

The

April
2007



Trainmaster

The Official Publication of the
Pacific Northwest Chapter,
National Railway Historical Society
Portland, Oregon



Pacific Northwest Chapter Timetable #536

Membership Meetings: Apr 20, May 18 7:30 PM, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 SE Powell Blvd.

- April 20th 7:30 pm – Program: *Implementing Steam Heat on the 2006 Holiday Express II* Consist, George Hickok.
- May 18th 7:30 pm – Program: *The Fabulous & Extensive PNWC Archives*, Bill Hyde.
- June 15th 7:30 pm – Program: *An Introduction to Railroad Safety*, Keith Fleschner.
- July 20th 7:30 pm – Program: *A Life Time of Railfanning* (slide show) by Gerald Schuler.

Board of Directors Meetings: April 13, May 10, Room 208, Union Station, 7:30 PM

!!!! >>>> Please note that the date change for the April <<<<<!!!!
!!!! >>>> Board of Directors meeting <<<<<!!!!

Lending Library: March 17 & 24, 1:30 to 4 pm, check-out subject to loan agreement..

Chapter Annual Banquet: April 28, See Page 4

June 30th Member Activity: *Chelatchie Prairie RR –*
Photo Charter, signup by April 30th

Notable Non-Chapter Events:

April 21 & 22, *Steam Train Rides (2-8-2T)*, 11 AM & 2 PM, and other selected weekends, Chelatchie Prairie RR, www.bycx.com or 360.686.3559

April 21 & 22, *Fruit Blossom Special*, 10 AM & 2 PM, Mount Hood Railroad, Hood River, 800.872.4661 or www.mthoodrr.com

May 12 – May 22, *UP 844 & SP 4449*, Portland to Tacoma with Tacoma-Everett trips and return. Also 844 on public display in The Dalles on May 11. (www.upsteam.com/schedule and www.orhf.org)

May 26 thru Sept *Chehalis-Centralia Railroad*, 1916 Baldwin 2-8-2 steam engine runs, every Saturday and Sunday 12-mile departures @ 1 PM & 3 PM, every Sunday 18-mile to Ruth run departing @ 5 PM. Plus special events, lodging packages and dinner trains; more info: www.ccrta.com or 360.748.9593

May 18-20 *GorgeRail 2007*, Columbia Gorge Discover Center, The Dalles, www.dogcaught.com/gorgerail

May 26 – Sept 16 *Oregon Coast Scenic Railroad*, weekends and special events behind a Heisler steam locomotive, Garibaldi – Rockaway Beach, 503.842.7972 or www.ocsr.net

May 26 – Nov 10 *Eagle Cap Excursion Train*, runs each Saturday plus some others out of either Elgin or Wallowa OR, Alegre Travel, 800.323.7330 or www.eaglecaptrain.com

May 26 thru Sept *Chehalis-Centralia Railroad*, 1916 Baldwin 2-8-2 steam engine runs, every Saturday and Sunday 12-mile departures @ 1 PM & 3 PM, every Sunday 18-mile to Ruth run departing @ 5 PM. Plus special events, lodging packages and dinner trains; more info: www.ccrta.com or 360.748.9593

June 3 – Sept 2 *Willow Creek Railroad*, every Sunday 11 AM to 3 PM, Antique Powerland Museum, Brooks Oregon, www.willowcreekrr.org

June 9 *Cruisin' Sherwood*, SP 4449 visits downtown Sherwood Oregon for live static display.

June 16-17 *Family Fun Days In The Gorge!*, 9 AM – 5 PM, Multnomah Falls, US Forest Service.

June 22-24 & June 29-July 1 *Thomas the Tank Engine*, Mount Hood Railroad, Hood River 541.386.3556 or www.mthoodrr.com

July 28-29 & Aug 4-5 *Great Oregon Steam-Up* featuring John Deere equipment, 7 AM to 6 PM, Admission \$8, 12 and under free, www.antiquepowerland.com, Brooks Oregon

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE – April 2006 by Arlen Sheldrake

The April issue of TRAINS magazine has a very nice article about **Harold Borovec** and his 70 year relationship with Mikado #15 currently on the Chehalis-Centralia Railroad. Historic locomotive and rail car restoration is truly a labor of love.

