

# THE CLUB CAR



Bulletin 654 Pacific Locomotive Association, Inc.

[www.ncry.org](http://www.ncry.org)

February 2018



hours crafting this quilt.

*"We are thankful, honored and delighted to be the lucky winners of this extraordinary Christmas quilt. It is a work of art that will be cherished by our family for generations to come. We have been riding the Train of Lights every Christmas for the past twelve years. The first time was when our son was a one-year old infant. Our many happy memories are priceless, and we thank all of the volunteers at Niles Canyon Railway for their countless hours and labor of love."*

*Warmly,*

*Shelia Castilla*

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### Hand-Made Quilt Raffle Results

**Thank you** to everyone that supported the holiday quilt raffle. We raised over **\$1,500.00** during the November and December Train of Lights. No doubt this quilt raffle should become an annual event and a TOL tradition to display the

work of talented quilters on the wall in the on board Combine gift shop. Conductor Mark Miller drew the winning ticket on the last night of TOL.

The winner, Sheila Castilla, has shared her deepest gratitude to the quilters at Safari West who spent over 350

It's never too early to start brainstorming and reaching out to quilters and quilting clubs. I need your help so please share your ideas so this can become a unique and meaningful source of revenue for the Pacific Locomotive Association.

*Gail Hedburg*

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**OUR MISSION:** *To be an operating railroad museum for standard gauge railroading, past, present and future, with emphasis on the Western United States and special emphasis on Northern California.*

# NILES CANYON RAILWAY

## ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

February 3, 2018 Sat MOW Building East 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

February 7, 2018 Wed MOW 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

February 11, 2018 Romance on the Rails 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

February 22, 2018 Thursday Niles School Train 10:00 am

February 24, 2018 Sat Brush Cutting 7:00 am - 5:00 pm

February 28, 2018 Wed MOW 7:30 am - 4:00 pm

March 25, 2018 PLA General Meeting on-board train 2:30 pm

Most General Meetings take place at the Sunol Glen School in Sunol, meetings are held in January, March, May, June, July, and October, but can be subject to cancellation.

**Every Wednesday and Saturday is a WORK DAY at the Brightside Yard**

### ===== BOARD OF DIRECTORS =====

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### *The Club Car*

The deadline for submitting articles and photos for next month's issue of *The Club Car* is the 20th of the current calendar month. Simply submit articles by e-mail in MS Word™ text format. Send email to: clubcar@ncry.org. Digital photos may also be submitted on digital media or by email. Electronic images should be saved as PC format . Jpg files with minimal compression. A text file with the photo number, description of the photo, and identifying the people in them is required. To send documents, articles or photos by U.S. Postage, contact the editor at (510) 260-7967 for mailing instructions. The editor reserves the right to hold or edit material as necessary.

*The Club Car is an official publication of the Pacific Locomotive Association, Inc. P.O.Box 515 Sunol CA 94586-0515 The Club Car is distributed monthly to members, sponsors, and friends of the Pacific Locomotive Association. The Pacific Locomotive Association, Inc. is an IRS 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. The PLA's Federal Tax ID is 94-6130878, the State of California Tax ID is 0501445. General Meetings are held on the 3rd Friday of January, March, May, June, July and October, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the Sunol Glen School, two blocks east of the Depot on Main Street in Sunol, CA. Members, Sponsors, and Guests are welcome. Items in this publication are Copyright 2018, Pacific Locomotive Association, Inc. and may be reproduced only by permission with credit to the source. Views expressed herein are those of the author unless specifically noted by the editor as official policy. The Pacific Locomotive Association is a member of the Association of Tourist Railroads and Railway Museums. (ATRRM)*

# NILES CANYON RAILWAY

## President's Report

### ***Happy Groundhog Day!***

February marks the middle of winter. Back East or in the Midwest winter can really wear on you with the snow and the cold. I can see why anything that provides a glimmer of hope for the early end to the misery would be a welcome thing. I never have understood how the idea of a groundhog seeing his shadow can predict the duration of a season. It always confused me that his seeing his shadow makes winter longer. After all, if he sees his shadow, doesn't that mean the sun is shining? Cloudy and snowy would tell me winter isn't going anywhere. Bright sunshine means winter must be ending. It is still confusing.

