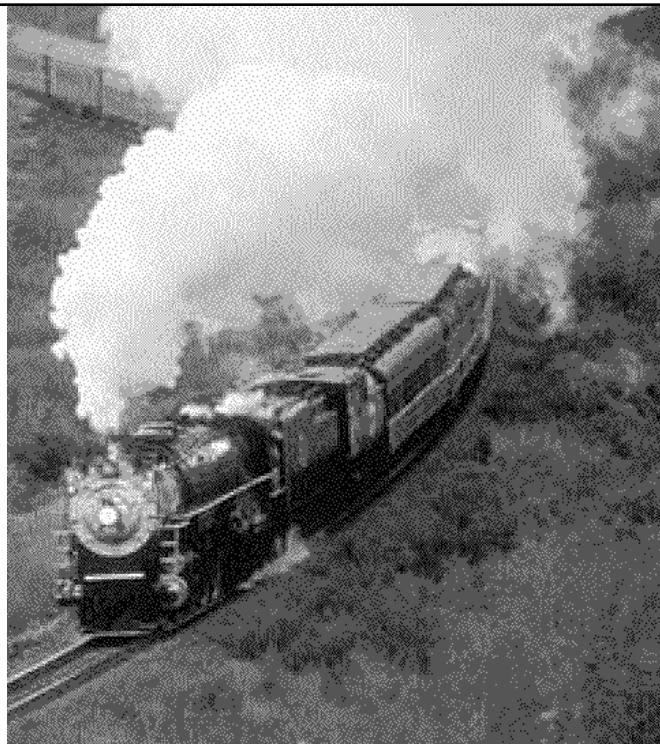
### Board of Directors Meetings:

September 10 & October 8, Room 208, Portland Union Station, 7:30 PM

### General Membership Meetings:

September 18 & October 16, St. Marks's Lutheran Church, 5415 S.E. Powell Blvd., 7:30 PM

## SP&S #700 Bends Radius Rod on Saturday Excursion



Use of this photo of ex-SP&S #700 in Yakima Canyon was granted to the chapter for publicity purposes for our joint excursions by Pacific Railroad Preservation Association's web site editor Randal O'Toole.

answering any and all questions I posed to her. I don't know her name, but she did a great job. The tickets arrived by mail a few days later accompanied by very good information sheets. We especially appreciated the late flyer which you mailed to us describing exactly how to find the boarding site--a great help to those of us unfamiliar with the area. It proved to be perfectly accurate.

We arrived very early for the first scheduled excursion, and a conversation with another railfan provided his opinion that you folks had done a superb job of organizing the entire weekend. Of course, when the 700 and her consist backed down from Linnton to St. John's bridge I began to drool all over my cameras. She looked great, sounded great, and pulled away from St. John's with typical steam smoothness.

We met several chapter members, including car hosts Al and Judy Hall, and excursion coordinator Darel Mack, plus many others whose names I do not remember and apologize for that.

They were all very gracious and did a wonderful job of providing updates as to what was happening after the 700 bent her right radius rod. Your group also responded swiftly and creatively to the situation, quickly offering options for the paying passengers to either ride another excursion or accept a partial refund. The late return to the boarding site also presented problems which you handled very well, considering the inbound and outbound

## Mailbag



Dear Members of PNWC,

I'm sure you will receive negative mail on the 700 excursions. I for one, will try to offset that. When I learned of your excursions, I called the chapter and was a little worried when the young lady answered the phone. She sounded like my granddaughter, but was very efficient in taking our ticket orders and

car traffic and the disposition of the first trip's customer options. Janet did a fine job at the "Will call" window. There was a young girl helping Janet, whose name I did not get--she too did a fine job.

I'm sure that both the PNWC and PRPA volunteers are more disappointed than anyone. People have to bear in mind that these things happen. They happened a lot more often when there were thousands of steamers operating. It was just great for me to see the 700 running again. And it's not like in August 1998 you can phone Baldwin and order a replacement radius rod for a 1937 SP&S Class E-1 4-8-4, is it? We railfans have to be thankful for any experience we may have these days. I thank you for organizing these excursions and operating them.

