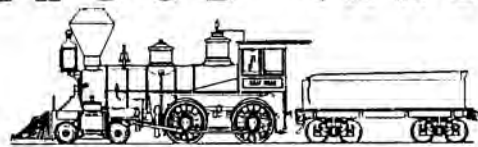




CAROLWOOD CHRONICLE



OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CAROLWOOD PACIFIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY

VOLUME I, ISSUE 1 - WINTER 1997

Ward Kimball Invites Carolwood Members

The Carolwood Pacific Historical Society was founded in 1995 by a group of Disney railfans who wanted to honor the legacy left by Walt Disney to preserve the colorful history of steam powered trains. The Charter Board of Governors:
Michael Broggie
Alan Clark
David Flesh
Ollie Johnston
Ward Kimball
Bill Norred
Downs Prior
Scott Rhodes

Initial membership dues are \$24. Applications are available by contacting the Society:

1032 Amberton Lane
Thousand Oaks, CA
91320-3514

www.marketevolution.carolwood.com

tel: 310-828-2222
fax: 310-828-4422

e-mail:
SMBroggie@aol.com

Up to one hundred members and guests of the Carolwood Pacific Historical Society will gather at Ward and Betty Kimball's home in San Gabriel, California, on April 12, 1997, for what is likely the last steam-up party for the *Chloe* locomotive

Join the Kimballs celebrating nearly 60 years of Grizzly Flats Railroad operation.

and to celebrate sixty years of the Kimball's venerable Grizzly Flats Railroad.

Planned activities in-

clude guided tours of the barn housing Ward's collection of model and toy trains (considered one of the top five collections in the world); tours of the Grizzly Flats depot, which is filled with Kimball's railroad memorabilia; and tours of the Firehouse 5 garage, containing Ward's rare antique fire engine and collection of firefighter helmets; and, of course, rides on the Grizzly Flats Railroad.

A catered lunch is included in the event which is scheduled for noon to 4 o'clock. Admission donations of \$20 per person will defray costs, and net proceeds will be donated to the

Orange Empire Railway Museum in honor of Ward and Betty.

Attendees will receive a special souvenir package including a commemorative photograph with Ward, a collector's button, and a certificate of attendance.

The event is being supported by LGB of America, makers of the garden scale model of the *Chloe*. Through the generosity of Society member Ron Gibson of LGB, a lucky attendee will win a complete G-gauge collection of Grizzly Flats models including LGB's *Chloe* engine and three cars with track and a

PLEASE SEE PAGE 2

Pentrex to Publish Disney Railroad Book

Pasadena, CA—After a two-year search for the right company to publish his long-awaited book, *Walt Disney's Railroad Story*, Michael Broggie announced the signing of an agreement on Nov. 22, 1996, with Pentrex Publishing headquartered here. This follows the untimely death of Steve Fiott, who initially acquired the rights. Those rights then were conveyed to a partnership that dissolved, leaving the book without a publisher.

A timetable has been approved by the author

and Pentrex's chief executive, Mike Clayton, which establishes the initial delivery date during the first week of September, 1997.

Since the publishing date coincides with the Disneyana Convention at Walt Disney World Resort in Florida, plans are now underway to create a special collector's edition for the event.

"Pentrex is the world's leading producer of historical railroading tapes, magazines and books," says Broggie. "We are delighted to have them as our publisher."

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Kimball Steam-Up Party, cont.

transformer, plus the Pico model of Ward's depot, and a Pola model windmill. Total value is approximately \$700.

Another event supporter is Pentrex Publishing. Mike Clayton of Pentrex is contributing historic railroad video tapes, books and magazines. Pentrex is the publisher of *Walt Disney's Railroad Story* which is scheduled for release this September.

Ward and Betty have donated some of their railroad equipment to the Orange Empire Railway Museum. Their vintage mogul class steam engine, *Emma Nevada*, was delivered to the museum in 1992 along with several railroad cars.

Thanks to the Kimball's generous donation of Disney stock, a train barn was added to the museum's facilities. Eventually, the balance of the Kimball's rolling stock and buildings may go to the museum, which is located at Parris in Riverside County, California.

Of particular historic value is the quaint flag stop depot which was given to Ward by Walt Disney after the studio completed the 1949 feature film, *So Dear to My Heart*.

Having spent many enjoyable railroading hours at Grizzly Flats, Walt wanted to do something for his fellow railfan and gave him the station.

According to Ward, when money ran short for building Disneyland, Walt asked Ward to consider relocating the movie set so it could become the Frontierland Station. A request that the Disney Legend politely declined after he had permanently reconstructed the building on a cement foundation.

Capacity for the steam-up party is limited.

VOLUNTEERS CAN EARN RIGHT TO SECURE LIMITED PARTY TICKETS.

