

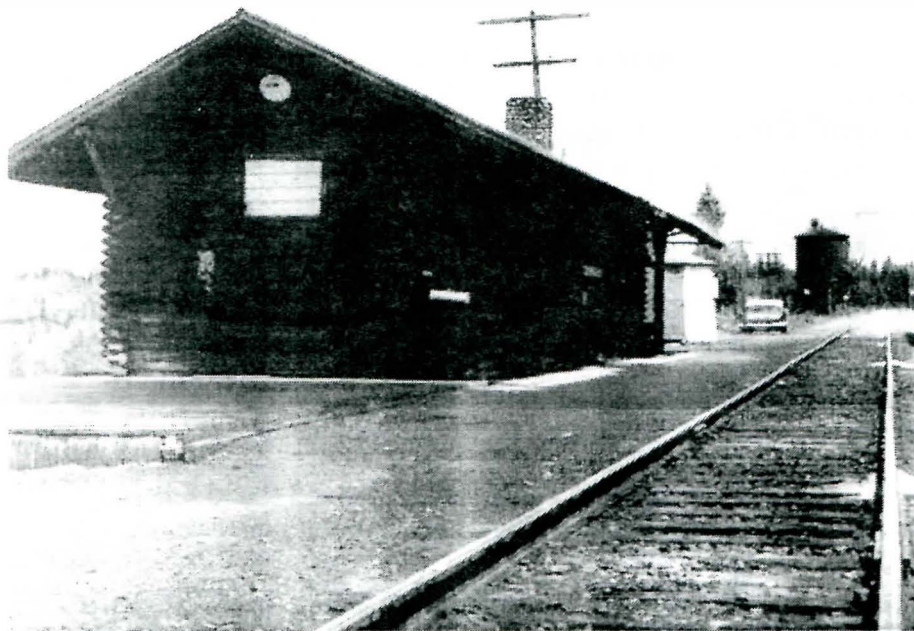
The

June
2003



Trainmaster

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



A view of the depot in Timber, Oregon in 1957. As people on the May 31st Excursion between Banks and Wheeler will testify, this area looks completely different now that trees have been allowed to grow. Ben Maxwell Collection, Salem Public Library. <http://photos.salemhistory.org/>

Presidents Update, By Arlen L. Sheldrake

Many thanks to **Everett Cutter**, Oregon Railroad Association (ORA) for the donation of three boxes of historic materials to the Chapter. Everett has closed the ORA office in Sylvan and when he retires this year will be closing the almost 70 years of ORA operations. The first person to work for ORA was a familiar name to any Oregonian, Oswald West. One of the treasures in the donated materials is a 1954 paper developed for ORA by Paul W. Harvey Jr. called "*The History of Oregon's Railroads, An Account of the Birth and Growth of the 3,500-mile Rail Network That Made Great Contributions to the Development of the State*".

Timetable #490

Membership Meetings: June 20, July 18 St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 S.E. Powell Blvd. 7:30 PM **PLEASE ARRIVE AT OR BEFORE 7:30 AT OUR MEETINGS** 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.

Program for June: Mark Reynolds on the route of Hiawatha and the Hiking and Bike Trails in the state of Wash.

Board of Directors Meetings: June 12, July 10, Room 208, Union Station, 7:30 PM

Lending Library: 1:30 to 4 pm June 21, 28. Check-out subject to loan agreement.

Upcoming Activity:

We are going to take a trip on the Lewis & Clark Explorer RDC train between Portland and Astoria on June 14. Call Ron at 503-244-4315 for info.

Notable Non-Chapter Events

SP&S 2003 Convention, June 26-29, Best Western Columbia River Inn, Cascade Locks OR; more info: 10832 SE Stephens St, Portland 97216

Idaho, Northern & Pacific excursion Friday, August 8, 2003. Payette to Cascade, Idaho. Options include a bus return at reduced rate. Contact Southern Appalachia Railway Museum for information. (865) 241-2140

Springwater Trail official opening including steam locomotives!! June 28 and 29, near OMSI.

