



THE TROLLEY PARK NEWS



Feb.-March 1980

Oregon Electric Railway Historical Society Bulletin

Vol. 21, No's 2 & 3

A Record-Setting Annual Banquet

The OERHS Annual Banquet held at the Crossing restaurant in Vancouver, Washington January 26th was undoubtedly the most successful such event in the Society's history. To begin with, it set an attendance record. With some 65-people scrambling for places at the tables seats were hard to find! Like last year's banquet at the same location, both the food, and the entertainment, were excellent.

Exhibit tables near the banquet room entrance groaned under the weight of artifacts and memorabilia from the collections of members. These included a large-scale metal Pacific Electric Railway interurban model brought by guest speaker Ed Maas;



Uniformed operators at the annual banquet: (first row) Jean Hickok, Bob Warr, Larry Griffith, Keith Stephenson, Al Haij and Bill Hayes. (second row) Manual Macias, George Hickok, Dick Thompson and Bill Lieberman.

an illuminated Portland Traction Co. "Hollywood" car roll sign courtesy of Dick Thompson; and color depot

museum drawings by Gladstone artist Dale Varner. The high point of the evening were the films. Historic movies and slides kept guests riveted to their seats even though a delayed business meeting resulted in adjournment just before midnight.

Through it all, proper atmosphere was maintained, not only by the period artifacts from members' collections, but also by the large number of "motormen" who showed up in full regalia. The biggest surprise in this category were

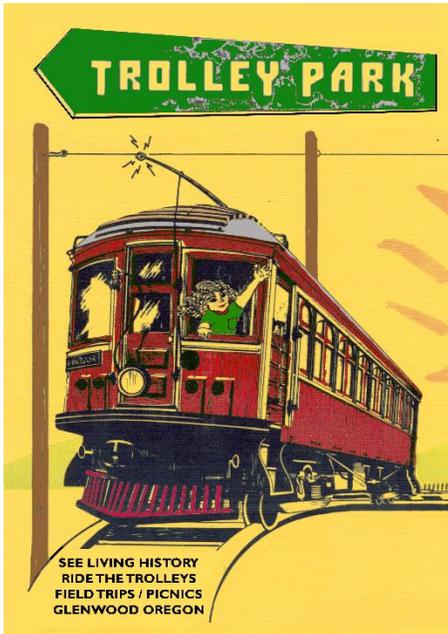


Guest speaker Ed Maas shows author John Labbe (in checkered shirt) his new Red Electric model, while Margaret Hayes, Mary Grant, and Dale Varner sell tickets in the background.

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.

George and Jean Hickok, who arrived in shop crew dress!

All-in-all, hearty thanks are due Banquet Chairman Bill Hayes, who again put together an evening that will long be remembered. 🚃



New publicity: Trolley Park poster funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and printed by Washington County Education Service District (Leslie Winter-Gorsline art)

1980 Election Results

The following individuals were elected to office at the January 26th annual meeting. We want to welcome new officers (indicated by an *) and thank those who will once again be giving their time for the Society. Greetings are also due the 17 people who joined the OERHS in 1979 (another record broken).

President	....	George Combs
Vice Pres	....	Roy Bonn
Treasurer	....	Lee Young*
Rec. Sec.	....	George Hickok
Cor. Sec.	....	Dick Thompson

Trustee	....	Larry Griffith
Trustee	....	George Hickok
Trustee	....	Bill Lieberman

Hopes for a Speedy Recovery

The officers and members of the Society wish our new Treasurer, Rev. Lee Young, a speedy recovery. Lee is recuperating from a mild heart attack, and a bout of the flu, that saw him in the hospital last month.

Transit Improvement Plan Evolves

As the OERHS prepares to launch the first operating season of the new decade its officers are aware of the need for good long-range planning. Two such plans have been the focus of recent trustee's meetings: The original Five-Year

Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) prepared by Superintendent Charles Hayden; and a more detailed outline based upon this plan, and incorporating recommendations offered by Past-Vice-President Bill Lieberman.

The detailed TIP calls for improvements to the right-of-way at Glenwood, such as the straightening, ballasting, and aligning of track, together with the addition of a third rail to facilitate operation of the Museum's narrow-gauge cars. Mr. Hayden has presented a timetable for implementation of this upgrading in annual steps, which would coincide with restoration of narrow gauge equipment. Mr. Lieberman added a schedule for other improvements at the Trolley Park, such as painting buildings, and a renewed emphasis on publicity.

A realistic appraisal of needs for the coming years is contained in these suggestions from Hayden and Lieberman. It was felt that a new passenger station could be built



Snow melts along the line of the Glenwood Electric Railway in January, 1980, as the Trolley Park recovers from 17 inches of snow accumulated during Oregon's heaviest winter storm in ten years. (Thompson photograph)

nearer the highway to allow for an expected increase in patronage. The resultant exposure from closer proximity to Highway 6 would also be beneficial in terms of increased attendance. The location of such a station is undetermined at this time. But it would, of necessity, be on the south side of Gales Creek, opposite a point approximately midway between the shop and the carbarn. It would require one or more bridges over the creek. The new track would join the old main line behind the carbarn in a wye configuration.

Additional bays should be constructed at the carbarn to accommodate already crowded storage conditions for both trolleys and work equipment. As new rolling stock is added to the museum suitable arrangements must be devised to keep it out of the weather. Museum Director Paul Class feels the need for weatherproof storage should be one of the highest priorities of the Society.

A budget committee will be appointed to study ways and means of implementing these suggestions following the 1980 OERHS elections. We will need to address ourselves to an expected doubling of both services and patronage in the new decade. 🚃

OERHS to Exhibit at Hobby Fair

Your Society has accepted an invitation to exhibit at the seventh annual Hobby Fair to be held at the Memorial Coliseum on the weekend of March 22-23, 1980. We believe the fair represents a worthy cause (money raised goes to the Chamber Music Society of Oregon), as well as an opportunity



A new exit, ramp, and concrete boarding area are evidence that work is progressing on the new depot museum at the Trolley Park in spite of the winter weather. (Thompson photograph)

for promoting our museum and historical society. We will sponsor a booth consisting of a display of historic electric railway memorabilia, old time trolley photos, and slide and tape shows focusing upon the Trolley Park.

The goal is to make more people aware of the OERHS and its activities. If you have things to loan for display during this fair, or if you can volunteer to man the booth (in uniform, if possible), please call Dick Thompson at 222-5561 ext. 7529 (days), or 285-7936 (evenings).

We can use your help at the fair. It will be held in the Convention Hall at the south end of the Coliseum from 8 am to 8 pm Saturday, and from noon until 6 pm Sunday. Admission is \$2.50 for adults, and \$6.00 for a family.

There will be hobby activities of interest to nearly anyone, ranging from live steamer displays to rug weaving. So, don't forget to bring your family along. 🚃

Meeting Announcement

The next trustees' meeting will convene Wednesday, March 12th, at 7:30 pm. Location will be the Community Room of the Raleigh Hills Far West Federal Savings, 4770 SW 76th Ave., Portland.

On the agenda of this meeting will be the 1980 budget, the continuing search for more cars, and the schedule for construction of the new depot museum at the Trolley Park.

