



REPORT

Official publication of the
Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Assoc., Inc.

SEPT. 1975

NUMBER 116



CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS (presented in the order received)

For President:
HERBERT G. KEHR

My name is Herbert G. Kehr and I am running for office of President of PSRMA. I have held various offices including president of unions and fraternal organizations. I have been vice-president of PSRMA and at the present time I am Director of Public Relations.

I honestly feel I could be a good president for the association. I earnestly solicit your vote. Thank you.

OCTOBER IS ELECTION TIME

Attached to this issue is your Official Ballot (which can be used as an absentee ballot if you will be unable to attend the election meeting on October 24th). Please take a minute to detach the ballot, select your favorite candidates, then follow the directions on the ballot. Remember, you must be a "Regular" (\$10.00) member in order to vote. The validity of all ballots will be checked the night of the election. We encourage all voting members to exercise their voting right. We expect only the magic 10% of our members to cast ballots, but we would like to be pleasantly surprised!

S.D. UNION SHOWS ROCK ISLAND LOCO (ALMOST!)

A recent issue of the Union featured an illustrated story about new uses for old depots around S.D. County. One picture, labeled "...wheel of an old railway car", was really a driver of our 1884 Rock Island O-4-O on display in National City! Oh, well!

For President or Director:
H. CHALMERS "CHOP" KERR, Jr.

It is an honor and a challenge to be offered the opportunity to continue serving PSRMA, Inc. For the new members, I have been active in PSRMA administrative activities on the Board of Directors for almost six years, first as a Director for one year, as President for four years, and nine months as Board Chairman. These have been productive years, but we still haven't met our primary goal of obtaining a permanent home for the Museum. If elected to President or Director, I will endeavor to help PSRMA reach its goal in the near future, hopefully during the Bicentennial year 1976. We can't delay any longer. PSRMA, with foresight and professional planning, a dash of good luck, and adequate financing can provide San Diego and the nation with a unique railway museum.

I know that there are some members who wonder why I never attend or participate in certain activities. For the record, it certainly isn't for a lack of interest or support, but is for reasons of health. I must avoid at all cost dusty work and work involving certain paints and thinners, cleaners, etc. I will continue to contribute my talents where and when I can be most effective in helping PSRMA achieve its worthwhile goals.

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GET IN THE PSRMA HABIT!





Some of the activity at the car 1509 restoration session, July 26th. Why weren't YOU there?



TRAIN FLICK DUE IN FALL

**WHEEL CLICKS**, the newsletter of the Pacific Railroad Society in L.A., reported recently that some of their railroad cars were used to film a movie called "Tracks", starring Dennis Hopper. Hopper was a classmate of your editor at Helix High School in La Mesa in the early '50's. By pure coincidence, Hopper's sister-in-law was later your editor's Avon lady until she and her husband moved to Hollywood to join Dennis in the movie industry.

SEPTEMBER HONOR ROLL

The Museum thanks the following members and friends whose welcome contributions have furthered the goals of PSRMA during the month of August:

Herbert G. Kehr (loaned money to the 1509 fund).  
Thomas W. Sefton (donated \$25.00 toward purchase of 1509).  
Werner R. Eilers (donated \$5.00 to be used as needed).  
Jeanne & Ed Herfter (donated \$5.00 to be used as needed).  
David C. Hobson (donated \$15.00)  
Handyman (donated all materials and supplies for roof of 1509)

KEHR HOSTS GROSSMONT BOOTH

Herb Kehr was the Museum's gracious host at the Grossmont Center booth August 23rd. Herb says many brochures were passed out but few signed up for our excursion mailing list. Some days are like that, Herb!

EDITOR: Dick Pennick, 9584 Upland Street, Spring Valley, CA (463-2276)  
 CIRCULATION: Ron Zeiss

REPORT is published monthly by the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association, Inc., P.O. Box 12096, San Diego, CA 92112. The association is a chartered California non-profit organization of persons, young and old, who share an interest in railroad operations, travel, and history. An IRS exemption certificate allows tax-deductible contributions to the association. MEMBERSHIP: voting member (18 or over), \$10. Contributing member (non-voting, any age), \$3. Membership includes subscription to REPORT. Contributions of articles and news items from the membership are encouraged.

