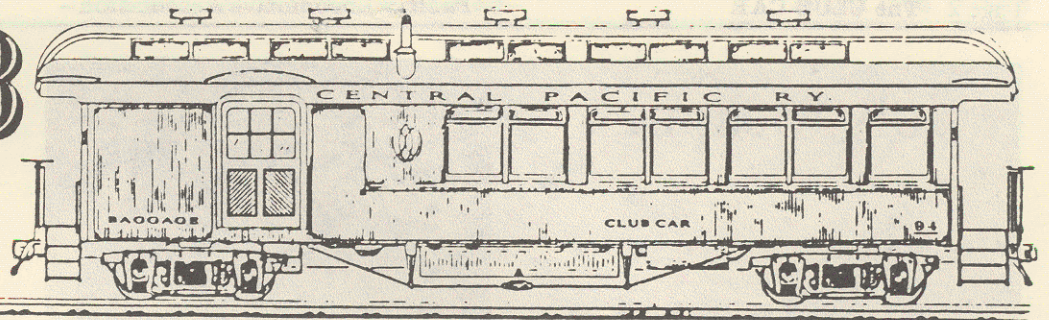


THE CLUB CAR



Bulletin No. 278

Pacific Locomotive Association

August 1986

First Mile Fund Still Needs Support

By Madeline Iverson

In the last couple of months, no one has come forth and given the membership a "pep" talk regarding the First Mile Fund. Perhaps this lack of encouragement has resulted in the dwindling amount of money coming in for this project. If there has been any time that the club needs financial support of its members and sponsors, it is now that our operations are shut down. Our needs increase tremendously as we build towards our home in Niles Canyon, and unfortunately our revenue from donations and the gift shop, which were several thousand dollars each month, have all but disappeared.

The Board of Directors is currently working on the budget for the year, keeping in mind what we need to do to facilitate our move Niles Canyon, and this year's budget promises to be far larger than any other in the club's history.

Because Alameda County has purchased the ties in the canyon, many members and sponsors have been lead to believe that the First Mile Fund does not need money. This is a mistaken belief. There are huge gaps of ties that are missing and must be replaced. the club has also recently purchased spikes for the existing ties. This purchase alone, without any track material, was \$5,500. Image the astronomical cost of the other track material and rail we will need!

Please keep those monthly checks coming in if you are already helping. For those of you who haven't contributed yet, now is a good time to start.

Next month we will have an update on the First Mile Fund, including contributors and the amount we have collected to date.



The efforts of members like these brought PLA rail 4953 feet closer to Sunol during July.

Volunteers Needed for Niles Flea Market

By Patty Schulze

Each year the Niles Merchant's Association sponsors a flea market in Niles on the last Sunday in August. Last year PLA had a booth where we sold merchandise from our Company Store. JIM NOBLE worked at the booth "selling" PLA.

This year the flea market will be on August 31, Labor Day weekend, and PLA will again have a booth. Jim Noble will be selling PLA again and the rest of us will be selling merchandise.

We are trying to do something more this year than we did last year. The Niles Merchant's Association has asked us to give them some help. We have agreed to do so in the interest of benefiting the local community.

Niles Boulevard is closed to public vehicle traffic shortly after Midnight. Right after that the vendors will be coming in to set up their booths. The Merchant's

Association is responsible for traffic control until 6:00 AM at which time the flea market is opened to the public.

Several PLA members will be helping with that project starting about 2:00 AM. These people will be helping vendors find their booth locations and directing the public who are trying to drive in the Niles downtown at that time. Our people will be finished with that part of PLA's effort into the Flea Market at 6:00 AM and will then be able to catch a three hour nap before reporting to work at the Ki-lite crossing.

I still need more help, both with the booth and with the traffic control. Please call me if you are willing to help. Even if you can't help come to the Flea Market and buy something from the PLA booth. Any money you spend in our booth will help us into our new home, and help you give with the traffic control will help us establish positive relations with the local communities.

July Meeting

By Madeline Iverson

The July general meeting marked the club's 25th birthday. It was celebrated by a potluck dinner and cake cutting ceremony.