The March 2003 **AORTA Bulletin** contained many interesting items including an article about the Washington County Commuter Rail project and our March 25th membership program on this topic. My thanks to Dan McFarling, Bulletin Editor, for publishing this information.

With Oregon's continuing decline in tax revenue many tough choices have to be faced by the Oregon Legislature and us citizens. Among the many items on the chopping block as this is written are all **Oregon Amtrak** subsidies. The April 17th Oregon Legislature's budget eliminates the two Cascades trains and Amtrak Thruway bus services. Cuts would also eliminate funding for the future Washington County commuter rail program and the new Lewis & Clark Explorer. You need to voice your opinions to your elected representatives now. During late April and early May members of AORTA have been working the trains and the Portland Union Station boarding passengers making them aware of the impending budget decisions.

How does a weekend of big time steam locomotives operating in the City of Portland sound? Planning is underway by the Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation for the **SP&S 700** and **SP 4449** to pull short excursions the last weekend of June as part of the City of Portland *Springwater Trail on the Willamette* celebration. Your help is needed with ticket sales on June 28th or 29th, 4-hour shifts available each day, contact Arlen (503.223.7006 or rita_sheldrake@msn.com). Car Hosts are being recruited by Darel Mack. Be a part of the first steam excursions within the City of Portland and help with your time.

On April 18th I lost a friend, brother and avid railfan. John was a great Brother to me and Father to members Dean and Pam Sheldrake. John was given a fitting send off in his favorite Portland & Western Railroad t-shirt and his 4449 American flag hat. His casket bore the bumper sticker: *Railfan On Board*..... Thanks John for many things but for this forum your continued encouragement in my endeavors with the Chapter and railroad history preservation.

John W. Sheldrake November 26, 1937 – April 18, 2003.

Thomas the Tank Engine is coming back to **Chehalis-Centralia Railroad** August 1-2-3 and 8-9-10. Tickets: 866.468.7630 or www.ccrta.com. The regular excursion schedule is suspended during the *Thomas* visit.

Page 62 of the May 2003 issue of *Railfan & Railroad* magazine has a beautiful picture of the **SP&S 700** in rugged mountains near Plains Montana on October 12th during the Montana trip. Thanks PRPA for continuing to make history with Portland's historic steam locomotive.

Our sympathies to member (1981) Jim Loomis on the April 29th loss of his mother Jacquelyn Loomis.

On May 5th the Chapter was notified that we are one of the organizations named in the estate of departed member **William J. Einzig**. Bill died February 17, 2003 and was a Chapter member and contributor since 1992.

Two trips are being planned by our sister organization, the **Central Coast Railway Club, Inc.** (AKA Central Coast Chapter, NRHS). The first one on September 21st is a round trip between Los Angeles Union Station and San Diego behind the ex-Santa Fe 3751 steam locomotive. The second one on October 18-20 is a rare-mileage trip between Emeryville CA and Medford OR via the Siskiyou Line and return. For more information watch their web site: www.goldenstaterails.com or subscribe to their email list by sending a message to: info@goldenstaterails.com

On May 3rd the Oregon Coast Explorer did a test run with the leased 60-ton **1910 Heisler** steam locomotive pulling one of the POTB Railroad's RDC units according to Tillamook's *Headlight Herald* newspaper. Expect to hear more about regular runs in the media or www.potb.org.

