

The

December
2001



Trainmaster

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



Board of Directors Meetings: Dec 13, Jan 10, Room 208, Portland Union Station, 7:30 PM
Membership Meetings: Dec 21, Jan 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 security. If you arrive after 7:30 the parking lot door will be locked. You will need use the basement door on the West side of the building.

HOLIDAY POTLUCK! - DECEMBER 21, 2001

Keeping with chapter tradition, the December membership meeting will include a potluck dinner. Bring your favorite hot dish or side dish, along with serving utensils, but leave your plates and cups at home. (We now maintain a supply of plates, cups, forks etc. for chapter activities) If you aren't able to bring a food item, COME ANYWAY! We always end up with more food than we know what to do with. This would be a great time to BRING A GUEST. One last note, by a poll of attending members we will not be organizing a gift exchange. Your presence is gift enough for your fellow PNWC members!

Also: Please note that Jean Hickok has retired from the concessions committee. If anyone would like to take over for her, please let one of the officers know.

Puget Sound & Pacific Excursion Report

Hello Railfans & Train Lovers:

On October 27 and 28, the Northwest Rail Museum hosted a unique event in Western Washington. Two diesels from the short line railroad, Puget Sound & Pacific, were chartered. Three old passenger cars were provided. We were escorted along very rare mileage as far as rail passenger service is concerned. We departed from the small town of Centralia, Washington which is about 80 miles south of Seattle. On Saturday we journeyed out to Aberdeen and the beginning of Gray's Harbor and returned. On Sunday we journeyed up to the naval ship yards located at Bremerton.

The entire track of the Puget Sound & Pacific Railroad covers about 120 miles and we covered most of it during the two days. The original railroad track was made up of Northern Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe track originally starting in 1890. Most of this track was built to serve the logging industry that still thrives in this area. There was a modicum of passenger service out to Aberdeen but the last regular scheduled passenger train was in 1956. On some parts of the track up to Bremerton there never was any passenger service. The opportunity to ride in a passenger train along this track is a very rare opportunity not likely to be again repeated any time soon.

For the trip to Aberdeen we are pulled by two Puget Sound & Pacific diesels originally built in the 1950s and 1960s. They are nicely painted in a color scheme that is green and white with yellow trim. We are riding in three old restored passenger cars. The first two cars were built in 1949 and originally served on the New York Central Railroad. They later saw service on the Copper Canyon Railroad in Mexico and recently saw service in and around Glenwood Canyon, Colorado. The last car is an original Southern Pacific "Daylight" Parlor car built in 1939 and still carries the famous "Daylight" color schemes. This car is named James J. Gilmore.

The scenery out to Aberdeen is quite spectacular this time of year. Lots of different color leaves on the trees from brilliant red, brilliant yellow and all shades and hues in between. These leaves are sprinkled in with the local fir trees to produce a wonderful artist's mural as we move down the track. We do cross the Chehalis River several times along the way and the rail road track is well maintained so we move along rather quickly for most of the journey. It rains most of the day and is quite cold so as I stand by the open

vestibule for most of the journey I am both cold but also quite impressed with the opportunity to enjoy a very rare train ride in a wonderful part of the US. When we arrive at Aberdeen the diesels are moved from the front of the train to the back and we head back to Centralia. The distance traveled is about 110 miles round trip. We leave at 9 AM from Centralia and return around 4 PM. All along the way we enjoy wonderful examples of somewhat rural countryside with farms and plenty of horses and cattle along the way not to mention the many logging mills along the way. Our first day turns out to be quite an enjoyable one.

On Sunday we depart Centralia at 9 AM and head one way to Bremerton which is about 90 miles. The scenery along part of the way is the same as on Saturday but as we head north to Bremerton we are treated to more forests made up almost entirely of green fir trees. We stop for lunch at the small logging town of Shelton, Washington which is on a southern part of the Puget Sound. I found a place called the Pine Tree Inn which is a very old place. I enjoyed a great bowl of Oyster Stew and an Irish Coffee. On a chilly day this combination hits the spot. After our lunch stop we head north towards Bremerton passing the Hood Canal for a long ways. We are also treated to beautiful views of the snow capped Olympic Mountains off in the West. It is not as chilly as it was on Saturday and the sun does come out so we are treated to a great day of railfanning down the tracks. When we arrive at the naval ship yards at Bremerton we are literally out of track. There are several mothballed ships including an aircraft carrier just to our right on the Puget Sound water ways. Because of federal laws we can't ride the train back to Centralia. The crew is only allowed so many hours at the helm so we take a bus back to Centralia. We do cross the Tacoma Narrows bridge and the view from the bridge and the sunset is wonderful. We are also treated to a marvelous view of Mount Rainier (14,411 feet) with the sun brilliantly illuminating its full view and profile. We arrive back in Centralia about 5 PM and again have been treated to a wonderful day of railfanning down some very rare railroad track. We are also treated to a unique opportunity in that two additional diesels are added to the consist. They all were also built in the 1950s. On the way back the crew will bring back a freight train requiring more power and braking. It is a somewhat unique sight to see four rebuilt diesels pulling three old restored passenger cars.

