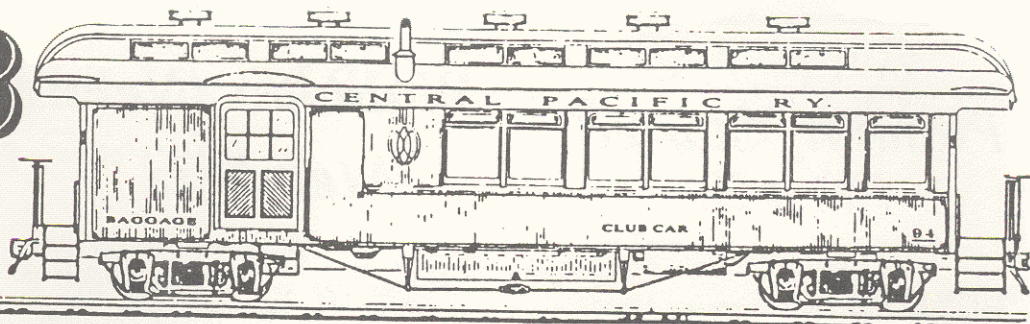


THE CLUB CAR



Bulletin #283

Pacific Locomotive Association

January, 1987

V-P and Operations Manager's Report

Rail Recovered At Milpitas; Scrap Out Of San Jose

By Dexter Day

During the month of December, our work crews took on two major projects away from Niles Canyon.

The biggest of these projects was rail and tie removal from the Ford Plant in Milpitas. We had to start this right away because construction will start on the site in January. We will get a mile and a quarter of rail along with all the track material and ties. The area that we are working on has eight complete switches, 85, 90, and 100 lb. rail, and some good scrap material. This project will go on through January.

The other big project for December was completing the clean up of the rail piles at Evergreen siding in San Jose. This is rail that the Union Pacific Railroad gave us over a year ago.

The UP really helped us out on this project by letting us use two of their 100-ton gondolas through the end of the year. When the order for the cars came down in early December, the UP employees at Stockton did a great job of finding two G5c type cars and getting them delivered to Evergreen siding within 36 hours.

The loading of the gondolas started on December 13 and continued for two weekends. The project was completed on Monday, December 29. The UP employees at Milpitas were a big in spotting the cars each weekend for our loading. Except for one car misspotted with a telephone pole got in the way, they were right on target. If it wasn't for their concern for the project, this job would not have been done as fast as it was.

A-1 Rentals in San Jose played a important role in letting us use a crane at a



Editor's comment: It's been so long since I've run a picture of one of our locomotives I thought I'd run one for our new members and for the rest of you in case you've forgotten what our locomotives look like. This is a meet between our Baldwin 2-6-6-2T Mallet Clover Valley Lumber Co. #4 and our GE 44-tonner AT&SF #462 at the interchange at Castro Point.

Photo by Jim Evans

reasonable rate and delivering it to the job site each weekend.

The two gondolas were released back to the UP for movement back to Levin Metals in richmond with 185 tons of scrap rail. John Dillman hauled two truck loads of 85 lb. rail to Niles Canyon from the remaining rail that was down there. The only question at this time is if we will be billed by the Southern Pacific for a switch between the UP and the Santa Fe and by the Santa Fe for the movement from Oakland to Richmond. We should know this by the January meeting.

On the home front in Niles Canyon, the ties are now plugged across the Farwell Bridge, and rail is strung out for half a mile between the Dresser and Farwell Bridges. The dirt road at Ki-Lite is in, but some fine

tuning has to be done to finish it. We are still waiting for permission to move the steam engines from Castro Point to Niles. With some luck we will be able to get on some of the culvert work that has to be done in the next month.

At this time I would like to thank the guys that spent the long dedicated hours getting the San Jose rail project completed. They were B. ANDERSON, M. BOZZINI, L. CHIARAMONTE, J. DILLMAN, T. FLIPPO, M. MAKSEL, F. PRESLEY, D. ROUSAR, M. SNYDER, and M. WILSON.

I hope that you all have a good month and that we can keep our projects going as well as we did in 1986. You are the only one that can make them work.

General Manager's Report

Planning Started For 1987

By Peter Schulze

December saw two important phenomena: one was chance, the other wasn't. The good weather throughout the month was great luck and we used each day to the PLA's best advantage. The hard work of our members wasn't chance; we've come to depend on their enthusiasm and energy. The results have exceeded our expectations for the month and for all of 1986. We have built a foundation which will benefit us during the new year and beyond.