LAST CALL: if you haven't yet paid your 2007 dues this is your last issue of *The Trainmaster*. According to Chapter By-Laws, dues must be paid by April 1st. Thanks to all who have renewed and to all the new members. Thanks to Diana Mack for continuing to handle our Membership functions.

Be looking for a *Trainmaster* article about the **John W. Barriger III National Railroad Library** in St. Louis Missouri. This is a special library within the St. Louis Mercantile Library at the University of Missouri and a very interesting national asset.

On February 8th the State of Washington announced the purchase of the third branch of the **Palouse River and Coulee City Railroad**. Watco Companies Inc., the company that owns the line, says the purchase price was about \$5.6 million. The line runs from Coulee City to Cheney and Spokane. The state purchased two other branches (Marshall to Pullman and Hooper to Thornton) in 2004 for \$6.5 million. Operation of two of the lines will be put out to bid; the Hooper to Thornton line will continue to be run by Watco.

Many thanks to Al & Judy Hall for organizing the 2007 **Chapter Banquet**. Come on out to the Stockpot Restaurant for some good food and an interesting program; the sign up deadline is April 21st.

On February 26th *The Seattle Times* reported that King County, the Port of Seattle and BNSF Railway signed a preliminary agreement to turn the 40-mile **Renton to Snohomish** rail line into a trail. If the preliminary agreement is finalized in the near future, the port will pay \$103 million for the rail line, and then swap it with King County in exchange for the county-owned Boeing Field. The port would also pay \$66 million to build a biking and hiking trail south of the Snohomish County line.

Be looking for a *Trainmaster* article describing an absolutely wonderful donation of 375 books and videos from Traci Willey that belonged to her father **Glenn Schilling**. Mr. Schilling, who passed away December 1st, collected quality railroad books and videos! Thanks to Ed Immel, Northwest Rail Museum, for forwarding Traci's donation inquiry to the Chapter and to Bill Hyde for quickly following up and taking delivery of this extensive collection on February 26th.

Remember those **Astoria Excursion Train** green signs on Highway 30 directing traffic to the Linnton area (Marina Drive) Morse Brothers boarding site for the Lewis & Clark Explorer Train? Two of these signs have now been acquired by the Chapter as artifacts of this 2003-2005 ODOT supported excursion train that ran between Linnton and Astoria.

The response to the **HELP WANTED** article has been resounding silence. Come on members, the Chapter needs your help! The March *Trainmaster* has the list of our needs.

The long awaited second **Amtrak Cascades** train to Vancouver BC will now become a reality with the March 1st announcement by the British Columbia Ministry of Transportation of the agreement between the Province, Washington Department of Transportation, BNSF Railway and Amtrak to build a passing track in Delta BC near Colebrook Road. Delta is a suburban municipality in the SW portion of the Greater Vancouver Region. Work on the siding begins this spring with completion expected by summer of 2008. Just think, Portland to Vancouver BC without an overnight stay! Nice timing to all who must have toiled many, many hours (over 8+ years) to get this difficult four party international agreement developed in time for the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver/Whistler.

Congratulations to **Bob Slover** for his recent election to President of the Friends of OR&N 197. Expect to read about significant progress being made to get the 197 into operating condition. Bob and Pat Tracy are leading the new effort to put the 197 together. Many believe that this lighter engine will fill a needed role such as being perfect for local runs such as the *Holiday Express*.

And more news: Amtrak announced that the **Coast Starlight** for 2006 had an on-time performance record of **4%**. Can't we just declare the Coast Starlight the winner of the race to the bottom and get on with the needed improvements.

One sure indicator that the housing market has slowed is the number of center beam flat cars sitting idle on sidings; a year ago shippers were begging for them.

Expect to see some construction activity at the **Oregon City Amtrak Cascades** station. \$899,992 in Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement Program (CMAQ) funds, a part of SAFETEA-LU, has been included in the 2006-2009 Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) with construction to begin in 2007.

“Dear Mr. Sheldrake: Thank you for the update. We are pleased that your membership enjoyed the video, and that it will be available for individual use. We have supplied videos to various organizations in the past, but rarely do we get a “**Thank You**”. We appreciate you emailing this information to us. Rick Teeter, Advertising Manager, Harsco Track Technologies.” This video was shown at the February membership meeting and was requested from Harsco at the suggestion of Kimberly Hickok.