Between 120 and 140 members, contributing sponsors, friends, and families attended the potluck which featured a large variety of main dishes and salads. It was held in the meeting hall of St. Christopher's Church in San Lorenzo, and dinner was served from 7 to 8 PM.

After dinner, C.G. HEIMERDINGER one of the six founders of the organization, gave a brief anecdotal history of the club, recounting such humorous tales as the "mint bushes" that were really poison oak as well as some milestones in the club's 25 year history.

The general meeting, promising to be a short one, began just before 8:30 and ended at 9:10. There was no old or new business and the major item voted upon was the list of new active, honorary, and associate members. Voted into active membership were BURNEDA ANDERSON, MIKE DUFFY, BRIAN WISE, and ALAN TERUYA. HARVEY GREGORY, JOHN DILLMAN, AND RICH PAULISCH were voted into honorary membership, and WALTER HINCK and BILL ROBINSON were voted into associate membership. Also of importance was the seating of the new slate of officers. The only person not previously seated on the board was Vice-President DEXTER DAY.

Committee reports were kept to a minimum, with the president and general manager reporting on progress in Niles Canyon, RAY "MAC" MacALLISTER reporting further on Vancouver, and CRAIG WILSON displaying his projections for Brightside and an aerial photograph of the area.



Photo by Alan Teruya

PLA founders Karl Koenig (left), Henry Luna, and C.G. Heimerdinger get ready to cut the PLA's 25th Anniversary Birthday Cake.

Two awards followed the general business of the meeting. The first award was the "Whistle Award", a recognition for being the person most involved in PLA activities for the year. The award for 1985 went to DEXTER DAY. General Counsel STEVE SLABACH received the "Broom and Dustpan Award" for cleaning up the club's legal problems.

The evening was finished with the cutting of the large PLA cake by the three charter members who still live in the area: C.G. HEIMERDINGER, KARL KOENIG, and HENRY LUNA.

Applications for Associate Membership may be requested from the Membership Secretary. All applications must be endorsed by two members and be returned with \$17.50 dues for the first year.

To be eligible for Active Membership one

The Hot Box

The following items are needed as soon as available to progress the work of PLA and the building of the NCSRy.

- 1) John Deere or Case diesel backhoe. Ready to run. Donation would be best, but lending would also be greatly appreciated.
- 2) Air compressor: 120, 150, or 180 cfm, gas or diesel, skid or trailer mounted.
- 3) 200 feet of air compressor hose with or without fittings. This usually comes in 50 foot sections.

The following items have been on our "want list" for some time and seem to have been forgotten.

- 4) Chain link fence. All components needed in good second hand condition. Post, fabric, gates and all small hardware. This is important and any usable 6 or 8 foot material will save the club a lot of money. We could be installing permanent fencing as early as September!

- 5) Pipe: We will need galvanized steel pipe in sizes from 1/2" to 3" in long lengths in good condition. What do you have and what could you get donated?

And "thank you" to HOLLAWAY, who recently donated one of our "need" items: a 3/4" drive air impact wrench! A valuable item and one which will be used for a long time to come!

must have been an Associate Member for at least six months and have regularly attended meetings in that time. The number of Active Memberships is limited to insure a quorum at club meetings.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President Michael McQuaid
- Vice-President. Dexter Day
- Recording Secretary Madeline Iverson
- Membership Secretary. Jim Evans
- P.O. Box 451, Burlingame, CA 94011-0451
- Treasurer Dave Rousar
- General Counsel Stephen H. Slabach
- General Manager Peter Schulze
- (415) 797-8613

The Club Car

The Club Car is the monthly newsletter of the Pacific Locomotive Association and its members. All submissions will be considered for publication and will only be edited for space and clarity.

- Editor. Alan Teruya
- 744 Olivina Ave, Livermore, CA 94550
- (415)455-1269



Active Member Charlie Blake supplied the cake for the PLA's 25th Anniversary Party.

Vice-president and Operations Manager Report

Rail to Be in Sunol by Aug. 17

By Dexter Day

The rail project in Niles Canyon for the PLA is well underway. During the month of July, our track gang laid 127 (4953 ft.) lengths of rail. Although they laid only one rail to protect ties, the rail now extends from East Ki-lite to just beyond the crossing at the farm house. At this rate, we project that the rail should be in Sunol by August 17.