PSRMA, Inc. OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

President: Richard E. Pennick (463-2276)  
Vice President: W. George Geyer (234-0555)  
Secretary: Frieda R. Butler (224-4467)  
Treasurer: David C. Hobson (442-1416)  
Directors: H. Chalmers Kerr, Jr. (ch)(291-4787)  
 John B. Stodelle  
 Ronald L. Milot  
 Herbert G. Kehr

Association telephone: 280-1781

BACK ISSUES: A limited supply of back issues is available at 25 cents a copy. Send a stamped, self-addressed envelope for a list of all back issues available.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

by Herb Ruiz, Dir. of Records & Pers.

New voting members:

Joseph R. Vidrine, 14560 Victoria Estates Ln., Poway, CA 92064  
 566-6347 748-6037 (2,7,13,18)

New contributing members:

Andre J. Vidrine, 14560 Victoria Estates Ln., Poway, CA 92064  
 566-6347 748-6037 (2,7)

Linda DiGiorgio, 4486 36th St., San Diego, CA 92116 (1,2,5,15,16)

Change of address:

Jack C. Linn, 1434 Wilbur Ave., San Diego, CA 92109.  
 William P. Schneider, 165 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Apt. K, Sierra Madre, CA 91024.

NOTE: Be sure to send address changes or other corrections to Herb, or call 463-3269.

PSRMA welcomes the new members to America's finest railway museum!

ROHR PARK STEAMUP POPULAR

It was like old home week down at Rohr Park in Bonita Valley on Sunday, August 10th. Chula Vista Live Steam club member Ace Wischstadt, who gave our interesting July program, had extended an invitation to all PSRMAers to join his group for their monthly steamup, and 10 or more Museum members and their families accepted the invitation. There was something for everyone, with both steam and "diesel" running on the large loop of track. Ace's C.P. Huntington and smooth-running Mogul No. 7 did yeoman service hauling PSRMAers as well as normal people.

Noticed on, under or around the miniature trains were Dan & Rosemary Marnell, Herb & Betty Ruiz, Larry & Tanya Rose, Bob Bailey, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Linn, Ron & Pauline Palhegyi & family, Rob & Mickie Sides, Ron Milot, Dick & Karen Pennick & family. A surprise visitor was Al Diamond, one of the charter members of the old San Diego County Railroad Museum, fore-

runner of the present PSRMA. Unfortunately, Al was one of those early members who became impatient with the tremendous time and energy involved with establishing a public museum of rail transit in San Diego, and we are no longer graced with his presence as a member. He told your editor that he is now into live steam and that seems to be his consuming interest now.

Dick Pennick apparently felt sorry for the switch tender who seemed to be bored with his job throwing the yard throat switch on the miniature line, so Dick offered to spell him awhile (the truth is, Dick has a passion for getting involved!). The task involved switching incoming trains to one of the two loading tracks at the gate, depending on which was unoccupied at the time, a job requiring superior intelligence. When Dick left, Ron Palhegyi took over, followed by his wife, Pauline, probably the most attractive switchtender the Live Steam group's ever had!

#### PUERTO TIME IS NOVEMBER 15th

That gala of galas, PSRMA's annual chartered rail excursion from Mexicali, Baja California to Puerto Penasco, Sonora, has been scheduled for Saturday, Nov. 15th. An open baggage car, lots of clickety-clack (and that ain't all!) broken air-conditioning, and a trainful of fun-loving people, are the features of this once-a-year bash that we all know and love.

The fact that the trip has become one of the most popular and well-known winter trips in the Southland is no surprise to those of us that have taken the tour. The reason is really simple: excellent organization and coordination, attention to detail, reasonable cost, a friendly and helpful PSRMA train staff, and the old-fashioned attraction of an old-fashioned train ride. The return trip after dark is a special thrill that must be experienced to be appreciated.

Brochures will be sent out soon, but make your plans now to join us on this truly delightful rail experience.

#### 1509 LOANS NEAR GOAL

It's terrific, the response we

have had to the requests for loans to collateralize our purchase of car 1509 from Jack Stodelle. Letters will go out shortly to all lenders instructing them on how to make their loan.