Personally, I am proud to have ridden a few miles behind the SP&S 700. It was a railfan first to witness an actual bent rod--the scourge of engine crews back in the steam era. Your chapter and the PRPA were probably the

most disappointed people in the entire assemblage.

In summary, I would like to commend all of you for a great effort and tell you that I will try again any time you can get the 700 signed up. (Or the 4449, 261, 3751, 614).

Steam Foamer,  
Jim Fitzgerald  
Waldport

### St. Helens Back in Area?

I just got a note from Society and Chapter member Paul Hobbs in Auckland with the following message:

"I heard the other day that SP&S "Mount St. Helens" was seen on a flat car moving west through Sandpoint last week. Any idea as to its destination??"

Have any of you heard about this move of this historic car back to the West Coast or who has acquired it?

Doug Auburg  
Vancouver, Washington

## From The Wire

**Union Pacific ISO 9002 Certification**  
from a press release by the **Union Pacific RR:**

OMAHA, August 3 -- Union Pacific Railroad has been awarded international quality recognition, the first railroad in the United States to achieve a prestigious "9000 Series" certification by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO).

ISO, based in Geneva, Switzerland, has more than 90 member countries. The ISO series defines system standards targeted on how to establish, document and maintain effective quality systems.

"This is confirmation of the focus on process management at Union Pacific which was installed during our quality efforts in 1987 and strengthened and refined through the period ending in Union Pacific's becoming a Baldrige (quality) finalist in 1994," said Dick Davidson, Union Pacific Corporation chief executive officer and chairman.

ISO 9000 compliance is becoming a prerequisite to doing business around the

world. It is a series of five international standards. Union Pacific has contracted with Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance to conduct follow-up audits at UP every six months to maintain certification. The current ISO9002 certification is good through July 31, 2001.

"Our customers will recognize this certification as a significant achievement," Davidson said. "Certification is now a requirement to do business with some of our customers."

**BNSF Posts Emergency Number at Crossings**  
from a press release from the **BNSF Railway:**

FORT WORTH, Texas -- The Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) today announced it will post a toll-free emergency number at 15,000 public highway-rail grade crossings equipped with passive warning devices by the end of this year.

The emergency number, 1-800-832-5452, allows the public to reach BNSF immediately during emergency situations, such as stalled vehicles or obstructions on the track. It will be answered around the clock by BNSF's

Resource Operations Center in Fort Worth, and can also be used to report crime or trespassing concerns as well as crossing or signal-related issues. The posting includes the unique Department of Transportation number (DOT number) assigned to that crossing, which enables the caller to identify the exact location.

All private crossings equipped with crossbucks will have the same signs installed by June 30, 1999. Last year, emergency numbers were posted at all 8,000 BNSF public

grade crossings with active warning systems. At active crossings, the posting is stenciled on the signal bungalow or other structure at the crossing and includes BNSF's name, the emergency number, the location description and DOT crossing number.

The posting of the emergency number at crossings is in response to a National Transportation Safety Board recommendation issued after a serious Amtrak incident involving a stalled vehicle on the track.

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**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
AND CONVENTION  
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK  
JULY 6 - 12, 1998**

As usual, there were several rail tours for members and delegates to enjoy before and after the meeting. The ones I selected were the NYS&W behind steam locomotive #142 to Binghamton, and the Finger Lakes Excursion to Auburn, NY. They also had several Seminars for attendees to choose from. I went to one on "Railroads in the Streets of Syracuse", and another "The Internet for Beginners". Both were very informative.

President Greg Molloy called the meeting to order, and asked for the Invocation to be given by Rev. Howard Walker. The sign in sheet for the Roll Call was taken around by Mary Eastwood. Bruce Hodges named the newly elected members of the Board, and asked for the alternate delegates to show their letters of authorization from their respective Chapters. The minutes of the last meeting in Roanoke, Virginia, which were mailed out were approved. Then the President announced that Dick Davis, Public Relations Chairman, was resigning due to family health reasons, and he was appointing Terry Holdeman, Promontory Chapter, to fill the remainder of the term. The Board voted to confirm this appointment.

