

The

April
2001



Trainmaster

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

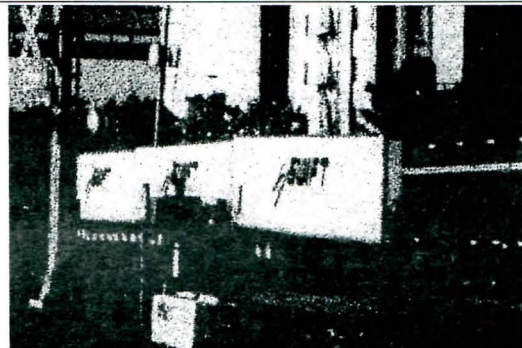
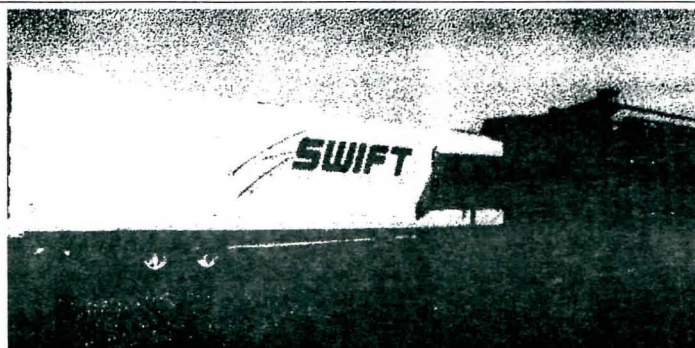


Board of Directors: April 12, May 10, Room 208, Portland Union Station, 7:30 PM

Membership Meeting: May 18, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 S.E. Powell Blvd. 7:30 PM

PLEASE ARRIVE AT OR BEFORE 7:30 AT OUR MEETINGS For building security purposes please arrive for membership meetings at or before 7:30 p.m. If you arrive after 7:30 the parking lot entrance will be locked and you will need to enter the building using the basement door on the West side of the building.

Note that due to the excursion, the membership meeting for April will be cancelled.



Pictures of Amtrak to come: The *Coast Starlight* has been regularly carrying three or four roadrailer truck trailers on its rear end. The plan is to help make the long distance passenger trains pay for themselves by carrying mail and express. Both Amtrak and Swift Trucking roadrailers can now be seen passing through Portland. Question: How much longer will the growing freight traffic on the end of Amtrak trains require them to stop serving Portland's Union Station due to the inability of trucks to pick up and deliver roadrailer trailers at the Portland station, and the lack of space to develop such facilities due to the replacement of the station's freight yards with apartment buildings? Only time will tell. Private passenger car owners have also complained of additional damage to their cars due to the increased frequency of coupling and uncoupling cars from the end of the trains. Photos by Arlen Sheldrake.

Membership Directory

As noted elsewhere we will be publishing another Membership Directory during May 2001. Please now take a look at your listing, especially your telephone number, in the last Directory and note any changes. Please send these changes **before** May 1st to: Membership Services, PO Box 2384, Portland OR 97208-2384. Also, if you would like your email address printed in the Directory, send a email message **before** May 1st to: pnwc@easystreet.com.

A Generous Donation Toward Library Copier

One of our members has graciously offered to donate up to \$200 toward a new library printer/copier. This is a matching fund donation so we need to match the \$200 in order for the whole donation to be made. So far \$150 has been matched. Please consider a donation to this worthy cause if you are able.

Please come down and visit the Library in Room 1, Union Station. It's usually open on the Saturday after the Chapter meeting and the following Saturday from 1 pm to 4 pm. There is always something going on at Union Station.

AWARDS PRESENTED AT CHAPTER ANNUAL BANQUET

Three Twenty Five year membership awards were announced at the March 18 Chapter Annual Banquet. In attendance was Richard Gray who received a framed letter of appreciation, and a sterling silver membership pin with 25 year membership noted on the border. Richard thanked Cora Jackson for

getting him started in NRHS. Also mentioned was James Schmidt who was unable to attend due to school class schedule, and Gary Zenk who was snowbirding in Arizona. Schmidt's award was mailed to him. Zenk's may be presented at a future regular Chapter meeting. Congratulations to these three.

The Jack Holst Member of the Year Award was presented in absentia to Richard Carlson. The plaque was given to Rich's brother Ron who will give it to Rich upon his return to town. The selection committee related the below history of Rich's Chapter activities which qualified him for this highest Chapter award. Our Congratulations go to Rich for this Award.

Joined the PNWC Chapter in 1981

Chapter President 1984 - 86

National Director 1987 - 89

Participated on several excursions and narrated historic areas.

Chaired Union Station Tower Light restoration project, 1985.

Arranged for installation of Commemorative NRHS plaque for Union Station Centennial Celebration. Participated in other Centennial events. 1996

Worked with Post Office to have available special cancellations on first day covers for both the opening of MAX light rail and the Union Station Centennial.

Researched History of PNWC which was read at 40th Anniversary Banquet. Lobbied as a concerned citizen at City hearings for preservation of Union Station surroundings, for maintaining five tracks, against pedestrian overpass and other visual obstructions.

Arranged for the Tri-Met MAX tunnel tour for delegates when PNWC hosted the National Board of Directors meeting in April, 1997.