Many thanks to Ron McCoy for his efforts to develop a very nice event schedule and cost for our June 14th **Lewis & Clark Explorer trip** to Astoria. This should be a great trip for 66 Chapter members and their guests. More information in this issue of *The Trainmaster* or contact Ron at 503.244.4315 or r.mccoy@attbi.com

The **2005 NRHS Convention Hotel** committee with the able assistance of the NRHS National Convention Committee is in the final stages of contract negotiation with the hotel for the week of July 4th. As soon as this is accomplished, another mailing will be going to the Convention Planning Team. Convention Planning Team members attending the 2003 NRHS Convention in Baltimore may submit their travel expenses to the Chapter as a tax-deductible donation. If you would like to join our Convention Planning Team, please let me know. Jim Long has developed an initial web site: www.nrhs2005.com

Work on rehabilitating the Chapter's 1917 baggage car #76 (sometimes called the Chapter museum car) has begun with the able leadership of Keith Fleschner. The running gear is in pretty good shape as is most of the interior. The roof and other areas need a lot of work. If you are able to help, give Keith a call at 503.632.0267 or keithfleschner@msn.com. As you know this car is famous for many things including the romp behind the 4449 during the 1976 Freedom Train tour, it needs to be preserved and put back into service.

August 8th will be a special excursion on **Idaho Northern & Pacific Railroad** from Payette Idaho to Cascade Idaho. This 102-mile one-way rail with bus return starts at 7:00 a.m. and returns at 10:00 p.m., cost if \$125. An optional \$10 lunch is available and time will be available for dinner at Cascade. Seating is limited to 150 riders. More information: www.southernappalachia.railway.museum. Send check or money order payment with stamped self-addressed envelope to: Southern Appalachia Railway Museum, PO Box 5870, Knoxville TN 37928. If ordering lunch specify turkey, ham or veggie. For information on the consist as well as other, shorter trips, see www.thundermountainline.com.

Those missing the March, April and/or May membership meetings sure missed some great programs. Many thanks to Dave Van Sickle, Vice President, for the excellent and informative programs!

2002 Financial Donations

The Chapter thanks the following individuals for contributing unrestricted funds to the Chapter:

Banton, Rick	Halling, Wayne	Miller, Stephen
Bells, Clarence	Hansen, Jeffery	Moore, Kenneth
Bingham, Douglas	Harper, Joe	Nelson, Noel
Bowdish, Dale	Heuer, James	Ray, William
Bukowsky, Chuck	Hickok, George	Rock, Randy
Clayton, Michael	Hjaltalin, Nellie	Rodabaugh, Maxine
Day, James	Honeyman, Jeffrey	Rogers, Elinore
Dennis, Gary	Hoyt, Robert	Rubeck, Jack
Diers, Curtis	Huber, Stanley	Russell, Robert
Eddy, James	Hunter, Don	Scheel, Rosemary
Einzig, Bill	Johnsen, Kenneth	Sheldrake, Arlen
Engeman, Richard	Johnson, Jerold	Spor, Albert

Ewing, Irv	Kennedy, Halisey	Stafford, Robert
Feuerstein, Gary	LaFreniere, Oliver	Thompson, Gene
Foster, John	Larson, James	Warschauer, Reiner
Franklin, Jerry	Mack, Darel	Welk, Richard
Gibson, William	Marquis, Anthony	Wenzel, Robert
Giurlani, Steven	McGaffey, Chuck	Wilson, Thomas
Grail, Vivian	Messmer, Mildred	Yost, Raymond

The following are thanked for their project specific financial donations:

Chuck Bukowsky - *Trainmaster* mailing
 Bill Einzig - *Trainmaster* mailing
 Robert Hoyt - Photocopier
 Darel Mack - Chapter Banquet
 Mildred Messmer - Twin Grove move to Avery Idaho & 2005 NRHS Convention
 Robert Mizia - Chapter POTB excursion

And the following are thanked for their financial donations to the following Memorial Funds:

Richard A. Carlson Memorial –

Douglas Bomarito, Ron Carlson, Wayne Halling, Inland Empire Railway Historical Society,
 Gerald Schuler, Martin Swan, Robert Terhune