In the Presidents report, Greg mentioned several administrative matters that have been acted upon. He mentioned the last Bulletin mailing which included a list of discounts to NRHS members at many rail related museums. (It was later announced that there were several additions to this list which will be printed in the next NRHS News.) There was a general effort in the Society to reduce expenses. He mentioned several Chapters

he has visited since the last Board meeting, including the United Kingdom Chapter. Then Greg mentioned the winners of the 1998 Heritage Grants program. Eight of eighteen applications were approved, as follows: Central Florida - \$1500, Philadelphia - \$1800, Lancaster - \$1800, East Carolina - \$1800, RR Museum of So. Florida - \$900, Gulf Wind Chapter - \$1800, Louisville - \$1800, Rochester - \$1800, Hagerstown - \$1800. The Regional Vice Presidents requested a history of how the Grants Program is developing. A report on that was included among the handout material. It will also be in the NRHS News.

Lee Dietrich announced that he would soon start the award process for 25 and 50 year memberships, and asked if the Chapters preferred to make the presentation, or if it should be from Headquarters. Larry Eastwood, Sr. Vice President, reported on the progress of the Railroad Camp at Scranton, which is jointly sponsored with the National Park Service. Twenty Campers, (18 males, and 2 females) would be attending. Most campers were from the Northeast, but two were from California. Eight campers were sponsored by Chapters. Five Counselors would be in charge. Bob Pinsky, Membership records, had no report to give, but he felt the procedures of handling records were working smoothly and no changes were anticipated for next year.

Dick Billings gave a report on the Membership and Treasury. He expressed the opinion that we had a very smoothly run membership renewal system, and the same system would be used next year. Recent action by the board makes it possible for the Society to own stock, so we can now receive stock donations. The HQ office now has the computer capability of sending Chapters a list of National only members in their areas, to invite to join the respective Chapters. Lists can be sent by Chapter area, ZIP Code, or as otherwise requested. Chapters with items to sell can advertise it in the NRHS News.

Bob Heavenrich, Comptroller, reported on an IRS ruling that may apply to certain Chapters. He stated that in general we are below budget and finances are sound. John Fiorilla, General Counsel, explained that any legal activities and reports must be handled through proper channels. Therefore, he does not have the authority to write about specific problems that may be brought to his attention. Frank Tatnall, Bulletin Editor, stated that issue #3 is at the printers and should be mailed in a few weeks. It is on budget. He urged Chapter Editors to check spelling of Members names referred to in the Annual Report before submission. The staff does not have time to check these first before printing. The NRHS has been advised by the Post Office that Non-profit mailing fees will go up 20% next year.

He stated there have been more requests for Chapter advertising in the NRHS News. Twelve Library and Bulletin volunteers had been hosted to a "Thank You" lunch recently. This was the first time in five years for such an event. The Treasurer had been contacted first, and authorized the expense.

Next, Judy Calvert, Convention Committee Chairman announced the Committee is operating within budget. They had met with the Pittsburg group for a possible year 2000 Convention. This will be brought up again as a separate item. They have also met with several Chapters interested in bidding on 2001. Joe Heffron, Chairman Finance Committee, reported that Committee Members have been notified of an August 5 meeting and they should have their proposals ready to submit at that time.

Dennis Allen, Membership Development, reported that the Lancaster Chapter has received 71 new members this year. He hoped that other Chapters would do as well. The Chapter has developed a reward system for bringing in a certain number of new members. They are considering an NRHS week-end to tell the general public about the Society. Bill Cude reported he had received two requests for information about new Chapters.

Martin Swan, Director of Emblem Sales, reported he had over \$1000 in sales since June 1, and he had done about \$350 so far at the Convention. He has two new items: one a combination Tie Tack - Lapel Pin of the NRHS Logo, silver plated which sells for \$12.00, and

the other a ball point pen, black trimmed in gold, with the Society logo and name printed on the barrel. It sells for \$3.75. He mentioned the policy of giving a 10% discount for buying ten or more items will end on December 31st, so he urged Chapters to get their quantity orders in soon.

