



June '79

REPORT

No. 158

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION of the PACIFIC SOUTHWEST RAILWAY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION, Inc.

# A HOME FOR PSRMA!

After a twenty year search for a home, P.S.R.M.A. has finally reached the true point of beginning. San Diego's Metropolitan Transit Development Board, soon to be the new owners of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway, passed a resolution supporting P.S.R.M.A.'s proposed museum at Campo, milepost 65.8 on the S.D. & A.E.

The long awaited event happened May 23rd at the regular monthly M.T.D.B. meeting. Item #79.31 on the agenda was passed unanimously and routinely with no discussion. Several P.S.R.M.A. members present could hardly believe their ears and thought they were having another sweet dream. It was hard to believe that such a quiet vote had just washed away the disappointment of twenty years of being told "no" by the powers that be.

On October 18, 1959, twelve rail enthusiasts met in the Balboa Park Organ Pavilion office to discuss the possibility of establishing an operating exhibit of vintage railway equipment in San Diego County. Only one of those original twelve was at the M.T.D.B. meeting to hear the best news the San Diego railfan community has ever had. That man was Eric Sanders, a charter member and past president, who, more than any other, is responsible for the existence of P.S.R.M.A. Eric published and distributed issue number one of REPORT in January, 1960 and it is reprinted in this issue, 158 editions later, in recognition of the people that brought us this far.

On April 16, 1961, the San Diego County Railway Museum Association was formed with fourteen charter members. The name was changed to the now well known P.S.R.M.A. in November, 1963. Only four of the original fourteen charter members stayed on board past the association's first lonely formative years, and those four stalwart true believers are still members. Hats off to Eric Sanders, Bill Wootton, Jack Stodelle and Terry Durkin!

P.S.R.M.A. is now on the launching pad of a great opportunity. The next step is the purchase of the railroad by M.T.D.B., then a long term lease will be signed. The actual ground breaking could happen within the next few months if M.T.D.B.'s projected schedule goes off as anticipated.

Planning for the Campo museum site has been going on for some time, but is now rolling at full throttle. All members who would like to be on the design committee or attend special planning meetings are invited to call President H. C. "Chop" Kerr at 291-4787 or General Manager Larry Rose at 469-3064.

Included in this issue of REPORT is the proposed museum layout that was attached to our proposal to M.T.D.B. The design process going on now will refine the plan for maximum efficiency and all changes to the general layout will appear in REPORT as they are adopted by the Board of Directors.

If you live out of town and can't attend the planning meetings, you can still participate in the museum site development. You are encouraged to make tracing overlays of the drawing in this month's REPORT and send them, along with any other suggestions or sketches to the museum P.O. Box, Attention: Campo Committee. We would like to have the ideas of all members to use in the design of YOUR railroad museum.

Aside from the initial design decisions, there are many other things members can do to help with the Campo project. Are you a good scrounger? We need eight foot high chain link fencing and fence posts. We need electrical conduit and parts, pipe and plumbing fittings and building materials of all types. If you have any surplus material gathering dust in your back yard that you could donate, make a list of it and send it in. If you know where some usable material can be had, go get it, stockpile it in a safe place and notify the museum. Scrounging is a time honored American tradition that has been developed into a high art by many people, especially career military personnel, and is an activity that is vital to an all volunteer non-profit group such as P.S.R.M.A. Don't overlook anything that can be of use.

We have waited twenty years for this, and now we are going to need every hand and heart to build a haven in Campo for everyone that ever loved an old train. (L.R.)

## FROM THE CUPOLA

by H. C. Kerr, Jr., President

CAMPO MUSEUM UPDATE - Discussions have already been held with Mr. Willis Kyle, President of Kyle Railways, who is to be the contract freight operator for the M.T.D.B. Mr. Kyle indicated that he is receptive to the museum operations and facilities at Campo. Of course, specific details have yet to be worked out.