Al Haij Memorial –

Gerald Schuler

Jim Edgar Memorial –

Gerald Schuler

Marilyn Edgar Memorial –

Gerald Schuler

Jerry Webb Memorial –

Dale & Linda Bowdish, Gerald Schuler

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING Richmond, VA April 6, 2003

The meeting was opened by President Greg Molloy, followed by the invocation given by Rev. Howard Walker. Then Greg mentioned the recent death of Vice President Bob Pinsky. He mentioned that Ellen Pinsky said she would continue as Assistant Secretary, but could not come to this meeting. The minutes of the Nov. 3, 2002 meeting in Mt. Pleasant, IA, were approved as mailed. Next Bruce named several new National Directors who were elected. Greg asked anyone who was attending their first Board of Directors meeting to stand and introduce themselves.

Greg continued with his Presidents Report. Foremost in our minds is the sudden and unexpected death of Vice President Bob Pinsky. The Society will absorb this loss. The first couple weeks were focused on getting control of the situation and getting the word out to persons and activities he was involved in. Now we are dealing with his many projects on a case by case basis. Membership Records, this most urgent need is an ongoing project. Michael Bettiol has agreed to step in as acting director to help us through the transition. He has worked with Bob for several years in the design of the current system. This situation is proof that we cannot have only one person that is familiar with the data base. The NRHS News Editor is another position we need to fill. We have approached several people who have publication experience. The NRHS News is really the voice of the National Society. The News that is in the mail now is really Bob Pinsky's product. Much of the material for the next issue is ready. Bob also held the elected office of Vice President. Greg is looking at options for a replacement. The By-Laws require that Greg make an interim appointment within 60 days. Greg has confidence that the Society will be able to fill his positions.

Other appointments have also been made. David Baniewicz has agreed to be the assistant director of emblem sales with Martin Swan. The 2003 Nominating Committee has been appointed. Becky Gerstung will Chair, with Scott Andes and Robert Mesite. In the National Activities report we have listed an assistant director to back up Ed Thornton.

Greg thanked the Old Dominion Chapter for hosting this Board meeting along with the Buckingham Branch Railroad. All the members did an excellent job of working together to make this meeting a success.

Greg added in a couple of small reports. They have agreed on an external audit by a private company. In addition they solicited input to determine what to do with the internal audit process to make it complimentary to the external audit. The preliminary decision was that there are no major problems though there were a few areas which needed improvement. He had just recently received the completed report which will be on the agenda for the Baltimore meeting.

We have done an internal study to identify the source of NRHS donations for fiscal year 2002. They wanted to be able to provide some guidance in requesting future contributions. It showed that Associate members are 17% of the primary membership. However they gave 50% of the total donations. The average Associate member donates \$6 over his or her dues. The average Chapter member donates \$1 over dues. The total of all donations is \$2.50 per member. Greg is interested in encouraging members to start, and/or increase their donations.

