



Carolwood Pacific Room Dedicated at WDW

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The Iron Spike Room inside The Villas at Wilderness Lodge in Walt Disney World has officially become the Carolwood Pacific Room, marking a seven year labor of love for Michael Broggie, co-founder of the Carolwood Society and Foundation.

"This is a proud day for me," Michael said at the recent renaming ceremony, "and it was a long time coming."

To understand the significance of the new name, you have to start at the beginning. From 1950-1953, Walt Disney transported friends and family through his sprawling backyard in Holmby Hills, CA, on a 1/8th scale train dubbed the *Carolwood Pacific Railroad* (named for the street on which the home was located). With more than 2,615 feet of track, intricately detailed cars and a big red barn that served as a private workshop, the backyard railroad was Walt's "happy place."

Young Roger, Jr. and Michael Broggie, whose father, Roger, was a studio precision machinist who helped build Walt's railroad, were among few children outside of the Disney family to ride aboard the *Carolwood Pacific*.

"I vividly remember my first ride, straddling one of those freight cars as it rocked back and forth," Michael recalled. "I remember entering a long tunnel, which was absolutely pitch-black. You could hear the chuffing of the engine echoing off of this long tunnel. You could smell and taste the coal smoke. You could feel the vibration of the track. Walt had created an experience that excited every one of your senses."

Soon, Walt was chasing a new dream, imagining a world in which audiences wouldn't just watch stories unfold on screen but become part of those stories through three-dimensional, multi-sensory experiences. To make it happen, Walt

began casting what would become known as Imagineers, starting with Roger Broggie.

While Walt and his team would go through many ideas before *Disneyland Park* opened its gates, one thing was certain. "I just want it to look like nothing else in the world," Walt said. "And it should be surrounded by a train."

The team stayed "on track," and on June 18, 1955, Walt took his first ride aboard his *Santa Fe & Disneyland Railroad*, with an excited young Michael Broggie as his "fireman." (The Park opened to the public on July 18, 1955.)

Decades later, with trains surrounding Disney Parks across the globe, Michael helped Imagineers assemble a detailed collection of *Carolwood Pacific Railroad* artifacts for the main gathering space at The Villas at Disney's Wilderness Lodge. When the resort opened in 2000, everything was perfect. Almost.

"The Iron Spike room name fit the railroad theme, but I wanted to see the name truly represent the backyard railroad that played such an important role in Disney history," Michael said.

Remembering the "four Cs" Walt taught him during the early *Disneyland* years (Curiosity, Confidence, Courage and Constancy), Michael worked through the years with Imagineers such as Wing Chao to change the name to the Carolwood Pacific Room.

"It looks fantastic," Michael said as he unveiled one of two brass signs bearing the new moniker. "This is the real deal."



(Source: Disney Files Magazine, Spring 2008, Vol. 17, No. 1)

Note: Guided tours are available by appointment by contacting Disney's Wilderness Lodge.

Moving?
 Don't forget to notify us of your new contact information. Please email our Webmaster at Dave@carolwood.org

Welcome New and Renewing Members!

The Carolwood Pacific Historical Society is enriched by its many wonderful members. New and renewing members from September 1, 2007 are:

Marilyn, Clark and Lilliana Olson, Rosemount, MN
 Robert Bullock, Somerset, United Kingdom
 David Mauer, Flushing, NY
 Linden Robertson, Rolling Hills Estates, CA
 William L. Kohn, McHenry, IL
 Jim Salvano, Longwood, FL
 Jan Boyce, Lititz, PA
 Erick Kanter, Westwood, NJ
 John Uzzalino, West Paterson, NJ
 Oscar Urrutia, Chatsworth, CA
 Jason Knapp, Solana Beach, CA
 Jack & Rosemary Santos, Visalia, CA
 Mark & Carol McClaran, Orange, CA
 William & Sheila Perry, Centerville, IA
 Michael Ruth, Schenectady, NY
 Robert Fendler, Simi Valley, CA
 Walter Atigian, Epping, NY
 Alan R. Alvarez, San Diego, CA
 Jeremy Szydlowski, Painesville, OH
 Daniel Williams, Innisfil, Ontario
 Steven King, Ramona, CA
 Stephen Budrow, Loomis, CA
 Bruce Lau, Burbank, CA
 Ron Strauser, Coos Bay, OR
 Donald Burt, Whitehouse Station, NJ
 Michael Gold, Elmhurst, IL
 Carl F. Schmoyer III, Breinigsville, PA
 Gerald W. Abreu, Granite Bay, CA
 Paul M. Newitt, Davis, CA
 Tammy Huntress, La Mesa, CA
 Richard Mastanich, Los Angeles, CA
 Steve M. Valencia, Los Angeles, CA
 John & Sidney DiDomenico, Plumas Lake, CA
 Joe Burns, San Luis Obispo, CA
 David Bell, Los Angeles, CA
 Ron Fauset, San Diego, CA
 Thomas Walton, Dana Point, CA
 Daniel R. Schofield, Rosemead, CA
 David Link, Anaheim, CA
 Richard Todd, Norge, VA
 Brian Kling, Orange, CA
 Alan & Sandy Sadwin, Wantagh, NY
 Edward Pressnell, Livermore, CA
 Barbara K. Schiller, Fullerton, CA
 Lynn & Ryan Anderson, Chesterfield, VA
 Victoria Lynne Heim, Colorado Springs, CO
 Larry & Linda Dreyer, Napa, CA
 Russell Warr, Castaic, CA
 Alan Adler, Visalia, CA
 Peter Vassler, Hillsboro, OR

Thomas Maier, Rio Rancho, NM
 Robert Lasoff, Milton, MA
 Jennifer Bowen, Coggon, IA
 Bill H. Colley, Ignacio, CO
 Michael Forrester, Kennesaw, GA
 Curtis L. Skatvold, Kansas City, MO
 Fr. Anthony J. Giuliano, Staten Island, NY
 John Formia, Agua Dulce, CA 91390
 Charles Gardner, Oronogo, MO
 Dean Gerber, Del Haven, NJ
 John A. Moe, II, La Cañada, CA
 Rodd & Francille Peters, Stockton, CA
 Steve Dessert & Joan Stephens, Camarillo, CA
 Christopher Dolciato, Hudson, OH
 Jim Manley, Anthem, AZ
 Paula Hartnett, Weymouth, MA
 Ken Brethauer, Everett, WA
 Robert Perrine, Sherman Oaks, CA
 George Koerner, Palo Alto, CA
 Steven Ng, Marina, CA
 Rich, Carol & Michael Koster

Welcome Aboard!



For information on the dates below,
 please contact: www.nffc.org

April 14 - 17 — Tokyo Disneyland 25th Anniversary
 July 13 — Charles Phoenix Tour of Downtown LA
 July 15—19 — 2008 California Convention
 July 20 — California Show and Sale
 August 16—17 — NFFC On Broadway Weekend

Welcome Aboard the Lilly Belle Coach
~ By Dudley Stone

In October I was called to the Disneyland Hotel to attend the 136th Annual Session of the California Medical Association. I had not been there for a Halloween event before and found it to be quite a lot of fun.

As required by our membership in the Carolwood Historical Society, we rode the trains (a lot!!). On one occasion a cast member noticed that we were paying a lot of attention to an antique car at the end of the consist (*Lilly Belle*). We were invited to ride in it! Thank you for whatever you might have had to do with this. The enclosed images document our trip.

It turned out that we knew more about the history of the car than the cast member who was giving us the tour. He said he had just started working at Disneyland. He was working on the trains because he had requested them. He had no knowledge of the Carolwood Historical Society, so it was my pleasure to tell him all about it! He said he was going to look it up on the Website during his lunch break. I hope he has joined by now. By the way, the older cast member that day told me: "Tell those Carolwood guys the tracks need oiling." I don't know exactly what he meant by that but I thought I should pass it on.



The *Ward Kimball* engine was on duty that day.



Dr. Dudley Stone and friends enjoy a ride in the *Lilly Belle* coach at Disneyland.