This will be a big milestone for the track crew whose effort goes above and beyond that needed for the normal work projects we have had in the past. It is hard work to lay rail any time, but to do it in 90 degree temperatures is especially difficult.

However, there is a lot more to this project than just laying rail. The track crew had to undo in three weeks what it took mother nature three years to create. That was the removal of one foot of compact mud that was on the right of way so that the ties could be exposed to be prepared for track laying. That turned out to be the hardest obstacle to overcome so far, since this section was 1000 feet long. But it doesn't really matter what problems we run into, the job continues to get done.

The progress of this project would not have been able to take the shape as it has if it wasn't for the extra effort that has been demonstrated by some of the crew. Like BONES

ANDREWS, who fixed the steering on the Hough skiploader during the week so that we could have it back on line for the weekend. TIM FLIPPO dragged and set rail during the week so that we could get a jump on track laying on the weekend. BUZZ BURGER, MIKE WILSON, BONES, and FRANK PRESLEY blew and plugged ties along with greasing joints during the week to keep that extra distance ahead of the gang. MATT MAKSEL, MIKE BOZZINI, and others helped unload and set out rail from the rail truck on a Thursday night so we would have rail to lay on Saturday. DAVE ROUSAR AND BOB ANDERSON set up and spotted the rail trucks in San Jose during the week so that time would not be wasted on Saturday when loading started.

These are just some isolated cases that I have mentioned, but every weekend our members who came out have given their all out effort, working as a team getting the job done.

I hope that in the near future that we will be able to make the job a little easier for the track crew by having better equipment to work with. At this time WAYNE EMPEY and his wife have been rebuilding three speeder flats and MIKE SULLIVAN has just completed rebuilding a speeder. All we need now is the second rail.

In the mean time, we do need more members to help in the building of this railroad. So until the wave of mechanical

First Mile Fund

The First Mile Fund now stands at \$2722.50 in total donations, but continues to need your support. Please see Madeline Iverson's article on page 1 for an explanation of how your money will help the PLA.

First Mile Fund contributors for June and July were: Richard Anderson, Millard P. Asbury, Gordon & Mildred Atkinson, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Barnes, John E. Bonwell, III, Lt. D. J. Brundage, Michael A. Carlisle, Lawrence & Janice Carr, John Claudino, A. N. Darcy, J. A. Easton, Barney Emerson Insurance Agency, George E. Fiene, Alfred J. Fisher, M.D., John & Ninya Follansbee, Stephen & Judith Foster, William B. Garner, Lowell D. Garrett, Peter & Barbara Goodier, Mr. & Mrs. H. B. Gregory, Peter Groom, Clayton J. Guest, Michael Hamer, Robert & Velma Harreschou, Alfred & Marian Harvey, H. Scott Hilaman, Mr. & Mrs. Ronald D. Hise, David Hopper, Charles A. Jellison, Sheldon R. King, Timothy J. Low, Richard R. Marshall, K. I. McDougall, Patrick T. McNamara, Mr & Mrs. Craig L. Miller, Richard L. Nichols, Hermann F. Reiss, Donald B. Robertson, George W. Rogers, Edward J. Ryan, F. W. Sellman, Stephen H. Slabach, Alvon J. Thoman, Donald E. Tustin, Dudley Westler, and Ted Wurm.

Rent PLA Videotapes

Video Tape Rental is \$5.00/ week or rent two tapes and get the third one free. All tapes are VHS.

You can rent by mail for the rental fee plus postage for both ways.

See Charlie Blake on Saturdays at Niles Canyon or at the monthly meeting. Call him at (707) 552-2394 after 5 PM. to reserve tapes. Order tapes by mail by writing to him at 869 Oakwood Ave, Vallejo, CA 94591.

Will the member that rented "Railfair '81" please return it to Charlie Blake.

machines shows up, how about, if you haven't already, come out and give the track crew a hand. Next month the U.S. Navy Seabees will be out to give us a hand in digging out some of our culverts. I hope the Hough doesn't get jealous. We'll have a good month and we will see you in the canyon.