Here in California winter is much milder, with rain and low temperatures being the typical extremes of weather with which we have to deal. If you are still feeling the pangs of cabin fever, feel free to come out to Brightside and help out on the many projects that are ongoing.

Winter weather does impact us and can be just as devastating. So far this year, rains have been reasonably mild, and mudslides have not begun. But even light rain can find the weaknesses in our buildings. Leaks in the White House and the Backshop

have been with us for a while, and the typical response is to make sure that nothing important is being damaged. But getting the roofs fixed is a priority. Jim Stewart has located a roofer willing to work on our non-standard mix of roofs. Repairs will begin shortly.

Staying on top of our infrastructure has just gotten a tiny bit easier. Rich Alexander has agreed to take on the responsibility as Facilities Manager for the PLA. In this position, Rich will be the focal point for all projects that affect our property. Sunol, Niles and Brightside all have buildings and infrastructure that needs to be maintained. Buildings need to be weather tight and secure and are in relatively decent shape, but painting of the Sunol Depot is a priority. Another priority will be getting water and sanitation services in Brightside and Niles. This is a stumbling block to any future improvements that we desire to make, primarily a new Depot Structure in Niles, and a Locomotive Shop in Brightside.

Security took a big leap with the installation of a keycard activated motorized gate at the Brightside entrance. Security cameras for Niles and additional cameras for Brightside and Sunol are another security priority. Rich Alexander is now also the person to contact if you need to get a

keycard so you can have vehicle access into Brightside.

Rich also will be developing a program to upgrade the AC service at Brightside, which is woefully archaic and undersized. This will be joined with providing new power to the Brightside crossing signals, which are currently powered from the pole line adjacent to the main line. This is also a problem, as Jim Stewart has also undertaken to have the signal poles inspected, and some of these very poles are in sorry shape and will need repair or replacement.

These repairs have been on the 'Deferred Maintenance' program for way too long, and we need to deal with these issues before something catastrophic happens. And none of this will be cheap. Projects that we can do with volunteer help still need supplies that must be bought. And some projects need to be turned over to outside contractors who have the experience and licenses (and liability insurance) to get the job done safely and efficiently. We still strive to get as much done with our internal forces as we can, but professionals are needed for more and more jobs. This is not just a labor thing, but also is necessary to get the many permits and approvals we need for these projects. *Cont. on Page 6*

# NILES CANYON RAILWAY

## *2018 Volunteers Needed*

I hope everyone had a great rest after the holidays because it's February, and the beginning of a new operational year for us.

And with that we need you to come and help on our Sunday railroad operations days, as well as the event days.

We started the year with 1st and 3rd Sunday operations this month and in March, and then we go to every Sunday until August, so we could always use help at the ticket windows, the gift shop at the Sunol Depot, Snack Bar/Commissary on the train, as well as caboose hosts for the 10:30, 12:30, and 2:30 caboose rides. We have many cabooses already reserved for 2018, and tickets are already selling out for our Teas on the Rails, Wine Tasting, and Beer on the Rails Special Train excursions. We also have our Hot August Nights on the Rails online for ticket sales, and our school trains from February through June are almost sold out and our summer trains are selling already. Turns out that people have found us and look forward to riding with us not just for our Winter Train of Lights!

So if can help, please sign up online for any of our operation days.