Lynn Burshtin, Office Manager mentioned several recent films in their Library that had been repaired. She mentioned the National Activities report which was available with the hand-outs. There are guidelines printed for those who wish to donate or loan their collections of railroad memorabilia to the Society. Please follow this so any valuable collections are not lost. There are eight volunteers who come to the Society to help in the Library with research requests and other information. Statistics for these volunteers are that during the year 1997, there were 355 research requests, which included 150 by E-Mail. Greg mentioned that members don't have to die in order to make donations to the society. The Society is pleased to be named beneficiary in Estates and Wills. Greg also referred to the National Activities report. Another handout report is the Regional Vice Presidents Report, summarizing their activities. There are no new Chapter Charter requests. Preservation of the Alco Historic Photos had been a function of the Mohawk and Hudson Chapter. Some of the photos were on display in the registration room.

Under new business, Greg mentioned the Nominating Committee was functioning, and they would like at least one name for each office volunteered or selected with the candidates approval by September 15th. Then Joanne Rife read the names of those candidates that they have so far. Next Mike Trzeciak gave his Audit Report which had previously been distributed. He thanked the Committee for their help in preparing it. The Board passed a motion to accept the report. Then the President mentioned the Regional Vice Presidents' recommendations for some changes in the format of the spring and fall Board meetings. Greg asked the delegates to think of the recommended changes, and let

him know their feelings about them. A decision regarding any changes will have to be made in the next few months. Then the meeting was turned over to Judy Calvert, Convention Chairman. Terry Haldeman was unable to attend this meeting, so he gave his final report of the Salt Lake City Convention by video tape. He stated the Society's share of the Convention proceeds was \$2186.50, and the check was in the mail.

Next, Al Wallfelz reported that there were about 850 registered delegates and spouses to this Convention. That was followed by a report from the Central Coast Chapter regarding the 1999 Convention June 21-26. California is celebrating three big events in 1999. The first is the California Sesquicentennial, the second Railfair '99, the third some excursions which are being negotiated with the major railroads. One excursion will be to the McCloud Railway at Mt. Shasta. Another via the BNSF through the Franklin Canyon to the bay area. He urged early registration. The Convention Hotel will be the Holiday Inn Plaza, which is very close to the Amtrak station and the Rail Museum. Room price will be \$79. Website <[www.goldenstaterails.com](http://www.goldenstaterails.com)>. He hoped to have pre-registration information in the fall Bulletin.

Next, Judy Calvert took the floor regarding the year 2000 Convention for August 2-8. The Lancaster Chapter has offered to host the convention in Pittsburgh. A second offer has recently been received from the Western Connecticut Chapter. However the offer is so recent that it has not yet been researched by the Convention Committee. The Lancaster bid was accepted by the Board, with a request for Connecticut to bid again at a later time. Activities during the Fall Board of Directors Meeting were then explained. Greg requested ideas from the Regional Vice Presidents for agenda items for the Kansas City meeting. The meeting was then closed with a Benediction.

- contributed by Gerald A. Schuler, National Director for our chapter

**MEETING OF MEMBERS  
SYRACUSE, NEW YORK  
JULY 12, 1998**

This meeting was called to order following the Board of Directors meeting. Minutes of the previous meeting held last year in Salt Lake

City had been distributed. They were accepted as printed. President Greg Molloy stated the three reasons for the Meeting of the Members. First is the Constitutional requirement that the President give an Annual Report describing the status of the Society, second is the election of the Board of Directors for the upcoming year, and third is the approval of any changes in the By-Laws. President Molloy introduced the officers at the head table. Bob Heavenrich then gave the Comptrollers report, followed by Dick Billings with the treasurers report.

Greg Molloy's status report was next. He stated in addition to this verbal report, it is also printed in issue #3 of the Bulletin. That will also include some financial tables. Our financial condition has improved substantially during 1997, ending with a \$32,000 surplus. Biggest contributor to this surplus was a \$3 dues increase, plus a vigorous effort to hold down expenses. In spite of these savings, the Society has been able to improve service to members. There has been an impressive growth in member donations, averaging more than \$1 per member. Society membership has declined 1% from 1996. The decline in excursion trips has contributed to this drop. Only one new Chapter has been approved, making a total of 175. The Society is continuing to work with several new prospective Chapters. The Bulletin has been restored to a full six issues, but slightly fewer issues have been published to more evenly match the membership numbers. The 1997 Convention in Salt Lake City was attended by over 800 members, and ended with a financial surplus. Several successful excursions and convention trips were enjoyed by many. Several new film library acquisitions have been received. The Library is staffed regularly by eight willing volunteers. To date, the Railway Heritage Grant program has distributed over \$83,000. No new historic plaques had been ordered in 1997.