New Carolwood Additions . . .
~ By Michael Campbell

The Carolwood Pacific Historical Society is pleased to give you a sneak peak at three new products:

We will soon start accepting orders for the electric version of the *Fort Wilderness Railroad* trains. Produced by Accucraft, these brass and stainless steel 1:24 scale models run on Gauge 1 track. In addition to being electrically operated, we have made over 20 cosmetic improvements to the live steam version, which is sold out. We will publish the prices on the Carolwood Website as soon as we have that information. Delivery is hoped to be by the end of 2008 (unfortunately, we cannot guarantee Christmas delivery). Unlike the live steam version, this edition is open-ended; however, we will only produce as many as are ordered and cannot predict when we may produce more.

In addition, another first! A faithful 1:24 scale recreation of the Kalamazoo handcar presented to Walt Disney by Jerry Best. The original is prominently displayed in front of Main Street Station at Disneyland. Delivery of the production version in painted brass by Accucraft is expected mid-2009. We will publish the price as well as photos of the engineering sample as soon as they are available later this year.

Please check our Website at www.carolwood.org for updates about both of these new offerings. We will also send an e-mail announcement to our members that we will accept reservations.

In addition, the Society is proud to present a limited edition (100 only) of the world's first *Peter Pan's Flight* Commemorative. It features a genuine cross section of track from the overhead trackage used to build *Peter Pan's Flight* in 1955, attached to the wood frame and removable, along with artwork styled after the original attraction poster as a background. Matted and covered by UV protective Plexiglas®, this piece is a "must have" for collectors. \$160 each (includes Member's discount) plus \$20 packing and shipping.

As a side note, only four G-scale Ernest S. Marsh engines by Hartland Locomotive Works remain in inventory at \$425 each plus \$25 shipping and handling.



Item of interest:

Did you know that, if a Disneyland Cast Member does something that is above and beyond his/her function, you can go to City Hall and recommend that the CM gets a Cast Member commendation?

~ Thanks to Disneyland Barn Crew Member John Fennell for this information.

The World's Greatest Hobby on Tour



Crowds at The World's Greatest Hobby on Tour flock to Michael's presentations.



In Sacramento, CA, the third Disney presentation of that day did go just a little long . . . (photo conspiracy by Darrell Holmquist & Michael Campbell)

Barn Report

By Fred Lack III

Sunday, February 17th, was the busiest day in the history of Walt's Barn at Griffith Park. 494 guests took part on that brisk, sunny day. Six volunteers initially started the day with three more being added to help assist the crowd. General visitors were joined by cast members from Disneyland. Bill Barbe qualified that day as an engineer for the Los Angeles Life Steamers joining Jon Newbill and Fred Lack III as qualified engineers with LALS.

Ollie's Depot received a fresh coat of paint leaving the only things remaining to be done: the installation of the gingerbread molding on top of the Depot, putting Plexiglas in the windows and placing the special bricks around the foundation.

We are all looking forward to March as the weather should be nice going into spring. **MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH!** There are a limited amount of volunteers presently working these Sundays and rotating them around to different stations and covering lunch is difficult. Volunteers are needed for the front gate, the railroad crossing and inside the Barn itself. Others are needed for merchandise sales and directing guests, and also to present the history of the Barn.

As a special incentive – volunteer twice at the Barn and receive a year's complimentary membership to the Carolwood Pacific Historical Society. Our regular volunteers are also invited to special events that others are not privy to, as an additional 'thank you' for their services

Please see the Calendar for special information about Ollie's Depot.



Item of interest: Most of you know by now that the telephone company discontinued their correct time service some months ago. Well, never fear. The Internet has come to the rescue. The railroad General Code of Operating Rules (nicknamed GCOR) used by all railroads now, requires we keep our watches correct within 30 seconds of the standard clock. So here is how I do it. I go to this Website and there it is, to the second!! I have it in my Favorite Places so I can go right to it. Enjoy!

www.time.gov/timezone.cgi?Pacific/d/-8/java (for Pacific time, of course).

~ Contributed by Earl Nickles, a volunteer working on the trains and trolleys at the Orange Empire Railway Museum and is the regular barber on the private rail car, Overland Trail.)