The immediate task before your board of directors is to prepare a museum development plan. This document will address such topics as: track layout, service and exhibit facilities, utilities and security, landscaping and environmental impact. Concurrently, costing information must be generated in order for the association to immediately begin fund raising efforts that will allow speedy and orderly construction of the museum. P.S.R.M.A. has now reached the point we have been striving for these past twenty years. Let's not drop the ball! The details of how you can help are in this issue of REPORT.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS FOR 1980 - Beginning at the July general meeting and continuing until September 1, 1979, nominations are open for members of the board and review committee. Please give very serious thought to who you nominate to serve next year. The next few years are going to be the most important in P.S.R.M.A.'s history. Without strong and able leadership it will be difficult to achieve our goal of a permanent railroad museum. Before nominating anyone, please contact them and discuss the job. Be sure that your nominee, if elected, will serve P.S.R.M.A. to the best of his or her abilities. A nomination form will be included in the July issue of REPORT.

## 1509 Staffers

by Jo Pressnall

Did you ever think about the word "staff"?.....shepherd's staff, bread, etc..... all things that hold us up, keep us going. Such is the case with so many P.S.R.M.A. people. We are truly blessed. Incidentally, the staff list is going down for summer. If anyone is interested I really need help. Call me at 435-5022 (collect, if necessary) as summer is upon us and many local folks are "playing tourist" in our home town because of the gas crunch. Helping out last month are the following good will ambassadors. Won't you join in and help out this month? We'd love to have you!

Ed Smith  
Tanya Rose  
Frank Kearney

Curtis Croulet  
Bill Brannock  
Ron Milot

Bob Di Giorgio and sons  
Belden and Patricia Rau  
David Black  
Kathy Grimaud

SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT DEVELOPMENT BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 79-31

Resolution Supporting the Concept of Establishing  
a Permanent Railroad Museum in San Diego County

WHEREAS, the Pacific Southwest Railway Museum Association has proposed the establishment of a permanent railroad museum utilizing surplus SD & AE Railway property located at Campo; and

WHEREAS, the Association has requested an opportunity to receive salvage or surplus SD & AE materials or equipment not required by either MTDB or its rail operator at no cost to MTDB; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of a permanent Railroad Museum at Campo would stimulate tourism, transit patronage, and general economic development to the betterment of MTDB; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Diego Metropolitan Transit Development Board supports the concept of establishing a permanent Railroad Museum at Campo on surplus SD & AE Railway property so long as such useage is consistent with the requirements of its rail freight operator; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that MTDB staff be directed to facilitate the use or storage by the Railroad Museum of salvage or surplus SD & AE materials or equipment not required by either SD & AE rail freight or MTDB operations at no cost to MTDB.

PASSED AND ADOPTED, by the MTDB this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 1979.

  
Chairwoman  
San Diego Metropolitan  
Transit Development Board

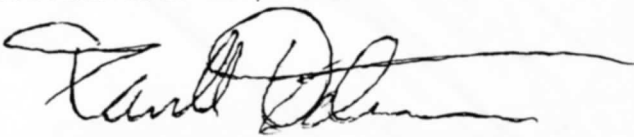
Approved as to form:

Peterson, Gamer, Muns & Price  
A Professional Corporation

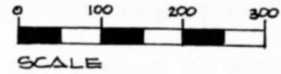
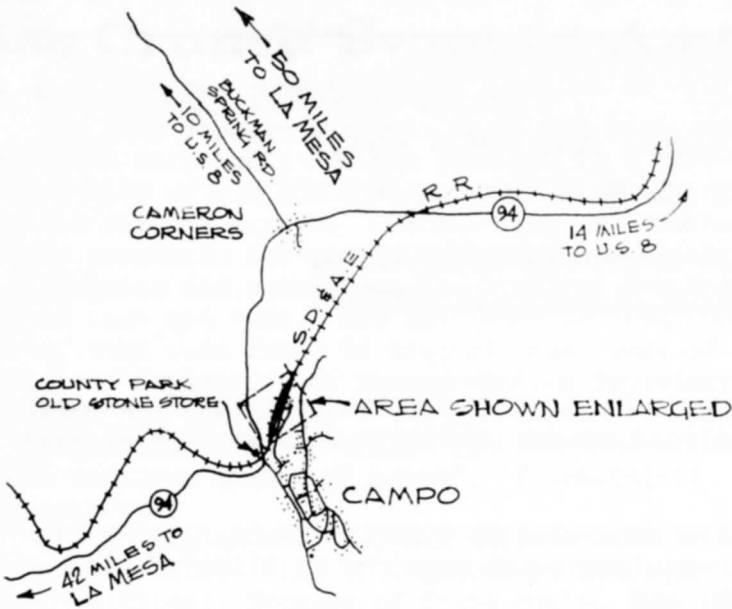
Filed by:

  
Clerk of the Board  
San Diego Metropolitan  
Transit Development Board

By:

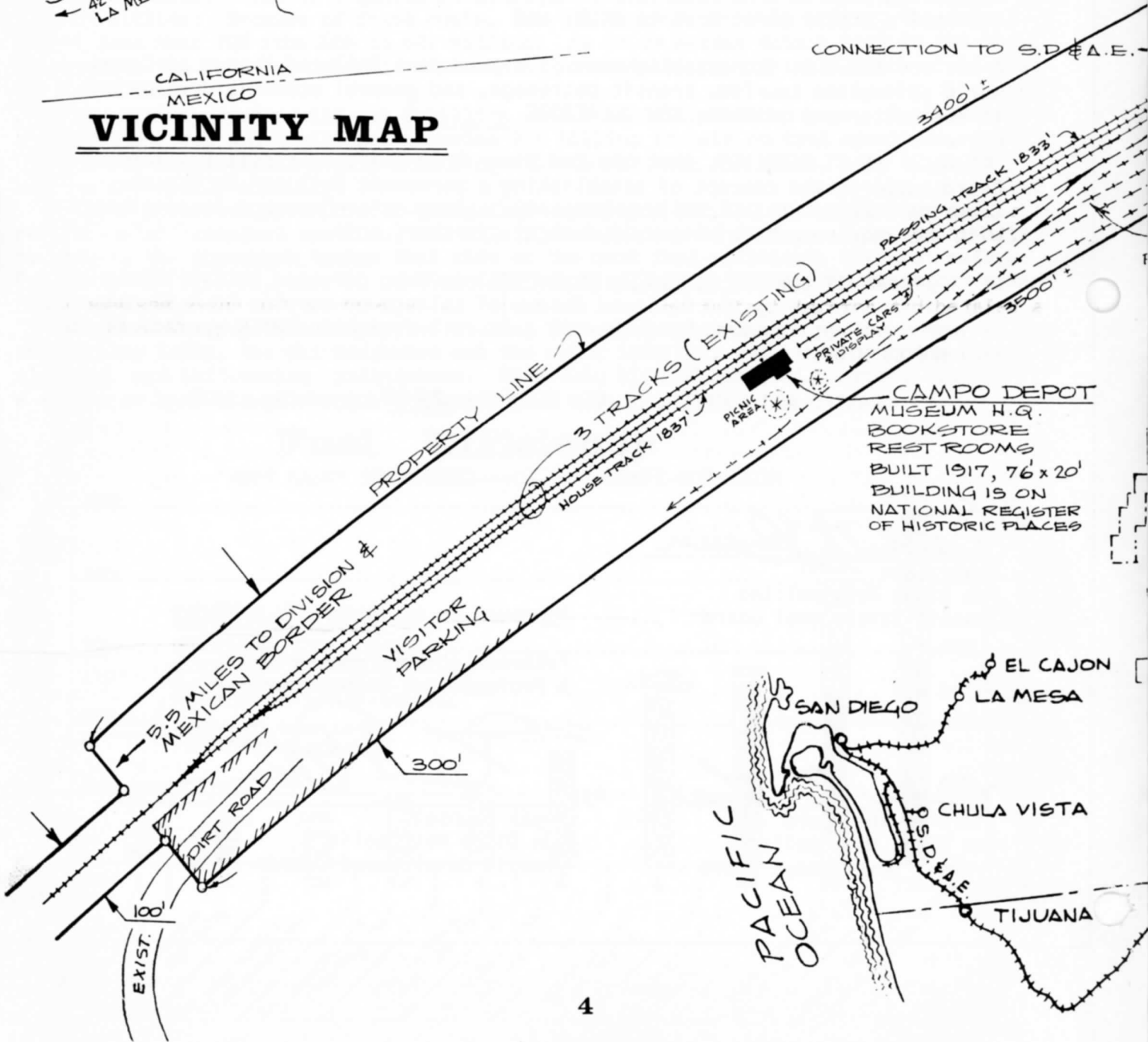
  
Legal Counsel  
San Diego Metropolitan  
Transit Development Board

