RIDING RAILWAYS
NEWSLETTER

7+RAILROADER

Grand Scales Quarterly

MAY 2007

Hello everyone! And welcome to your May issue of the ***Riding Railways Newsletter***. Time zooms by so quickly and before you know it, it's time for another issue! Hope you enjoy this one.

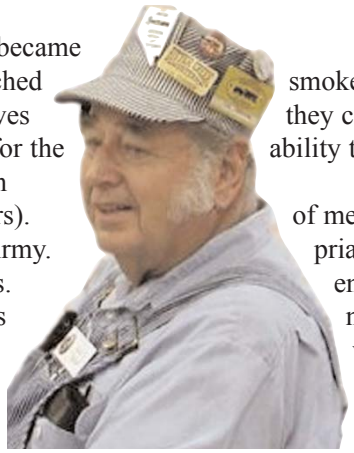
We do have an **important update on the Grand Scales Convention**. Due to extended family issues, Greg and I will not be hosting the convention. BUT, it will still take place. **John Woods**, owner of the ***Arborway, T.T. & Northwestern Railroad***, has agreed to host the convention himself. I don't have all of the details yet, but will send them out just as soon as they are ready. Keep checking our web site (www.grandscales.com) for more information. It will still be quite a show and we are very grateful to John and his crew for continuing on with it. Greg will most likely attend the convention but, more than likely, I will not. I will miss seeing you all. All I can say is thank you for your continued support.

Regards,

Susan

PS - Visit http://www.arborwayrailroad.com/2007_convention.html for more info on the convention

CAREER STEAM MAN GIVES FINAL LECTURE



Cal Tinkham of Sparks, Nevada became enthralled with steam as he watched ancient Virginia & Truckee locomotives near his boyhood home. He worked for the Santa Fe. He worked for the Southern Pacific (on Cabforwards among others). He was a railroad instructor for the Army. He worked on stationary steam plants. And he worked on steam automobiles and boats for famed casino mogul Bill Harrah.

In addition to making his practical living with steam he has been an avid student of steam theory his entire adult life. In his free time he is a live steamer.

Mr. Tinkham informed us that his presentation "How to Cripple Your Locomotive" was going to be the last of countless lectures he has given over the decades. In it he discusses many of the design, construction, and maintenance decisions that can harm boiler performance and safety.

Cal is concerned that certain trends in the hobby are leading down a path of uncertain experimentation and away from the proven roads of long-established steam locomotive technology. He discussed a number of boiler types and material choices which dramatically effect a boiler's performance.

He outlined various firebox and smokebox configurations and how they can improve or cripple a boiler's ability to create steam.

He talked about various types of metals and where they are appropriate for use on a live steam engine . . . and where they are not. Many, many other topics were touched on as well.

How could a small crust of oil residue hinder steaming? What are the benefits of an "arch" in the firebox? Could a common blower design make it hard to steam up? What are the advantages of superheaters?

In total the lecture was almost two hours long and packed with the insights of a lifetime. We consider it an honor to have been able to record this presentation and to offer it on our two DVD set entitled **Riding Railway University Volume 4**.

The seminars in this volume are an excellent supplement to the recently released **RRU Volume 3**, where Pat Durand gives an excellent seminar on Boiler Inspection. Both of these DVD sets are available at our web sites ***7plusrailroader.com*** and ***grandscales.com*** and on the order form in this issue..

Riding Railway University
Volume 4

Seminar List

Curves You Can Bank On (Glenn Peterson) A detailed discussion on superelevation: what it is, how it works, how to easily calculate it with the help of a free program.

Steel Car Construction (Paul Vernon) Learn the tricks of the trade form a company that builds scale car kits professionally. What tools and technologies do they utilize? What are the benefits? What detail parts can make a good car look great?

Machine Shop Tips (Jim Boyer) Jim has been a machinist for five decades. He shares a number of simple concepts to help the beginner overcome the

(*Continued on next page)*

(RRU Vol 4, continued from pg 1)

fear of jumping in and getting the work done.

Updated Operations at Train Mountain (Russ Wood) Running in a prototypical manner continues to grow in popularity. Train Mountain has hosted a number of operations meet now and much has been learned in the process, and those helpful tips are shared here.