At the recommendation of Chapter Auditor and member Bob McCoy, the Chapter Board on March 8th adopted Bob’s recommended **Record Retention Guidelines for Businesses**. These Guidelines are being added to our Chapter Standard Operating Rules document. Bob’s expertise is greatly appreciated.

Mount Hood Railroad has announced on their Web site that beginning in July their excursion trains will be pulled by a 1910 steam locomotive. More information: 800.872.4661 or www.mthoodrr.com. We are truly blessed with regular steam operations on the Oregon Coast, in Elbe, in Yacolt, in Centralia, in Sumpter, and now in Hood River. Pick a wood or oil burner; get out and enjoy steam in the Pacific Northwest!

The April Board of Directors meeting will be held on April 13th, not 12th.

April 15th marks the return to operation run of the **Royal Hudson #2860** (4-6-4), the first trip since 1999. This trip is from Vancouver to White Rock B.C. for the White Rock 50th anniversary celebration. More information: www.wcra.org.

On December 31, 1884 the **Oregon Pacific Railroad** between Corvallis and Yaquina City was completed. (Source: www.co.benton.or.us)

March 16th Membership Actions: Approved the *draft Collections Policy* as published in the March *Trainmaster*; approved modification of the 2007 budget to include \$500 toward the condition assessment by Historic Preservation Northwest of the **Perrydale Depot** (joint funding with Northwest Rail Museum); and approved a budget up to \$6,000 to acquire, if available, a **two bladed semaphore** or second priority a single bladed semaphore from CORP with Chad Stryker leading the acquisition project. It was also reported to the membership that it appears that the best we will be able to do is save one S-2 and scrap one S-2. Thanks to Jan Zweerts for providing the meeting snacks!

Early on March 11th the 1913 **Monroe Depot** was moved north a few blocks from the Wilbur-Ellis property to property across the 99W highway from the Monroe High School gym that Benton County is working with Union Pacific to purchase. The Depot is intended to be incorporated into a new Benton County Library.

A March 14th visit to the **Hall Oakes Lumber Company** near Dawson south of Corvallis found them still shipping wood chips and lumber via rail. The line is in very bad shape. The rails south from Alpine Junction into Monroe are still there but appear to be unused. Hall Oakes Lumber is reputed to be the last steam operated sawmill in the USA and may be the only rail shipper on this line south of Corvallis.

Planning is now beginning for **Oregon’s Sesquicentennial** on February 14, 2009 celebrating the 150th anniversary of Oregon’s admittance to the Union. With the railroads significance in most of the 150 years, expect to help your Chapter with this celebration.

Powell’s Books in Beaverton located in the Cedar Hills Crossing shopping center has an excellent selection of railroad books specializing in northwest railroads.

The **Union Pacific #844 Northwest Trip** – May 3 – May 31 from Cheyenne to Tacoma is real exciting but the news that the SP 4449 will be added from Portland makes the trip phenomenal. Preliminary planning has *TicketsWest* selling the May 19th public excursion tickets (Tacoma-Everett). The Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation will be organizing the public trip (www.orhf.org). The preliminary schedule calls for the 844 to have a public display layover in The Dalles on May 11th, comes through Portland on May 12th with the 4449 joining up and heading north to Fife. The double-header returns to Portland on May 23rd.

2007 Meeting Snack Sign-Ups

The following members have graciously volunteered to prepare the monthly (3rd Friday) membership meeting snacks funded by attendee contributions:

March = Jan Zweerts
April = Jim Hokinson
May = *available*
June = *available*
July = *available*

August = *available*
September = *available*
October = *available*
November = *available*
December = Potluck

To volunteer for *available* months, please contact Arlen at 503.223.7006 or email to: ASheldrake@comcast.net.

JACK M. HOLST MEMORIAL AWARD

Yearly since 1981 the Chapter has made an award to an outstanding Chapter member identified as the Jack M. Holst Memorial Award. Many chapter members did not have the pleasure of knowing Jack nor knowing his contributions to the Chapter and railroad history. The following information is reprinted from the September 1972 and January 2001 issues of *The Trainmaster*.

Jack M. Holst

John Monterey (*Jack*) Holst, Western News Editor of the NRHS Bulletin passed away suddenly on August 26, 1972 in Portland, Oregon following surgery. He was 38.

