



SP BOXCAR DONATED



1920s SP boxcar at Pick-Your-Part salvage yard in Wilmington, CA.

Through the efforts of Brad LaRose, museum president and curator (chief scrounger), a 1920s vintage wooden boxcar has been donated to SLORRM. The boxcar was donated to the museum by Glenn McElroy, CEO of Pick-Your-Part Salvage Yards of Southern California. The boxcar, a

class B-50-13, which Southern Pacific once owned about 7200 cars, is sitting alongside the Alameda Street Corridor in Wilmington, California. It is a beautiful example of the type of standard gauge boxcar used in San Luis Obispo in the early twentieth century. It is complete with trucks and knuckle

couplers and, except for needing paint, is in excellent condition. Once the car is in place, a plaque acknowledging the donation will be displayed with it.

That's the good news, now for the bad news. It will cost approximately \$5000 to move the car from Wilmington to San Luis Obispo. Anybody out there expecting a big tax refund care to donate to the cause?



Bernice Jackson standing on the pilot of Clovis Valley Railroad engine #4, May 13, 1950.

Museum Receives Old Movies

Several reels of 16mm movies taken in the early 1950s, showing various Southern Pacific, Hammond Lumber Company, and Northwestern Pacific Railroads' operations at many locations in northern California, have been donated to SLORRM. The films were taken by and for Bernice Jackson, an employee at SP headquarters in San Francisco.

Museum member Steve Mott is currently reviewing the film to see if it would be worthwhile having it copied onto video tape either for sale or use in the museum library. Brent MacGregor has provided a 16mm editing device for this project. Bill Pyper had one reel copied onto VHS and it was viewed at the November

meeting. If it is determined that the movies are worth copying, we will solicit commercial sponsors to pay the cost of copying.

Also included in the donation is a scrapbook full of photographs from the same period, including many excellent shots of steam locomotives.

★★★★★★★★★★

Election Results

An election was held at the general meeting, January 11, 2001. As a result of that election, Arnold Jonas, Duane Powell and Bill Pyper were reelected to the board of directors. John Marchetti and Larry Tarpley were elected as new members of the board.



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/ AVILA VALLEY RAILWAY MUSEUM

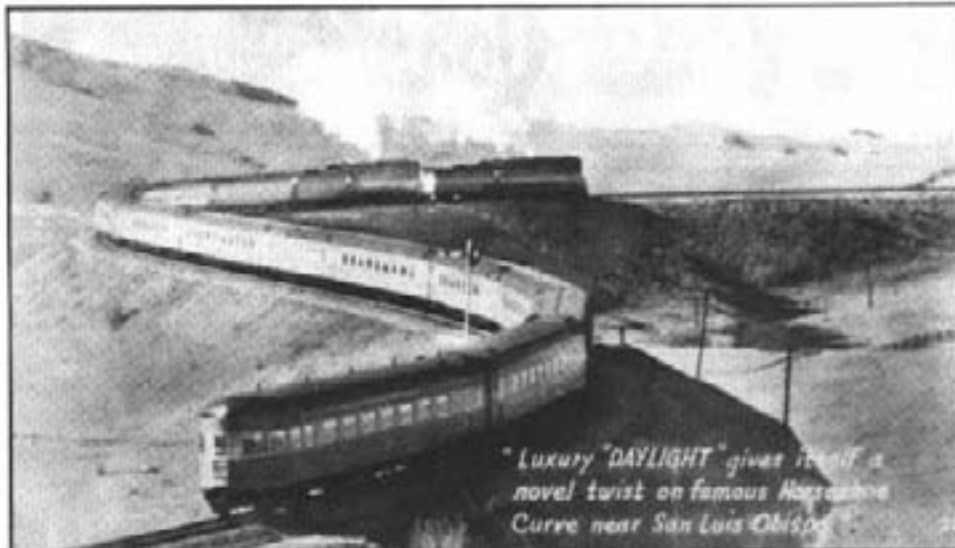
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Brad LaRose.....President
Karl Hovanitz.....Executive Vice President
Michael O'Leary.....Vice President
Bill Pypier.....Secretary
Larry Turpley.....Treasurer
Arnold Jonas.....Kent Kenny
John Marchetti.....Duane Powell

Telephone: 805-461-3456
Mailing Address: P. O. Box 13260
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406-3260

Mail Cart for Baggage Cart

The museum has traded one of the recently acquired mail carts shown in the last issue of Coast Mail to Mark and Felicia Morrison, of the Camatta Ranch, in exchange for a 1905 wooden American Railway Express Agency baggage cart pictured below.



"Luxury DAYLIGHT" gives itself a novel twist on famous Horseshoe Curve near San Luis Obispo.

"Luxury Daylight" gives itself a novel twist on famous horseshoe curve near San Luis Obispo on postcard donated by Aron Kahn.

More Donations . . .

Rob and Laurie Rossi recently presented the museum with a much-appreciated donation of \$1000.