# PACIFIC SOUTHWEST Camp



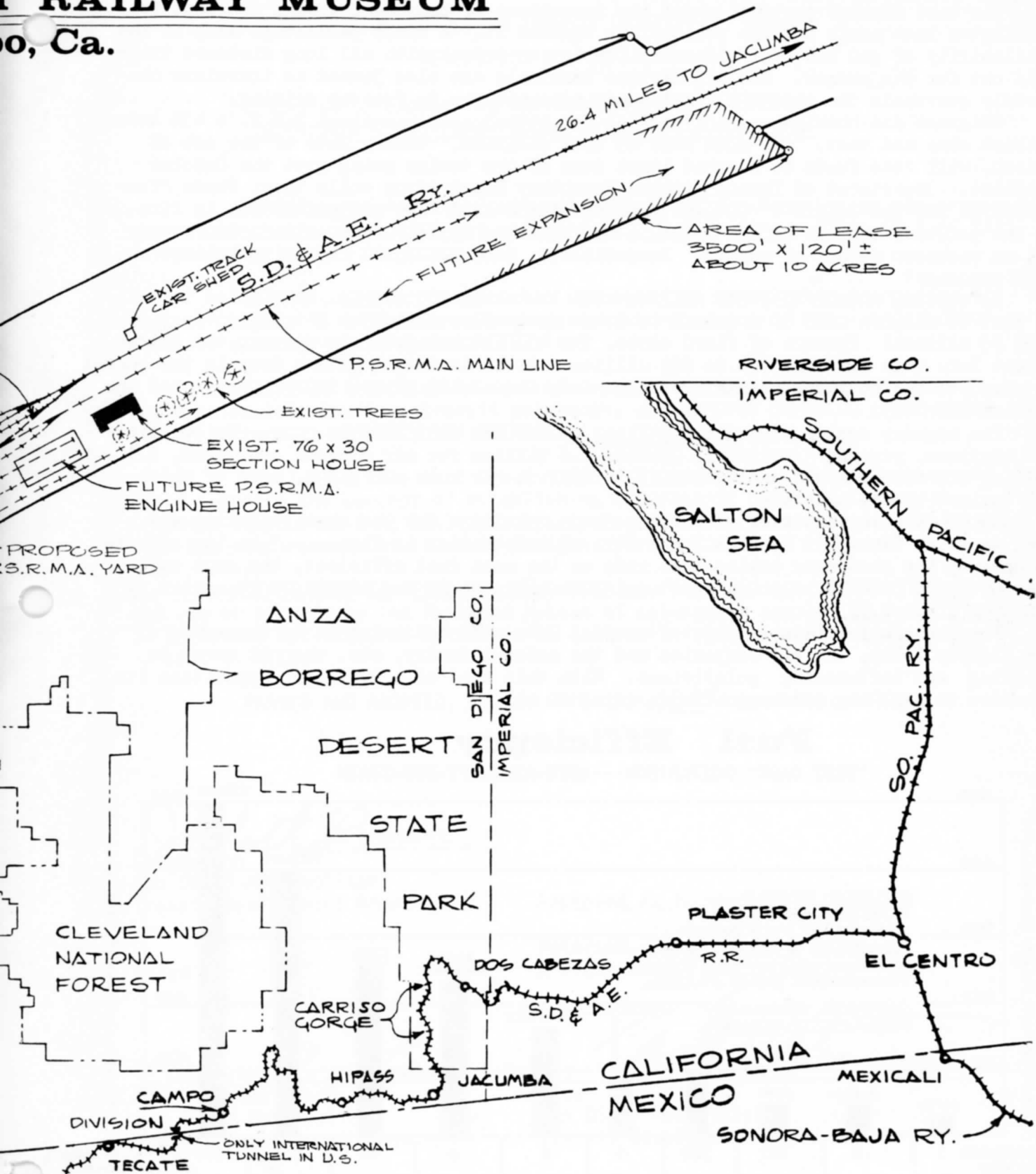
CONNECTION TO S.D. & A.E.

CALIFORNIA  
MEXICO  
**VICINITY MAP**



# T RAILWAY MUSEUM

o, Ca.



