

CAROLWOOD CHRONICLE

Issue 11



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2001 Event Timetable

Schedules Subject to Change

Track 1

2001 A Tram Odyssey

San Luis Obispo, CA

May 2-6

The San Luis Obispo Model Railroad Club has been selected as the sponsor of the Pacific Coast Region of the National Model Railroad Association regional convention titled **2001 - A Tram Odyssey**. The convention will take place Wednesday, May 2nd through Sunday, May 6th at this delightful and historic town, with many activities centered on the Vet's Hall and the Sand's Hotel. Society members will have a special opportunity to attend. This is where the Retlaw 1 wooden coaches now reside in a private collection. Please visit their Web site for more info: www.trainweb.org/pcr2001

Track 1

Ronald Reagan

Presidential Library

To Host Walt Disney Tribute

May 13-Sept 4

Walt and Ronald Reagan were good friends and shared a variety of interests including horses and politics. The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum will present "*Walt Disney—The Man and His Magic*," a tribute to Walt including a display of his original 1/8 large-scale model Carolwood Pacific Railroad equipment, including the *Lilly Belle* steam engine that ran at Carolwood. Other exhibits will highlight Walt's life. Commemorative merchandise and special presentations will be offered during the four-month schedule. Society members interested in attending a special showing, please send an e-mail to mbroggie@msn.com

The library is located in Simi

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Six Years of Negotiations

Fort Wilderness Trains Come Home

After six years, it's finally over

When asked, "Where are the Fort Wilderness trains?" George Britton, lead foreman of Walt Disney World's steam train facilities replied, "The Fort Wilderness trains have gone home."

It was a team effort that secured the equipment through lengthy negotiations with Disney representatives, which were begun in 1995 by late Society Governor Bill Norred, continued by Founding Chairman Michael Broggie, and finally concluded by Society Attorney Mike McQueen. Members Bill Dundas and Michael Campbell worked with McQueen to create a nonprofit foundation to receive the equipment and Dundas arranged and personally supervised the loading and transporting of the trains to California.

On October 20, 2000, after two days of careful loading with a heavy-duty crane, the Fort Wilderness trains were secured on eight flatbed trailers at Walt Disney World.

That afternoon, they began their three thousand mile journey back to California, where the Imagineers at Mapo-WED Division of Walt Disney Productions originally assembled them in 1972. One car went to Society member Luther Hunter in Georgia.

According to Railroad Historian Paul Hammond, at the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento, these are very likely the last steam locomotives built in California for use as public transportation. Also, they are the only steam engines ever built by The Walt Disney Company.

The original Disneyland Engines No. 1 and 2 were built in the Machine Shop at Disney Studios, but were paid for and privately owned by Walt through Retlaw Enterprises, Inc. All other engines running at domestic Disney parks are vintage Baldwins, including Engine No. 5 now under extensive renovation at Disneyland.

After their long trek, the Fort Wilderness trains began to arrive in California on October 23 at the doorsteps of Society members who had formed Carolwood Pacific Holdings, LLC. The group includes Michael Campbell, Bob Babcock, Downs Prior, Bill Dundas and Luther Hunter. They assumed responsibility for restoring the colorful nine-ton steam locomotives and passenger coaches. At this writing, three of the locomotives and several coaches are in various stages of restoration, which will likely continue for a period of several years.

Four saddle tank steam engines and twelve of the original twenty passenger coaches were saved. The other eight coaches were disposed of in various ways over the years since the line ceased operating in 1978. The rise and fall of the Fort Wilderness Railroad is chronicled in Broggie's book, *Walt Disney's Railroad Story*, published by Pentrex Media Group.

In 1994, during one of Broggie's research trips to WDW, Society member and WDW cast member Dan Chesmicka, led him to the long-absent trains,

(Continued on page 4)

Walt's Carolwood Barn Update

Griffith Park—A new concrete pathway and quarter-scale automatic crossing guard equipment are among several improvements donated by the Walt Disney Family Foundation that add to the ambiance, safety and comfort for visitors to Walt Disney's Carolwood Barn.