Museum member **Aron Kahn** has purchased on e-Bay a large number of old postcards featuring railroad scenes from the central coast. Aron has donated these, plus some old railroad advertisements to the museum. Aron has also reserved the domain name www.slorm.com for a museum web site. Aron is working on creating the web site for the museum.

Ken Offenbach of Campo, California, recently donated an industrial warehouse cart of unknown origin. Museum member **John Smith**, of San Diego, is restoring the cart for museum use.

John Marchetti has donated a North Western inspection car (speeder) to the museum (see photo below).

Linda Long has donated railroad video tapes from the estate of the late Marianne Michaels for the museum library.

Dana Fahey and Family recently donated a headlight (or possibly a tender light) made by the Star Headlight Company from the **Bill Fahey** collection. The light is probably from a Pacific Lumber Company or Northwestern Pacific Railroad locomotive or tender.

On Friday, November 3, 2000, after moving PC boxcar #1508 to the Sears yard, Brad got **Soares Trucking** to pickup the set of tank car trucks from CSTI at Camp San Luis that had been promised to the museum. We should be getting an ex-Southern Pacific 40' tankcar from CSTI fairly soon.

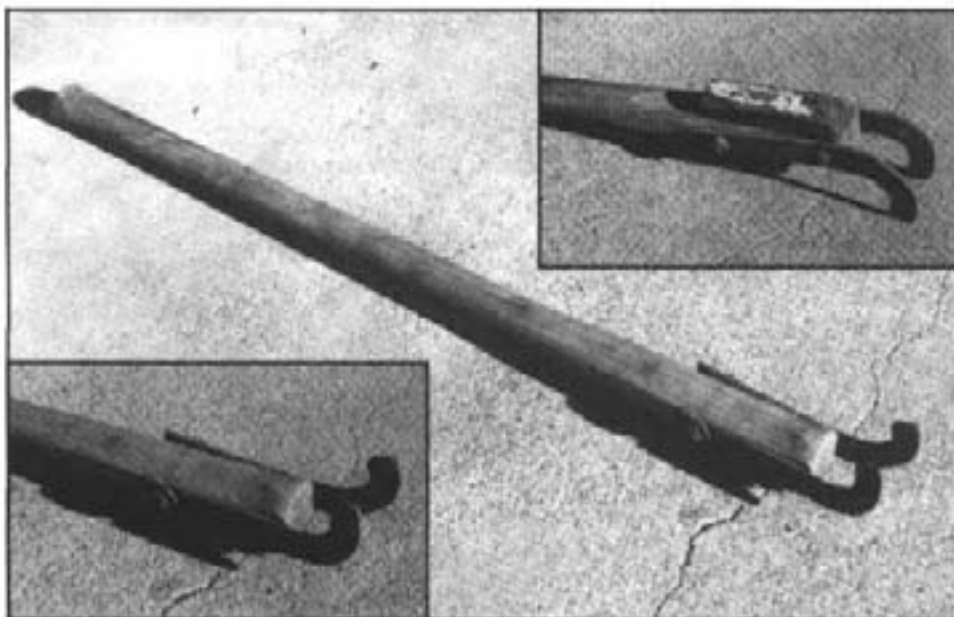
Pete Thorp donated a large industrial drill press and a hose reel and fire extinguisher.

Phil and Vera Gould donated a battery charger.

Karl Hovanitz donated a huge monkey wrench, a hose reel, an oil transfer pump, and a finial from a water tower all found at his old building on Santa Barbara Street.



Anyone know what this is?



Pictured above is a tool that was found in the Pacific Coast Railway Los Alamos freighthouse/station. Richard Monighetti donated this at the same time that he donated PC boxcar #1508. Does anybody know what it is? Phil Gould suggested that it might be a tool for opening freight car doors. Any other ideas?



USDOT/FRA Inspection car visited SLO on December 10, 2000.

Photo by Phil Gould

Timetable

We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm in the Embassy Suites Hotel at 333 Madonna Road, San Luis Obispo.



Meeting dates:

February 8

March 8

April 10

May 10

June 14

July 12

August 9

Help Wanted

The quarterly museum newsletter, "Coast Mail," is written/printed by Bill Pyper, museum secretary and owner of The Prynters. While he thoroughly enjoys the task, he needs help coming up with interesting things to write about. Stories need not all be current events; surely some of you old timers have interesting stories from your past experiences with the railroad. Any photographs of local railroad events from the last 100 years would be great.

Please mail or deliver any stories, pictures or just suggestions to Bill Pyper at The Prynters, 845-B Capitolio Way, San Luis Obispo, California 93401, or Fax to 805-543-9262.