Has served many years on Chapter Election committee.

Rail Sensation Events Delegate from Chapter, now Chairman of RSE.

Regional Vice President of Northwest Region NRHS for 10 yrs.

Faithfully sorted mail and recorded phone messages in Room 1 for many years.

President's Update

By Arlen L. Shel Drake

Please note for your calendars that our **April 20th membership meeting** has been **canceled**. Our normal meeting date will find many of us either working or riding the April 20-23 PRPA *Homecoming Excursion* to Pasco/Spokane. The Board further determined that moving the meeting date to Good Friday the week before wouldn't work and those working the excursion would need to end their April 23rd week with a quiet, family Friday evening.

And speaking of the *Homecoming Excursion*, many of our members are continuing to put in long hours doing the tasks we have agreed to provide to the Pacific Railroad Preservation Association. These include Darel Mack, our Car Host Manager; Al & Judy Hall who spent the March 3rd weekend in Pasco/Spokane and who have been doing presentations about the trip; George and all the Hickok family who are handling all ticketing; and Rick Banton our Treasurer who is handling all the excursion ticket revenue. Ted and Cora Ahlberg and Chuck McGaffey have been busy spreading the word with hobby stores and PNW Amtrak stations. Our Rolling Stock committee is also busy getting the Mt. Hood ready to go in parlor service. This partnership with PRPA is working very well!

Ted Ahlberg has agreed to acquire and publish dates of regional model railroad events in *The Trainmaster*. Let Ted know as you discover model railroad events. We also need someone to track and report on UP and BNSF activities in the PNW as well as our shortlines. For our "out of town" members, please take note that you could do any of these activities from anywhere. Let me know if you are interested. And speaking of *The Trainmaster*, consider this as an invitation for **YOU** to write an article for publication. We all have stories to tell, and as is apparent with my writing you do **NOT** have to be Journalism major.

And speaking of **dates**, please note the following for your calendars:

April 20-23 PRPA SP&S 700 *Homecoming Excursion*, Vancouver/Pasco/Spokane.

May 5 & 6 *Tacoma Railfan Days*, Tacoma WA.

May 6 Pacific Northwest Live Steamers, opening 1st monthly Sunday, Molalla OR

May 26-27 *Stampede Pass Special*. Friends of 4449, Portland/Yakima/Auburn.

May 28 Chelatchie Prairie Railroad, Yacolt WA (targeted start-up date)

June 2 & 3 Trips to Wishram WA, Friends of 4449.

June 19-24 *Looking West*, NRHS Convention, St. Louis MO

June 30 *Elbe Rail Fan Event*, Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad, Elbe WA.

July 28-29 & August 4-5 Western Antique Powerland annual Steam-up, Brooks OR.
August 3-4-5 *Snoqualmie Railroad Days*, Northwest Railroad Museum, Snoqualmie WA.
September 6-8 *2001 An Oregon Trunk Odyssey*, SP&S Railway Historical Society, Redmond OR.
September/October *Morton Line Re-Opening* between Mineral and Morton WA, date TBA.

The **Oregon City Amtrak Cascades** station may become a reality in 2002. The City is awaiting the fate of the High Speed Rail bonds in Congress and if passed may apply for funds to do the complete station project which would include moving the old freight station to the site. The freight station would be converted into a waiting area and ticket counter (ticket machine in the beginning) with the rest as leased office space. Union Pacific is now considering the easement request along with the footprint of the platform and site plan. Stay tuned.

Union Station Update: The seismic/ADA/infrastructure building study is still progressing after delays caused by consultants being diverted to the recent earthquakes in India and Olympia. Thank goodness Portland didn't get a 6.8 earthquake, at least the clock tower would have been on the ground. The study is expected to be completed by May. The Union Station Annex re-roofing project will be started late this spring. Contractors have been pre-qualified and the RFP development is nearing completion. The Annex houses our offices and archives. Thanks to our City Council for sticking with the 75' height restriction for new development around Union Station. Expect to see yet more construction closer to the station very soon including traffic flow changes. Also of note, the utility path for fueling, etc on the east side of the mainline will be paved and in the long term the new temporary chain link fence will be replaced with a wrought iron fence to match the other fencing.

Thanks to all of you for renewing your Chapter and NRHS memberships! Per the By-Laws those not renewing by April 1st have been dropped from membership.

Congratulations to the Oregon Department of Transportation Rail Division for the addition of Bob Melbo to their staff.

Correction: My apologies to Jody Moore for incorrectly identifying him in last month's "*More Fiber Is Healthy*" article. You would think anyone with a name like mine would be more accurate. Jody Moore maintains an absolutely wonderful Port of Tillamook Bay railroad web site! I'm not sure what all Jody Foster does.....