Please go to [ncry.org](http://ncry.org) and click on the Volunteer link for helping as a Caboose Host and for the Niles Parking Lot. If you want to volunteer for the Niles Station Staff, Sunol Depot Staff, Gift Shop, or Commissary, you will need to click on Member Login at the top right corner first and then these opportunities will appear. To refresh your memory, once you click on Member Login at the top right and you are on the Login page, put in your user name and password and then click Login. If you forgot your user name or password, or have never logged in, click on Forgot my User Name/Password, and you can start with a new user name or password. The easiest user name is usually your first initial and your last name. If you are the only person doing this on your computer, you can click remember me on this computer. But if you share the computer with another person, like Rich and I do, don't click that box because the computer has a tiny brain for remembering and can only remember one person, and it will lock out the other person. So you will have to sign in every time you want to log in. Once you do it a few times you will remember how to do it, and it really is easy. So thank you for volunteering again this year, and remember to sign up online so other people know the job is covered.

donna alexander

Station Agent, Sunol Depot





# NILES CANYON RAILWAY



## ALONG THE RIGHT OF WAY

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

This month has been a little easier on our volunteers after the constant pounding of commitments that revolved around the Train of Lights. The train crews get a month break to recover from our heavy operation in December. But the decorating crews are heavy at it in taking down the decoration on the train. There is no break for this bunch. It takes three months to decorate the TOL. Then we have one month to get the train ready for our regular and special operations. This will get accomplished.

We carried this wheel change on the Commissary Car to the limit so it could finish the TOL. But when the TOL was through, this car was through. The bad part about this equation is that we have no wheels to put under this car. So, attention turned to the interior decorating car, which is involved in the removal of the interior decorations in the train. The plan now is to remove the trucks from under that Interior storage baggage car and place those trucks under the Commissary Car. In simple terms,

a truck swap without using shop trucks. That's easier! They jacked both cars up at the same time and removed and swapped trucks by using the switch. (see *pictures of the operation on page 14*) When both cars got their trucks back under them. It was now turned over to Gerry Fenny to wye the two cars so the same procedure could be applied to the other end. When all wrapped up, the Commissary car is now back in service and my car will be hanging out in the yard for a while. A great effort was put out by Jim Green, Gerald Dewitt, Rich alexander, Dee Murphy and others. The Interior baggage car will be staying in the yard so the interior crew can do some work during the year on doing some garland light change over. Next year, some cars are going through a makeover. New approach with different type of lights. Next year will be some new stuff.

After each TOL, I have a complete check of the right of way to be done on where ties are needed to upgrade the right of way. If this right of way was not upgraded as often as we do it. You would not be able to run a

16 car TOL with two heavy road units and get away with it without having some funny feeling in the stomach. Rest assure, it won't get to this point. H & H will be doing 200 ties and a repair of a joint in the north edge of the Bond street crossing before a FRA crossing inspection within a week. How about that for timing. Maverick surf competition has nothing over planning and executing on the NCRY. FRA crossing inspection of Bond St. would have failed in their books. Not good. Black mark and loss of faith that we keep things to class one status. If we double spiked all turns inside and out. We could upgrade. Lots of work for what we do.

We had a little problem of MONGO, our M of W tug. Very important machine. It pulls the rock car for ballast drops. Blown gasket. Steve Barkarie found new one and now back in service. Very important for East end build which is getting work done on it. Waiting for Happy Valley Bridge crossing.

The M200 is in the Car Barn. It is there for the same work that was done for the WP 713. Prep and paint back to origi-

*Continued on Page 12*

## NILES CANYON RAILWAY

The main source of funding for these non-recurring projects comes from our Train of Lights income. The 2017 TOL that just ended was our most successful ever. Volunteer hours in support of Train of Lights get turned into the funds to pay for projects which require these outside sources. So even when we have to pay to get things done, the volunteer hours are what generate that funding. So we are still an all-volunteer operation, albeit it indirectly.

Without the dedicated volunteers who do so much for

the organization, we would be not be as successful as we have become. We will be organizing another Volunteer Appreciation event for this Spring, so watch for further details.

As always, if you would like to discuss any topic in further detail, please contact me by phone at 925.447.7358 or by email at [president@ncry.org](mailto:president@ncry.org)

Respectfully submitted,

*Henry Baum*

### **Membership Update**

Voting Members please take notice: Linda Stanley has applied to become a Voting Member of the PLA. She has met the requirements spelled out in the by-laws. A vote on making Linda a Voting Member will be taken at the General Meeting on March 25. Please see the Activities Calendar in this issue.