I foresee the need to make some choices in 1987 which will affect how fast we progress in Niles Canyon. There are a number of opportunities for all of our members to help, and I hope each of you who has not already done so will make a renewed effort to take on a part of a project and HELP MAKE IT HAPPEN:

- 1) Track construction will continue, but after the Brightside-Sunol line is operational, the pace will be slow and steady.
- 2) Facilities will need to be established at Brightside for workers and equipment.
- 3) Right-of-way maintenance will have to be done on a routine basis.
- 4) Maintenance of work and passenger equipment will need to be done on a regular schedule.
- 5) #M200 and work trains will be operated weekly.
- 6) Temporary passenger facilities will need to be established in Sunol.
- 7) Our Company Store will again be operational in connection with Sunday train operations.

Wanted: New Members

It seems like we always have more projects than workers and there are only two ways of solving this problem: Less projects or more workers. Now the first option isn't too desirable, so we're going to try the second.

Enclosed with this issue is an application for Associate Membership in the PLA. We hope that each member will pass this on to a friend (or friends - you can make as many photocopies of this as you want) and that contributing sponsors will consider being members. Each new member we bring into the organization may be an extra set of hands in the canyon or someone who can restore a locomotive or a person who will man the publicity booth at a show or that somebody who knows somebody that can get something donated or a favor done. Whoever it is, whatever their talents, we can use their help.

1987 promises to be an exciting year for the PLA. Please help the organization by bringing in others to share in the fun.

These are some new or expanded PLA activities in which you can really help. Contact one of our division leaders and work with them on the above projects:

- Concessions: Carol Sullivan, 415-341-0814
- Mech. Dept.: Ray McAllister, 415-479-5249
- Operations: Dexter Day, 415-345-1790
- Security & Special Services: Ed Ryan
- Track & Facilities: Phil Orth, 415-536-6871

Come out and see what is happening. There aren't many places where anyone is still building railroads, and you can build and run this one!

Learn to Operate the Backhoe

By Frank Presley

Now that we have the backhoe, we need people who know how to operate and care for it. We'll be starting a training program to teach PLA members how to maintain and safely operate our Case 580B backhoe. The program will start in the latter half of January if the weather and work schedule permits.

If you are interested in learning how to run the backhoe please contact me, Frank Presley (415-796-3094), or Peter Schulze (415-797-8613). Backhoe operators will be expected to purchase the Operator's Manual for the Case 580B backhoe. The cost will be a little more than \$5 from any Case distributor.

Normal maintenance is important and can be done easily at the beginning of the day and does not take a lot of tools. A grease gun and tire gage are kept in the tool box of the backhoe for use in daily maintenance.

Parts are readily available, but they are not cheap. Operators should take the time to check the machine over before beginning work and operate it carefully so it can remain productive for a long time.

We are looking for the donation of front and rear tires for the backhoe as spares in case our tires are damaged while working on the roadbed. If you know where we may be able to get tires, please let me know.

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President Michael McQuaid, (415) 846-4082
- Vice-President. Dexter Day, (415) 345-1790
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- Membership Secretary. Jim Evans
P.O. Box 451, Burlingame, CA 94011-0451
- Treasurer Dave Rousar
- 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

Back-A-Hoe Fund: A CASE Study in Success

By Madeline Iverson

It looks like 1987 is getting off to a tremendous start for the PLA.

In the December Club Car an urgent request went out for help in the canyon and for funds to underwrite the much needed backhoe. The article said that we had almost depleted the treasury by payment of the first installment on the backhoe. The first installment was over \$4,300.

The pleas for contributions to underwrite this piece of equipment which has already proved invaluable did not fall on deaf ears. By the time this issue went to the press, 57 contributions have been received totaling \$3582.

To those of you who have already contributed we give our thanks. We are close to replacing the money we had to pay for the first installment. We hope those who have not yet donated will be able to contribute this month. Even after the funds are replaced in the club treasury, there will still be fuel and maintenance expenses for the backhoe.

Following is a list of those who contributed to the Back-A-Hoe program. An asterisk denotes a contribution of \$100 or

more. Two asterisks denotes a contribution of \$500 or more.

The contributors were: John Amundson, Aztec Manufacturing Co. *, Rich Baiz, William H. Bardin, Chuck Barnes, Rod Birch, Sidney & Mary Ann Bobe, Mike Bozzini *, Katherine Burla, George Childs, Rolf Dyce *, J. Easton *, Tom Eikerenkotter *, Walt Feyling, Al Fisher, Tim Flippo *, Alex Fulton, William B. Garner, Don Green, John C. Graham, John W. Granicher, Clayton Guest, Robert & Velma Harreschou, Larry Harrison, Al & Marion Harvey, Beach Kuhl, Tim Low, Matt Maksel, Robert Marshall, Rich Masten, Ray McAllister, Kent McDougall, Pat McNamara, Edward H. Meyer, Kevin Moran, Andrew Morrison, Bill Morrison **, Leon Pace, Henry J. Principe, Daniel Quinlan, Gordon & Elaine Richardson, William A. Robinson, Ed Ryan *, Ken Sherman *, Jon Serrine *, Stephen Slabach **, Charles & Leslie Smith, Betsy & Warren Sousa, Carol & Jim Sullivan, Frank Summers, Alan Teruya *, W. E. Wells, Dudley Westler **, Bill Williams, Ted G. Wurm.