All in all, this weekend was wonderful and a unique opportunity to see a beautiful part of the country, enjoying the good company of folks from around the US while being treated very well by both the crew of the Puget Sound & Pacific Railroad and the local volunteers from the Northwest Rail Museum. Their web site is as follows if you are interested in more information about them: www.northwestrailmuseum.com

I hope you all get the opportunity to enjoy one of these train rides one day. It is a wonderful way to enjoy history, see beautiful scenery and just enjoy the opportunity to do something very unique.

"ALL ABOARD," Choo Choo Joe

President's Update, By Arlen L. Shel Drake

My October was spent mostly out of the country as Rita and I were on a 21-day smarTours trip to Malaysia to find some warm snorkeling water and butterflies. What a wonderful country to visit, friendly people, interesting history, real different animals and birds, lots of warm temperatures and high humidity, and an interesting visit to the North Borneo Railway (www.northborneorailway.com.my). Yes, Malaysia is a predominately Muslim country but the vast majority of the Malaysian people do not support terrorist activities. Our trip began and ended with a very efficient and inexpensive (\$1.55 each way) ride on the newly opened Airport MAX Red Line.

HELP NEEDED:

Concessions Committee: Members to sell Chapter items at various railroad related functions.

Museum Committee: Members to help develop plans for a museum facility at Western Antique Powerland. Develop information to accompany the display of the Flanger and Jordan Spreader.

Volunteer Time: We need someone to develop a system to record and report volunteer hours.

Contact any Officer or Board member to volunteer!

Our December membership meeting agenda will include a review and approval of the **2002 Chapter budget** and the **election** for all Officers and two Board positions. Our Membership Chair, Maxine Rodabaugh, is currently distributing **2002 membership renewal notices**. Please renew your membership and consider a fully tax deductible donation.

Thanks to **Pete Rodabaugh** and **George Hickok** our two coaches, the 6200 & 6800, now have electric heat installed. No longer do these cars rely on HEP or steam for heat which makes them much more usable in our 4 season climate. During the first three Saturdays of October these cars were leased to the Port of Tillamook Bay Railroad for their trips. During the weekends of October 27th and November 3rd Sunset Coast Excursions leased these cars for their two-day runs on POTB rails. Both car leases are providing much needed Chapter revenue. Thanks to all of you who rode any of these trips and supported these passenger rail efforts!

Be looking for a Chapter sponsored **excursion** on the POTB in the near future. Part of our lease contract for the 6200 & 6800 noted above included an opportunity for the Chapter to run a 1-day weekend excursion on their rails. Our Excursion Co-Chairs **Janet Larson** and **Al Hall** are working on the details.

The **Amtrak Historical Society** is coming to Portland April 26-28, 2002 for their eighth Annual Conference. More details: www.amtrakhistoricalsociety.com. And while we're on the Amtrak subject, does your Congress delegation know your thoughts about the future of Amtrak? Also coming to Portland, the **Northern Pacific Railroad Historical Association**, July 10-24, 2002, Holiday Inn – Airport. More information: Jim Russell, PO Box 595, St. Helens OR 97051.

Congratulations and thanks to member **Richard A. Carlson** who was re-elected as our NRHS Northwest Regional Vice President for 2002. Rich's continuing service to the Chapter and NRHS is very much appreciated!

On November 3rd the **Astoria Trolley Association** invited the community to view their new 4000 square foot Trolley Barn located on Industry Street just south of the Port of Astoria Headquarters.

More trips on the Port of Tillamook Bay Railroad are now scheduled by **Pacific Sunset Rail Tour Company** of Portland. Short trips called *Polar Limited* began in November. Longer trips called the *Dinner Train*, *Summit Train*, and *Canyon Train* trips begin in April and run through October. Their *Coastal Train* trips are in January, February, April and November of 2002. All trips depart from Banks Oregon. More information: 503.223.4185 or 888.443.7245 or www.pacificsunsetrr.com.

And speaking of rail trips, check out the new tours for 2002 being run by **Montana Rockies Rail Tours**. They can be reached: 800.519.7245 or www.montanarailtours.com.