I also have two months worth of new members to report. The six from last month were Wei Ye, Klass bol, Greg Dykema, and the family of Sabrian, Brian, and Austin Hacker. This month we welcome seventeen more. They are David Kennedy, Adrian Vera, Manly Hyde, Carole Hilton, Andrew Cox, new family members Kay Bickle and Sierra and Brooke Murphy, the family of Ajay and Madhu Dhillon and Ekam Sagoo, the family of Florence Means and Jeffery Haymon, and the family of Hung Hoang, Pui Phong, and Isaac and Kingston Hoang.

None of those new members were present at our General Meeting in January. However, they and you might want to show up in March. That is the one General Meeting each year that we do not hold at the usual time and place. This year it will be on Sunday, March 25, at 2:30 pm, and the place will be onboard our train, at Sunol Depot, following a midday charter operation. Many of our members find it difficult to get to Sunol on a Friday evening for one of our regular meetings. We are hoping that some of those will take advantage of this opportunity to attend on a Sunday afternoon. The meeting is to be

***Want to volunteer with the Niles Canyon Railway? START HERE !***

**YOUR VOLUNTEER HELP IS ALWAYS NEEDED AND APPRECIATED !**

**BRUSH CUTTING** - Clearing the RoW of bushes and trees - Steve Jones - [fcocompost@aol.com](mailto:fcocompost@aol.com)

**CAR MAINTENANCE** - Maintenance and repair - Tom Crawford - [tom@thecrawfordfamily.net](mailto:tom@thecrawfordfamily.net)

**COMMISSARY** - Food service on the trains - Bob Bradley - [ncry.commissary@yahoo.com](mailto:ncry.commissary@yahoo.com)

**GIFT SHOP** - Work in the Sunol Gift Shop - Gail Hedberg - [giftshop@ncry.org](mailto:giftshop@ncry.org)

**MOW CREW - (WEDNESDAY)** - Work on track repair, etc. - Joe Peterson - [wedmow@ncry.org](mailto:wedmow@ncry.org)

**MOW CREW - (SATURDAY)** - Work on track repair, etc. Michael Strider - [michael.strider@hdrinc.com](mailto:michael.strider@hdrinc.com)

**SIGNALS** - Install/Maintain signal systems - Curt Hoppins - [curt@ncrysignal.com](mailto:curt@ncrysignal.com)

**STATION - (NILES)** - Work parking, ticket sales, set-up, etc. - John Fenstermacher - [johnnsheerif@aol.co](mailto:johnnsheerif@aol.co)

**STATION - (SUNOL)** - Work parking, ticket sales, set-up, etc. - Donna Alexander - [station-agent@ncry.org](mailto:station-agent@ncry.org)

## NILES CANYON RAILWAY

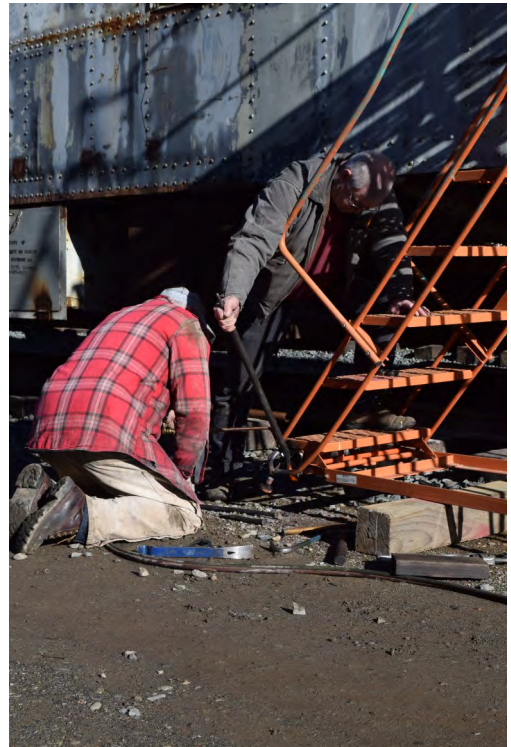
Saturday January 20, 2018 starts as most Steam Saturdays do... Start the fire to heat the steam shop or at least the first 5 feet inside the shop. Roll out the tile saw and get it ready to go. Collect all of the needed equipment and water for the 5 gallon buckets to place the fire box bricks (three fit inside a 5 gallon bucket) into to soak up water. Letting the bricks soak up water so they can be installed and have mortar placed on them "gluing" the bricks inside to each other and building up the fire wall.