From the Board of Directors and all of the club the above people have our deepest thanks. It has been especially heartening to find the support of many who are contributing sponsors and live out of the immediate area.

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.

Please return all tapes after one week.

1. Destination Tokyo (WWII)
2. N&W Class-J #611
3. The General (movie)
4. Thunder of Steam in the Blue Ridge
5. The Cass Scenic Railroad
6. Farewell to Santa Fe Steam
7. Hurricane Express (movie)
8. Chattanooga Choo-choo (movie)
9. Steam Over Sherman
10. UP 6900's: The Centennials
11. C&O 614T Coal Tests
12. Danger Lights (movie)
13. Diesel on the UP
14. Classic Railroads (PLA's Engines #2, #4, and #5)
15. Double Heading on the Sierra
16. Once Upon the Wabash
17. Legend of the Rio Grande Zephyr
18. Union Pacific Steam, 1981
19. Union Pacific Challenger #3085
20. Rio Grande Work Train, 1981
21. Southern Pacific Daylight, #4449
22. Railfair '81
23. The Best of '84
24. Rail to Richmond (NRHS 1983 Convention)
25. Kansas Pacific (movie)
26. Private Varnish
27. BC Rail
28. Best of '85
29. Union Pacific (movie)

PLA Needs Scrap Metal For Trade

By Peter Schulze

The PLA has acquired two passenger cars from Levin Metals Corp. We have also received the donation of our tool storage facility now resting at Brightside.

As part of this trade your association needs to transfer to Levin 150 TONS of scrap steel. We have to deliver the scrap within 90 days of when we received the passenger cars. That means January, February, and March! All scrap must be at least 1/4" thick and not over 5' long. Please, we don't want "tin" or trash.

All scrap will be piled at our Alameda Creek Storage yard. We will load drop boxes there to transport the metal to Levin. If you know of any large sources of heavy scrap steel or need help moving a big pile of steel please contact Randy Leber (415-537-4254) or Howard Wise.

This is important and this time we are not even asking for money!!

Help Maintain Rolling Stock

By Bones Andrews

With all the interest focused on track work in Niles Canyon, I think we are overlooking a big problem at the Oakland Army base.

It's been nearly a year ago that the equipment was stored there, and there has been little maintenance done. LOU BRADAS has the cars moved about once a month to keep the track bearings loose and has started to scrape the rust on the car roofs in preparation for priming.

We need help to prime and paint the cars before they are beyond repair. Louie will spray prime the roofs, but the doors, windows, vestibules, and rust pockets will have to be scraped and primed.

If you are interested in helping during the week or on weekends, contact me "Bones" Andrews (415-234-5138) or Lou Bradas (415-223-2293).

This is a very important project that should be taken care of immediately.

January Meeting

To be considered for Associate Membership: Richard D. Gill of San Ramon, Phil Gresho of Livermore, and Alan Siegworth. At the time of deadline for this issue, entertainment for the January meeting had not been determined.

At the last meeting Hyland Morrow was voted in as an Associate Member. Frank Presley was voted in as an Active Member.

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

Jan. 16 Regular Meeting
Jan. 17, 18, & 19 . . . Work Parties, Niles Canyon and Castro Point
Jan. 27 & 28. . . Work Parties, NCSRY or CP
Feb. 2. Deadline, February Club Car
Feb. 7 & 8. . . Work Parties, NCSRY or CP
Feb. 9. Club Car Goes to Printer
Feb. 14 & 15. . . Work Parties, NCSRY or CP
Feb. 20 Regular Meeting
Feb. 21 & 22. . . Work Parties, NCSRY or CP
Mar. 20 Regular Meeting

For work projects in Niles Canyon please contact Vice-President Dexter Day (415-345-1790) or General Manager Peter Schulze (415-797-8613) for details. For projects at Castro Point contact Master Mechanic Ray McAllister (415-479-5249).

The Hot Box

Your association continues to need tools (and people) to do our building projects for the Niles Canyon Scenic Railway.

- 1) 2" steel strapping or "bands" for bundling ties and other material. We need 200-300 feet in sections 12' or longer. Rusty bands are okay as long as they aren't cut or bent.
- 2) Chains & binders, 3/8" high tensile load chains 15-25' long and 3/8" high tensile chain load binders for our new truck.
- 3) Chain link fence. 8' fence fabric and hardware, especially full length 2" posts and 4" and 6" gate posts. Contact Craig Wilson.

And there are two wants left over from last month.

- 4) Two 25-ton Railroad Journal or Screw Jacks (we recently had our only two jacks stolen and these must be replaced).
- 5) Two 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 Hp 4-Cycle Horizontal Shaft Engines for rail drills. Call Jeff Williams, (415-455-5575).