Larry Eastwood, Sr. VP, gave the National Officer Report in Membership Awards. He is working on the 25 yr. awards for this year and expects to notify the chapters by June 1. The office has a supply of back issues of NRHS Bulletins available to Chapters to distribute at Train Shows etc. They will be sent to Chapters without charge upon request. The National Office has available for loan a supply of movies and videos on various railroad subjects. They have also talked about having a master list of volunteer Chapter members using a program of his or her own to take to other Chapters for putting on a program, something like a "speakers bureau". This is still in the embryonic stage. As Director of Membership Awards he gets to do a lot of nice things, so he asked Bob and Dianne Heavenrich to come forward when he presented them with 25 year Awards. Next Dick Billings announced that we had very good dues collection for this year and also many donations. The final notice for late payments will be out soon. Bob Heavenrich referred delegates to his report in the National Activities Report. It is still too early to list any income or expenses for this year. The total assets for 2002 is over twice that in 1997. Frank Ackerman, Liaison for Trails and Rails Program, an initiative of the National Park Service, reported. Unfortunately the areas where the Park Service is most interested in having this service is in localities where we have the fewest number of Chapters, such as Williston and Minot, ND, Seattle, WA, and Klamath Falls, OR. His goal is to assist Chapters to help with this program. There are some volunteers working in this program now that are not Society members, but may be prospects. Becky Gerstung, Nomination Committee announced that the committee is working at filling vacancies, and asked for volunteers to contact her. Jim Lilly Website Director. There have been two major redesigns of the website since the last meeting. It was an incredible amount of work and is now state of the art. He is also working on a Media Center which was started last summer. We are continuing to put more national projects on line. We have now put the entire Bulletin Index from 1935 to 1986 on line. The RailCamp program is now also on line and he is requesting photo's of that. If any Chapters have scholarships available for RailCamp he would list it on the web. Jack Salt of the Railway Heritage Grants Program Reported that the deadline for submitting requests for grants will be 4 pm April 30. He had application forms available. Richard Shulby of the Historic Railway Structures Survey told his survey has been updated and can be expected on the website in 30-45 days. Two roundhouses have recently been lost due to fire and another due to demolition. He has recently received several more listings to include. Many of the new listings have come from non-NRHS members. Martin Swan, Emblem Sales, said a new 3-D key chain will be available at the time of the summer Convention. Martin now has an assistant, Dave Baniewicz, who is working on obtaining some new clothing items. Jeff Smith, Bulletin editor, said issues 3 & 4 should be out soon. Issues #5, 1 & 2 are in various stages of development. He will soon go to full color, and heavier paper. For the activities issue, the Chapter reports must be submitted on the web this year to expedite publication. So far 94 reports have been submitted via the web. The deadline has been extended to April 30. Greg mentioned that he had seen an advance copy of #4 and was impressed with the quality.

Ed Thornton, Director Chapter Development, has been getting many inquiries, a few of which may develop into new Chapters. David Flinn has agreed to be assistant. Wes Ross, Activities, said the 2003 list of rail attractions offering discounts to NRHS members is now available. It should be sent out with a Bulletin before the tourist season starts in June. There are approximately 25% more attractions listed. Wes also reported on the Operation Lifesaver program by quoting a few statistics. Grade crossing fatalities and injuries have continued the 35 year decline. The number of crashes has declined 5% between 2001 and 2002. The number of casualties has declined 15%. His personal observation is that we are getting the educational message out to people and telling them to immediately get out of a vehicle that becomes disabled on the railroad tracks. The bad news is for the 6 or 7th year the number of people who have been killed while trespassing on railroad property has increased by 6.5% over last year. The 2002 National figure

is 544 persons, compared to grade crossing crashes which resulted in 355 fatalities. He requested input from members as to which direction this program should go. Many Chapters have certified presenters. Next Bob Bitzer reported on the RVP Meeting. He began by thanking the Old Dominion Chapter for making arrangements for this Meeting. The RVP's are working on many projects like the Chapter Operations Manual, sources of Donations, membership promotion, enforcing Chapter requirements, RailCamp promotion and current security issues. Next Michael Bettiol, Acting Director Membership Records, stated he had been working with Bob Pinsky since 1996. The record system continues to be in good shape. He is working on the transition of records with the guidance of Lynn Burshtin. She was next to report on the Office Managers duties and explained activities of Jim Andrisen, Public Relations. She had distributed copies of the "On Board Report" which showed the status of Chapter renewals.

Society Initiatives; Larry Eastwood, reported on RailCamp. At this point there are 12 paid registrations for the one camp this year, July 20-26. There are several requests pending for the remainder of 24 spaces. There is some funding available to provide assistance. It is hoped to have two camps in 2004. It costs \$750 for each camper but they only charge \$550 tuition. Some consideration has been given to raising the tuition to the full cost. Greg explained the status of work on the Chapter Operations Manual by the Administration. He described the status of two Chapters that are in the process of disbanding. The Board approved motions for this action by both Chapters.