Mailbag

Train Service Complaint, in poetic form, from someone who suffered through the re-privitization of British passenger services: (note, Virgin is the new company that a few years ago took over the former Great Western Railway Lines, and God's Wonderful Railway is a GWR nickname)
God's Wonderful Railway

(Or Virgin on the ridiculous)
For passengers who're waiting,
For the 8-13 to Paignton,
This service is reported running late.
In fact the truth behind it
Is we simply can not find it,
So we ask you to be patient please and wait
Upon the platform,
Until my colleague fills out that form,
That we use whenever we mislay a train;
Though we usually find them hiding,
Down some sleepy little siding,
There's some are lost and never seen again.
Now, You might not imagine
That, twelve coaches and an engine,
Can disappear completely from the line;
Well, perhaps the odd occasion,

But it truly is amazing,
'cos in fact, it seems to happen all the time.
But our customers are stoic,
Play the martyr,
Act heroic,
And never be the ones to lay the fault,
'Cos experience has taught 'em,
That each and every autumn,
One leaf can bring the network to a halt.
And then in dark December,
(It's tradition now, remember),
We turn off all the heat until July.
Then at the height of summer,
(And this really is a bummer),
We turn it on and let the buggers fry.
Will passengers, who're waiting,
On platform one for Paignton,
Please make their way across to platform nine;
It's not that there's a train there
(But)
You'll be standing in the rain there,
And the half-mile walk will help you pass the
time.
Bryan Melton
(©October 1998, Bryan Melton, used by permission)

Dear Trainmaster Editor and readers,

The downtown development design committee of Canby, Oregon (a circa 1870 O & C Railroad town) is looking for blueprint/scale drawings of a railway-serving water tower to recreate near our tracks and vintage depot. Thank you for any assistance you or

your readers may offer! Sincerely, Peggy Sigler
depotmuseum@canby.com or 503-266-6712
Canby Depot Museum, POBox 160, Canby, OR
97013

The *Trainmaster* is always interested in hearing from chapter members and others who follow trains. Please address correspondence to the address on page 7.

From The Wire



Use of Railroad to Reduce Traffic

FAIRFIELD Cincinnati: Those trying to reduce congestion on Interstate 75 have turned to the region's main railroad, which said it is trying to do a better job at taking trucks off the road.

Tuesday, the North-South Initiative, a group of area officials formed by the Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana Regional Council of Governments (OKI) to study I-75, heard from CSX Transportation, which operates as many as 55 trains daily through Greater Cincinnati and owns the bustling Queensgate rail yard near downtown.

CSX officials said every train car equals five trucks and that business in the region is up 7 percent, some of which is natural growth and some of which is a switch to trains from trucks.

In Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky, CSX handled about 2.5 million train cars in 2000, which is the equivalent of 12.5 million trucks.

I-75 is the busiest truck route nationally, with more than 15,000 trucks a day using the highway in Greater Cincinnati within I-275, according to OKI. Full story can be read at;

http://enquirer.com/editions/2001/02/14/loc_csx_sees_role_in.html
News item summarized and sent our way by Stan Feldman. Stan maintains a Transportation Industry News Page on the world wide web at

<http://www.trainweb.com/railpix/news.html>

4449 on Stampede Pass

We are finally able to put something out on the web page for our upcoming trips just check out <http://www.4449.com> for the latest info.

Thank You, Larry Miller, web site editor for the Friends of the 4449.

Homecoming Excursion

You have all received a copy of the brochure announcing the PRPA's April 20-23, 2001 excursion to Pasco/Spokane. As promised the members of the Pacific Railroad Preservation Association and Pacific Northwest Chapter received the brochure first.

UP loads 100,000th Powder River Train

OMAHA, March 19 -- Union Pacific Railroad Saturday loaded its 100,000th coal train out of southeast Wyoming's Southern Powder River Basin (SPRB) coal field since Union Pacific and the former Chicago & North Western completed a 107-

mile rail line to the region in August 1984.

"Hitting the 100,000th train mark during the 16th year the line has been open proves the capital investment in our coal corridor across Nebraska into Kansas City continues to pay dividends," said Lance Fritz, Union Pacific's vice president and general manager -- energy.

Use of new high-horsepower locomotives and distributed power in coal trains have also helped increase efficiency of trains.

Union Pacific is currently averaging over 34 trains a day, two trains a day better than the all-time high of nearly 32 a day set during January 2001. A new two-day loading record of 78 trains was set on March 8 and 9, surpassing the old record of 76 trains set on July 12 and 13, 2000.

Another reason for the improved coal train numbers is the success of the joint UP/Burlington Northern Santa Fe coal train dispatching area at BNSF's dispatching center in Ft. Worth, Texas. By having both railroads' train dispatchers in the same room, instead of hundreds of miles apart, train movements on shared track in Wyoming are better coordinated.

- Union Pacific press release

Get your tickets purchased and get the word out to **all** of your friends and acquaintances. All the information is on the PRPA web site: www.sps700.org or contact any Board member to get more copies of the excursion brochure.

The PRPA is hoping that this excursion will generate enough funds to continue their excellent

maintenance program on the SP&S 700 Northern class 4-8-4 steam locomotive.

The Chapter is partnering with PRPA to provide passenger support activities. This includes development of the brochure, ticketing, hotel arrangements, and car hosts. For this support the Chapter is receiving money for each ticket sold that will go to our fund raising needs.

PNWC/NRHS
March 16, 2001

General Meeting Summary

CTO: 7:43 pm by President Arlen Sheldrake.

The pledge of allegiance was led by Vice-President, Al Hall

Members & Guests: Welcome members. Two guests and new member Don Gleason from Eugene were recognized.