The Mail Car

I recently received your holiday card, calendar and newsletter. It was a great reminder of the time I spent at Disneyland and, of course, of the Disney railroad heritage. Give my regards to those at the roundhouse — I miss stopping by there for a cup of coffee and to catch up on the latest train news. I always tell people that it wasn't my decision to restore the *Lilly Belle* coach; the roundhouse crew had already made that decision and just politely beat me up until I agreed to it.

I wish you well. Happy New Year.

~ Matt Ouimet

~ White Plains, NY

Matt was president of Disneyland Resort--Ed

If we had not received the winter *Carolwood Chronicle* we would have not known about the event at the Nixon Presidential Library. My wife and I went last Friday and enjoyed the train displays and layouts. It rates as one of the best we have seen.

We spent our 40th anniversary at Walt Disney World from November 8th through November 19th. We had a great time and my wife surprised me by booking the Magic of Steam Trains Tour to the roundhouse. Our tour guide told us about the room at the Wilderness Lodge dedicated to the Carolwood Pacific. We went there twice and took a number of pictures. That was an extra bonus on our trip. Thank you.

~ Eugene and Barbara Davilla

~ Beaumont, CA

Just a quick note to let you know that *Lilly Belle* model engine has arrived, safe and sound. I tracked progress on the UPS Website, quite a complicated route to the UK: Oakland-Louisville-Philadelphia-East Midlands Airport UK-Exeter-Burnham-on-Sea. It would have traveled down the M5 motorway overnight from the Midlands to Exeter then back up to Burnham this morning. I can see the M5 from our house! However, very good service, the loco was with me before lunch today. I have spent an hour this evening just looking at *Lilly Belle*. Absolutely wonderful! Thanks for all your help. I will keep in touch,

~ Bob Bullock

~Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, UK

It was nice to have a chance to meet Michael Broggie last weekend at the Railroad show in Schaumburg, IL. I enjoyed his presentation very much.

It is great nostalgia to hear stories of Walt's life, his railroad and the early days of Disneyland (even though I was only born within a year or so of Walt's passing). I still have images in my mind of visiting Disneyland and riding the railroad there at a very young age and remembering it as a magical place. I remember my father attempting to build a live steam "American" model just like Walt Disney's backyard railroad when I was a youngster (my father was a machinist and model shop tech throughout his life, similar to your father).

I have enjoyed reading his *Walt Disney's Railroad Story* many times over. Previously I had spent many hours trying to find pictures and information about Walt's backyard railroad to no avail. It was very much appreciated to have the extensive compilation of pictures, history and stories of Walt's backyard railroad contained in his book. It

sounds like he had a fun time growing up. I think it is great that he is "passing along" his in-depth knowledge, intimate stories and legacy of a man who has touched many lives. Many thanks.

~ Mike Prior

~ Lake Zurich, IL

Many thanks to the Society for all you've done to preserve the legacy of Walt and those who worked close to him. Because of your work and dedication, I have been given the chance to learn, socialize and be entertained in areas that otherwise would not have been available to me. I also appreciate the personal time given to me when I first joined the Carolwood Society. You made me feel welcome from the start and through your events I have met many wonderful people. When Blaine Gibson was a guest at Walt's Barn, I was able to meet him. I now have a card from him signed with a Mickey profile, which he drew. It is one of my most prized possessions. My wife Tami and I look forward to the next opportunity to visit with Society members.

~ Lon Dreyer

~ Napa, CA

In the summer of '05 I got the chance to visit Walt's Barn. My husband is an avid train enthusiast and I love everything Disney and have since I was a child. Walt's love of trains is how we tie our hobbies together. When we took Amtrak to California in '05 we planned our entire trip to be sure we were there on the 3rd Sunday so we could visit the Barn. The day we went, Michael Broggie was there. I was SO EXCITED! I purchased his book when it came out (I was working at a Disney Store near here at the time) and meeting someone who knew Walt was amazing!

~ Jennifer Bowen

~ Coggon, IA

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**Christmas at
 Walt's Barn**

From left, back row: Joseph Jamarillo, Michael Broggie, Bill Barbe, Fred Lack, Herb Dymond, Nathan Eick.