Secretary Hodges conducted the election of new members to the Board of Directors, as voted by the Chapters. Then Larry Eastwood gave a status report on the Rail Camp jointly sponsored by NRHS and the National Park



Service at Steamtown, Scranton, PA. There were twenty campers registered. Five NRHS members will serve as Counselors. Next proposed changes to the Society By-Laws which had already been approved by the Board of Directors were presented to the Membership by John Fiorilla, General Counsel. He first named the By-Laws committee and explained that Print-outs of these changes, which were mostly of an administrative

nature, had been distributed to the membership at registration. Then he conducted the explanation and approval process. The end result was that the changes were approved. They will be reprinted for future distribution.

The meeting was then adjourned by the President.

- contributed by **Gerald A. Schuler, National Director for our chapter**

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### September Meeting Minutes Summary

Welcome Members & Guests .George Hickok, president welcomed those present and informed us that this would be a short meeting due to the Steam along the Columbia excursion on Sat. morning.

#### Officer's Reports:

President: George Hickok--

George thanked his daughter Kimberly Hickok for her many hours of answering hundreds of phone call and booking tickets. Great job! These events are still to come  
The ticket sales up to this point: Sat. 9:00--184  
1:30--156 6:00--28  
Sun. 9:00--97, 1:30--119, 6:00--31. Tickets can be purchased on site.

9/12 and 9/13 Westside LightRail opening. This may only be a three car train due to lack of space. Tri-Met has asked that no donations be made by the passengers. They are covering the \$5,000 a day expenses. It should be a 45 minute ride. The exact times for the trips has yet to be finalized.

9/26 and 9/27--Four trips a day from the Y at Cook to the Y at Hillsboro starting at 8:00 a.m. Sunday's trips to start at Beaverton, same schedule. The W&P needed \$13,000 for capital improvements to the track Y in order to run these trips. Along with the PRPA, we have agreed to pay for this. The Genesee & Wyoming , parent company of the W&P were impressed that we offered to do this work. Insurance for our excursions was increased to \$10 million and we are using the PRPA's policy to cover us. Ticket prices for this excursion are \$30 adults and \$15 children.

New Business:We need to approve a budget of \$25,000 for the next excursions with

the PRPA. Our estimated takein will be about \$60,000. Ed Akerman moved to approve the budget and seconded by Marilyn Edgar. The motion carried.

Special thanks to all who worked on the rolling stock getting it cleaned and ready for the excursions. Pete Rodabaugh, Chief Mechanical Officer has been working full time fixing our equipment, sometimes into the wee hours of the morning. Please express your thanks! After this meeting we will have a short Car Host Meeting and refreshments. The program will be moved to another meeting.

Ralph Johnson mentioned that we needed to choose a nominating committee. Volunteers for this important committee are: Naomi Gray, Marilyn Edgar, Janet Larson, Rosemary Scheel, and Sarah Akerman. Be thinking about what office you would like to run for this next year and contact the nominating committee.

Thanks to Neil McKie, for a discounted price, we now have radios to use on the train for communication.

#### Good of the Order

There was a article in the Oregonian and picture of our RDC's. Bob Terkelson said the picnic was a huge success. Over 150 people were there to enjoy the good food. .  
Motion to close meeting: The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judy Hall for Al Hall, Secretary

## Chapter Timetable #431 - September, 1998

### Monthly Board of Directors Meetings:

Thursday, September 10, October 8, 7:30 pm.  
Room 208, Union Station. These meetings are scheduled on the Thursday evening of the week prior to the monthly membership meeting.

### Monthly Membership Meetings:

Friday, September 18, October 16, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 S.E. Powell. These meetings are conducted on the third Friday evening of every month.

### Chapter Library Open Hours:

The Chapter's Railroad Research Library is usually staffed two Saturdays a month.

### Upcoming Membership Meeting Programs :

**September:** "Steam Operated Sawmill" - video from collection of Naomi Gray. This program was originally scheduled for August, but was re-scheduled for September due to the need for planning time of the excursions on August 22 and 23.