Jack was born in Dallas, Oregon, but grew up in the logging town of Bend where he developed an active interest in steam railroading. After graduating from Oregon State University in 1956 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources, he began a career in planning with the Multnomah County Planning Commission. In 1968 Jack moved on to a private consulting firm, Barnard & Burke of Oregon, Inc. In 1971 he became planning manager for Robert E. Meyer Engineers, Inc.

He was active in planning studies for various communities throughout the Pacific Northwest, including Chehalis-Centralia, Aberdeen-Hoquiam, and Klickitat County in Washington. In Oregon, areas included Sandy, Warrenton, and several others.

Joining NRHS in 1963, Jack played a major role in the success of the 1965 National NRHS Convention held in Portland. Jack later served as president and national director for the Pacific Northwest Chapter. In 1969 he was appointed Western News Editor for *The Bulletin*, the NRHS national publication.

At the time of his passing Jack was Chapter Mechanical Superintendent in charge of the restoration of "Peggy", a two-truck 40-ton Shay geared locomotive from the Stimson Lumber Company which is soon to be put on display at the Western Forestry Center in Portland.

As an historian, Jack was nationally known for his expertise in methodical research about logging railroads and little-known locomotives, often pioneering discoveries in these fields with Heisler locomotives, his specialty.

Jack was a primary organizer of the Pacific Northwest Railfan Conference (Railcon), an annual gathering of Northwest rail enthusiast organizations.

In addition to NRHS activities, Jack was also a member of the Alfa Romeo Owners of Oregon, Puget Sound Railway Historical Association, National Model Railroad Association, Pacific Locomotive Association, and the Delta Sigma Phi National Fraternity (Beta Epsilon Chapter).

The Pacific Northwest Chapter extends deepest sympathy to Jack's wife Shari, daughter Suzi, and mother Almeda J. Holst, all of Portland; and father Monterey Holst of Rhode Island.

Included in this issue of *The Trainmaster* is a copy of a letter received from Mr. Harry J. Surles, Regional Vice President of Burlington Northern, which expresses well the deep feeling of the Chapter members and of all those who knew Jack.

John D. Holloway, President PNWC-NRHS

August 29, 1972

(Letter received on BN letterhead)

Mr. John D. Holloway
President, Pacific N.W. Chapter
National Railway Historical Society

Dear Mr. Holloway:

The passing of Jack Holst is noted with great sorrow by all of us on the Burlington Northern who were fortunate to have shared in his life.

As we reflect on significant moments in the brief history of our company and that of its predecessors, we cannot help but observe that they were truly enriched by Jack's presence.

Many men in the course of answering needs of their day fail to grasp the historical consequence of their deeds and the time, thus losing to all who follow important threads in the fabric of life.

Such was not the case with Jack. He knew railroading. He grasped the significance of each development and change as new replaced old. His untiring effort and personal dedication were matched by engaging warmth and spirit to win for all men preservation of railroading's past and present.

With hope that others whose lives were influenced by Jack's perceptiveness and enthusiasm will continue to be inspired by his goals and ambitions, we enclose a small memorial for use as you and members of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society find appropriate.

Sincerely yours,
Harry J. Surles (signed)
Vice President – Portland Region
Burlington Northern Inc.

2007 PNWC Annual Banquet

When: Saturday, April 28

Location: Stockpot Broiler at Red Tail Golf Course
8200 Scholls Ferry Rd. Beaverton, OR

Time: 5:00 PM Social Hour, 6:00 PM Dinner

Program: Leon Speroff, Author, Deschutes River Railroad War; Jack Holst Award

This year the chapter banquet will have a new location, delicious food prepared by a chef, easy access, plenty of parking, plus a GREAT PROGRAM. What more could you want? Many of you who purchased **Deschutes River Railroad War** have wanted to meet **Leon Speroff**. Here's your opportunity to hear Leon tell his story. Oh the challenges he must have endured in completing this very popular book. We anticipate this will be our most highly attended and best banquet in quite a while. As you are aware our banquet is also open to guests and because space is limited seats will be in demand. Be sure to make your reservations early. Cutoff date is when banquet is sold out or April 21, whichever comes first.