If you have not yet made a loan to this special account, which pays 6% interest on the deposits, contact Dick Pennick (463-2276) or Eric Sanders (469-1288). They will be happy to assist you.

#### DIRECTORS ADOPT NEW MUSEUM LOGO

Not all change is beneficial or worthwhile. But there are times when it helps to stir the pot once in a while to keep the beans from settling on the bottom. Many organizations have changed their logo (identifying symbol) over the years for one reason or another, and some of the most notable have been the nation's railroads. Usually, it is unwise to change the identifying mark of an organization too often, since this tends to create confusion and, at least temporarily, loss of public identity. People tend, over a period of time, to associate a certain symbol with a certain product or group. PSRMA's present logo, designed by member Dick Pennick in 1966, has been in use almost 10 years, and our Museum has matured a great deal since then. It is probably a propitious time for a change.

Through the efforts of member Larry Rose, a suggested logo revision was prepared and submitted to the Directors at their July and August meetings and, with minor revisions, was approved on August 5th.

The new design is similar in basic respects to the present logo, i.e. steam locomotive front within a circle, but incorporates certain refinements that graphically depicts our "Pacific Southwest" area of interest. The locomotive is the artist's impression of the first steam locomotive to arrive in San Diego, over the California Southern R.R. The track under the engine is projected toward the viewer, in 3-D fashion. To the left of the engine is a scene of snow-capped peaks and a rushing stream. To the right is a desert scene typical of the deserts of the southwestern United States. Encl-

osing the whole are two concentric circles between which are the words "Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Assoc., Inc." The new logo is an attractive and eye-catching symbol, a fitting tribute to "America's finest railway museum".

Larry is presently working on a new design for the masthead of the newsletter, and there is talk of a contest to select a new name to replace "Report". More about this in future issues. Larry, incidentally, is responsible for the column heading art work in this issue. So, in summary, it appears that the Bicentennial year 1976 will mark the dawn of a new age for the Museum and its fortunes. A new logo, a new newsletter, hopefully a permanent museum site, and a spanking fresh locomotive and observation car fully restored and on public display ---- all will make the coming year one to look forward to and not soon forget.

#### DEATH CLAIMS FORMER MEMBER

Wallace F. "Wally" Duthie, 51, a self-employed travel agent and one of PSRMA's first excursion directors, passed away August 30th in a hospital. Duthie had come to San Diego from his native Boston about 25 years ago. Prior to the formation of PSRMA, Wally had been active in the Railway Historical Soc. of San Diego and was one of the original promoters of the Puerto Penasco train excursion, now a PSRMA tradition.

#### MORE ON PERMANENT MUSEUM SITE

The Campo site investigation and evaluation process is continuing at an accelerated pace. Museum staff hopes to have a package put together to present to the owners by year's end. We need the services of a licensed Civil Engineer to help prepare a formal site evaluation. If you are one, experienced in this kind of evaluation, or know one, let Chop Kerr (291-4787) or Dick Pennick (463-2276) know. Naturally, we are looking for some financial consideration here. The Land Committee, chaired by Chop, plans a committee meeting soon to bring the members up to date on recent developments.

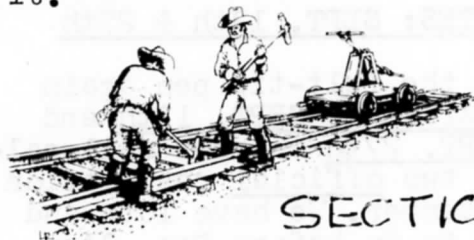
#### MAGAZINE HILITES RAILROADS

If you can find a copy of "New Mexico" magazine, that State's version of Arizona Highways, for June, 1975, it would be worth your while. Almost the entire issue is devoted to trains and rail history, as attested to by the following list of articles:

1. (Almost) all the way with Santa Fe.
2. The Little Train that Can. (C & TS narrow gauge)
3. Memories--Three Feet Wide.
4. Otto Kuhler--Man About Trains.
5. Reminiscences of the New Mexico Central.

#### HOLLYWOOD VISITS C & TS n.g.

First it was "Emperor of the North". Now it's "Bite the Bullet", with Gene Hackman and Candice Bergen, to wet the palates of the movie-going railbuffs. Filmed on the Cumbres & Toltec narrow gauge line in Colo. & New Mexico, it's got some great action along the slim gauge. Be sure to see it.