## ROUTE OF S.D. & A.E. RAILWAY

MAP APPROX. SCALE 1" = 10 MILES

# Gas Crunch Swamps Amtrak

by Larry Rose

## 756,000 CUSTOMERS TURNED AWAY IN MAY!

The best message possible about the importance of passenger trains was sent to Washington last month but the politicians ignored it. A small percentage drop in the availability of gas has sent ridership soaring on Amtrak with all long distance trains sold out for the summer. Bus and airline terminals are also jammed as travelers completely overwhelm the pitifully inadequate alternatives to freeway driving.

Congress did nothing as the deadline for taking action against D.O.T.'s 4% Amtrak cutback came and went. The late word is that Congress, taking note of the mob of riders, will vote funds to keep at least some of the trains going past the October deadline. Department of Transportation Secretary Brock Adams calls these funds "formaldehyde for the corpse"! On June 20th Mr. Adams said "The administration is firm in the position that we cannot maintain the existing system because it wastes energy and an enormous amount of money". Incredible!! Does he expect anyone to believe such nonsense?

By cutting Amtrak 4%, 112 million will be saved, Adams says. He failed to tell us that 69 million will be required in labor protection costs for a total savings of only 43 million! Because of fixed costs, the 4% hatchet job only reduces the Amtrak budget less than 10% from 664 to 621 million. As it is Amtrak gets a drop in the bucket compared to the enormous mountain of tax money cheerfully pumped into highways and the airline industry.

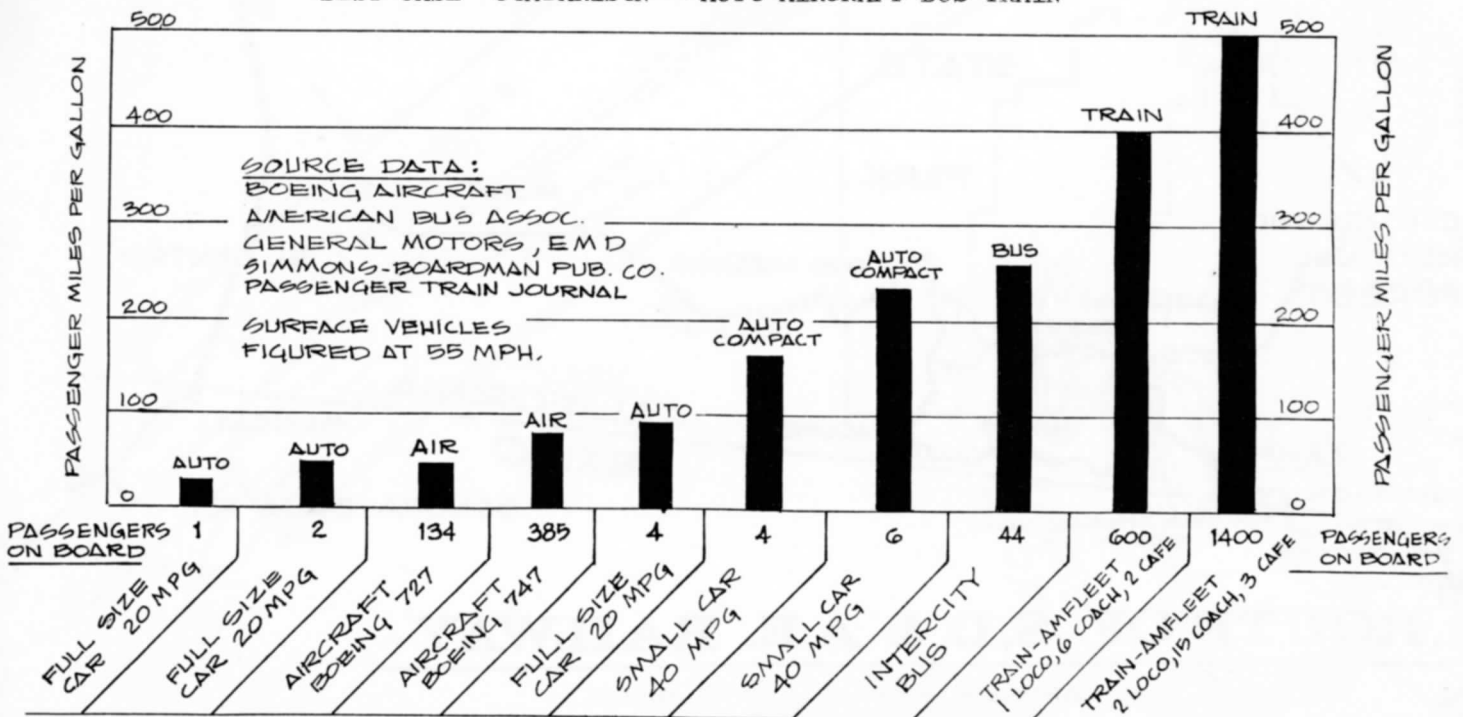
The highway system will get 8 billion of our tax dollars this year. To benefit the airlines, you and I will help provide 2.6 billion for air control operators, 2.1 billion for airports and nearly a million dollars for each new pilot, most of which are trained by the military.