Under Barn Crew Chief Terry Lynn and his wife, Robbin Hunt, Society volunteers have been hosting up to 250 visitors on a single Sunday afternoon. Walt's Barn is open for public tours from 11 am to 3 pm on the third Sunday of each month, which coincides with the operation of the stationary Steam Demonstration Plant by the Los Angeles Live Steamers. Plans are to begin expanding the Barn's operating schedule as weather and awareness improves.

John Smith, an electrical contractor who is a board member of LALS and a member of the Society, installed the new crossing guard equipment. Scale Products of Bayfield, Colorado was the supplier of the crossing gates and support equipment. John's electrical handiwork is evident throughout the twenty-seven acre park-like railroad facility that provides nearly five

miles of trackage for large-scale miniature live steam and garden gauge G-scale models.

Other improvements include a split rail fence that replicates fencing at the Disney family's Carolwood home. Bill Abel, the general contractor who performed the dismantling and restoration of Walt's Barn in 1999 installed the fencing.

A disabled person's concrete parking space and wheelchair ramp have been installed near the Barn's access pathway. Society member Bill Barbe coordinated the activation and crew training for the intrusion and fire sensing alarm system.

Society Governor and Architect Miguel Fernandez provided all engineering drawings for the improvements donated by the Walt Disney Family Foundation. Miguel also provided the design for a numbered souvenir ticket that is given to each Barn visitor.

Walt's Barn is on loan to the City of Los Angeles by the Walt Disney Family Foundation, which agreed to move it from its original site at the Disney's Carolwood Drive home to the LALS facilities in Griffith Park. Walt was a charter member of the railroad club. After Walt died in 1966, the half-mile of track from his Carolwood Pacific Railroad was donated to the LALS. The club designated the trackage as the "Disney Loop."

A new sound system will provide

for announcements, presentations and music.

Special events that were held over the past several months include appearances by "Engineer Bill" Stulla of "Red Light-Green Light" fame, Original Mousekateer Bobby Burgess, "Engineer Santa," Imagineers Bob Gurr, Morrie Houser, Rollie Peterson and Roger Broggie, Jr., and Society Governors Ward Kimball and Ollie Johnston.

Several elaborate displays have been provided by Society member Doug Marsh, including a vintage Mousekateer exhibit and a Christmas tree decorated with rare Disneyana collectables. Terry Lynn, Jon Newbill, Bill Barbe and others, installed thousands of lights for a one-night lighting ceremony during the holiday season. Pictures of their achievement are on the Society Web site: www.carolwood.com.

LALS members give the public free rides on highly detailed 1/12 and 1/8 scale railroad equipment every Sunday, weather permitting. All contributions collected at the Barn from visitors are donated to the LALS.

Robbin Hunt, who created its design, has donated another five thousand copies of a full-color Barn brochure with several revisions.

Volunteers for the Barn Crew are asked to contact Terry Lynn at highgreen@earthlink.net, or 760-780-



Engineer Bill Stulla and daughter Kathy tour Walt's Carolwood Barn with Michael and Sharon Broggie.



A new concrete path and 1/4 scale crossing guards have been provided by the Disney Family Foundation.

Make your reservation now

Marceline is Planning a Party... And, Inviting the World!

On Sept. 21-23, the place to be is Marceline, Missouri, for the 100th Birthday Celebration of Walt Disney. For the first time in the small town's long history, it's tossing a birthday party for one of its own and inviting the world. The reason? Well, Marceline just happens to be the boyhood home of Walt and the place he later described as having the most impact on his life.

He wrote in 1938: "To tell the truth, more things of importance happened to me in Marceline than have happened since—or are likely to in the future."

Later, in his cartoon characters, and selected stories he chose for feature motion pictures, the influence of his boyhood on the 40-acre farm in Marceline is obvious.