Details Details -From On3 to 2.5" Scale (Peter Moseley) See some of the most highly detailed live steam narrow gauge equipment to be found anywhere. Anecdotes, insights, methods, and sources -it's all here.

Building a K-27 (Kevin Doe) Continuing with the narrow gauge theme, Kevin shares his experience of building this scale replica of a world famous class of engines.

How to Cripple Your Locomotive (Cal Tinkham) Brining a lifetime of professional steam experience to bear on the subject, Cal tells us what NOT to do (and what to do) in the design, construction, and maintenance of a steam engine.

PACIFIC COAST ROUND UP

The **Pacific Coast Round Up** welcomed two very special guests this year: **John Lasseter** of Pixar fame and his beautiful locomotive, the ***Marie E***. With the help of the able crew from **Hillcrest Shops** (who recently restored the engine), the *Marie E* made the trip from Reedley to run on Mr. Rossi's ranch for the weekend. The *Marie E,* in all her glory, really caught the eye of the crowd. On Sunday, after the crowd thinned, Mr. Lasseter was able to couple the engine up to one of the original Disney Retlaw coaches (these were coaches that originally ran at Disneyland when it opened in 1955 and they now reside at the PCRR). This is especially touching when you consider that the *Marie E* was once owned by renown Disney animater Ollie Johnson. You can see the locomotive and coach in the photo above.

Of course there was much more to see than the *Marie E*. The railroad had all three of their steam engines in service (until one had to be taken out of service for mechanical issues). There were also antique cars and traction engines on display and a 7.5" gauge railroad providing rides (curtesy of the **Bittercreek Western**), music both days and plenty of shopping opportunities in the vendor area.

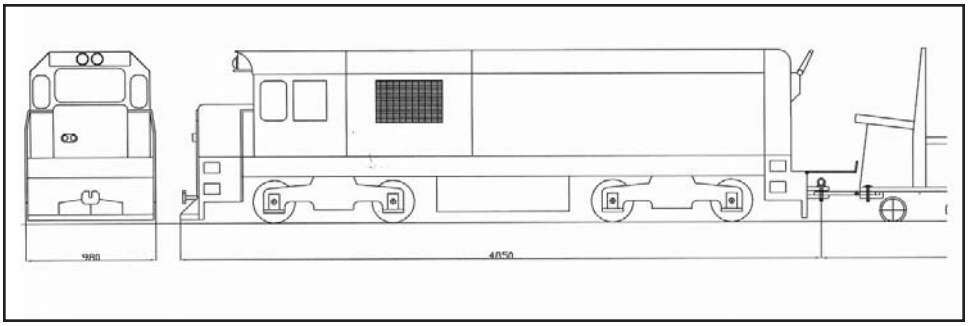
To read more about the event, check out Ed Kelley's comments on the PCRR blog: ***http://pcrailroad.blogspot.com/***

For more photos, please see next page.

A DVD of the PCRR RoundUp (from a previous year) is available in our gift shop.

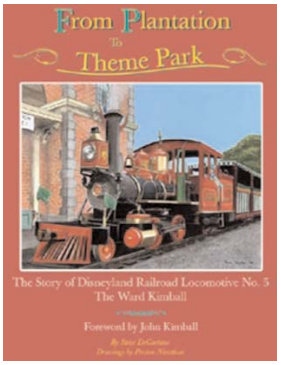
Photos from the 2007
Pacific Coast Round-Up

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD



The Wanganui Lions Club is replacing the **Kowhai Park's Tot Town** train (15" gauge, Wanganui, New Zealand) with a brand new $100,000 train early next year. The new train, built by **Ikon Loco Works** in Aukland, New Zealand, will feature a 24 kw water cooled diesel engine which will drive all wheels via a hydrostatic transmission. The maximum speed will be about 10 mph. Dave Giles of Ikon Loco Works tells us that the engine and the three cars will utilize air brakes. They have used this combination of equipment on many previous jobs and geel that it is very reliable and helps give the driver (engineer) good control of the train. You can see a drawing of the new locomotive above right.