Under old business, John Fiorilla described the status of the Alco Historic Photo project. It is probable that there will be a lawsuit to bring this action to a close. Greg summarized the 2003 budget update. There was sufficient income in 2002 so he sees no need to adjust the budget now. Next Carl Jenson introduced Joe Williams, who has been working on the Convention Policy. He asked for suggestions from the delegates. The goal is to have the new Policy mailed with the Baltimore Notice of Meeting package this summer for discussion at the Board meeting then. Carl explained a "Convention How to Manual" which is now completed and has been given to Chapters who are working on future Conventions. If any Chapter wishes to bid on the 2006 Convention, please speak up. Carl introduced the Grand Canyon Chapter alternate delegate. He said they had expected a loss, but fortunately they cleared a profit of approximately \$39,784, and were able to give National \$10,956. Since then the Chapter has received two other refund checks. He was happy to state they ended the year in the black. This Convention had the highest gross income of any since 1981. Carl complemented them on a successful Convention, and hoped we will continue to have the same kind of success. Carl asked Bob Bitzer to give a report on the pending Baltimore Convention. Bob said there have been a lot of operational problems with the Railroads which was the reason for the delay in getting out the booklets. One catastrophic loss was the snow damage to the roof of the B&O Museum. There are a tremendous amount of activities, something for everybody. There are nearly 1200 prepaid registrations, with 2000 names in the data base. Events are selling well. The B&O Railroad Museum will be putting on a special presentation for all the Convention attendees to show the restoration work in the museum. It will be held the afternoon of July 3 in the Hotel. Martin Swan then talked about the 2004 Convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul. June 29-July 5. Plans are proceeding and he guaranteed no snow. He will have pre-registration forms available at the Baltimore Convention. Carl Jenson said regarding the 2005 Convention in Portland that Hotel negotiations are continuing. They have the potential for a lot of main line steam and also short line trips. There is no sales tax in Oregon.

Future Board Meetings. Fall 2003 will be in Ronkonkama, New York. The spring 2004 meeting will be in Altoona, PA. Fall 2004 will be at Utica, NY. Spring 2005 has been bid by Western Maryland, Chapter. There is no bid for Fall 2005. Carl suggested a West location.

Rev. Walker gave the Benediction and the meeting was adjourned.

Gerald A. Schuler, National Director

General Membership Meeting - - April 25, 2003

President Arlen L. Sheldrake called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance started the meeting.

The approval of the February 21st and March 21st meeting minutes were postponed until they have been published in *The Trainmaster*.

No guests were introduced. Arlen noted that the members of AORTA were invited to this meeting since the program would be of interest to them but many were attending a regional meeting.

The Chapter Treasurer Alan Viewig reported on our declining bank balances and that our operating expenses exceed our revenues. Alan made available copies, made at personal

expense, to interested members the Liberty Funds March 31st statement and US Bank March 31st statement.

Filling the position of Secretary, as announced in April issue of *The Trainmaster*, due to Judy Hall's resignation, was the next order of business. James G. Long was nominated. With no other nominations, a motion was made and approved to elect James as our 2003 Chapter Secretary.

Al Hall, Excursion Committee co-chair provided an update on the May 31st POTB *West to Wheeler* excursion. Ticket sales have been very good with no media publicity. Tickets have been mailed. We now need helpers to get the passenger cars ready for the excursion. Janet Larson, Excursion Committee co-chair, has

agreed to handle the food arrangements and also needs some help. The consist will be: 6200, 6800, Mt. Hood, Plum Creek and hopefully a baggage car.

The Chapter 76 baggage car needs some work to get it road ready and presentable. Our major need is someone to lead the project. Keith Fleschner agreed to take on this task. The running gear seems to be in good condition except for one brake shoe, the interior needs painting and the roof needs repairs.