SECTION GANG

#### 1509 GETS NEW LIFE

Things are really bustling down at our restoration site at Marine Corps Recruit Depot. The two back to back work parties on August 16th and 23rd yielded significant progress in the restoration of the car. Some removed parts are actually being put back on the car, the roof is acquiring a brand new black coating, and the body work is progressing at full tilt. Through the efforts of member Jack Stodelle, the roofing material was donated by Handyman, and Museum volunteers began to apply the new roof on the 23rd. An effort is being made to secure the donation of sufficient Pullman Green paint to repaint the entire car. Member Larry Rose, has offered to do the gold re-lettering as it existed on the

original car, and member Ron Palhegyi has offered to do the spray painting. We are going to need a paint spray apparatus, preferably an "airless" type, and preferably the industrial variety. If you know anyone in the industry, let Dick Pennick know as soon as possible (463-2276). We can also use donations of money and technical advice, as well as physical help so if you can make a personal contribution in any of these areas, call Dick

Those members or friends participating in the two August sessions were: Aug. 16th -- Larry Rose (supervising), Cass Witkowski, Ron Milot, and John Huston. On Aug. 23rd, we had Buck Hathaway (who loaned his power generator), Larry Rose, Rob & Mickie Sides, Jack Linn, Ron Palhegyi, Jeff Palhegyi, Rick Palhegyi, Mike Palhegyi, Jeff Day, Colen Flagg, Ken Helm, Dick Pennick, Warren Pennick, and Vern Cook.

Whether you help or not, be sure to drop by anytime and view the progress on the car. If you haven't seen it for awhile, the gradual transformation is remarkable.

#### NEXT 1509 DATES: SEPT. 13th & 27th

Dig out the felt-tip pen again and circle SATURDAY, SEPT. 13th and SATURDAY, SEPT. 27th on your wall calendar as the two official restoration dates in September. We have lots and lots of work to do before Dec. 31st, and remember: we still have a locomotive to sandblast and repaint! So time is growing short. We ask your valued assistance.

Some members have asked if they can come down on a day other than the regularly-scheduled work parties. The answer is "Yes", so long as at least one of our regular crew can be there also to explain what has to be done. Call Supt. Dick Pennick at 463-2276 for information.

#### MCRD STORAGE REFUSED

An attempt by PSRMA to secure sufficient additional storage space at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego for storage of all Museum rolling stock has met with disappointment. By letter of recent date, the

Depot command regretfully turned down our request. This means that we must continue for awhile to pay exorbitant rental fees and repair damage by vandals, winos, wetbacks, etc. It also means that the sooner we can get our permanent home, the better off we will be. (see land article elsewhere in this issue).

#### GREAT BRITIAN OFFERS TRAIN STAMPS

The Ferrophilatelists in the group might be interested to know that Great Britain has marked 150 years of public railways with a set of four stamps dedicated to the machine which helped change the face of industrial Britain. The 7p stamp features George Stephenson's "Locomotion"; the 8p shows the 1876 engine "Abbotsford"; the 10p features the "Caerphilly Castle", the first of the Castle-class locomotives (1923); and British Rail's new high-speed train that went into service in 1975 is featured on the 12p stamp. See your local stamp dealer if you're interested.

#### FREEDOM TRAIN MEDAL AVAILABLE

The Medallion Art Co., Danbury, Conn. has struck a commemorative medal featuring Freedom Train engine 4449 on one side and an 18th century Minuteman grasping a flagpole with a 20th century astronaut. Your editor hopes to have more information on these medals later.

#### S C H E D U L E S

- Sept. 13: Restoration session, 1509. Marine Corps Recr. Depot, 9-4.
- Sept. 27: Restoration session, 1509. Marine Corps Recruit Depot, 9-4.
- Oct. 7: Directors' meeting, SDT & S Bank board room, 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 6: Editor's birthday. All trans-continental trains will pause 1 min. in honor of the occasion.
- Oct. 24: PSRMA quarterly general meeting, House of Hospitality, 7:30.
- Nov. 15: PUERTO! Cle!

Sept. 27: PSRMA booth at Grossmont Shopping Center (273-1074)