Steve DeGaetano, author of **Welcome Aboard the Disneyland Railroad**, has a new book available. **From Plantation to Theme Park** features the ***No. 5 Ward Kimball*** locomotive that entered service at **Disneyland** in 2005. *The Ward Kimball* may have been new to Disneyland, but its history spans more than a century. In his new book Steve takes us along on a ride through time as he recounts the history of the little 1902 Baldwin first known as *Maud L*. That tiny plantation teakettle eventually became Disneyland Railroad No. 5, the first new Disneyland Railroad engine added to the fleet since 1959.



The book is filled with photos and diagrams and would make a great addition to your collection, whether a Disney fan or not. It is available from the Steam Passages web site (***steam-passages.com/kimballbook.shtml***) for $29.95 plus shipping. Steve is also happy to sign the books if you ask him.

The Spirit of Traverse City (15", Traverse City, MI) has begun giving rides again this week. As you may recall, there has been some question as to the fate of the railroad after the Clinch Park Zoo next door closed down last year. The city is working to reopen part of the zoo as a park and to allow other groups to rent parts of it out for various festivals. For now the train, which operates along the waterfront, will continue to operate.

The **Mill Mountain Zoo** (Roanoke, VA) is installing a new train. It had an agreement in the past with the Roanoke Jaycees who provided a MTC G-16 engine and three cars for many years to the zoo. The two organizations could not come seem to negotiate a new deal this year so the zoo, operated by the Blue Ridge Zoological Society, decided to purchase their own railway next year. When the original railway is removed, it will be sent to the **Museum of Transportation** in Virginia. The new train (actually a refurbished train) will be coming from a Florida zoo.

Chance Morgan delivered a new C.P. Huntington train to **Wild West World** in Wichita, KS. The train was delivered with a new carousel before the park's grand opening on May 5, 2007. The train, including three coaches, will operate from the Chisholm Trail Depot at the end of the park's Main Street. It's great to see that in this day of thrill rides, there still remains a place for peaceful trains. (*Photo, below, courtesy of Chance Morgan.*)

The Mel Schrock Old Wakarusa Railroad Estate Auction

Selling Thursday, June 21st starting at 10:00 am
(Day one of the three day Mel Schrock Estate Auction featuring over 425 tractors!)
Held in Wakarusa, Indiana
(Right on State Route 19 on the south side of Wakarusa. Site is well marked with billboards!!!)

Visit the Railroad website at:
www.oldwakarusarailroad.com

Founded in 1989 by Delton Schrock, Old Wakarusa Railroad is backed with 18 years of industry experience.

Old Wakarusa Railroad provides a top-notch step back in time with a ride on a 15` gauge train patterned after the Norfolk and Southern line.

Inventory

(1) diesel powered locomotive
(4) open cars with 5 bench seats each
(3) coach cars with 4 bench seats each
(2) "livestock" cars with 4 bench seats each
(1) coal car
(1) caboose with 4 bench seats
(4) 300 ft of track (approx), rails are 12lb (a (3) ft long piece of rail weighs 12 lbs)
(3) Railroad crossing signs with lights
(8) Plain railroad crossing signs
(4) switches
(1) tunnel
(2) stoplights
(2) trestle bridges
(1) water tank
(1) Depot building (ticket and gift sales)
(1) portable Nativity display building approx 8' x 10'
(1) portable Stable/Petting zoo building approx 10' x 10'

Other Items

Fiberglass statues, 1 large bear on four legs approx 4.5' tall, 2 roosters approx 8' tall, 4 life size horses various colors and breeds.

The organization that operates the railroad may want to sell the gift items and appliances in the depot and lights and decorations for Halloween and Christmas.

Locomotive

Design from Little America amusement park in WI (Badge in cab says Mfg by Darrell A. Klompmaker at Merrick light railway, Marshall, WI). Basic rolling chassis was purchased from them.

Remainder of locomotive was assembled and built in Wakarusa, IN by Delton Schrock and others.

Locomotive is powered by a four cylinder Ford industrial diesel engine model 2722E, currently shows 5400 hours

Hydrostatic driveline with roller chain to all wheels

110 V generator for aux power to cars

Locomotive has working bell and air horn.

The lights need some work

Cars

Running gears built by local Amish blacksmith shop with purchased wheels.

Open cars use a smaller wheel prone to derail, these are not currently in use.

All cars except open cars have recently rebuilt axles with improved bearings.

