



THE TROLLEY PARK NEWS



April-May 1980

Oregon Electric Railway Historical Society Bulletin

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OERHS Travelling Exhibit at Hobby Fair

The Society's first traveling exhibit was unveiled at the seventh annual Hobby Fair, held at the Memorial Coliseum March 22-23. Visitors enjoyed a ten-minute color slide show on the Trolley Park, and browsed past several display cases full of traction artifacts, memorabilia, and models, all to the accompaniment of a 90-minute audio tape that was recorded at the Park last summer. The unexpected squeal of wheel flanges, thump of air compressors and growl of gears, attracted young and old alike to the colorful exhibit, where uniformed volunteers eagerly handed out literature and answered questions.

Exhibiting at shows like this helps increase public awareness of the OERHS, an important goal for the 1980s. A sincere thank-you to members, and their families, who gave up weekend time to help: Catherine Angerman, Chuck, Margaret, and Kurt Bukowsky; Larry Griffith; Charles and Susan Hayden; Bill and Margaret Hayes; Keith and Linda Stephenson; and Dick and Nancy Thompson. 🚃

Tram for "Old Town" Arrives at Trolley Park

A new vehicle temporarily residing at the Trolley Park, where Paul Class is restoring it for



The OERHS travelling exhibit at the Hobby Fair featured cases displaying traction memorabilia, panels of historic photographs, and a continuous slide and sound presentation. Members (left to right) Dick Thompson, Chuck Bukowsky and Larry Griffith staff the exhibit, while Nancy Thompson examines the artifacts.

Bill Naito to display in Portland's historic Oldtown district, is No. 30, from Ballarat, Australia. The "California" style tram arrived at Glenwood April 11th via Tacoma, Washington. No. 30, together with ex-Melbourne tram No. 272, were shipped aboard the West German-registered vessel *Lillooet*. Because it needed no restoration, No. 272 was delivered directly to Seattle, joining three other W-2 class trams awaiting tourist line operation there.

This unusual trolley was built in Adelaide, Australia, by Duncan & Fraser, in 1920. Until 1935 it was part of the large Melbourne system. After that, it became part of the railway in Ballarat, a mining town located 60 miles from Melbourne. Second retirement for No. 30 came in 1971.

Today, all that remains of the Ballarat system is part of the line that served the area around Lake Wendoree. This bit of track is now operated by the Ballarat Tramway Preservation Society, whose museum has been storing No. 30 since 1971.

The veteran tram arrived at the Trolley Park in non-operating condition, but it could easily be made operable again if desired.

The Trolley Park News is published monthly by the OERHS and is available through membership. Send requests for information, or items for publication, to Richard Thompson, Editor, 1836 N. Emerson, Portland, OR 97217.



Ballarat Mayor Michael Morton, seen on No. 30 in September 1935, was promoting redesigned trams equipped with waterproof Demopillo seating. (Ballarat Tramway Museum)

A test run over the main line at Glenwood was accomplished by isolating a non-functioning controller and hooking up just one of the disconnected motors. Even so, there was no shortage of power, since the little single-truck car is propelled by two large GE-202 50hp motors. Controllers are K-75's.

The motor experienced some flashover during the test, but Paul attributed that to worn and dirty commutators. The problem can be overcome with thorough cleaning, dipping, and baking, if desired. Of course, operation will not be needed for the Oldtown display planned by prominent Portland businessman Bill Naito, who purchased No. 30.

Restoration will focus upon painting and replacement of broken glass and rotting sills. Members coming out to the Park for work parties will have an opportunity to see this car, but, they will need to hurry. Delivery to Oldtown is slated for April 30th! 🚃

Trucks for 503

Several important projects were approved at the March trustees' meeting, the most important of which was that Museum Director Paul Class is arranging to buy surplus streetcar trucks ("bogies")

Paul Class has located surplus Melbourne W-2 class tram bogies (trucks) that can be used to make CC car No. 503 operable at the Trolley Park.



from Melbourne. The W-2 class trucks are the type members have seen beneath the Seattle-bound Australian cars, which were recently at Glenwood. They are standard gauge trucks (56" width) that can be installed on Council Crest car No. 503, so that it can finally be operated over Trolley Park trackage (503 was originally a narrow gauge trolley, like most Portland streetcars).

Paul will be attending a grant writing workshop at the Oregon College of Education, which should help with future fund-raising efforts. In the meantime, funds for this acquisition may come from the planned sale of the Park's flatbed truck "Old Blue." It has not been licensed for on-road use for some time. 🚃

Meeting Reports

The California Railway Museum in Sacramento has offered assistance to the OERHS in our attempt to augment the collection with a PCC car. A suitable car might be located from surplus rolling stock stored by the San Francisco Muni.

At the April board meeting the trustees discussed priorities for the approaching season and began scheduling work parties. The first will be held on April 19-20. The task-at-hand will be to reassemble the trucks from double-decker No. 48, whose wheels were recently widened in Yakima, Washington.

The important motorman's review and training class will be held on only one day this year, on Saturday, May 10th. It is a required session for all who wish to volunteer as operators at the Trolley Park. 🚃

Exhibit Nearly Finished

Construction of the new exhibit in the depot at Glenwood is now approaching the final stage. Paint is being applied to all trim and molding and carpeting is ready for installation.