If you have questions please contact **Al Hall** at **503-699-5042**. Or email Al at: **albhall@aol.com**

Directions:



From I-5 take Hwy 217N (exit 292A) towards Tigard / Beaverton. Take Scholls Ferry Rd exit (exit #4 towards Progress). Turn right onto SW Scholls Ferry Rd. The Red Tail Golf Course and Stockpot Broiler entrance is ½ mile on your right.

From Hwy 26 take Hwy 217S. Take Scholls Ferry Rd exit (exit towards Progress). Turn left onto SW Scholls Ferry Rd. The Red Tail Golf Course and Stockpot Broiler entrance is ½ mile on your right.

Each dinner is \$25.00 per person, including gratuity. Entree includes salad, beverage and dessert.

Each person may choose one of the following entrees: Please list below all names of those you are paying for.

Qty **Choice of Entrée**

- ___ U.S.D.A. highest quality Prime Rib of Beef
- ___ Pan Seared Breast of Chicken, Sautéed Wild Forest Mushrooms, Roasted Shallot Gloss Du Vin
- ___ Caramelized Herb Filet of Salmon, Roasted Garlic Mashed Potatoes
Passion Fruit Beurre Blanc – Julienne of Vegetable

Make check payable to: PNWC-NRHS

Mail check and choice of entrée to: PNWC Banquet
c/o Al Hall
17112 Kelok Rd
Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Pacific Northwest Chapter – 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

The 2006 year for the Pacific Northwest Chapter was one of celebration and continued work. On the one hand all Chapter members and our partner organizations felt very good about the very, very successful *Go By Train 2005* NRHS convention held July 5-9 in Portland but many 2005 delayed projects needed to receive some attention in 2006.

The Chapter ended 2006 by working very hard on the *Holiday Express II* held during two four day weekends in December. Chapter members also worked very hard during November and early December installing and testing the steam heat on all the cars to be used on the *Holiday Express II*. During the two weekends of runs on the very supportive Oregon Pacific Railroad just under 9,000 smiling children, parents and grandparents enjoyed Santa and the train ride behind the SP&S 700 on the first weekend and behind the SP 4449 the second

weekend; and all enjoyed the steam heated consist. Many of the 190 volunteers were Chapter members who provided Car Host, Carman, and other essential services. The Chapter is one of the seven organization members of the Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation whose primary mission is to develop a permanent home for the City of Portland's three steam locomotives (the two already mentioned along with the OR&N 197).

For the third year in a row, the Chapter participated in the U.S. Marine Corps *Toys for Tots* gift donation program. The Chapter again put our spin on the program and titled our efforts: *Train Toys for Tots*. With 90 toys collected and donated by Chapter members, we continue to break each year's previous record. Many Chapter members enjoyed the fun of shopping for train toys as well as knowing that the toys would make a happier holiday for many needy children.

With the expert guidance of consultant Alice Parman the Chapter went through an extensive development process resulting in the adoption of a VISION for the Chapter. In addition the Chapter's first Mission Statement was adopted: *To preserve and interpret Pacific Northwest railroad history and historical artifacts for the education and enjoyment of current and future generations.*

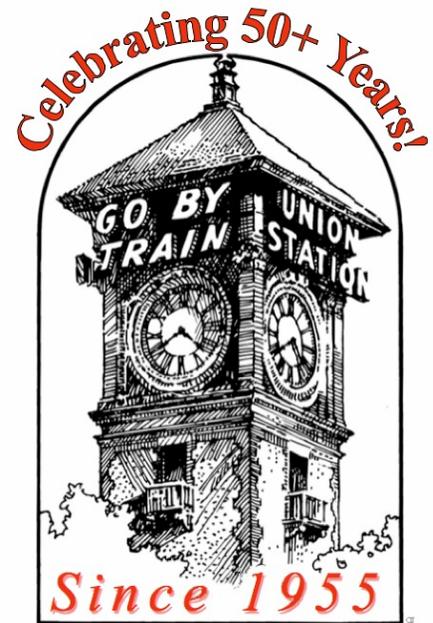
The Rolling Stock crew completed the installation of new batteries in the 6200 and 6800 coaches, turned the wheels and repaired the trucks on the 6800, acquired new wheel sets for the Mt. Hood sleeper/lounge, provided Carman staffing for 12 trips on the Port of Tillamook Bay Railroad, and implemented steam heat on the *Holiday Express II* consist as previously noted.