This is a slow process as one volunteer has to climb inside the firebox (you REALLY have to be skinny to get into that opening!), another sits on a 5 gallon bucket and hands soaked bricks to the brick layer and takes any bricks to be cut and hands them down to the guy who is on the shop floor. The other important job is the brick cutter who cuts bricks according to the marks the fire box person draws on the bricks.

Now, as the day gets started there is one small issue... there is no mortar in the shop as it has not arrived from the factory and is special order mortal one cannot go to Home Depot and purchase this high temperature mortar. So now what to do?

Seeing as the day before when the SP 9010 was taken outside and started up for a visitor who came from Germany I had been cleaning the rails inside the car barn and plugged up the vacuum hose with mud (oops) so



Henry Chandler and Chuck Kent welding the two stair cases. Thanks guys! *Photos by Dee Murphy*

I washed it out and climbed up the tall ladder stand that sits out by the car barn. As I climbed up the third stair, the ladder started to fall over sideways due to a broken leg that was bent completely in and the boards used to stabilize the walk up ladder were

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### E-Coupling Information

Website: <http://www.ncry.org>

E-Mail: [pla@ncry.info](mailto:pla@ncry.info)

Twitter: [@toots4ncry](https://twitter.com/toots4ncry)

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/NilesCanyonRailway>

YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/user/NilesCanyonRailRoad>



## NILES CANYON RAILWAY

### Wednesday Maintenance of Way Update

not under the broken leg. Luckily, I hopped off and straightened the ladder and placed the wood blocks under it.

Back to Steam... I showed Henry the issue of the broken leg and asked him if he could fix this up so it could be used again. After Henry Chandler and Chuck Kent got to work on it as a team they quickly rehabilitated the leg by finding some usable solid steel and welded it up. Right after painting the leg Henry checked on the nearby ladder and got right to work fixing its bent leg also.

Some days might not go as planned in the yard but fixing broken equipment is a much needed thing.

Here are some pictures of Henry Chandler and Chuck Kent welding the two stair cases. Thanks guys!

*Dee Murphy*

### **Happy New Year to one and all!!!**

Brightside Yard is so drab now!

No Tree-of-Lights nor beautiful Train-of-Lights to brighten up the scene!

Decorations disappearing into the baggage cars for their seven month hibernation.

The good news is, there is lots of work to be done to finish this and prepare for the beginning of the 2018 operating season!

Looks like a good time to get out to the railroad and reduce the effects of all that Holiday cheer ;-)

WEDMOW has been doing just that. (See our operations on pages 9 & 10) Clearing lots of small jobs around the MOW shed, replacing the punctured water bottle on the Blue Room, checking, filling and fixing the flange lubricators, picking up garbage from our local band of vagrants (would you believe desk and chair set?), re-banding and painting the phone booth at Farwell, retrieving and mounting a new turntable assembly onto the Tie Extractor, moving the "crowd controls" in Sunol to their summer resting place, unloading the 1K+ pound Lego's onto the driveway, bush-

whacking around Brightside, checking tire pressures so wheels will turn when needed, even helping de-decorate the 2017 Train of Lights.

Thanks to Ron Thomas, Pat Stratton, Gregg McNaughton, Greg LaFramboise, Pat Hafey, the Murphy's (Dee, Sierra and Brooke), Steve (Jones and Barkarrie), Doug Vanderlee, John Zielinski and Rich Alexander for a great start on the New Year!

If you are in need of exercise, join us at the PLA gymnasium any Wednesday or Saturday around 8 AM and join in on the fun! Your railroad will be glad you did.