There is never any talk of cutting these subsidies for the most polluting and fuel wasteful transport systems. But "the administration is firm....." in its efforts to chop up the passenger trains that ride on the most fuel efficient, the most safe (see Oct. '78 REPORT), and the most environmentally sound and civilized transport system ever devised.

The reasons for this lunacy, of course, have a direct relation to the power of the highway lobby, the oil companies and the motor industry, etc. when it comes to electing and influencing politicians. With this kind of heavyweight opposition its a wonder we have any passenger trains going at all.

## Fuel Efficiency

"BEST CASE" COMPARISON --- AUTO-AIRCRAFT-BUS-TRAIN



Fortunately, there are several voices of reason in the wilderness that are now amplified by the thousands of people that couldn't buy a seat on Amtrak last month and by thousands of others that couldn't even get through to a ticket clerk. The pro-rail groups are growing in strength and working hard to save our present passenger trains, and hopefully, get the service expanded.

P.S.R.M.A. is not involved in the fight ourselves because of our historic preservation and educational purpose, but feel that REPORT readers should know who the folks are that are carrying the sword in behalf of sanity in transportation.

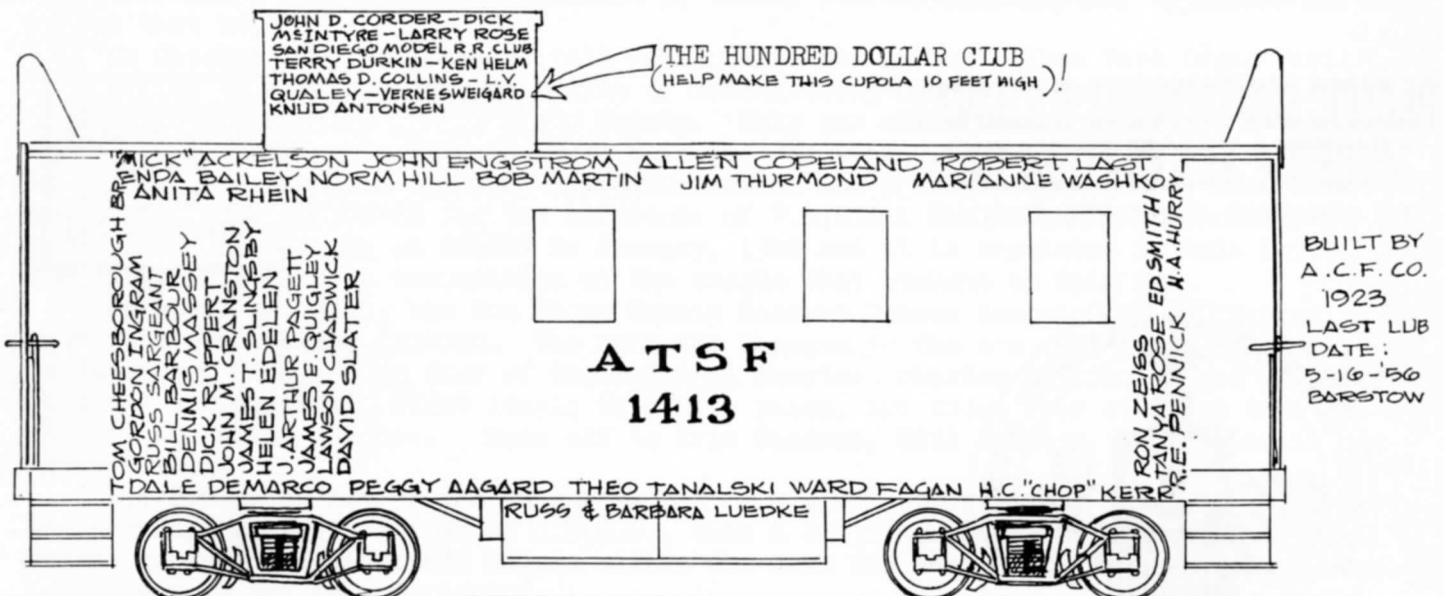
In our state, we have Citizens for Rail California, a very active political lobby group that has a chapter here in San Diego. They can be reached at: P.O. Box 99782, San Diego, CA 92109. On a national level, there is the National Association of Railroad Passengers, 417 New Jersey Ave. S. E., Washington, D.C. 20003.