Cosmetic restoration of the Flanger located at Antique Powerland Museum got underway with the removal of the exterior siding and the purchase and treatment of replacement siding. The project was put on hold pending better spring weather and is targeted for substantial completion by July 2007.

On September 9th the Chapter hosted a potluck Picnic on the Zoo Railway for Chapter members and all volunteers affiliated with the Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation. Fifty attendees enjoyed good food and the Washington Park and Zoo Railway.

And still in September, a public excursion was run on September 16th for 152 ticket holders on the Port of Tillamook Bay Railroad traveling from Banks to Tillamook with a bus return. This was the first time the Chapter has used paid television advertising.

Our crack Concessions/Outreach crew for the year put up booths at 10 events which ran for a total of 19 days. At most events concessions items were sold bringing in \$7,796 gross. At all of the events information about the Chapter and the Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation was provided to attendees.



The Chapter newsletter *The Trainmaster* continued on a monthly schedule with publication and distribution of 12 issues totaling 120 pages to 280 member households and a few comps. Chapter membership for 2006 totaled 345 which includes family members.

The Chapter Archives workers made significant progress in cataloging the Chapter's extensive collection of photographs as well as identifying items surplus to the Chapter's needs. Researchers and authors continue to mine our resources for their projects.

Beginning in January the Chapter launched an on-going project to capture the number of volunteer hours being spent in support of the Chapter. As of March 16, 2007 52 Chapter volunteers reported 5,920 volunteer hours in support of the Chapter for 2006.

(Compiled by Arlen L. Sheldrake, President)

Chapter Officers

President: Arlen Sheldrake 503.223.7006
Vice President: Keith Fleschner 503.516.9272
Treasurer: Jean Hickok 503. 649. 5762
Secretary: vacant, see page 5
National Director: George Hickok 503.649-5762

Chapter Directors-at-Large

Eileen Brazil: (finish out '07 term) 503.647.5667
Jim Hokinson (finish out 2006, 07 term) 503.635.4826
Mark Reynolds (06, 07, 08) 638.7411
Charles Stevens (06, 07, 08) 503.692.6611
William D. Hyde (07, 08, 09) 503. 666. 5530
Al Baker (07, 08, 09) 503. 645.9079

Committee Chairs

Activities: Vacant
Archives: William Hyde 503.666.5530
Auditor: Bob McCoy 360.459.3251
Concessions: Al Hall 503.699.5042
Chapter Rep., Oregon Rail Heritage Foundation:
Arlen Sheldrake 503.223.7006
Chapter Home: Eileen Brazil 503.647.5667 / Al Hall 503.699.5042
Elections: Jim Loomis 503.253.3926
Membership: Diana Mack, 503. 723.3345
Museum: Glenn Laubaugh, 503. 655.5466
Flanger Restoration: Eileen Brazil 503.647.5667
Meeting Programs: vacant
Rolling Stock: vacant, contact President, above
Chief Mechanical Officer:
Peter Rodabaugh, 503. 771.8545
Car Rental Agent: Bob Jackson, 503. 231.4808
Library: Irv Ewen 503.232-2441

Excursions: Jim Long 503.313.7382

Car Host: vacant, contact President, above

Safety Officer: Keith Fleschner 503.516.9272

Webmaster: Mark Whitson 503.533.7005



The Trainmaster is the official newsletter of the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. It is published monthly for the benefit of its members. Articles which appear in the *Trainmaster* do not express the official position of the organization on any subject unless specifically noted as such. Material from the *Trainmaster* may be reprinted in other publications provided credit is given as to the source, except in cases where the article originated in a third party publication and special permission was given to the *Trainmaster* to print the article here. Please address contributions and correspondence to:

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Please sign up for meeting snacks (page 4) or rolling stock help, or flanger restoration, or meeting programs. There are a lot of volunteer needs in many areas of the chapter. See page 7 for various needs.

The chapter is a volunteer organization, and to function it needs the help of those who are members. Please consider what **you** are able to **do**.

Please note correspondence containing address changes on the exterior of the envelope for fastest processing.

The *TRAINMASTER*
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National Railway Historical Society
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