Portland artist Dale Varner has begun meticulous work on a scene depicting the busy intersection of SW Third Avenue and Yamhill Street in Portland. Trolleys pass in front of the City & Suburban Railway Company offices. The painting is based on an 1890s photograph



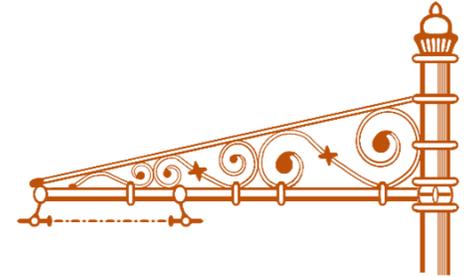
Antique glass display cases purchased at an auction in Forest Grove are now being set in place. One is a large free-standing hotel wall case. The others are smaller wall or table cases. One of these will be used in the new gift shop.

Two free-standing display panels have been set in place, one by the entrance and the other by the exit. Display racks have been installed in the gift shop.

Artist Dale Varner has begun a large oil painting, which will be installed in a curving diorama in one corner of the museum. The historic Portland street scene will be viewed through a large window. The window has already been installed and the painting will be added when available. Wainscoting has been placed beneath this window to lend a proper 19th Century atmosphere.

All is in readiness for the June grand opening. Now, we need a list of summer volunteers to work in the depot. Spouses, family, and friends,

here is your chance to help (and not get dirty or cold) while your favorite motorman is on the job. 🚃



Meetings Dates Set

The trustees have voted to hold regular meetings on the second Wednesday of every month. Locations will be rotated among officers' homes, and will be announced in this bulletin or via telephone. In the event that a home is not convenient, sessions will convene at the Far West Federal Savings Community Room in Beaverton, a location that has worked well in the past.

All board meetings will begin sharp at 7:30 pm and adjourn no later than 10:00 pm unless otherwise arranged. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 14th, at Bill Hayes's residence, 1336 SE 114th Av., Portland.

General membership meetings are also planned, to include at least one winter meeting, in addition to the annual banquet and a fall homecoming at the Trolley Park. These gatherings could be held in a number different locations, and will feature entertainment such as old movies and slides. 🚃



1980 Recruitment

By Charles Hayden

To prepare for the onrush of visitors this year members are needed for **WORK PARTIES** at the museum during the few remaining weekends, in order to clean up the grounds, paint the car barn and shop, spruce up the rolling exhibits, complete the overhead wire work, put the block signals into operation and assist in straightening and

ballasting Glenwood Electric Railway roadbed. These are fun projects and they are made easier for all if enough volunteers participate.

Those who would aid the Society in other ways are needed to contribute toward the museum's financial needs by donating whatever they can to a favorite project. Among the current needs are funds for: 1.) Ballast, 2.) Ties, 3.) Glass for No. 503, 4.) Sending No. 48 's wheels for repair, and 5.) Advertising. These projects cost money and can only be advanced more quickly by your active involvement. Dues and fare receipts alone do not make ends meet, so please consider how you, as a member, can help. All donations are tax exempt.

Uniformed men and women are urgently needed for summer **OPERATING CREWS**. We now have eight or nine members who show up in quite authentic-looking uniforms and this adds to the aura we are trying to create for both

motormen and conductors. Black, or navy, pants, coat, and cap (a vest is optional) are preferred. However, don't let lack of suitable dress keep you from participating. Start with a cap and gradually add to your wardrobe.

Training sessions for platform crews will begin on Saturday, May 10 at 10:00 am, and will include practical experience at the controls of three museum streetcars. All new and old crews should attend this session. Check your calendar now for the dates you can serve during the 1980 season and indicate your preference on the sign-up form below. Cars will be run on schedules between the hours of noon and 5 o'clock with duties alternating throughout the day between those of motorman, conductor, and tour guide. For the first time, volunteers will also be needed to staff the ticket office and gift shop. Phone 285-6904 for further information. 🚃

----- detach & mail -----

I wish to be assigned as a carman on the following dates in 1980 (please circle)

MAY 24 25 26 31

JUNE 1 7 8 14 15 21 22 28 29

JULY 4 5 6 12 13 19 20 26 27

AUGUST 2 3 9 10 16 17 23 24 31

SEPTEMBER 1 6 7 13 14 20 21 27 28

OCTOBER 4 5 11 12 18 19 25 26



Grand Opening!

The exhibit, "How the Trolley Changed America," in the new depot museum at Glenwood will open on June 8, 1980. Official ribbon-cutting ceremonies will begin at 2 o' clock. Assisting with the rites will be representatives of the Oregon and Washington County Historical Societies. To lend an oldtime atmosphere the Historic Automobile Club of Oregon will rally at the Trolley Park in their antique vehicles. HACO members will enjoy a picnic, trolley riding, and will participate in a contest to select the best period costume. Imagine the scene as scores of old autos drive up to the remodelled depot as authentic-looking crowds mill around waiting for streetcars!

All available equipment will be rolled out of the carbarn for the occasion, so larger-than-usual numbers of uniformed crews and guides will be needed. Members willing to lend a hand are asked to call Superintendent Charles Hayden as soon as possible at 285-6904. Plan on arriving no later than 11:00