*Joe Peterson*



# NILES CANYON RAILWAY

## MOW Crews at work



*At Left:* Steve Jones, Doug Vanderlee, and Bob Pratt discuss how to mount the re-claimed turntable assembly onto the Tie extractor. *Photo by Greg Laframboise*

*Below:* As evidenced by Ron Thomas and Gregg McNaughton, working on the flange lubricators is not a clean job, but a necessary one! *Photo by Joe Peterson*



*At left:* Brook and Sierra Murphy load the corral fencing while in the background, Dee Murphy, Pat Stratton, Bob Pratt and Pat Hafey disconnect the panels. *Photo by Joe Peterson*





# NILES CANYON RAILWAY

## *MOW Crews in at work*



*At left: Garbage collection day in the canyon, just an example of what our local vagrants leave on our right-of-way. Photo by Joe Peterson.*

*At right: A closer look at some of the debris collected along the right-of-way. Yes, that is a desk in the background. The chair is on the flat-car above. Photo by Joe Peterson*



# NILES CANYON RAILWAY

## December Volunteers

by Paul Veltman

The following is a list of the people who helped run your railroad in November. Names in **Bold** are new members, first timers, or the first time in a long time. If you are new to volunteering on the railroad, please print your name clearly on the sign in sheet so it can be read. You can also send hours by e-mail to [stumpie1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stumpie1@sbcglobal.net). **Note that if I can't read your writing, you may not get credit for the hours you worked.**

### Administrative

Henry Baum

Dexter Day

Peter Midnight

Joe Scardino

Paul Veltman

### GGRM Projects

Steve Coon

Alan Siegwarth

### Docents

Fred Krock

Chris Chisom

Bent Christensen

**Richard Clinton**

**Yvonne Clinton**

**Bruce Compton**

**Ben Coplan**

**Toni Coplan**

Tom Crawford

Scott Crislip

Ray Crist

Dexter Day

Doug Debs

Gerry Dewees

Nancy Dewees

Gerald DeWitt

**Debra Dorsett**

**Ann Dowley**

Fred Elenbaas

Jim Evans

Gerry Feeney

John Fenstermacher

Tim Flippo

Frank Fontes

Glenn Fountain

Norm Fraga

Charles Franz

*List continues on*

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### Meetings

Donna Alexander

Rich Alexander

Henry Baum

Jim Evans

Chris Hauf

Gail Hedberg

Kent Hedberg

Steve Jones

Dennis Mann

Peter Midnight

Linda Stanley

Jim Stewart

Paul Veltman

### Train of Lights

Donna Alexander

Rich Alexander

Rich Anderson

Mary Asturias

Bob Bailey

Steve Barkkarie

Henry Baum

Ed Best

Linda Best

Ed Bindert

David Bowman

Sonya Bowman

James Bradas

Lou Bradas

Peter Bradas

John Burnside

Trudie Burnside

**Mike Carter**

### Car Department

Jim Green

Jim McDaniel



## NILES CANYON RAILWAY

nal paint and markings and is getting set up to be the headliner in our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. More on that latter. The M200 will glow in the new paint scheme.

The original paint was like school bus orange. It was not orange when a school railcar on Indian Reservation. But it turned to that color when it was running on the California Western at Fort Bragg.

The Month of March is recertification for train and engine crews that want to continue to operate on the NCRY. This will be a five-hour class and will require crews to bring their rule book and timetable to class. Test will also be given. Study the physical characteristic of the railroad. {Don't want you to get lost}.

Dates of classes: 3/11, 3/25, 4/8. As usual, make up classes are required to full fill the requirement of full crews. Will advise if those are needed.

At this time, I really want

to thank Henry Baum to see the automatic front gate project through. He was out there every day when the gate was being installed.