We know that his first venture into show business was his ill-fated barn circus that he and sister Ruth produced for the kids in the neighborhood. The family

cat, the pig and goat dressed in Ruth's doll clothes didn't measure up to the ten-cent price of admission. Walt's mother, Flora, made him refund the money and taught him a valuable lesson about exceeding the audience's expectations.

This, and many Disney adventures will be recreated and highlighted during the three-day celebration. Of particular interest to Society members will be the old-fashioned barn raising that will be performed on the boyhood farm owned by Society members Wally and Kaye Malins.

The original plans for Walt's Carolwood Barn are being provided for the special event. In one day, the barn will be constructed by volunteer neighbors and friends, as was done often across the Midwest during the last 100 years. Abundant food and beverages were a tradition and will again be part of the barn-building festivities.

Marceline is one of many towns developed by the great national railroad network. This town was the creation of the Santa Fe Railway. The line stretched from Kansas City to Fort Madison, Iowa, and every thirty minutes a train used to ramble through the town. One of the operating engineers was Walt's Uncle Mike Martin, who liked to stay at the Disney's farm on stopovers. A group of Marceline civic leaders, headed by Society member Rush Johnson, is renovating the old Santa Fe Depot and turning it into a railroad and Disney museum.

For more information on this quaint and historic little town that was Walt's inspiration for Disneyland's Main Street USA, visit Marceline's website: www.WD100birthday.com.

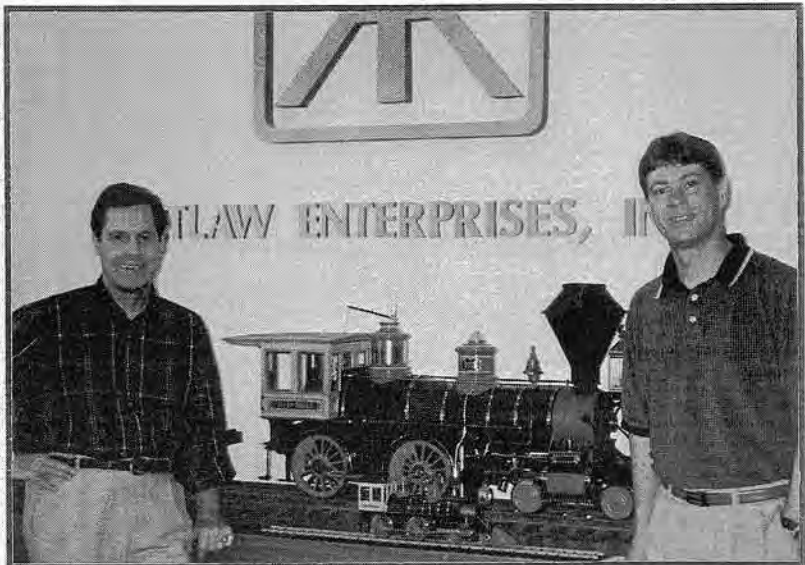
Look for the insert in this Chronicle for your opportunity to support Marceline's Birthday Celebration by creating your own "Window on Main Street USA."

Lilly Belle Scale Model Engine Selling Well

Disneyland—A line stretched down Main Street USA here Oct. 8, 2000, when Walt Disney's *Lilly Belle* engine premiered at the Disneyana Shop.

It's manufactured by Hartland Locomotive Works as a garden gauge (1:24) electric-powered model. On the first day, one hundred models were sold of the limited edition of 1,500 worldwide. Since, over half of the total edition has been acquired through the Disney Parks, catalogue and Galleries.

Anyone interested in the Carolwood Pacific RR freight cars including a boxcar, gondola and cattle car, and Walt's famous yellow caboose, should contact the Society. Prototypes of the freight cars will be displayed at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Museum in Simi Valley, May 13-



Michael Broggie and Society member and graphics designer Mike Lima visit Retlaw Enterprises to compare two scale models of Walt's Lilly Belle engine.

Michael Campbell photo

Team Effort Saves Ft. Wilderness Trains

(Continued from page 1)

which had been stashed in a bone yard at Walt Disney World to await an uncertain fate. With rusting metal and peeling paint, the sight of this once-proud rolling stock galvanized the idea for the Society to save the Fort Wilderness Railroad.