Officers' Reports:

Secretary: Judy Hall. **Minutes:** There were no corrections or additions to the minutes.

Treasurer: Rick Banton gave a report for Feb. and March. Money is still coming in from membership renewals. (A copy of the report submitted at the Board meeting will be filed with the minutes in Room 1, Union Station).

National Director: Gerald Schuler will be going back to the National Spring Board Meeting next month.

VP: Al Hall. No report.

President: Arlen Sheldrake mentioned that three members had surgery. Naomi Gray, Brent Larson and Jean Hickok. Rich Carlson will be going to Houston on March 29 for surgery. The "Key Request and Agreement" form was placed on each table for the membership to review. The rekeying will be delayed until May due to the very busy month of April. Arlen has asked for Chapter approval for the Homecoming Excursion budget. Part of the budget will cover the re-carpeting of the Mt. Hood. Janet Larson brought the sample of carpet that the Board of Directors had approved out of the 6 samples reviewed. It has been ordered. The Rodabaugh family have donated the \$715 in the Rodabaugh Memorial Fund toward the re-carpeting. Question from the floor: Does the re-carpeting include repairs to the floor of the Mt. Hood? Some repairs will be made but not major ones. Ed Akerman moved that we accept the budget. It was seconded by Ted Ahlberg and the motion carried.

The membership meeting in April will be canceled due to the Homecoming Excursion.

Other Reports:

Rolling Stock: Scott Bruce and crew were working on the Mt. Hood last weekend. They removed the old carpeting and pad, which has been put in storage. They are working on the blinds too. The next meeting is March 28 at 7:00 pm in Room 208, Union Station. The committee is working on a rolling stock plan to present

to the Board and then to the membership. Please attend the meeting if you wish to remain on the committee.

Membership: Maxine Rodabaugh reported 206 full members and 99 family members have renewed.

Excursion: Al Hall reported ticket sales as of March 14: 1. Vancouver-Pasco, 485 seats sold. 2. Pasco-Spokane, 316 seats sold. 3. Spokane-Pasco, 291 seats sold. 4. Pasco-Vancouver, 271 seats sold. There are 614 seats available to sell on each leg. We are disappointed in the ticket sales from Spokane. More effort will be made in the Spokane and Pasco markets. Al and Judy Hall made an excursion presentation to the Tualatin Valley Historical Society on Sunday and were able to sell a few tickets there.

Library: The Board of Directors concurred with Library Chairs, Chuck McGaffey and Ralph Johnson to dispose of excess trip guides from former Chapter excursions. They are taking up a lot of library space which is needed to store our new book donations. Lending Library Chair, Ralph Johnson reported that the library will be open tomorrow and next week and the usual two times in April. The library committee will be removing some books out of the collection that do not meet the Chapter's guidelines. Chuck McGaffey, Archive Chair said the library needs more help and invited interested members to the meeting tomorrow and will provide coffee and donuts. Archive Committee meeting starts at 9:00 am and Lending at 11:00 am in Room 1, Union Station. The library brought samples of the trip guides and excess timetables that they are in the process of deciding how to dispose of them and also attach a value to them. Ted Ahlberg reported that he was at the Columbia Gorge Swap Meet and that the Chapter could sell the excess trip guides and time tables at future swap meets. There is a market for these items. **Activities:** Ron McCoy talked about the Chapter Banquet on Sunday. We have 48 signed up. It will be a fun event with door prizes and a delicious cake from the Beaverton Bakery.

Programs: Al Hall announced that tonight's program will be given by Ted Ahlberg who has an extensive collection of standard gauge model railroad cars and will talk about them.

Trainmaster: Ted Ahlberg agreed to provide the Trainmaster with a calendar of model railroad activities. Members are asked to volunteer to provide other calendar information to help Glenn get this information out to the membership.

Website: Arlen Sheldrake reported for Webmaster, Glenn Laubaugh that we are moving to a new website. The new site will be www.pnwc-nrhs.org. (This will occur sometime after the excursion in April.)

New Chapter Roster: The Board of Directors has recommended that we publish a new roster with a budget of \$500. There was a motion by Kerrigan Gray and seconded by Ed Akerman to publish the roster. The motion carried. **If you would like your email included, please send it to the Chapter email account,**

pnwc@easystreet.com by May 1. Only members who have renewed their membership will receive the new roster.

Good of the Order: Arlen Sheldrake reported that Bob Melbo, formerly of the P&W now has a position on the ODOT staff. Please pay attention to what is going on in Congress as it relates to rail. John Willworth has brought books from the library to check out. Please lighten his load a check out a book or a video. Ted Ahlberg said that Amtrak has received 109 of 300 refrigerator cars they have ordered. National Park Service at the Grand Canyon has received \$160 million to put in a light rail system. The Lewis & Clark Bicentennial Assoc. is seeking \$5 million to get the Astoria Line ready for passenger traffic. Oregon Steam Cranes received a grant from the NRHS and will have their crane operational by the steam-up at Brooks this summer. Neil McKie spoke about a derailment on the UP that he saw down in Dunsuir, CA in which 11 cars derailed.