Coach, "livestock", and Caboose car bodies built by local carpenters, many are showing signs of dry rot.

Coach cars have 12V interior lighting and speakers.

Tracks & Rails

Rails in crossings or other areas prone to water have deteriorating/rusting web (bottom of rail)

In some areas Spikes have worked loose from ties, some have been repaired with lag screws.

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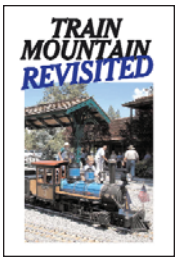
GIFT SHOP
NEW DVDs and More!

TRAIN MOUNTAIN REVISITED

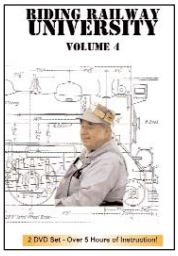


The **2006 TM Triennial** was even larger and more spectacular than in years past. This program takes us back to Train Mountain to enjoy this world class event. Surprise footage features the world record setting operations! **$29.95**

RIDING RAILWAY UNIVERSITY VOL 3

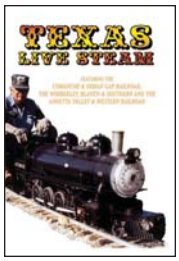
The Fine Art of Laying Track –Mark Flitton
ABC's of Tender Building –Don Orr
Proposed North American Safety Standards –Quentin Breen
Stability Problems & Solutions –Bill Donovan
The Sum of Parts –Paul Lavacot
RGS 20 Project: Three Years Later –Tom Artzberger
Boiler Inspection - Pat Durand
$39.95 (**2 disk set** - over 5 hours of instruction)

RIDING RAILWAY UNIVERSITY VOL 4



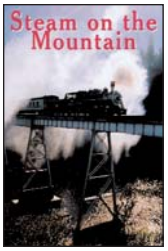
"Curves You Can Bank On" –Glenn Peterson
Steel Car Construction –Paul Vernon
Machine Shop Tips –Jim Boyer
Updated Operations at TM –Russ Wood
Details Details –From On30 to 2.5" Scale –Peter Moseley
Building a K-27 –Kevin Doe
How to Cripple Your Locomotive –Cal Tinkham **$39.95** (**2 disk set** - over 5 hours of instruction)

TEXAS LIVE STEAM DVD



Come on y'all and visit three of the nicest 7.5" gauge railroads in the glorious state of Texas! You'll be impressed with the size and quality of Nick Edward's newly built **Wimberley Blanco & Southern**. You'll learn about large scale Operations at Roy Pickard's down-home **Comanche & Indian Gap**. And you'll really enjoy the welcoming atmosphere at Terry McGrath's **Annetta Valley & Western**. A must for Texans and for anyone interested in seeing how live steam railroading should be done.
$29.95

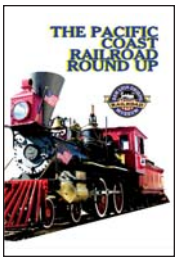
STEAM ON THE MOUNTAIN DVD



There aren't many places left where a steam engine can be seen working on the very rails it did when it was brand new. In Steam on the Mountain you'll see a 1914 Baldwin Mikado working the same grades in the shadow of the same mountain it saw over ninety years ago. You'll ride in the cab with the engineer and the fireman as they reign in the power of a loud, bucking "iron horse". You'll see close-up shots of the powerful drive rods and steel wheels. You'll enjoy the dramatic scenery and hearing the engineer describe what it's like to run a steam engine over a railroad he has worked on for decades. And there is no sound in the world like a lonesome steam whistle echoing through the pine trees.

DVD **$19.95**
Companion Audio CD **$9.95**

PACIFIC COAST RR ROUND UP DVD



The Pacific Coast is a private railroad on the Central California coast. It is opened to the public only once each year, as a fund raiser for the San Luis Obispo Railway Museum. This DVD takes you aboard the charming narrow gauge train. It features vintage steam engines (including the one that was in the opening shots of Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman TV show with Jane Seymour). The coaches are genuine Disney coaches - the first coaches to be used in service at Disneyland. Great for railfans, narrow gaugers, families, Disney enthusiasts and anyone else who would just enjoy a good show. Approx. 1 hour with bonus features. **$19.95**.

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