Yes, it works. Is it what we expected. Note really, but it works. It will be adjusted to what we want. But Henry Baum got this gate, and I don't have to get out of my truck. It works. Until adjusted to a flying gate. {That will dent your car}. Right now, we

want one car and only one car through gate per swipe of car. Wait till gate closes and then swipe your card. Backward tactics?! Yes! But

that is what is required of your card. That is if you plan on keeping your card. Read the fine print.

Things around the railroad is going well. We have a lot to be thankful for. We have a healthy railroad. We are doing

good. Support the effort and become part of it. Commissary love to have new talent to help on wine trains, Beer trains, Mother day trains.

There is much more when it comes to Commissary. But you are needed and training takes place in this position. Sine up if interested.

Until next month, work safely, don't push yourself into areas that you are not sure of. But get instruction. With that said. Have good month and hope to see you along the right of way.

*Dexter Day*



# NILES CANYON RAILWAY

## Saturday MOW Updates

### WHAT'S UP WITH BRUSH CUTTING?

For the benefit of the hundreds of new members who have joined us in the past year, there is an aspect of operating our railroad which has nothing to do with rails, locomotives or railcars. We call it "Brush Cutting". On the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month, a group of volunteers rolls out into the canyon on special equipment to trim the trees and bushes which grow alongside the tracks. If left to their own devices, the trackside vegetation would encroach so close to the tracks that branches would scrape the paint off of our equipment, and strike our crew and passengers riding on the open cars.

The weather for the past 2 years has supported vigorous growth of trees and brush along the

6.2 miles of right-of-way along the "Canyon Division" from Niles to Sunol. We also have nearly 4 miles of track from Sunol to the end of track where we are currently building East toward Pleasanton. Our efforts are concentrated on the 6.2 miles of track in regular operation, but plans are in the works to have some special runs going East. We will have to clear branches away from the corridor from Sunol to our crossing at Pleasanton-Sunol Road and beyond.

Since we cannot be out on the ROW trimming vegetation during November and December when the NCRY is running the "Train of Lights", that leaves only ten "4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays" in the year to do our work along nearly 10 miles of railroad. That isn't enough time to deal with the task. In the com-

ing months, I will be looking to add other Saturdays and perhaps some days in the middle of the week; maybe Tuesdays or Thursdays, so as not to interfere with the regular Wednesday Maintenance of Way volunteers. Stay tuned.

When we trim trees and brush, we chip the "slash" on the spot to prevent it from becoming an eyesore, tripping and fire hazard. The good news is, the PLA has purchased a new, custom built, railroad adapted, Bandit 250-XP chipper, just like the professional tree crews use. The new chipper makes the job a joy to perform. All we need are a few volunteers to come out on brush cutting days to help pick up the fallen limbs and branches, drag them a few feet and feed them into the chipper. It is very

simple work, and you get to work outside in some of the most beautiful, unspoiled countryside in the entire Bay Area. There is a great sense of satisfaction at the end of the day when you look back at the work you have accomplished.

If you are interested in doing a little more than just sending in your membership dues once a year, participating in the Brush Cutting effort is a very good place to start. No prior experience needed. For questions, contact me at [FCOCom-post@aol.com](mailto:FCOCom-post@aol.com) or 510-289-3559.

Your Brother in Sawdust,  
*Steve Jones*

# NILES CANYON RAILWAY

## Treasurer's Report

Paul Veltman, Treasurer

In December, \$8,507 in donations were received.

\$1,555 was received for the General Fund, \$500 for the Car Department, \$5,700 for the SP 9010, \$152 for painting the Arizona Eastern 453 Combine and \$600 for the new locomotive shop.

### **Donors were:**

Anonymous

Phil Copple

Tom Eikerenkotter

Jeff Evans

Frank Fontes

Frank Ghiglione

Andrew Goodson

Jonathan Izen

Charles Jellison

Melanie Kimbel

Kristin Rinaker

Manuel Silva

Michael Thomas

***We thank all of you for your generosity in helping the Niles Canyon Railway and its many projects.***



Above: Gerald DeWitt, Jim Green, and Rich Alexander near the completion of the task of swapping out the trucks from the Storage car to the Commissary Car. *Photos by Dee Murphy*

followed by a train ride for those attending, whether members or guests of members.