Motion to adjourn Adjourned at 8:40 pm. Respectfully submitted by Judy Hall, Secretary

Refreshments were provided by Cora and Ted Ahlberg and we sang "Happy Birthday" to Cora whose birthday is next week. Ted brought about 25 vintage, standard gauge railcars and locomotives for members to see and spoke about their origin and value.

Chapter Timetable: Other Events

April 20-23 PRPA SP&S 700 Homecoming Excursion, Vancouver/Pasco/Spokane.

May 5 & 6 Tacoma Railfan Days, Tacoma WA.

May 6 Pacific Northwest Live Steamers, opening 1st monthly Sunday, Molalla OR

May 26-27 Stampede Pass Special. Friends of 4449, Portland/Yakima/Auburn.

May 28 Chelatchie Prairie Railroad, Yacolt WA (targeted start-up date)

June 2 & 3 Trips to Wishram WA, Friends of 4449.

June 19-24 Looking West, NRHS Convention, St. Louis MO

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July 28-29 & August 4-5 Western Antique Powerland annual Steam-up, Brooks OR.

August 3-4-5 Snoqualmie Railroad Days, Northwest Railroad Museum, Snoqualmie WA.

September 6-8 2001 An Oregon Trunk Odyssey, SP&S Railway Historical Society, Redmond OR.

September/October Morton Line Re-Opening between Mineral and Morton WA, date TBA.

The Central Coast Railway Club, Inc., has announced the "San Francisco Historic Trolley

Tour" to take place on Sunday afternoon, May 20, 2001. This trip will consist of a four-hour charter using streetcars from the San Francisco Municipal Railway's historic fleet. A box lunch will be provided. To learn more about this and other trips, or for ticket ordering instructions:

Visit <http://goldenstaterails.com>,

call us at 408-278-5051, or write us at:

Central Coast Railway Club, Inc. P.O. Box 8167, San Jose, CA 95155

Montana Rockies Rail Tours will be operating a Mother's Day excursion on MRL, May 13. Trip will run Sandpoint, ID (Kootenai) to Thompson Falls, MT and return. Fare: Adults \$99, child 4-12 \$75, children 3 and under n/c. 1-800-519-7245, or information@montanarailtours.com

The Montana Daylight will operate the usual Fri-Sat-Sun-Mon; Sandpoint-Missoula-Livingston-Missoula-Sandpoint starting July 06, until Labor day weekend. For more info, see their web site, www.montanarailtours.com

There will be no Northern Parks this year. Other one day trips are tentatively planned.

Pacific Northwest Timetable, from Inland Empire Chapter member Mike Denuty:

MAR 31-APR 1, EUGENE OR, Willamette Cascade Model Railroad Club Train Show and Swap Meet. Lane County Fairgrounds' Expo Hall, South side of the complex. Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 10am-4pm. Info: Mike Adams. 656 Heywood Ave., Eugene OR 97404, (541) 461-0156, madams006@qwest.com.

APR 20-23 STEAM LOCO, SP&S 700, Vancouver WA-Pasco WA, Pasco WA-Spokane WA, Spokane WA-Vancouver WA. Info:- www.sps700.org.

APR 21, (SAT), LIVINGSTON MT, 11th Annual Livingston Swap Meet, Livingston Depot, 10am-4pm. Info:-

APR 22, (SUN), HELENA MT, 21st Annual Helena Railroad Fair. Civic Center, Intersection of Neill & Benton, 9:30am-4pm. Info:- Helena Railroad Fair, PO Box 4914 Helena MT 59604-4914, (406) 443-1578, rrfair@mt.net

APR 28, (SAT), SEATTLE WA, 2nd Annual Northwest Santa Fe Mini-meet. Boeing's Oxbow Activity Center, 10500 W Marginal Place S. Info: John Thompson, 16031 SE 47th Way, Bellevue WA 98006, (425) 562-8955, jthomp1945@aol.com.

APR 28, (SAT), SPOKANE WA, 5TH Div Annual Meeting, Cascade Mobile Home

Community Rec. Hall, Hwy 195 & 16th Ave. Info:-
Tom Jennings, (509) 747-5989,
JENNINGSTjenniRR@aol.com.

APR 28-29, ALBANY OR, Great Northwest
Train Show and Swap Meet. Lynn County
Fairgrounds, 10am-, Info: Jim Walburn, 632 S
Jefferson, Albany OR 97321, (541) 928-5243.

MAY 4-6, ESSEX MT, 16th Annual Essex
Railfan Weekend, Izaak Walton Inn. Info: (406)
888-5700.

MAY 5-6, MUNROE WA, 10th Annual United
Northwest Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet.
Commercial Bldg, Evergreen State Fairgrounds.
11am-5pm. Info: David Moser, (425) 821-6968.

JUN 1-2, FIELD BC, 3rd Annual Spirals
Conference.

JUN 2-3, COEUR d'ALENE ID, 3rd Annual
CDA Railroad Show sponsored by the Inland
Northwest Garden Railway Society. Kootenai
County Fairgrounds, 4060 N Government Way,
10am-4pm. Info: Tony Goatz, (208) 891-8154,
tgoatz@qwest.net.

AUG 8-11 BELLINGHAM WA, Milwest
Convention, Best western Motel, Details to be
announced. AUG 8-12, BELLEVUE WA, National
Garden Railway Convention, (hosted by the Puget
Sound Garden Railway Society). Info:- Mike
Elmore, (360) 659-9110.