Company Store

Large Selection of Books Available from PLA

The following list contains the Company Store's regular stock of books. These may be ordered from:

Pacific Locomotive Assn.
c/o Carol Sullivan
1565 Seneca Lane
San Mateo, CA 94402
(415) 341-0814

Additional books can be special-ordered, assuming an order large enough to meet the minimum required by the particular publisher. RR Locomotive Safety Stds. & Loco Inspection, \$1.25

Locomotive Draft Gears, \$4.75
Welding Safety Handbook, \$4.05;
American Locomotives (Hist. of), White, \$11.50;
America's Railroads, Ball, \$31.95
Antique Locomotive Coloring Book, \$2.25
(Those) Amazing Cab Forwards, Harlan, \$27.25
America Locomotive Builders, White, \$8.95
Baggage Car with Lace Curtains, Fisher, \$7.50
Baldwin Narrow Gauge (reprint), \$5.95
(Little Look at) Big Boy, Kratville, \$3.25
Battleship Country, \$6.50
America's Bicentennial Queen, \$3.00
Call the Big Hook, \$19.85
Crookedest RR, Wurm & Graves, \$22.60
Cajon, Walker, \$41.60
China by Rail, Middleton, \$18.05
Cotton Belt Locomotives, \$22.65
Dinner in the Diner, Whittaker, \$14.45
D-Day on the WP, Staff, \$27.05
Doodlebug Country, Keilty, \$26.10
Civil War Musical Instruments, \$9.05
Cowboys, Mines, Presidents & Kings (Grand Cyn Ry), \$10.85
Eastshore & Suburban Ry (Richmond), \$5.00
Electric Ry Pioneer, Demoro, \$22.60
Forty Feet Below (Chicago), \$9.00
Frisco Diesel Power, Marre & Harper \$26.10
Fiddletown & Copperopolis Ry, Fallber, \$9.50
Growing Up with Trains I, Steinheimer & Sims, \$15.35
Growing Up with Trains II, Steinheimer & Benson, \$17.50
Golden State Rails, Fox, \$6.95
Ghost RRs of Arizona, \$13.55
Hetch Hetchy & Its Dam RR, Wurm, \$22.95
Historic Alpine Tunnel \$11.75
Heisler Locomotive, \$19.00
Historic SP Cars, \$4.75

Industrial Landscape, Plowden \$36.15
Key System Album, Walker, \$16.50
Key Route II, Demoro, \$30.75
Locomotives of the Duluth, Misabe & Iron Range, \$35.75
Last of the Great Stations, Bradley, \$8.95
Last of the 3-Foot Loggers, Krieg, \$15.50
Last Whistle, Wagner, \$16.45
Life & Times of Pacific Electric, \$7.40
Locomotive Portraits, Kinsey, \$31.65
Locomotive Profiles:
Camels & Camelbacks, \$2.85
UP 4-12-2, \$3.75
American 4-8-4s (Daylights), \$3.75
Lima Super Power, \$3.75
German 2-10-2, \$2.85
South African 2-8-2, \$2.85
Mixed Train Daily, Beebe, \$18.95
Meiji Era Steam Locomotives (Japan), \$22.60
Modeling Cajon, \$8.95
Narrow Gauge to the Redwoods, \$17.50
Northwest Rail Pictorial, Wing \$9.95
Northwestern Pacific Pictorial, fox \$9.95
Northern Pacific Views, \$22.50 (\$18 if ordered with Kinsey book)
Overland to the Rockies, Fox, \$13.85
Pacific Coast Shay, Ranger, \$15.35
PCC, Carlson Schneider, \$25.00
Pine Across the Mountain, Hanft, \$20.15
Passenger Train Consists of the 1970's, \$4.95
Pino Grande, Polkinghorn, \$27.40
Pictorial History of Glenwood Colorado, \$4.50
Railway Country: Across Canada by Train, \$36.15
RR that Lighted Southern California, Johnston, \$19.85
RR through the Coeur D'Alenes, Carranco pb\$12.45, hb\$17.25
Red River, Hanft, \$31.25
Rails to Doomsday (Corregidor, Manila Bay), Small \$12.85
Rails to the Mines (Taiwan), Small, \$8.75
Rails to the Diggins (Panama Canal), \$20.45
Rail Talk, James, \$6
Rotary Snowplow (catalog reprint), \$2.50
Rio Grande Glory Days, \$15.35
Rio Grande Diesels, I, \$16.35
Rio Grande Diesels, II, \$16.35
RRs of Yosemite Valley, Johnston, \$16.25
Rio Grande Ski Train, \$8.00
Supersteam Era (Northern Pacific), Fery & Schrenk, \$40.55
Santa Fe Motive Power, McMillan, \$35.95
Steinbeck Country Narrow Gauge, Fabing &