The November 1st Homes & Gardens section of *The Oregonian* noted the Historical Home Tour on November 18th of the **Willamette Valley & Coast Railroad Depot**, 500 SW Seventh in Corvallis.

Want to gain a whole lot of knowledge about Oregon railroads? The Oregon Department of Transportation Rail Division has published the **draft 2001 Oregon Rail Plan**. This document updates the *1992 Oregon Rail Passenger Policy and Plan* and the *1994 Oregon Rail Freight Plan*. Lots and lots of interesting information for both the rail fan and anyone else interested in the future of heavy rail in Oregon. Find the report at: www.odot.state.or.us/rail and click on Draft Rail Freight and Passenger Plan, the document is about 120 pages.

WANTED!

We need your help!

Members who have slides and pictures

Please call Al Hall 503-699-5042

**of rail trips and experiences or other areas
of interest for Chapter Meeting programs.**

The Amtrak Historical Society Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Jeff Kocar or Tim Noel at Railpax@aol.com

AMTRAK HISTORICAL SOCIETY TO HOST 8TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Chicago (20 November 2001) – The Amtrak Historical Society, Inc. will host its 8th annual conference on April 26 and 27, 2002 in Portland, Oregon. The meeting will highlight people, trains and railroad operations in the Pacific Northwest.

The conference and activities will open at noon on Friday, April 26th, in the conference room of the Mark Spencer Hotel in Portland. A continuous swap meet will run on both Friday and Sunday. Friday evening activities include music, stories and slides of the railroad. The evening will conclude with an open forum.

Saturday, April 27th, will start with a tour of the historic Brooklyn Roundhouse, home of the famous Southern Pacific # 4449 and Spokane, Portland & Seattle # 700. The Pacific Railroad Preservation Society and the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society will host the Roundhouse tour. Afternoon activities include a tour of the Portland Amtrak Station, the Talgo trainset, and Portland's Tri-Met / MAX system. This year's banquet will be held at Cassidy's Restaurant, followed by an Amtrak presentation and AHS Associate slide presentations at the hotel.

The conference will conclude on Sunday, April 28th, as attendees depart for their respective destinations. Due to the nature of railroad operations, all activities and speakers are pending confirmation and may be subject to change.

A block of rooms is being held at the Mark Spencer Hotel in Portland. The rate is \$69 / night + tax for a Standard Room or \$89 / night + tax for a Junior Twin Suite. Room reservations must be made by Monday, March 25, 2002, by calling the hotel directly at 800-548-3934 and mentioning The Amtrak Historical Society conference.

Costs for the entire weekend activities, excluding hotel, are: \$90 for AHS Associates; \$95 for non-Associates (\$5 of which will be applied to becoming an active AHS Associate). The registration deadline is Monday, March 25, 2002; a \$10 late fee will apply after March 25th. To receive a conference registration packet, please write The Amtrak Historical Society at P.O. Box 7436 Chicago, Illinois 60680-7436 or e-mail Railpax@aol.com, or visit www.amtrakhistoricalsociety.com on the Internet. All credit card payments must be made through the web site.

The Amtrak Historical Society

P.O. Box 7436 Chicago, Illinois 60680-7436

E-Mail: Railpax@aol.com Web Site: www.amtrakhistoricalsociety.com

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8th Annual Conference, April 26 - 28, 2002, Portland, Oregon

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
Friday, April 26		
12:00 noon	Registration, Displays and Swap Meet	Mark Spencer Hotel
07:00 p.m.	"An Evening of Music and Memories" Mauris Emeka, Paul Appenbrink, Steven Brown, and Alfredo Gomez	Hotel Banquet Room
09:00 p.m.	Slide Presentations, Open Forum, Swap Meet	Hotel Banquet Room
Saturday, April 27		
09:30 a.m.	Depart Hotel for Brooklyn Roundhouse *	Hotel Lobby
10:00 a.m.	Tour of Brooklyn Roundhouse *	Portland, Oregon
01:00 p.m.	Tour of Portland Amtrak Station *	Portland Station
02:00 p.m.	Tour and Photo Opportunity of Talgo Trainset	Portland Station
03:00 p.m.	Tri-Met / MAX Presentation *	Location TBD
05:00 p.m.	No Host Cocktail Reception	Cassidy's
06:00 p.m.	Banquet	Cassidy's
08:00 p.m.	Amtrak Presentation *	Hotel Banquet Room
09:00 p.m.	Slide Presentations, Open Forum, Swap Meet	Hotel Banquet Room

Sunday, April 28

Check-out

* Tour schedule subject to change pending confirmation from Brooklyn Roundhouse, Pacific Northwest Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society, and Tri-Met. Due to the nature of railroad operations, featured Amtrak speakers cannot be confirmed at this time and are subject to change.

