



#7 is Ours!

At the August 14, 2003 Business Meeting, Museum President Brad LaRose reported that Philip Goldman and family have deeded the title to Baldwin Locomotive #7 to the San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum. The 0-4-2RT, 30-inch narrow gauge logging locomotive has been in possession of the museum since November 1998, when it was loaned to the organization. During that period restoration work has been done by members Jim McEntire, Brad LaRose, Jarret LaRose and others. Several local businesses have donated goods and services to the restoration effort.

There is still a lot to be done before the #7 can be used for anything other than display. Built by the Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia, PA in June, 1927, it was exported to Japan where it was operated on the Kiso Forestry Railway until 1958. Philip Goldman purchased the locomotive and returned it to the United States in 1961. If you would like to help with this restoration please send a check to SLORRM, P. O. Box 13260, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406.

Outlook Improving for Museum Opening

Because California's financial woes drastically affect the City of San Luis Obispo's ability to fund the rehabilitation of the 1894 SP Freighthouse, the museum Board of Directors is exploring alternative approaches. There is concern that using the present plan, it could be 8 to 10 years until the museum opens.

At the August 14th meeting, Architect Andrew Merriam, a long-time museum member, presented a report detailing his review of the rehabilitation plans for the museum building. Andrew discussed his concepts for cost reduction techniques, including extensive use of volunteer labor.

These techniques could result in substantial cost savings on the



A recent picture of the south end of the Freighthouse/Museum.

order of one-million dollars when compared to the City's plans, and could be finished with little more than the cash now on hand.

Some details, such as the brick facing on the handicap ramp, and complete removal of lead based paint, would be deferred until a later date, as additional funding becomes available.

Using volunteers for much of the work could reduce the cost to approximately \$600,000, and the

building could be occupied in one to one-and-one-half years.

The volunteer program will require significant commitment on the part of museum members to accomplish the opening of the museum. This is an area where the City has had some bad experiences with other groups. It will be up to us to convince them that we can follow through.

A subcommittee consisting of Andrew Merriam, Karl Hovanitz, John Marchetti, Aron Kahn and Arnold Jonas is meeting with City officials to discuss the plan.

After several meetings with City Public Works Director Mike McCluskey and Project Director Peggy Mandeville, it appears that agreement is near.



Mission Statement

The San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum, founded as a non-profit, public benefit educational museum, will preserve the railroad history of California and the Central Coast by collecting, restoring, displaying and operating historic railroad equipment.

SAN LUIS OBISPO RAILROAD MUSEUM

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brad LaRose.....*President*
Karl Hovanitz.....*Vice President*
Arnold Jonas.....*Secretary*
David Rohr.....*Treasurer*
Bill Pyper.....*Newsletter Editor*
Aron Kahn, John Marchetti,
Duane Powell, Frank Rheinisch

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New Meeting Place

Beginning on January 8, 2004, all San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum *Business Meetings* will be at the Quality Suites Hotel, 1631 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo. This move was necessary because the Embassy Suites will be doing some remodeling, and cannot guarantee us a meeting room each month.

Many thanks to the Embassy Suites. They provided us with meeting facilities, including the large rooms for the *Program Meetings* at no charge since 1999.

Thanks to George Newland, General Manager of the Quality Suites for providing our new meeting room. Meetings will usually be in a third floor conference room, but could occasionally be in the first floor breakfast room. There is an elevator for anyone who doesn't want to climb stairs.

The location of future Program Meetings will be announced as they occur.

Working the Polls...

On October 7, 2003, the State of California held a special recall election. Nine intrepid volunteers, Richard Alberts, Karl Hovanitz, Arnold Jonas, Gail Jonas, Aron Kahn, Brad LaRose, John Marchetti, Duane Powell and Bill Pyper, staffed Precinct #521 in the Cal Poly University Union.

This was done as part of San Luis Obispo County's Adopt-A-Poll program. For staffing a polling place, a non-profit group like SLORRM is paid \$575.

It was an enjoyable experience for those who participated. The

group was given a positive rating by the County Clerk's Office for the performance of their duties.

The Board of Directors voted to offer our services for the Primary Election on March 2, 2004.

Because the County requires that the polling place be staffed by at least 5 people at all times, some of our volunteers worked long hours.

More volunteers are needed to staff the polling place in March. If you are able to help, please contact Arnold Jonas at 541-0546 or slotrains@charter.net.

Boxcar needs to be moved: Storage space needed

For many years a wooden narrow gauge boxcar has languished on the grounds of the Dalidet Adobe at the end of Pacific Street in San Luis Obispo.



Built in 1900 by the American Car and Foundry Co., car #1516 was originally purchased by the Florence & Cripple Creek Railroad. From there it went to the Nevada & California, before being bought by the Pacific Coast Railway in 1928.

Election Cancelled

The terms of Board Members Arnold Jonas, John Marchetti, Duane Powell and Bill Pyper expired in January 2004. Requests for nominations were mailed to all paid-up members in October, 2003. As no one else was nominated for election, the Board of Directors appointed the incumbents to new 2-year terms. This action, which is permitted by the bylaws, save the Museum the expense of an election.