As many of us know first hand, there is a lot more to being a part of this unique organization than just being a member, gaining voting status or attending meetings. There is certainly more for you here than just some free train rides. If you have not yet begun to find where you belong in PLA and the rewards for you of taking your part in it, I hope 2018 is the year that you will.

Peter Midnight

## **NCRY 2017 Statistics**

*(As reported to the Federal Railway Administration)*

**Total Passengers carried: 49,621**

**Total Passenger Miles traveled:  
3,844**



# NILES CANYON RAILWAY

<b>Clark Fuller</b>	<b>Ron Logan</b>	Nancy Peterson	Pete Willis	Alan Siegwarth
<b>Lavern Fuller</b>	<b>Lisa Lorenz</b>	Joe Romani	Eric Wright	Linda Stanley
Don Gholson	<b>Karen Lupo</b>	Dan Sarka	Ario Ysit	Bill Stimmerman
<b>Ann Gianinni</b>	Derek Lyon-Mckeil	Joe Scardino	John Zielinski	Howard Wise
Rob Giles	Dennis Mann	Derek Schipper	Travas Zupo	Bob Zenk
Jim Gilmore	Adam Martinez	Gregg Schluntz		John Zielinski
Armano Giovacchini	Al McCracken	Nancy Schluntz	<u><b>Depot Crew/</b></u>	
Pete Goodier	Jim McDaniel	Brian Schott	<u><b>Operations</b></u>	<u><b>MOW / Track</b></u>
Jim Green	Patrice McDonald	Wayne Schull	Pat Warren	Tom Anderson
Chuck Gullo	<b>Elaine McKinley</b>	Linda Schultz		Bob Bailey
Warren Haack	George Mednick	Roger Shultz	<u><b>Electrical &amp; Sig-</b></u>	Steve Barkkarie
Nancy Harden	Peter Midnight	Alan Siegwarth	<u><b>nals</b></u>	Frank Fontes
Bonnie Harrington	Mark Miller	Janet Smith	Curt Hoppins	Rich Fontes
Jack Harrington	Tom Miller	Richard Smith	Joe Romani	Steve Hu
Zonker Harris	Dan Mills	<b>R Sporer</b>	Jim Stewart	Steve Jones
Gail Hedberg	Sally Mills	Linda Stanley	<u><b>Mechanical Dept</b></u>	Brooke Murphy
Kent Hedberg	Alan Minto	Jack Starr	Rich Anderson	Dee Murphy
Jerry Higgins	Melody Minto	Jim Stewart	Kenny Bishoff	Sierra Murphy
Brian Hitchcock	Kylie Montgomery	Wayne Stoddard	Henry Chandler	Chris O'Gara
<b>Gloria Holleman</b>	Phil Montgomery	Pat Stratton	Gerald DeWitt	Mike Pechner
Curt Hoppins	Brooke Murphy	Ray Strong	Gerry Feeney	Mike Strider
Randy Johnson	Dee Murphy	Don Stuff	Jeff Haslam	
Steve Jones	Sierra Murphy	John Sutkus	Chris Hauf	<u><b>Other</b></u>
Karen Kadaja	Charlene Murrell	Jacqui Szymanski	Steve Jones	Don Buchholz
Donald Kirker	<b>Susan Osborne</b>	Dan Thomas	Chuck Kent	Zonker Harris
Fred Krock	<b>Gary Outerhout</b>	Ron Thomas	Justin Legg	Paul Veltman
Dave Lion	Bob Owens	Sue Thomas	Dennis Mann	
Greg LaFramboise	Yoki Park	Ted Unruh	Brooke Murphy	
Jorg Linke	Bev Patterson	Paul Veltman	Dee Murphy	
Dave Lion	Mike Pechner	Jacki Vlasak	Sierra Murphy	
Ken Lippman	Tony Peters	Pat Warren	Conner Schwab	
	Joe Peterson	Jon Williamson	Jeff Schwab	

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Photo by Bob Greenburg