Mailbag

Bedwell Book Sought

Hello-

Mr. Harry Bedwell authored a book I'm trying to find for a customer. *The Boomer, a Story of the Rails*

I'm unable to find the book even though I know it was published in 1942 by Farrar & Reinhart (New York and Toronto). Does anyone there have a copy

they'd like to sell? If so, what condition is it in and how much would you like to sell it for?

Thanks in advance for your help. Hopefully, I can find a copy or at the very least some good information to help me find a copy.

Sincerely,

Eric

Aaron's Books, 146 South Broadway, Salem, OH 44460
bookworm@cboss.com
ph: 330-337-8845 fax: 330-337-8925

PNWC/NRHS General Meeting

Minutes November 16, 2001

CTO: 7:45 p.m. by President Arlen Sheldrake

Pledge of Allegiance: Arlen led the Chapter in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Welcome members and guests: Please sign in on the register.

Officer's Reports:

Secretary: There were no additions or corrections to the minutes as published in the Trainmaster. George Hickok moved and Kerrigan Gray seconded that the minutes be approved. The motion passed.

Treasurer: Rick Banton said the Board had moved funds from the Columbia Funds to pay Chapter bills and the funds are at the brink of dipping below the mandatory emergency fund.

President: Arlen said that he and Rita had a wonderful trip to Malaysia. They rode the Airport Max line to the airport for only \$1.55 fare and it was a good experience. He also thanked member **Mildred Messmer** for her donation to the Chapter at the last meeting. The Chapter still needs help on the Museum, Concessions and Rolling Stock committees. Please consider volunteering your help to any Board member. **Congratulations to Rich Carlson on his reelection to Regional Vice-President for the NRHS. A great thank you to George Hickok and Pete Rodabaugh for getting heat into the 6200 and 6800 in time for their lease to the Sunset Coast Excursion. This provided the Chapter with much needed revenue.** Both Amtrak and the Northern Pacific Historical Societies will have conferences in Portland next year. Take a look at the Pacific Sunset Rail Tours excursions at www.pacificsunsetrr.com. Oregon Department of Transportation has a draft of the 2001 Rail Plan of 120 pages on their website. The Board approved that the Archive Committee can dispose of the boxes of model train magazines. Bill Hyde of the committee said there were 10 or more boxes of magazines.

National Director: Gerald Schuler reported that he attended the NRHS Board of Directors meeting and his report will be printed in the December Trainmaster. He also mentioned that the NRHS Bulletin might be changing somewhat due to the editor retiring. New procedures for submitting articles to the Bulletin can be viewed at www.NRHS.com. National is encouraging chapters to support scholarships for young people to attend rail camp. A scholarship is \$550 per person. Three youths from Oregon have previously attended the camp. The Arizona chapter, who is hosting the next convention, may run a two-day trip behind the Santa Fe 3751, steam engine, from Los Angeles to Williams, AZ. They also expect to run trips on the Grand Canyon Railway. Forms for the \$25 pre-registration fee will be in the next Bulletin. Gerald also pointed out the concern about rail fans trespassing on railroad property with the additional security forces in place. Oregon has one of the strongest trespassing laws, being a Class A

misdemeanor, 1 year in jail and a \$5000 fine.

Committees Reporting:

Elections: Rich Carlson will be conducting the elections at the December Chapter meeting.

Concessions: We are still looking for someone to chair the Concessions Committee.

Membership: Maxine Rodabaugh reported that she has the dues notices and that members can pay their dues tonight, at the Dec. meeting or mail them. She recommended getting the dues in early to help with the Chapter's finances.

Rolling Stock: George Hickok thanked members for the help with the heaters and brake valves. The valves weighed about 1000 pounds and the freight to ship them here was \$2,000. The Chapter realized about \$4,000 from the excursion leases of Chapter rail cars. George received a call from Pete Rodabaugh about moving the flanger to WAPI (Western Antique Powerland) before the ground gets too soft from the rain. The move will cost about \$3000. George said he does not know where the funds will come from to pay for the move. The flanger would occupy the track next to the steam crane. Two semi-truck trailers of Chapter stuff need to be relocated. They have been moved from the Chicken Coop to temporary storage. Anyone with suggestions about storage, please contact George immediately. The Chapter intends to move the Jordan spreader to WAPI also. It is now on track in St. Helens waiting for the P&W to fix and release it. The flanger and Jordan spreader would be part of an interpretive display for the public at WAPI. A member asked what type of help would be needed? Help will be needed in the near future to pay for and develop the display. Also the museum committee needs members. Al Hall talked about the on-going conversations with Rob Lewis of WAPI. They are moving quickly and positively and perhaps by this time next year, the Chapter could be moving in. Arlen said that WAPI is a unique situation with a chance for all railroad groups to come together. The plan is for a state transportation museum. Kerrigan Gray asked if the Chapter would develop a formal agreement with WAPI. Arlen said yes that is the plan and will be accomplished with the flanger and Jordan spreader, which will be the first items of rolling stock moved.