**October:** Slide show of slides from the NRHS national convention in Salt Lake City. Convention activities included Union Pacific steam locomotive #844 pulling a train in the Royal Gorge, and several passenger trains on local short lines.

If you have any programs or program suggestions that you feel would be of interest to the Chapter, Please contact Ralph Johnson at (503) 654-1930.

### Other Groups' Events:

#### Columbia Gorge Open House

The 51st Annual Show of the Columbia Gorge Model Railroad Club will be November 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, 28-29, 1998 at 2505 N. Vancouver Avenue, 10 AM to 5 PM. Adults \$3.50, kids 3 to 11 \$1 (kids FREE w/can of food for Portland Police Dept. Sunshine Division). Info: Phil Maggs, 2925 SE 164th Ave., Portland, OR 97236, (503) 761-9527 or (503) 288-7246. E-mail: pmaggs@teleport.com



### The Trainmaster

is the official newsletter 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.

The NRHS was formed in 1935 to preserve historical material and information pertaining to railroad transportation. The Pacific Northwest Chapter, one of more than 170 affiliates, was formed in 1955 as a non-profit Oregon corporation. Any person age 16 or older with an interest in railroad history and transportation is eligible for membership.

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 97209-3715**

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

**E-Mail: pnwc@easystreet.com**

**<http://www.easystreet.com/pnwc>**

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**Editor:** Vacant

**Assistant Editor:** Glenn Laubaugh, (503) 655-5466

**Circulation:** Chuck Storz, (503) 289-4529

**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.**

### Membership

in the Pacific Northwest Chapter, National Railway Historical Society is available as follows:

**Regular: \$32/year, Joint: \$40/year**

Membership prices include National Membership as well as membership in the local chapter. For more information, please contact the membership chair at the above address or phone number.

### Trainmaster Contributions:

Contributions for the *Trainmaster* are most welcome. Deadline for each issue is the 20th of the previous month. Last minute additions may be made after that time, but publication can not be guaranteed. Contributions should be sent to the address, e-mail address, or fax at the top of this column, or be left in the mailbox in the door of Room 1, Union Station. Typed or word-processed material (3 1/2" **disk**, Mac or MS-DOS plain text) is preferred for legibility, but not necessary.

### Committee Chairs

**Activities:** Marilyn Edgar, (503) 236-7271  
**Meeting Programs:** Ralph Johnson, (503) 654-1930  
**Concessions:** Jean Hickok, (503) 649-5762  
**Excursions:** Darel Mack ('98): (503) 654-5017  
**Finance:** Ralph Johnson, (503) 654-1930  
**Library & Historical Foundation:** vacant  
**Membership:** Ralph Johnson, (503) 654-1930  
**Museum:** Glenn Laubaugh, (503) 655-5466  
**Public Relations:** Gerald Schuler, (503) 285-7941  
**Publications:** Vacant  
**Rolling Stock:** Vacant  
**Chief Mechanical Officer:**  
Peter Rodabaugh, (503) 771-8545  
**Car Rental Agent:**  
Bob Jackson, (503) 231-4808  
**Safety:** Judy Hall, (503) 699-5042

### Chapter Officers

**President ('98):** George Hickok, (503) 649-5762  
**Vice-President ('98):** Ralph Johnson, (503) 654-1930  
**Secretary ('98):** Al Hall, (503) 699-5042  
**Treasurer ('98):** Janet Larson (503) 253-7436  
**National Director ('94, '95, '96, '97, '98):**  
Gerald Schuler (503) 285-7941

### Directors-at-Large:

**Ed Ackerman ('98, '99, '00):** (503) 649-6000  
**Bob Jackson ('97, '98, '99):** (503) 244-4440  
**Glenn Laubaugh ('98, '99, '00):** (503) 655-5466  
**Darel Mack ('98):** (503) 654-5017  
(Filled vacancy, position opens at end of 1998)  
**John Willworth ('97, '98, '99):** (503) 284-8628  
**Frank Weiler ('96, '97, '98):** (503) 774-3319

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The *TRAINMASTER*  
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National Railway Historical Society  
Room 1, Union Station  
800 N.W. 6th Avenue  
Portland, OR 97209-3715

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