Hamman, \$22.60
Shay Set (Parts; 1919 Catalog) \$12.50
Southern Pacific Steam, Duke, \$12.75
Steam Directory, 1979 and 1983, \$3.50
Streamliner Cars: Budd, \$11.00
Steaming Up, Vauclain, \$15.00
SP Reviews, Strapac
1977, \$9.50; 1978-1979, \$14.45; 1981, \$14.45; 1982-1982, \$16.35; 1983-1985, \$17.35
ALCO Standardized Locos/USRA (reprint) \$2.95
Silver Short Line, Wurm, \$35.45
Secret Recipes of Dining Car Chefs, Yahnke, \$3.50
Rule Book - SP&S, \$2.50
Streamline Era, Reed, \$29.85
Sierra RR Adventure of Yesteryear, \$2.70
Slim Rails Through the Sand, Turner, \$16.00
B2 Shay Modeling Handbook, \$11.70
Lima Shay Catalog, 1925 (reprint), \$6.75
C3 Shay Modeling Handbook, \$9.50
Shay Instruction Sheets, \$5.30
Tracking Ghost RRs in Colorado, \$14.45
Train Wrecks, Reed, \$13.55
Two Foot Rails to the Front, Small (WWI), \$14.75
Top Cover for America, \$12.65
Trail of '42 (Alaska), \$5.35
Thunder in the Mountains, Johnston, \$19.85
Trains of Wisconsin, Rosholt, \$30.75
Union Pacific 1977-1980, cackle, \$17.75
UP 3985, Botkin-Hill-Kindig, \$9.00
Vancouver Island Railroads \$17.15
Verde Valley Railroads (Arizona), \$7.95
Western Pacific Diesel Years, Strapac, \$17.15
Western Railroader-Castro Point Ry Museum (1980), \$1.50
Young Railroaders Book of Steam, \$2.75
Westinghouse-Equipped Diesel-Electric Locos 10-80T, \$10
Whistles Blow No more, Johnston, \$23.50

Also: Numerous children's books; UP System Timetable #7 (last one before merger), \$6.00

Please send all Associate and Active renewals and any address changes to Membership Secretary Jim Evans, P.O. Box 451, Burlingame, CA 94011-0451. Please do not send renewals to our San Leandro mailing address or delays may result.

General Manager's Report Plans Call for Operations by Dec.

By Peter Schulze

To some the ties say, "Travel on."
To others, "Travel back,"
But pity the one to whom the ties
Are just a railroad track

The Niles Canyon Scenic Railway is and will be much more than "just a railroad track". But, (But!!) the railroad track must come first, and now (Now!!!) is when we need you. Consider this: we have over eight-tenths of a mile of rail laid (one side) and one full mile of ties already plugged, and (And!!) all this work had been done by 31 people.

That's right. Thirty-one people have worked out there on the job, on the track, in the last two months. The work and the progress to date is exceptional! We are doing well, but (But!!) we need to do more because there is still so much to do. The main ingredients we need are PEOPLE and INITIATIVE.

Please, even one day in the month of August or September would go a long way toward building our railroad and establishing our new hom. I am addressing the almost 250 OTHER active and associate members whose names are not among the 31. If you have given only one day in the last two months, that is enough; really, that is quite good. But as for the 219 others . . . we would like your help too.

