



THE TROLLEY PARK NEWS



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Oregon Electric Railway Historical Society Bulletin

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Associated Press Does Trolley Park Story

The Park generated "P.R." for the OERHS by staying open later than usual at the end of last season to accommodate a reporter from the Portland office of the Associated Press. Jack Smith wrote and illustrated a fine article about the Trolley Park. His story, available to all wire service subscribers, has already appeared in two Washington State newspapers.

Thanks are due the eight Society members who agreed to come out to the Park in full uniform to add atmosphere to the pictures. 🚃

Dick Thompson is modelling a uniform created from a Levi Panatella suit and Modern Uniform Cap, as outlined in the previous issue of this newsletter.



Bill Hayes checks tickets, while John Wolff and Al Haij (waving behind Bill) assist, in a picture taken in September, when BCER interurban 1304 ran as a "special" for the Associated Press. (Dick Thompson photograph)

Why not Attend the Banquet in Uniform?

We suggest that everyone who has a uniform wear it to the upcoming annual banquet. This might drive patrons of The Crossing restaurant crazy, but it will also give everyone a chance to see how fine the crews looked at the Park this past season.

If you forgot to make a reservation for the annual banquet it is not too late. Call entertainment chairman Bill Hayes right away (255-5286) and he will put you on a list that has grown to more than 40! In case you missed the announcement last month: The banquet is being held at

6:30 pm, Saturday, January 26th at The Crossing, 900 W. 7th, Vancouver, Washington. Cost for everything, including tip, is just \$9.50, payable at the door.

You will be sorry if you miss this evening, because, in addition to the historic films to be shown by Ed Maas and Dick Thompson, there will be displays featuring trolley paraphernalia of all kinds. This

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nostalgic atmosphere will be enhanced by sounds recorded by Bill Hayes (who was once a sound man). The audio background will include traction recordings made at the Trolley Park this summer for Ernie Hood's program on KBOO radio, as well as band music from the 1920s and '30s. See you there! 🚃

Varner Selected to Design Exhibit

The Board of Trustees has chosen Gladstone artist Dale Varner as exhibit design consultant for the new depot museum at the Trolley Park. Mr. Varner presented an impressive illustrated plan to your officers, which included provisions for a large street scene diorama.

The artist has built successful dioramas for the Georgia-Pacific Historical Museum in Portland and is well-qualified for such work. His preliminary layout utilizes eight panels to depict "How the Trolley



Dale Varner setting up the company store for the "Payday in the Woods" exhibit at the Georgia-Pacific Historical Museum.

Changed America." Visitors walking through the exhibit will see the evolution of the trolley and its impact upon society. Sequential panels with photographs, and display cases, will move from foot travel through the development of streetcar types (horse, steam, cable and

electric) to the advent of the automobile. A postscript will explain that the trolley is far from a dead concept. 🚃

Donations Needed

OURHS members, and friends of the Trolley Park, are urged to consider donating electric railway memorabilia for inclusion in the permanent displays now being designed for the depot museum at Glenwood. We need your help to insure that this museum is a good one! If your collection includes items that would fit into a trolley exhibit please let us hear from you. All kinds of material is required: tickets, transfers, timetables, passes, maps, tokens, pins, buttons, union cards, uniforms, and anything that came off a streetcar (i.e., bells, headlights, seats, windows, doors, dash signs, etc.). We would also appreciate photographs. If you have a treasured picture of grandfather next to a trolley please lend it to us. We will copy it and return the original to you. Call exhibit chairman Dick Thompson (285-7936 or 222-5561, extension 7529) if you have any of these items so that we can prepare a list for the designer. Please take a moment to help make the Society's new museum great. 🚃

BCER No. 1304 pauses for a quick inspection during an early trip around the forest loop track at the Trolley Park in the Spring of 1979. (Dick Thompson photograph)



Five-Year Trolley Park News Index Available

YOUR editor has produced a five-year index to this bulletin. Although designed for use by the libraries and museums that receive our publication, it is also of use to members who save back issues. If you would like a free copy of this list write to Richard at the address on the bottom of page one.