These people will be happy to send you information how you can participate in the effort to save an endangered species absolutely essential to the future of the nation. Let's not allow the passenger train to go the way of the passenger pigeon, a once common bird completely exterminated in this century.

# A CABOOSE FOR PSRMA !

The response to the Caboose Fund Drive has been phenomenal with 32% of our goal raised in the first month of the campaign. The hundred dollar donor list swelled to ten names with the additions of Knud Antonsen, Thomas D. Collins, Verne Sweigard, L. V. Qualey and Ken Helm. Many others are helping to fill in the pieces of the caboose silhouette with generous donations. Putting their names on the "shack" this month are: Anita Rhein, James Slingsby, Russ and Barbara Luedke, Dick Ruppert, John Cranston, Dick Pennick, Helen Edelen, J. Arthur Pagett, James Quigley, Ed Smith, Ron Zeiss and Lawson Chadwick.

It is important to recover from this caboose purchase so we can concentrate our resources to build our permanent home in Campo. Let's try for the halfway mark in July! Its only \$900.00 dollars away! Send your tax deductible contributions to: P.S.R.M.A. CABOOSE FUND, BOX 12096, SAN DIEGO, CA 92112.



YES! I WANT TO HELP SAVE CABOOSE #1413! PUT MY NAME ON THE "SHACK"!!

My gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is  enclosed  Charge to VISA or MASTER CHARGE

MASTER CHARGE/VISA NUMBER

MASTER CHARGE BANK NUMBER  Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

# Membership News

by Tanya Rose

What a gratifying response I had this last month for my plea of sending in a postage stamp with your renewals! Many folks sent me an extra bonus, including an extra dollar or two and throwing in a self-addressed stamped envelope. Thank you for saving P.S.R.M.A. money and this lady a little time and paper shuffling!

New to our ranks this month are more railroad folks, Gerald Glassburn and conductor E.V. Staats of the Santa Fe. Welcome aboard, everybody!

## REGULAR MEMBERS

Karen Grider  
Frank B. Norris  
Carl H. Schiermeyer

## CONTRIBUTING MEMBERS

Winthrop Tucker  
Kay O'Day  
Michael S. Maiten  
John B. Maguire

## FAMILY MEMBERS

Victor & Stella D'Agostino  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas W. Dush  
Gerald & Albert Glassburn  
Russ & Barbara Luedke  
Richard & Barbara Pearson  
L.V. & C.S. Qualey (upgraded)  
E.V. & Anne Staats

## IN MEMORIAM

Col. John S. Porter, longtime member of our museum, and hardcore railfan, passed away this June 19th. He will be missed by all of us who were fortunate enough to ride behind his 1878 Baldwin narrow gauge steam engine on his Poway Village and Rattlesnake Creek Railroad in Poway. We will always remember his gracious invitations throughout the years and the mutual pleasure we all took in firing up and working his beautiful 0-4-0 locomotive. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Helen, his wife, and all the family.

## Next Meeting

Our next general meeting will be held July 20th at 7:30 pm in the Casa del Prado, Room 205 in Balboa Park. Come and see a neat slide show by P. Allen Copeland, well known rail historian and a regular contributor to REPORT, on the railroads of Central and South America and Australia. Refreshments, friendly visiting with fellow train buffs and nominations for next year's museum officers will round out the evening. See you there!

## PACIFIC SOUTHWEST RAILWAY MUSEUM ASSOCIATION INC.

P.O. BOX 12096 SAN DIEGO, CA 92112

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
La Mesa, CA  
Permit No. 205



\*Return Postage Guaranteed\*  
Address Correction Requested