AUG 9-12, KELOWNA BC, PNR 2001: AN
OKANAGAN RAIL ODYSSEY, PNR Convention,
Okanagan University College Conference Centre.
Info:- John Schlosser, cwdg@direct.ca,
www.okanaganrailwaygroup.com.

OCT 13-14, BOISE ID, Great American Train
Show, Western Idaho Fairgrounds 5610 Glenwood,
11am-5pm. Info:- www.gats.com.

OCT 21, (SUN), SPOKANE WA, Spokane
Railroad Show. Spokane Community College, Lair
Student Activities Building, Mission & Greene St.
10am-4pm. Info:- Jerry Fey, 2804 E 25th Spokane
WA 99223, (509) 535-7186.

NOV 17-18 PUYALLUP WA, Great American
Train Show, Western Washington Fairgrounds 9th
& Meridian, 11am-5pm. Info:- www.gats.com.

This listing has been prepared with the assistance
of Mike Denuty. of the Inland Empire Railway
Historical Society, Spokane WA,
theminer@povn.com.

Chapter Timetable #463 April 2001

Monthly Board of Directors Meetings:

April 12, May 10 7:30 pm. Rm 208, Union Station.

Monthly Membership Meeting:

No April Meeting, May 18 7:30 p.m. St. Mark's
Lutheran Church, 5415 S.E. Powell Blvd. (Usually
Third Friday Evening of every month.)

Library: Will be open April 21 and 28.

PRPA April Excursion planning meetings; every
Saturday, 3:00; room 208.



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

soon to be http://www.pnwc-nrhs.org

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Janet Larson (503) 253-7436

Darel Mack (503) 723-3345

**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.

Trainmaster Contributions:

Contributions for the *Trainmaster* are most welcome.
Deadline for each issue is the 20th of the previous month.

Committee Chairs

Activities: Ron McCoy, 503.244.4315
Meeting Programs: See *Vice President*
Concessions: Jean Hickok, 503.649.5762
Excursions: Al Hall 503.699.5042
 Janet Larson 503.253.7436
Car Host: Darel Mack 503.723.3345
Finance: See *Vice President*
Library & Historical Foundation: vacant
Membership: Maxine Rodabaugh, 503.253.4241
Museum: Glenn Laubaugh, 503.655.5466
Public Relations: Gerald Schuler, 503.285.7941
Memorial Funds: Gerald Schuler, 503.285.7941
Rolling Stock: Scott Bruce, 503.297.6319
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: Arlen Sheldrake ('01.) 503.223.7006
Vice President: Al Hall ('00, '01) 503.699.5042
Treasurer: Rick Banton ('00, '01) 503.642.7366
Secretary: Judy Hall ('01) 503.699.5042
National Director: Gerald Schuler 503.285.7491

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Dean Petshow (01,02,03) 503.359.9453
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Ralph Johnson (99,00,01) 503.654.1930
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Chuck McGaffey (00,01,02) 503.223.2227

NRHS Regional Vice President:
Richard Carlson, 503.292.0975

Due to some changes at our internet provider, as well as a desire to make the web site easier to maintain, we will soon be changing our web site to a new location:
<http://www.pnwc-nrhs.org> with many thanks to EasyStreet for registration for us.

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

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The *TRAINMASTER*
 Pacific Northwest Chapter
 National Railway Historical Society
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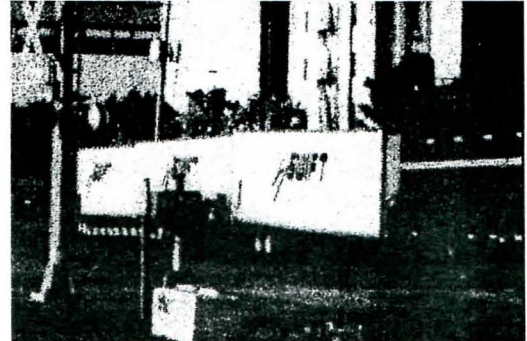
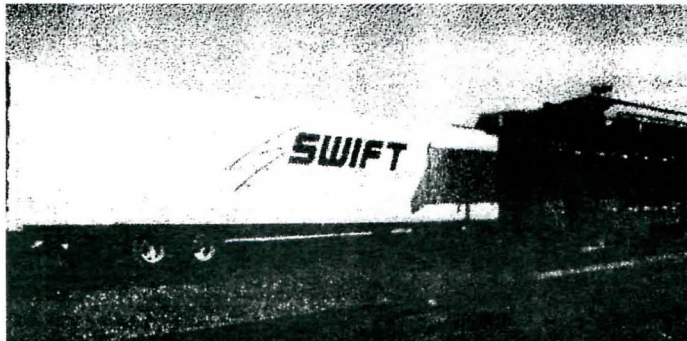
Trainmaster

April 20-23
2001

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



Membership Meeting: May 18, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 S.E. Powell Blvd. 7:30 PM
PLEASE ARRIVE AT OR BEFORE 7:30 AT OUR MEETINGS For building security purposes please arrive for membership meetings at or before 7:30 p.m. If you arrive after 7:30 the parking lot entrance will be locked and you will need to enter the building using the basement door on the West side of the building.