San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

Membership Levels: \$60. Family \$36. Individual

Complete form and mail with your check to:

San Luis Obispo Railroad Museum (SLORRM)

P.O. Box 13260, San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name(s) _____ Amount enclosed: \$ _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ (eve.) _____

Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

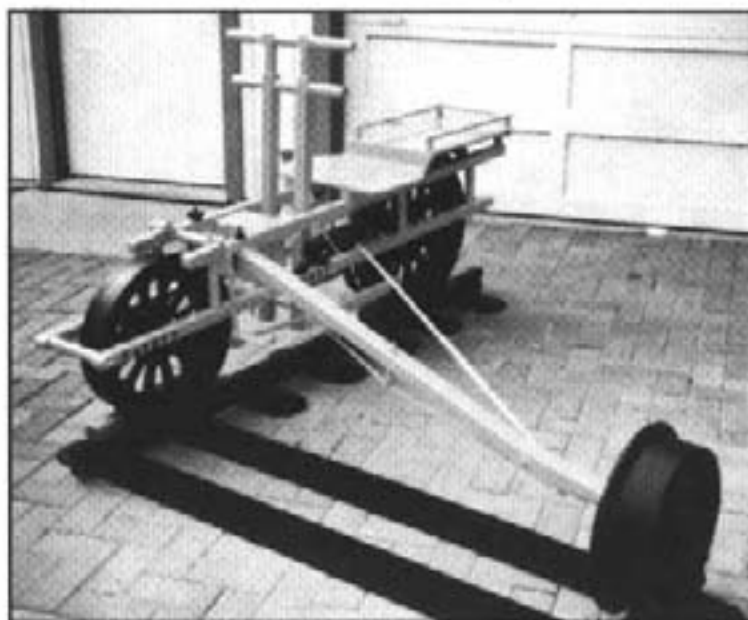
I will help the museum by volunteering to: _____

1890s VELOCIPEDE RESTORED

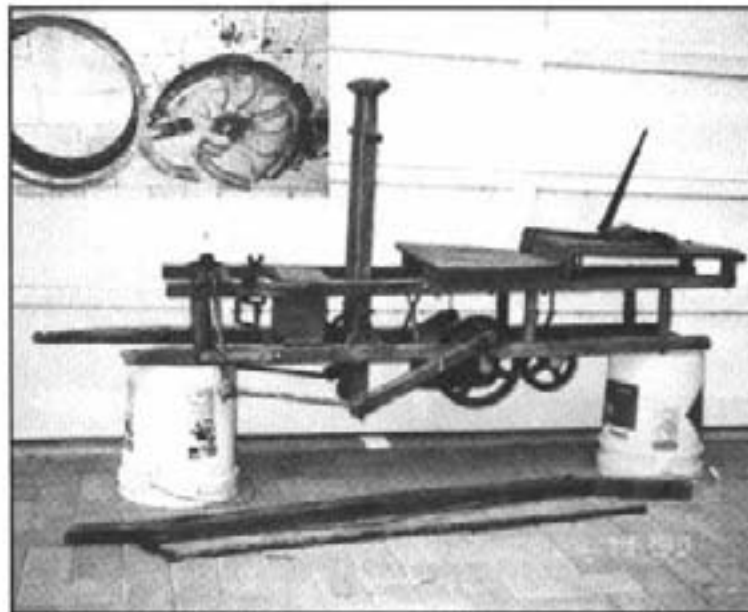
Museum member Phil Gould has lovingly restored this 1890s Sheffield Velocipede three wheel inspection car. The project took about eight months, and involved the hand fabrication of many parts. We thank Phil and his wife Vera for their outstanding effort in restoring this historic rail vehicle.

In 1883, George S. Sheffield of Three Rivers, Michigan, invented the Sheffield handcar, a 140 lb. wood and iron handcar with three wheels (one used for balance on the adjacent rail). The vehicle is powered by both hand and foot levers. He soon formed the Sheffield Velocipede Car Company and produced about 4,000 vehicles. The velocipede was used throughout the United States and Europe for railroad track and signal inspection and maintenance.

This particular velocipede was used in San Luis Obispo by the Southern Pacific Railroad in the early twentieth century. It was originally acquired by long time Southern Pacific Railroad Engineer Herbert Bell. The velocipede was acquired via trade from Mr. Mike Whiteford, grandson of Engineer Bell. Bell acquired the American Railway Express baggage cart (see page 2) and it was displayed by Whiteford, with the velocipede, at his "Rinconada Ghost Town" near Santa Margarita, California.



Before photo below - After photo above.



Phil painstakingly handcrafted spoked wheels to replace broken originals.



Phil Gould sitting proudly astride the Velocipede.

Model Railroad Convention Coming to San Luis Obispo

The San Luis Obispo Model Railroad Club, in conjunction with the Pacific Coast Region NMRA, is presenting "2001: A TRAIN ODYSSEY" May 2nd through the 6th, 2001. The convention includes; rail and family oriented tours, informational clinics, live and silent auctions, layout tours, Santa Maria style barbecue and a train show. The Convention and Train Show will be held at the Veterans Memorial Building, Grand Avenue at Monterey Street, San Luis Obispo. Admission: Adults, \$3.00, NMRA members \$2.00, and children under 12 free. For more information contact Terry Taylor at 805-595-9535 or terryntaylor@charter.net.