Consider this: There is no one out there who really knows what he is doing, except helping and having fun. The entire job is being done by those who want to help and to learn and work together for the good of our association and for the preservation and operation of railroading and its history and lore. That is what you can be a part of. Yes, you can.

Looking ahead for a moment, our plan calls for the first rail to reach the Kilkare Rd. crossing in Sunol on Saturday, August 16. Thereafter, it is planned to build the west switch at Sunol. We will also do additional tie plugging and cleaning at Brightside along with certain clean-up of the ground and fence line around Brightside. As soon as possible, about the end of August, we will start on the first rail across the Dresser bridge (second one from the bottom of the canyon) and will



PLA President Mike McQuaid presented Dexter Day, Operations Manager and the recently elected PLA vice-president, with the "Whistle Award" for his contributions to the PLA in 1985.

Photo by Alan Teruya

work concurrently on the main track between the road crossings at Sunol.

These projects will only continue as long as the final approval from the Alameda County Board of Supervisors is pending: As soon as approval is in hand, we will readdress ourselves to laying the second rail all the way, again starting at Ki-lite or East Brightside and working eastward, this time installing all tie plates and doing all spiking. During November it will be necessary to install all cross ties that are missing on the track we hope to operate on (where more than one tie is missing in a place), and install all the missing bolts and "joint plates".

But Wait!! Don't let the above paragraph blow you off the tracks! It is only the same sequence of each of us doing his or her part, working together, that we have been doing so well for over 25 years now that we can do and will continue to do. The above little list of projects adds up to a number of things, most rewarding of all being: The possibility of operating a revenue train for the interested public in Niles Canyon on the first Sunday in December, 1986, exactly one year after we last operated a train for the public on the Castro Point Railway.

We all look forward to seeing you out there!!!

Finally, the PLA's and your Board of Director's special thanks go to our

vice-president and operations manager, DEXTER DAY, for his unending enthusiasm and hard work in getting this far this quickly. We all owe Dex and all the workers who have already been out on the NCSRY track a "well done" round of appreciation!

Please call me at home to talk over the projects, and see when and where you might like to help. Don't forget we would like to put together a few special weekday work parties during August and September. So give me a call at (415)797-8613. Your best bet is Wednesday evenings or Friday, Saturday, or Sunday. (And contrary to common rumor, I do occasionally return calls!).

July Roll Call

[Editor's Note: Because there are many projects going on in many different places, it is impossible for one person to keep track of the Roll Call as Bones did at Castro Point. Until a formal plan for compiling a list of workers for the Roll Call and club records is implemented, this column will depend on project leaders getting the names of workers to me by the Club Car deadline so the list will appear in the next issue.]

Saturday, July 12 - Loading rail in San Jose for shipment to Levin in Richmond: BOB ANDERSON, MIKE BOZZINI, JIM EVANS, MATT MAKSEL, MIKE WILSON.

Regular Meeting

To be considered for Associate Membership: Curt and Raylene Nunes of San Jose and Kevin Moran of San Francisco.

To be considered for Active Membership: Bob Anderson of San Jose.

Entertainment for the meeting had not been determined at press time.

Special Notice to Active and Associate Members: Please check your PLA Membership Card. If your membership has expired please send your renewal check (\$17.50 Assoc. and \$25.00 Active) to the Membership Secretary.

Regular meetings are held on the third Friday of every month at St. Christopher's Church at the corner of Via Toledo and Hacienda in San Lorenzo.

PLA Calendar

Aug. 15. Regular Meeting
Aug. 16 & 17 . Work Party, Niles Canyon
Aug. 23 & 24 . Work Party, Niles Canyon
Aug. 30 & 31 . Work Party, Niles Canyon
Sept. 1. . . . Work Party, Niles Canyon
 Deadline, September Club Car
Sept. 6 & 7. . Work Party, Niles Canyon
Sept. 13 & 14. Work Party, Niles Canyon
Sept. 19Regular Meeting
Sept. 20 & 21. Work Party, Niles Canyon
Oct. 17Regular Meeting

Work projects in the canyon will be plugging of ties, moving of track material, and laying of rail. Other work projects will also go on. Please contact General Manager Peter Schulze (415-797-8613) for details.