Upon returning to California and discussing the situation with fellow Society Governor Downs Prior, Broggie contacted Marty Sklar, vice chairman at Walt Disney Imagineering, to discuss obtaining the equipment. This contact led to Jayne Alcorn, a senior Imagineer at WDW and the person responsible for props at the sprawling Florida resort. Sklar and Alcorn became advocates of the Society's salvage mission. And, according to Broggie, the Society's mission would have been doomed without their support.

In addition to Sklar and Alcorn, the Society is indebted to many members of senior management at Walt Disney World and Walt Disney Imagineering including Dick Nunis, Bob Kneckt, Cecil Robinson, Obie Bell, Rick Carmean, Richard Jones, Bob Harpur, and Michael Feldman who repre-

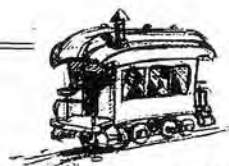
sented Disney in the negotiations. Within the Society, Ward Kimball, Michael McQueen, Bill Norred, Bill Dundas, Michael Campbell, Downs Prior and Michael Broggie are commended for their active involvement, assuring these icons of Disney history were salvaged and eventually will be restored to their original appearance.

Unique recognition is due George Britton, for his years of watching over the equipment and safeguarding numerous irreplaceable items and parts that began to disappear soon after the trains were put out of service in 1978. Much more than a highly capable steam train shop foreman, George has a genuine passion for the steam-powered Disney equipment he and his small crew have maintained for more than three decades.

In the spirit of Walt Disney, and because many cared, big smiles were brought to a group of Society members who have "high iron" in their blood.

Anyone interested in volunteering time to support this restoration effort is encouraged to contact the Society.

Contributors: Michael Campbell, Bill Dundas



Clockwise from top: One of eight trucks leaves Walt Disney World; George Britton takes a last look before the equipment is loaded; strapped down for long journey; off-loading at Michael Campbell's home in California.

(Continued from page 1)

Valley off the 23 or 118 Freeways.
Phone 800-410-8354.

Track 2

The Big Train Show Aboard the Queen Mary, Long Beach, CA

Tours: June 7-8 • Show June 9-10
The world's largest selling G-Gauge Garden Railway Train Show returns for an exciting four-day program of tours, socials, clinics and 60,000 square feet of railroading exhibits. On Sunday, June 10 there will be a Brogue book signing at the Hartland Locomotive Works exhibit. Check information on www.bigtrainshow.com.
Queen Mary Hotel: 800-437-2934
Exhibit info: 949-770-4856

Track 3

NFFC National Convention "2001: A Disneyana Odyssey" July 18-21

Crown Plaza Resort Hotel, Anaheim, CA

Visit the official CPHS display on Sunday, July 21, noon to 5 pm, at the huge Disneyana Show & Sale. For more information call the NFFC: 714-731-4705 or visit www.nffc.org

Napa Valley Wine Tour Continues Popular Tradition



Napa, CA—Among favorite pastimes of Society members is enjoying California wines. Past activities include two trips to Fess Parker's winery at Los Olivos, north of Santa Barbara.

Since the early 1980s, Ron and Diane Disney Miller have operated Silverado Winery in Napa Valley.

This past year, they redeveloped much of the original winery into a beautiful cut stone complex of buildings housing state of the art wine making equipment. Final facility to be completed was a visitor's center. The Society "volunteered" to be its first test group. Later all enjoyed dinner aboard the Napa Valley Wine Train, owned by members Vincent and Millie DeDomenico. All agreed the Napa Valley Wine Tour was great!

Napa Valley Wine Train Reservations:
707-253-2160.

Silverado Winery: 707-257-1770.

Track 4

Ward Kimball Engine Dedication Late Summer 2001

Disneyland Park

Ward Kimball becomes the namesake for Disneyland Engine No. 5, the first steam engine to be added to the Park since July 25, 1959. Dedication plans for the 1904 Baldwin loco and special commemorative merchandise will be announced.