Pictures of Amtrak to come: The *Coast Starlight* has been regularly carrying three or four roadrailer truck trailers on its rear end. The plan is to help make the long distance passenger trains pay for themselves by carrying mail and express. Both Amtrak and Swift Trucking roadrailers can now be seen passing through Portland. Question: How much longer will the growing freight traffic on the end of Amtrak trains require them to stop serving Portland's Union Station due to the inability of trucks to pick up and deliver roadrailer trailers at the Portland station, and the lack of space to develop such facilities due to the replacement of the station's freight yards with apartment buildings? Photos: Arlen Sheldrake.

Please note the following for your calendars:

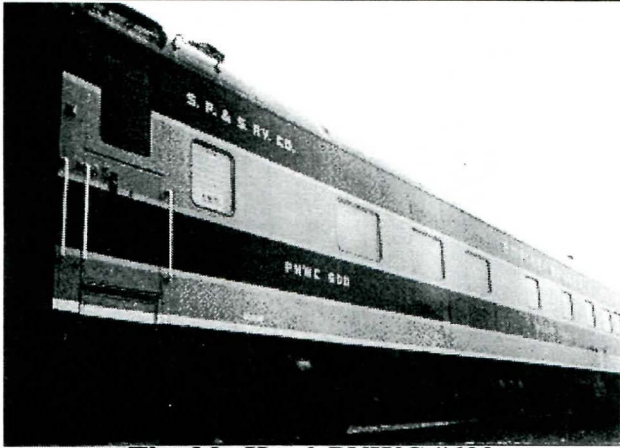
- April 20-23 PRPA SP&S 700 Homecoming Excursion, Vancouver/Pasco/Spokane.
- May 5 & 6 Tacoma Railfan Days, Tacoma WA.
- May 6 Pacific Northwest Live Steamers, opening 1st monthly Sunday, Molalla OR
- May 26-27 Stampede Pass Special. Friends of 4449, Portland/Yakima/Auburn.
- May 28 Chelatchie Prairie Railroad, Yacolt WA (targeted start-up date)
- June 2 & 3 Trips to Wishram WA, Friends of 4449.
- June 19-24 Looking West, NRHS Convention, St. Louis MO
- June 30 Elbe Rail Fan Event, Mt. Rainier Scenic Railroad, Elbe WA.
- July 28-29 & August 4-5 Western Antique Powerland annual Steam-up, Brooks OR.
- August 3-4-5 Snoqualmie Railroad Days, Northwest Railroad Museum, Snoqualmie WA.
- September 6-8 2001 An Oregon Trunk Odyssey, SP&S Railway Historical Society, Redmond OR.
- September/October Morton Line Re-Opening between Mineral and Morton WA, date TBA.

The Oregon City Amtrak Cascades station may

become a reality in 2002. The City is awaiting the fate of the High Speed Rail bonds in Congress and if passed may apply for funds to do the complete station project which would include moving the old freight station to the site. The freight station would be converted into a waiting area and ticket counter (ticket machine in the beginning) with the rest as leased office space. Union Pacific is now considering the easement request along with the footprint of the platform and site plan. Stay tuned.

Union Station Update: The seismic/ADA/infrastructure building study is still progressing after delays caused by consultants being diverted to the recent earthquakes in India and Olympia. Thank goodness Portland didn't get a 6.8 earthquake, at least the clock tower would have been on the ground. The study is expected to be completed by May. The Union Station Annex re-roofing project will be started late this spring. Contractors have been pre-qualified and the RFP development is nearing completion. The Annex houses our offices and archives. Thanks to our City Council for sticking with the 75' height restriction for new development around Union Station. Expect to see yet more construction closer

to the station very soon including traffic flow changes. Also of note, the utility path for fueling, etc on the east side of the mainline will be paved and in the long term the new temporary chain link fence will be replaced with a wrought iron fence to match the other fencing.



The Mt. Hood, PNWC #600

by Chapter President Arlen Sheldrake

Included with today's train as parlor class accommodations is our Chapter's favorite railcar the *Mt. Hood*. This car was built by Pullman-Standard in 1950 for the Spokane Portland & Seattle Railroad (SP&S). Along with the 700 this car is returning to its home rails. This lounge/sleeper car has six roomettes designed for a single traveler and three large compartments designed for one couple each. Two of the compartments have a moving wall between them that allows making one larger four-person compartment. The car also has a small kitchen. About half the car is devoted to lounge space.

The lounge is equipped with an original wooden Farnsworth AM radio with a different button for the various radio stations along the route. A distinctive outside roof feature of the car is the almost full-length radio antenna.

The Mt. Hood proudly wears authentic Empire Builder SP&S colors just as it did during its Columbia Gorge revenue days.

Trainmaster Special Excursion Edition for April President's Update

By Arlen L. Sheldrake

WELCOME ABOARD and welcome to the *Homecoming Excursion* special edition of our Chapter newsletter *The Trainmaster!*

The Chapter is taking great pleasure in working with the wonderful people from the Pacific Railroad Preservation Association to bring you this unique and enjoyable trip behind one of the City of Portland's outstanding operational steam locomotives the ex-SP&S 700.