The Chapter Activity for members and guests riding the Lewis & Clark Explorer from Portland's Union Station to Astoria's depot got confirmed this morning for June 14th. Ron McCoy and Mathew Smith will now go to work to develop the details. A sign-up sheet was started for those desiring tickets. The Chapter has reserved 66 seats, which is one of the two larger RDC units.

Planning for the 2005 NRHS Convention is awaiting the next draft of the hotel contract. The Chapter Board has determined that Planning Team members attending the 2003 Convention in Baltimore could consider their travel costs as a tax-deductible donation to the Chapter. Since no one stepped up during the recruitment phase to be Chair, Arlen, with Board concurrence will be the Convention Chair. Arlen noted that the Chapter would need to identify a new President for 2004 and beyond.

The Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation in conjunction with the City of Portland's grand opening of the *Springwater on the Willamette Trail* is planning a rail related function for the weekend of June 28th. Volunteers are needed for car hosting, ticketing, and crowd control. This should be an outstanding event. Contact Arlen to volunteer.

Maxine Rodabaugh, our Membership Chair, reported that we currently have 258 paid Chapter members. Please make sure that your address, telephone and email address is correct, as we will be publishing a membership directory this summer.

Distributed at personal expense were copies of the AORTA Alert regarding the Oregon Legislature's April 17th proposed budget which would eliminate funding for the Amtrak Cascades service, Amtrak Thruway Bus Service, and Lewis & Clark Explorer.

Leonard Morgan distributed brochures he picked up from a recent visit to the Astoria Railroad Preservation Association.

John Willworth again had books from the Lending Library for member checkout.

Ted Ahlberg displayed a custom jacket and hat recently purchased as a fundraiser for the national model train convention coming in 2005 to Seattle. Ted also brought for sale one of our Concessions items, a complete set of stamped cachet envelopes from the 1984 Louisiana Worlds Fair 4449 trip.

Kent Hutchens donated to the Chapter two items he received from his mother-in-law Eula Thompson: The Consolidated Code of Transportation Rules and General Instructions, edition of 1939 and Agreement between the Union Pacific Railroad and the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees effective January 1, 1978.

Tonight's program is Joe Walsh, Director, Washington County Commuter Project, TRI-MET. Following an excellent snack provided by Cora Jackson, Joe provided many details of the project that is targeted for operation in mid-2006. Much work has been done and much still to do but progress is being

made. Federal approval is expected this summer so that the project can move forward. Portland & Western Railroad will dispatch from Albany, the line will include signal installations, a lot of double track, and all welded rail. Windows of passenger only operations have been established for AM, mid-day, and PM. Passenger platforms will be in Beaverton, Tigard, Tualatin, Wilsonville, and Washington Square. One of the most interesting aspects of the project is the line between the Portland & Western Railroad and the MAX Light Rail station in Beaverton. This line will be via Lombard Street and will be the first commuter rail line to have a street running segment. A major safety education effort will be launched before operations begin. Joe also mentioned that a close look at the Beaverton - Wilsonville rail route would show that links to Milwaukie and McMinnville as well as Salem are future possibilities.

Note: This meeting was held a week later than normal due to Good Friday on April 18th.

Respectfully submitted by interim scribe Arlen L. Sheldrake

Mailbag



My Father recently purchased an HO Scale Roundhouse kit modeled after a prototype in Timber Oregon. We traveled to Timber this past Weekend (5-18) and found some vidence of a large semi-circular concrete wall or foundation. Does anyone have any information, or pictures about Timber Oregon's Roundhouse?

Thank you
Brian Johnson
Hood River, Or
EXTXJ@aol.com



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T-M Deadline: 20th of previous month

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Gerald Shuler, 503.285.7491
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SPECIAL UPCOMING EVENT: Chapter members are invited to an outing on the Lewis & Clark Explorer, from Portland to Astoria, on June 14. There will be activities in Astoria as well. Call Ron McCoy at 503-244-4315 for information.

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

The *TRAINMASTER*
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