Those interested should apply for tickets by sending the entry form in this edition of the Chronicle.

If applications are received for more than a hundred tickets, a random drawing will be held. However, Society members selected to serve on the volunteer crew will be guaranteed an opportunity to purchase tickets.

In addition to the event crew on April 12, a preparation crew will be organized for Saturday, April 5. Society members interested volunteering for either crew should contact Board Member and Crew Chief Downs Prior at 619-533-5326 (8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. PST), or 619-634-3992 (7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. PST). Crew assignments include maintenance, security/safety, food, merchandise, tour operations and finance.

This will be an historic and rare opportunity to spend an afternoon high-balling on the Grizzly Flats Railroad with the irreplaceable Ward Kimball at *Chloe's throttle!*

SOCIETY MEMBERSHIPS EXTENDED

All memberships in the Carolwood Pacific Historical Society have been automatically extended to Dec. 31, 1997. In addition, all members will receive a 1997 membership card in addition to the membership certificate and pin already received.

The decision was based upon the overwhelming support shown by the members, particularly during the start-up period.

Event Schedule

- Jan. 10-12 NFFC
- April 12 Kimball Party
- Mid-July NFFC
- Sept. WDW
- Oct. Fess Parker's Winery

GRIZZLY FLATS STEAM-UP PARTY TICKET REQUEST

Please clearly print:

Name _____

Street Address _____

Town/State/Zip _____

Telephone (Day and Evening) _____

Fax Number _____

Number of Tickets (\$20 Each) _____

Volunteer: April 5th Work Crew April 12th Event Crew

Please read the small print:

1. Open to members and guests of the Carolwood Pacific Historical Society.
2. All requests subject to acceptance
3. Requests must be received by February 15, 1997.
4. Members will be notified of their request by March 1, 1997.
5. Do not send money with this application.
6. If requests exceed capacity, a drawing will determine eligibility.
7. Volunteer personnel have purchase preference.
8. Attendees will be required to sign a weasel-worded hold harmless liability agreement.

Signature _____

Date _____

Mail to: Carolwood Pacific Historical Society
1032 Amberton Lane
Thousand Oaks, CA 91320-3514

-or-

Fax to: 310-828-4422 Attn.: Carolwood Pacific

Our Visit with Walt's Spirit

Carolwood Chronicle is the official journal of the Carolwood Pacific Historical Society. The views expressed are those of the writers and do not necessarily represent those of the Society or its membership, or of Retlaw Enterprises, Inc., which is the owner of the name and trade marks of the Carolwood Pacific Railroad. The Society is not affiliated with The Walt Disney Company. Society Members are encouraged to submit articles and letters to the editor, who reserves the right to edit for length. Contents are copyrighted by the Carolwood Pacific Historical Society unless otherwise indicated.

Sharon Charmagne, Publisher
 Michael Broggie, Editor
 Contributing Writers:
 David Flesh
 Downs Prior

This story was provided by Board Member Downs Prior and is the first in a series by members. Next issue is a feature by David Flesh—Ed.

"What—did I just read that title right?" you're probably asking yourself. Well it is sort of true. No. I haven't had one too many Goofy wine coolers... It started out on a cold, rainy, overcast Wednesday in February—the 21st to be exact—we were working the day watch out of Carlsbad and Chula Vista—(oh, sorry—I'm watching an old "Dragnet" while writing)—anyway, a pretty nasty early (5:30 a.m.) morning all around, when four stout-hearted, loyal Disneyland Railroad fans (Terry Gilman and Dennis Hurlbut, Scott Rhodes and myself) entered the sacred passage of Winston Gate on our way to our private backstage tour of the hallowed Steam Train/Monorail Roundhouse.

Upon entering this—the most revered shrine of a D.R.R. enthusiast—our senses were suddenly overcome by the sweet acrid smell of the steam mist, and the oil burning exhausts of No. 3, the *Fred Gurley*, and No. 1, the *C. K. Holliday*, as they warmed their mechanical souls—ready to pierce the nasty

day with warmth and brilliance as only a Disney engine can. As we stood there mesmerized, "IT" suddenly began to fill our beings—that realization that this, of all places backstage at the Magic Kingdom, was truly "Walt's Place."

With majestic chants, No. 1 and 3 seemed to be saying their morning "hellos" to Walt. As we were graciously hosted around the facility by shop foremen, Bill Clements, none of us could help but feel Walt's spirit. As we climbed into the cabs, we knew he had been there, operated the levers and gauges, and had smiled at, and delighted thousands of people over the years as he leaned out that engine's window.

