

# The

March  
2003



# Trainmaster

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



**Tillamook Bay Railroad Excursion Tickets on sale now. See enclosed Flyer.**

## **March Program: 4449 Returns from the Grave**

Our March program will be a 2 hour 10 minute videotape filmed by E.W. Tamblyn in 8mm of the restoration and operation of the SP4449 for the 1974-75 American Freedom Train. This excellent film includes extensive coverage of the 4449 being removed from Oaks Park and moved to the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Roundhouse just north of Union Station. Included are test runs with a caboose to Skamania and under load up the Columbia. Also included on the videotape is coverage of the 1948 American Freedom Train in Portland.

The 8mm film was professionally copied to videotape and loaned for this viewing by Chris B. McLarney. Charlie LeCain of Whistle Stop Trains purchased the 8mm film among with other items from the estate of E.W. Tamblyn in 1999 and was given to Chris for safekeeping. Chris has an extensive history with railroad history preservation in Portland including work on the 4449, 700 and the SP 1785 in Woodburn. Chris is the founder of Pacific Railroad Preservation Association, former President of PRPA and was a member in the early 1970s of Ed Bernsten's BN Boy Scout Explorer Post. Chris is currently a Carman with Drummac working out of Portland's Union Station.

This tape has good color and many good views of many long-gone facilities. You may recognize some familiar faces and possibly see yourself at work. The tape has no narration. Our business program will be kept short for your viewing pleasure. Guests are always welcome, especially for this program.

Information about E.W. Tamblyn is solicited. Please provide to Arlen Sheldrake.

### **President's Update By Arlen L. Sheldrake**

The seismic roof attachment and re-roofing project for the **Union Station Annex** is moving ahead. Preliminary work began in January with major roofing work to begin, subject to weather, in May. The only disruption our offices and we will experience is a temporary loss of our parking space. The contractor for this project is Lake Oswego Construction. Also, the 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue extension project, which includes re-doing the parking area in front of Union Station, went to bid February 1<sup>st</sup>.

Work on the **2005 NRHS Convention** continues to move ahead. The Hotel Committee, Chuck Bukowsky Lead, Al Hall, and myself, have selected the Lloyd Center DoubleTree as our hotel and the week of July 4<sup>th</sup> as the convention week. With the expert guidance of Carl Jensen, NRHS National Convention Committee Chair and the other members of the NCC

### **Timetable #487**

**Membership Meetings:** Mar. 21, April 18, St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 S.E. Powell Blvd. 7:30 PM **PLEASE ARRIVE AT OR BEFORE 7:30 AT OUR MEETINGS** If you arrive after 7:30 the parking lot door will be locked. You will need use the basement door on the West side of the building.

**Program for March:** 4449 Returning from the Grave, a video from a 8mm home movie, from the Chris McLarney collection.

**Program for April:** Joe Walsh, TriMet's commuter rail project director. Bring whatever questions you have about the upcoming commuter rail project between Beaverton and Wilsonville.

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

**Lending Library:** 1:30 to 4 pm March 22, 29, check-out subject to loan agreement.

### **Chapter Banquet:**

March 8th, Sayler's Old Country Kitchen-Beaverton cocktails begin at 5:00 PM, dinner at 6:00. See enclosed flyer.

### **Upcoming Excursion:**

See Enclosed Flyer

### **Notable Non-Chapter Events**

**SP&S 2003 Convention**, June 26-29, Best Western Columbia River Inn, Cascade Locks OR; more info: 10832 SE Stephens St, Portland 97216

we are in the final stages of contract signing. We welcome the following new members to our Convention Planning Team: Bob Jackson, Rocky Regula, Neil McKie, Bob Melbo, and Alan Viewig. Invitations have also gone to members of the ORHF, many who have been significant participants in our 50-year history.

**Help needed!** Your **Chapter Concessions** and **Activities Committees** need your help. Help with our presence with Concessions items at functions such as the February 1<sup>st</sup> SP&S Swapmeet. Identify and sell concessions items to raise money for Chapter work. The Activities Committee puts together functions for members and guests. With an abundant number of interesting rail-related sites we could be real busy if we had some members willing to provide the needed organization. Contact any Board member to volunteer.

**Jordan Spreader:** Currently on loan to the Portland & Western Railroad and stored in St. Helens. Current reporting marks: WPRX 4057 MW. Manufactured by O.F. Jordan Company, East Chicago Indiana under patents 1907, 1910, and 1911. Builder's plate: car #582. Ex-Southern Pacific, the railroad equivalent of a bulldozer. Friction bearing, operable, painted orange by PNWR in 1999 or 2000. Weight: Bob Melbo estimate = 75-80 tons, similar #4030 and 4034 stenciled @ 137,600 lbs; width = 11'; height from railhead = 14'2"; length coupler to coupler = 39'4"; length outer wheel axle to outer wheel axle = 32'. Conditions, if any, of the SP donation to the Chapter are unknown. Eventually the Jordan Spreader will become part of the maintenance of way exhibit, per agreement with the Oregon Electric Railway Historical Society, at Antique Powerland. (*Installment #12 of our continuing rolling stock descriptions.*)

Congratulations to the Oregon Department of Transportation Rail Division on their recently announced train service, **Lewis & Clark Explorer**, which will operate beginning May 2003 through September 30<sup>th</sup> between Portland's Union Station and Astoria's former SP&S/BN passenger depot on BNSF, Portland & Western, and City of Astoria track. Daily trains depart Portland at 7:30 a.m., arrive Astoria 11:30 a.m., depart Astoria 4:30 p.m. and arrive Portland 8:30 p.m. One way adult fare is \$16.00. A specific start date in May is to be announced soon. This service will use the three RDC units that ODOT purchased from BC Rail; RDC-1 units BC-10 and BC-11 and type RDC-3 unit BC-31. This seasonal operation is expected at least during the Lewis & Clark Bi-Centennial years of celebration 2003-2005. A January 29<sup>th</sup> trip to Astoria with rail checks at Westport, Clifton, Brownsmead, and Tongue Point saw lots of new ties, new ballast and no vegetation; major improvements from last year. Congratulations also to Oregon Representative Betsy Johnson, District 31 (Clatsop & Columbia counties), for her major efforts in support of this project and in getting the E-Board to fund the RDC purchase.