The San Luis Obispo Historical Society, owners of the Adobe and the boxcar, have requested that SLORRM take possession of the car and move it from the Adobe grounds.

Naturally the SLORRM Board wants to save this boxcar. Only one problem: We don't have any place to put it. The Sears yard is full. We have to vacate the Ontario Road property next year. If anyone has, or knows about any secure place where we can store this boxcar and other museum artifacts, please contact a Board member.



In addition to needing places to store large items like rolling stock, we also have a quite lot of smaller, perishable goods like books, photographs and small artifacts that need a safe storage place. Currently much of these things are stored in a boxcar on the Ontario Road property. This is not good. If anyone has a dry, secure place, or would be willing to pay the rental on a storage locker, please contact a Board member.

SLORRM Company Store

The San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum has a variety of products that are for sale to raise money for the benefit of the Museum. In the past these goods have only been offered for sale at fundraising events. All the items shown on this page are now available for purchase at any time.

To order, send a check to SLORRM at P.O. Box 13260, San Luis Obispo, CA 95406. Local orders will be delivered. Outside of SLO County please include \$5.00 for shipping and handling.



T-Shirts \$17⁰⁰

Gray Haynes Beefy-T
with SLORRM Logo
printed on front and
Historic RR District Logo
on back

Printed locally by Dolphin Shirt Co.

Available in adult sizes:
Small, Large, Xtra-large



Railroaders Hats

Childrens **\$8⁰⁰** Adults

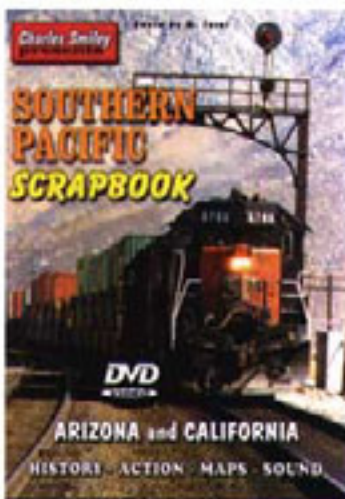


Videos and DVD's **\$27⁰⁰** each

The Videos shown below were donated to SLORRM by
Charles Smiley Presents

Southern Pacific Scrapbook

A final look at SP in California and Arizona on main and branchlines. Film and video of the last 12 years of SP operations. VHS or DVD.



SP Vintage West

Features many scenes from Bernice Jackson's films. This 1950 to 1978 look brings long gone SP west. Cab Forward and early F-units.



Belt Buckle

\$25⁰⁰

Train Festivals are Fun for All

Children of all ages descended on BitterCreek Western Railroad in rural Arroyo Grande on May 4, 2003, for the San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum's Spring Train Fest. Karl Hovanitz and his crew of tireless engineers kept trains running from 10 in the morning until 4 in the afternoon.

Steve Mott and Agatha Reardon handled the cooking and serving chores, feeding the hungry riders hot dogs, chips and soda.

Over \$2000 was raised to benefit the Museum.

On Saturday, October 23, 2003 at BitterCreek Western Railroad 234 happy visitors rode trains and enjoyed a beautiful day. Duane Powell and Chuck Jordan did the cooking and feeding chores. Joe Burns, Arnold Jonas, Bill Pyper, John Marchetti, Jarrett LaRose, Brad LaRose, Dave Rohr, Aron Kahn and Karl Hovanitz all put in long hours keeping things running. At the end of the day the Museum benefitted \$2,640.53.



Engineers in the pit get their locomotives ready for the day's running.



Agatha Reardon and Steve Mott cook up a storm at the May 4th Train Fest.

TIMETABLE

The following is a list of coming meetings of the San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum. Business meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. and the Program Meetings are at 7:00 p.m.

Business Meetings are held at the Quality Suites Hotel, 1631 Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo. The Program Meeting locations will be announced in advance.

February 12	....	Business Meeting
March 11	.....	Business Meeting
April 14	.....	Program Meeting location to be announced
May 8?	....	Spring Train Festival at BitterCreek Western Railroad
May 12	.....	Showcase Mixer at Embassy Suite
June 10	.....	Business Meeting
July 8	.....	Business Meeting
August 12	.....	Business Meeting
September 9	....	Business Meeting
October 14	.....	Business Meeting

Changes to Board

Frank Rheinisch has been appointed by the Board of Directors to serve out the term of Jim Horton who has resigned.

Jim, a life member of the Museum, served on the Board for several years, and was one of the authors of the Master Plan. We thank him for his service.

Frank is the owner of Alpha Fire Sprinkler Corporation of San Luis Obispo. Frank has been active on many Museum work parties, and is a welcome addition to the Board.

Jackson Films to Video

In the Fall of 2000, SLORRM received a donation of 10 reels of 16mm railroad movies taken in the early 1950's by Bernice Jackson, an employee at Southern Pacific headquarters in San Francisco.

In October, 2002, Charles Smiley Presents, a video production company in Northridge, CA, paid the Museum \$1000 to use the film, plus they donated 20 copies of their DVD's to sell and benefit the Museum.

The first video using some of the film is **SP Vintage West**. It shows scenes of SP activity from 1950 to 1978.