Your participation on this trip means that you are contributing to the continued preservation of railroading history. Many, many long volunteer hours are spent every year working to preserve the SP&S 700 and other railroad

historical items. By riding this train you are a direct participant in this important effort to preserve this jewel of railroading and American history.

The nearly 280 members of the Pacific Northwest Chapter, National Railway Historical Society are proud to also be a part of railroad historical preservation. The Chapter was founded in 1955 and continues to pursue the following:

- a) to preserve the historical materials of railway transportation primarily relating to the Pacific Northwest.
- b) to collect data on the history of transportation and to issue publicity in media form relating to this subject.
- c) to encourage rail transportation; and
- d) to acquire by purchase, lease, or otherwise manage same in a manner appropriate for museum and the above mentioned purposes.

During this *Homecoming Excursion* we have three objectives:

- 1) to ensure that you have a safe trip,
- 2) to ensure that you have a fun and enjoyable trip,
- 3) to encourage your continued interest in current and historical railroading.

If there is anything we can do to make your trip more enjoyable please let any "bow-tied" staff member know. Thanks again for riding with us!



A **Spokane Portland & Seattle** locomotive runs through downtown Salem in the 1940's on the old Oregon Electric main line. Ben Maxwell collection of the Salem Public Library. The photo archives of the Salem Public Library is available on the web at <http://www.open.org/~library/fotofind.html>

These diesel locomotives replaced steam and electric locomotives on a number of SP&S lines. Passenger steam locomotives such as the 700 were moved into freight service as the diesels arrived. By the mid 1960's all of these diesel locomotives made in 1948 were traded in to the American Locomotive Company for larger diesel locomotives. However, a few similar diesel locomotives, produced in later years, lasted into the 1970's. Today, it is extremely difficult to find these types of diesel locomotives. A single Spokane Portland & Seattle Railway example was still in service for the Long Island Railroad of New York

as of 1998, but was scheduled to be retired that year. It was not being used as a locomotive: it was only used as a remote control car for the locomotive on the other end of the passenger train. We currently have no record as to the ultimate destiny of this unique piece of SP&S railroad history.

Membership in the National Railway Historical Society and the Pacific Northwest Chapter

Vital Information:

To be a member of the NRHS, one must:

- Be 16 years of age or older
- Submit a filled-out membership application
- Submit appropriate dues - the cost depends on what type of membership you want to have. For those applying for membership for the first time, the cost also depends on the time of year.
- Agree to Abide by the By-Laws of the Chapter and the National Railway Historical Society. For the most part, the procedures and rules of the Chapter are a modification of Roberts Rules of Order.

The National Railway Historical Society is made up of a national organization as well as a large number of local chapters. "**Associate members**" are members only of the national organization. "**Regular Members**" are members of both a local chapter and the national organization.

It is also possible to be a member of several local chapters as well as a member in the National Organization.

How much does it cost to become a member of the Pacific Northwest Chapter, NRHS?

The cost depends on the type of membership, and the time of year, but the basic cost is:

\$32 - for Regular Membership, including membership in the Pacific Northwest Chapter, NRHS (\$15 chapter dues) and Membership in the National Railway Historical Society national organization (\$18 for national only membership).

Why Not \$33 ???? \$18 + \$15 = \$33, not \$32! This is correct, but the National Office of the NRHS discounts the national membership by \$1 for those who apply for membership and also become a member of a local chapter. It does make very good sense that the National Office would do this to help encourage membership in chapters, but it does look a little strange to those who are not used to the way the NRHS operates.

Expiration Date/Time of Year:

Another item about membership in the NRHS that some new members find a little confusing at first is the expiration date / time of year item on the membership dues for new members. Because of the complexity involved in mailing monthly membership dues notices, **all memberships end at the end of the calendar year** (December 31st). This means there is no question about when membership for a particular year is over, and when a new year started. It also means all membership renewal notices are mailed at the same time.

From June 1 to September 1, dues are half price for those applying for new membership. This is because those who apply for new membership during that time of year only receive membership for about half a year. Membership expires on December 31 of that year.

From September 1 to December 31, dues are full price for a full year, but membership is for the remainder of the

current calendar year and also include membership in the next calendar year as well.

Other Types of Membership

The National Railway Historical Society is made up of a national organization as well as a large number of local chapters. **Associate members** are members only of the national organization.

Regular Members are members of both a chapter and the national organization. Membership dues in the National NRHS body are discounted by \$1 when joining a chapter.

It is possible to be a **member of more than one chapter**. If adding a chapter to an already existing membership in the national organization, the form should be mailed to the chapter you are joining. The form includes information for those who are already members of other chapters. There is no additional \$1 discount in national membership dues for each additional chapter joined - just a single discount for a single chapter membership.

Spouse membership: Adding one person to an already existing membership. The mailing address must be the same for both people.

Thank you for your interest in the National Railway Historical Society!



The Trainmaster is the official newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. It is published monthly for its members, plus occasional special issues such as the one you are reading now. 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:

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soon to be <http://www.pnwc-nrhs.org>

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Editor:

Glenn Laubaugh, (503) 655-5466

Trainmaster Contributions:

Contributions for the *Trainmaster* are most welcome. Deadline for each issue is the 20th of the previous month.