While visiting the Forest Discovery Center (formerly World Forestry Center) or the Oregon Zoo or the Children's Museum, take a look at **Peggy's** new paint job and new wood. She looks really refreshed!

Long time friends and Chapter members **Chuck Storz** (1964) and **Gerald Schuler** (1984) recently discovered that they are both 1952 graduates of Oregon State College.

Many thanks to **George Hickok** who has moved the Chapter mailing label application from ailing Chuck Storz's computer system to the Hickok system. We didn't miss a beat thanks to Chuck having an extra set of labels that were used for the January issue, and George preparing the February labels.

Good news for the Chris Fussell project to preserve and bring the **Amtrak F40PHR #231** to Portland. The Friends of 4449 have taken the project under their wing thus providing the much-needed 501 C 3 tax-exempt status. This project was highlighted in an January 23<sup>rd</sup> *Oregonian* article. Chris is a neighbor of ours living immediately east of Union Station and provides the web cam pictures of Union Station train activity. Watch your *Trainmaster* for more information or [www.4449.com](http://www.4449.com).

Thanks to our **Concessions Sales Staff** Cora Jackson, Ted Ahlberg, Chuck McGaffey, Bill Hyde, and Al Hall for excellent sales of surplus and other materials at the SP&S Swapmeet February 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Thomas the Tank Engine** is coming back to the Mt. Hood Railroad in Hood River. June 20-29, hourly departures for the 30-minute ride begin at 9 a.m. and last one at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$14, more information/tickets: [www.mthoodrr.com](http://www.mthoodrr.com) or 866.468.7630 or 800.872.4661. This is a "must do" activity as we develop the next generation of rail fans.

**SP&S 2003 Convention** is June 26-29 at the Best Western Columbia River Inn in Cascade Locks OR. More information: SP&S Convention, 10832 SE Stephens Street, Portland 97216.

**Chelalis-Centrallia Railroad's** season opens again on Memorial Day and runs through September on weekends. 12-mile roundtrips (\$8) depart at 1 and 3 p.m., 18-mile roundtrip (\$11) to Ruth departs on Saturdays at 5 p.m. Also available on the 5 p.m. Saturday run is a dinner (\$39.95) option.

Congratulations to the **Chelatchie Prairie Railroad** on their January acquisition of two oil-fired American 2-8-2T steam locomotives commonly referred to as *Minarets*. Restoration volunteers are being solicited. More information: [www.bycx.com](http://www.bycx.com). Operations at Yacolt WA will continue this summer with trip choices: 6-mile roundtrip to Moulton Falls Park or a 12-mile roundtrip to the former International Paper mill site at Chelatchie Prairie. Operations are run as the Battle Ground, Yacolt & Chelatchie Prairie Railroad (BYCX).

## Mailbag

### Rails Travel Agents Wanted

Good Afternoon, RailsNW is about to move into a larger office near Beaverton and is looking for two or three part or full time reservation agents who know and love trains. This is a great opportunity for students or retired persons who want to make a few dollars while selling rail tours and helping us out with various tasks around the office. These positions will pay \$8 - \$9 a hour. We were hoping you could post this opening at your website and possibly email your membership with this rare opportunity. I strongly suspect there is are retired rail fans or students out there at this moment looking at ways to generate a supplemental income; you would be helping us and your members by letting them know of these opening. It is essential that the person be familiar with tourist or excursion railroads throughout North America, preferably as a passenger of railroads in Alaska, Canada, Mexico and the United States. They also will need to be comfortable working around computers and websites. Most importantly, they need to possess strong written, verbal and sales skills. Resumes should include a list of railroads they have ridden the past five years, plus other railroad related knowledge that they could bring to RailsNW. Resumes should be faxed to: 503-521-1394 or emailed to: [tom@railsnw.com](mailto:tom@railsnw.com). Alternatively, they could be mailed to: RailsNW PO Box 25575 Portland, OR 97298. Please call me at 503-292-5055 ext. if you have any questions or suggestions on to spread the word that RailsNW is looking for RAIL FANS. Sincerely, Thomas V. Horstmann, Jr. President [www.railsnw.com](http://www.railsnw.com)

### NP Speeder Information

Hi, The description of the Northern Pacific speeder in the February Trainmaster mentions the stencil "S.T.

10-66" of unknown meaning. Northern Pacific stenciled the location and the date that repairs or inspections were made to their equipment. "S.T." stands for South Tacoma and "10-66" means October, 1966. Ken Johnsen

### UP Caboose Restoration in Fife

My name is David J. Cantlin. I work for the city of Fife, Washington. I wanted to let your members know that we are restoring an O.W.R.&N. caboose # 25722 behind our city hall. This caboose came from camp 6 here in Tacoma, WA. If you folks would like to help in anyway please contact me at 253-922-7665 m-f or email me. Volunteer help is most welcome. The structure is totally rotted so we are removing it and completely re-building it.

David J. Cantlin

[choo\\_choo\\_dave@yahoo.com](mailto:choo_choo_dave@yahoo.com)



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**New members have joined the chapter recently. Look for a list in the next *Trainmaster* issue, and please welcome these people to our organization as valued helpers in the efforts to preserve and document Pacific Northwest Railroad history!!**

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