Track 5

Official Disneyana Convention Sept. 4 - 8

Disneyland Resort Hotel

After five years at Walt Disney World, The Walt Disney Company's official Disneyana Convention returns to Anaheim to celebrate the new Disneyland California Adventure themed resort. A special limited edition G-scale model of Walt's Carolwood Pacific yellow caboose will be offered to only 500 attendees. It will have an exclusive Walt Disney Centennial imprint.

Track 6

Walt's 100th Birthday Party Sept. 21-23

Marceline, Missouri

Celebrate the 100th anniversary of Walt Disney's birth at historic Marceline, Missouri: Walt's boyhood home and the inspiration for Main Street USA at Disneyland. Special commemoratives are being created for this historic event, which include the opening of the new museum at the renovated Marceline

Railroad Depot featuring Disney family heirlooms. For info visit: www.WD100birthday.com

For room reservations call: 888-317-8290

For celebration info: 660-376-9258

Track 7

Disney Legend Awards Dec. 5-10 am

Walt Disney Studios, Burbank

On this special day, exactly 100 years after the birth of Walt, the company he co-founded will continue its annual tradition of honoring those who created the magic and contributed to the success of The Walt Disney Company. Award ceremony will be followed by a tour of Walt's Carolwood Barn in Griffith Park.

Track 8

Walt Disney's Carolwood Barn

11 am - 3 pm every third Sunday until June, then each first and third Sunday

LA Live Steamers at Griffith Park

Featuring the large-scale miniature railroad hobby of Walt and highlighting his personal workshop—the birthplace of Imagineering. Special guest appearances. Free parking and admission. All donations benefit the LA Live Steamers.

Please check the official Society Web site for updates: www.carolwood.com. Click on F11 to get a full screen.



Last July, Debbie Campbell, her dad Ken Judy and Michael Campbell prepare for a "blind tasting" of wines on the eve of the Society's tour of Silverado Winery and a gourmet dinner aboard the Napa Valley Wine Train.

Carolwood Chronicle

News Along the Fair Weather Route

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Membership information is available by contacting the Society above or www.carolwood.com

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Walt Disney Family Foundation, Inc

**View from the Cupola**

This edition of your Chronicle carries a variety of features relating to the centennial celebration of Walt Disney's birth. According to sources at Walt Disney World, the major promotional theme beginning this October and continuing throughout 2002 will be Walt's 100th birthday.

The folks who run Marceline, Missouri, have been planning for Walt's birthday celebration for several years. It's become the rallying point for a general improvement plan for the town that is the prototype for Main Street USA at Disneyland Park. Leading the effort are Society members Kaye Malins and her parents, Rush and Inez Johnson.

Walt and Rush became friends during a series of visits Walt made to Marceline. According to Rush, Walt wanted to create a showcase farm designed for visitors to discover the life he experienced as a farm boy in Marceline. The Johnsons acquired the forty-acre farm that Elias and Flora Disney owned and their daughter Kaye and her family live in the farmhouse. Walt's bedroom is preserved in the period of the early 1900s when he was there.

Nearly eight years ago your scribe began doing research to discover if the public was interested in Walt's personal life and his abiding interest in railroading. There was no way to forecast the overwhelming reaction of people willing to support your Society's goal to preserve the personal life story of Walt and celebrate his legacy of steam railroad preservation.

A few days ago, I had the opportunity to attend a premiere of a television feature documentary titled "Walt: Man Behind the Myth," produced by Walt's family. A review of the production appears elsewhere. Suffice to say, it was courageous to take on such a demanding project due to the high level of regard for the subject—and the extent of misinformation that exists. In short, the family wants to set the record straight, and they do.

Please forgive the lateness of this edition. This space is too small to explain all the reasons. Oh, by the way, if you would like to volunteer to help produce the Chronicle, let us know.

Thank You & Happy Rails!
Michael Broggie