The 38 cast members of the steam train team are the vigilant protectors and caretakers of Walt's trains—this is why Disneyland was built, so Walt could run his trains. These diligent men and women are seldom seen, usually never heard from, but are always there keeping "His Spirit" alive and with us. Every day they arrive beginning at 5:30 a.m. to perform the ritual—and it is done so flawlessly as it has been for more than 40 years. The steam trains are the single most used attractions at the Park—transporting an average of 71% of all guests who enter "This Happy

Place."

The second half of this adventure was to ascend to the loft of the second floor and enter the Monorail Shop. A dramatic contrast to the ornate breathing creatures below—there they sat, perched on their concrete beamway—sleek, poised and powerful—awaiting the surge of electrical life what will send them slicing through the rain and wind as if it didn't exist. This too reflects Walt's Spirit—his forward thinking genius—an eye always towards the future, building on his reverences of the past. What marvels of technology! Air conditioning, computer controlled, 30 drive wheels, 15 miles of wiring per train, self-monitoring safety and maintenance warning systems directly reflect efficiency, conservation and environmentally—Walt's Spirit through and through!

After 3 1/2 hours of this most fulfilling experience it was time to return to earth. We gathered our thoughts and feelings and said our grateful 'good-byes.' Not surprising to any of us as we exited—it was clear, sunny and warming. We all agreed—it was Walt's way of saying "thanks for believing." **AMF**

Ward Kimball Gets Disney Engine Named in His Honor (but wait, there's more)

Orlando, FL—Among honors mortals may bestow on one another, for a railfan the most coveted is to be the namesake for a real puffer-belly steam engine.

When the Disney company acquired a vintage Davenport Forney steam engine to add to its operations, the name considered most appropriate was "Ward Kimball." The Society agreed and supported the idea. In April of 1996, Ward was honored at a celebration here, officially

bestowing his name on the locomotive. Among those attending were the Forney's former owner, Board Member Bill Norred, and Michael Broggie, who was m.c. Larry Royer represented Disneyland and read the dedication announcement.

The problem is, as of this writing, the engine still hasn't found a home. It remains in storage at the roundhouse in WDW. **AMF**



Ward Kimball is honored at a dedication ceremony bestowing his name on the latest Disney steam engine. Photo by Jonathan Meador. ©Disney

CAROLWOOD PACIFIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1032 AMBERTON LANE
THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91320-3514

Address Correction Requested

CAROLWOOD CHRONICLE

The Switch Yard (under construction)

This section provides Members with a service for selling, trading and/or buying Disney and railroad collectibles.

Please submit your listing for the Spring issue by March 1 to:

Downs Prior
2388 Terraza Panga
Carlsbad, CA 92009-6616

Please note the enclosed form which is designed to create an accurate record of Carolwood Limited Editions. Your participation is sincerely appreciated to complete our records.

View from the Cupola*

Among purposes of this missive are to share miscellaneous ramblings and nonessential trivia of your Society's Founder. E-mail replies are invited at SMBroggie@aol.com.

This is, at long last, the first edition of the Carolwood Chronicle. There are many reasons why it took so long to produce, but, enough said that we're finally learning to cope with a new Compaq Presario and Microsoft Publisher. It's a long way from many years on Big Mac.

Instead, we shall delve into the calendar of coming events to peek your interest in activities that are designed to enhance your experience as a member of this organization.

* Your Society is hosting a very special party at Ward and Betty Kimball's home in San Gabriel, California. The Kimball's have invited our

members for the last steam-up party for the *Chloe* locomotive and the venerable Grizzly Flats Railroad. Those that wish to attend should get their request in ASAP.

*We want to have the Society visit the wonderful narrow gauge railroad that Board Member Ollie Johnston and his wife Marie have in Julian, California. Ollie also operates a beautiful one-inch scale live steam pike at his home in Flintridge where Walt Disney learned how to run the engine in 1949. We recommend the excellent documentary, *Frank and Ollie*, produced and directed by Frank's son and daughter-in-law.

*For those attending the Disneyana Convention in September, we are planning a special backstage tour of the steam train roundhouse.

*An advance preview brochure of the book, *Walt Disney's Railroad Story*, will be sent

first to Society members.

*Did you know that Board Member Bill Norred is the new owner of the Disneyland Retlaw 1 coaches?

*We suggest supporting the NFFC, they do an incredible job, and say 'hello' at the Society's table at each NFFC convention.

*The stand-up comics are having a field day with the "political correcting" of *Pirates of the Caribbean*. We want to ask Member Bob Witter (he's the director of promotions for Disneyland) if this is yet another clever promotion to attract the public with the "last opportunity to see the 'original Pirates' before they are gone forever"? Just kidding, Bob. But, what about those 'vertically challenged' seven little men and the mentally challenged flying elephant? 🐘

—Michael Broggie