Excursions: Al Hall reported that he would begin working on the Port of Tillamook Bay excursion. The POTB offered the Chapter a one-day excursion as part of the lease agreement when they leased rolling stock. He said he is hoping to make this a unique and different trip and lots of fun. If you have any ideas or suggestions about how to make this trip really great, please pass them on to Al.

Activities: Ron McCoy said that Dec. 21 is the Chapter's holiday meeting and potluck. He took a show of hands as to who in the membership would like to continue the gift exchange. There appeared to be no interest and so the gift exchange will be eliminated. Ron will bring his pictures from the Chapter trip to Washington in Sept. to share with the membership. The potluck starts at 6:30 p.m. This is a good meeting to bring guests along. Eating utensils will be provided, bring a hot dish, salad or dessert. He also mentioned a proposed trip to view the Christmas ships on the Willamette River while aboard the Willamette Shore Trolley. If it is possible to have the trip, he will activate the telephone committee.

Library: John Willworth has brought books and videos for members to check out.

For the Good of the Order: Roger White said that WAPI has officially changed their name to Western Antique Museum Association and has become a not-for-profit organization. The original WAPI members will become charter members. The WAMS is offering a special \$10 membership fee that includes voting rights and free entrance to WAPI except for the Steam Up. See Roger for a membership application. Ted Ahlberg talked about Amtrak passenger service being in financial trouble and Amtrak has being given 90 days to develop a liquidation plan. He encouraged anyone who is interested in this subject to get involved. Members may contact their congressional representatives as private citizens and not as NRHS members, due to our not-for-profit status. Ron McCoy suggested calling or emailing congress due to the anthrax in the mail problem and the mail being held or delayed.

Programs: Tonight's program consists of two videos. The first one is "A Ride on the Brooklyn Hauler" aboard the Portland & Western Railroad from Hillsborough to the Brooklyn Yard with Bob Melbo, Jr. as engineer and Richard Gray (Chapter

member) as conductor. The second video, courtesy of Darel Mack, is about "The Grand Canyon Railway". **The program for January** is expected to be from member Bob McCoy about the Ilwaco Railroad **and in February**, Tony Roberts, who will talk about the RAF (Royal Air Force) Railroad.

Motion to adjourn: We adjourned at 8:25 to enjoy refreshments provided by Cora and Ted Ahlberg. *Respectfully submitted by Judy Hall, Secretary*

Chapter Timetable #472 December 2001

Monthly Board of Directors Meetings:

Dec 13, Jan 10 7:30 pm. Rm 208, Union Station.

Monthly Membership Meeting:

Dec 21, Jan 18 7:30 p.m. St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 S.E. Powell Blvd.

Rolling Stock Committee:

New Meeting Days have Not Yet Been Set. If you have a particular day you would like or not like meetings, please let the committee know.

Lending Library:

Library open Dec 22, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.



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. 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

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

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

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

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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

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

Trainmaster Contributions: by 20th of previous month

Committee Chairs

Activities: Ron McCoy, 503.244.4315
Archives: Chuck McGaffey, 503. 223.2227
Meeting Programs: See *Vice President*
Concessions: *Vacant*
Excursions: Al Hall 503.699.5042
 Janet Larson 503. 253.7436
Car Host: Darel Mack 503. 723.3345
Finance: See *Vice President*
Lending Library: Ralph Johnson 503. 654.1930
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: vacant, contact Arlen Sheldrake
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

Chapter Directors-at-Large

Dean Petshow (01,02,03) 503. 359.9453
George Hickok (01,02,03) 503. 649.5762
Ralph Johnson (99,00,01) 503. 654.1930
Bob Jackson (00,01) 503. 244.4440
Ted Ahlberg (00,01,02) 503. 579.2131
Chuck McGaffey (00,01,02) 503. 223.2227

NRHS Regional Vice President:
Richard Carlson, 503. 292.0975

ITS YOUR CHAPTER. IF YOU HAVE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT RUNNING FOR AN OFFICE, PLEASE CONSIDER DOING SO. WE NEED MORE PEOPLE TO HELP LEAD THE CHAPTER. Contact Al Hall 503.699.5042

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

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