From left, front row: "Santa" Doug Marsh, Cameron Stewart & John Mitchell.

Each year a pot luck is enjoyed during this seasonal celebration.



Special guest Jacques Valin, retired background artist for Disney, displays his oil painting of Walt's Barn to Michael Broggie.



These are new Carolwood Foundation pins designed by Bob Lemberger celebrating the *Grand Canyon* car that became the *Lilly Belle* VIP Coach that has been restored and is in service at Disneyland, and Ollie Johnston's Depot that now resides near Walt's Barn in Griffith Park. They are \$10 each plus \$2.95 shipping. Contact the Carolwood Foundation at merchandise@carolwood.org to order.

Carolwood Event Planner

April 20 — Walt Disney Barn open 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

April 26 — National Garden Railway Convention — Chandler, AZ

May 17 — Private dedication of Ollie's Depot at Walt's Barn, Griffith Park. CPHS Barn volunteers, and invited guests *only*— 12 noon. Donors invited through written invitation

May 18 — Walt Disney Barn open 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. — Dedication of Ollie's Depot at 1 p.m. All are invited.

May 22 — National Railway Historical Society annual meeting — Orlando, FL

Morning Lakeville Elementary School presentation with Michael Broggie

May 23 thru May 25 — Carolwood Event — Memorial Weekend at Strasburg, PA (for info contact Mike Venezia 732-239-9960)

June 15 — Walt Disney Barn open 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

June 28 & 29 — The World's Greatest Hobby on Tour in Louisville, KY at Kentucky International Convention Center (Free admission for Society members and guests — contact scbroggie@msn.com for tickets)

July 18, 20 — National Model Railroad Association Convention — Anaheim, CA

July 20 — Walt Disney Barn open 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

July 20 — NFFC, Anaheim, CA — Show and Sale (see page 2 for more NFFC events)

October 16, 17, 18 and 19 — Un-Meeting in Florida. Beginning with a kick-off dinner Thursday at Downtown Disney (for more details visit the calendar on www.carolwood.com)

Ollie Johnston's Depot Lives On

By Bob Lemberger

According to Ken Johnston, Ollie's youngest son, the little yellow Depot in the backyard may have been built as early as 1949 when the family purchased the home, or even as late as 1951. Either way, there is no doubt that the station was seen by Walt Disney when he visited Ollie's home. Therefore, it was important to the Carolwood Foundation that when the opportunity came to acquire the Depot, restore it and place it near Walt's Barn in Griffith Park, we jumped at the chance. It was a fluke, a series of coincidences, or maybe just some of that "Disney magic" that led to the Depot winding up within fifty feet of that famous Barn.

I was at Barn day in February 2007 when I approached Steve Waller who was in charge of Barn displays and was doing a little rearranging near the Ward Kimball items. He commented to me that it was "too bad we don't have more of Ollie's stuff as he and his backyard railroad had a major influence on Walt building the *Carolwood Pacific Rail-*

road." I had to agree. About an hour later a visitor walked up and asked me a question about the Barn. After talking for a while, I discovered that Oscar Orrutia actually knew Ollie quite well. Amazingly, it was a case of serendipity as Oscar was nowhere around when Steve and I had our conversation earlier! I asked Oscar if he could possibly help us obtain some objects for the Barn. On the following Tuesday, Oscar called asking me if I could meet him at Ollie's home on the following Thursday. On our approach to Ollie's home, I could see remnants of where the little train had once run. Ollie's son Ken joined us and showed us some of Ollie's pictures and some of the train memorabilia. Ollie was there and seemed very pleased that some of his articles were going to be presented in Walt's Barn.

As we walked around the property, following the train's path, Ken told us some stories of his childhood and what he remembered about the trains. He also explained that the family was going to take Ollie to Washington State where the family lived and that

the property was to be sold. Asking Ken what would happen to the Depot, he grabbed a corner of the roof and shook it causing soot and debris to fall from the rotted and termite damaged wood. Ken thought it was probably junk. At that point I inquired as to whether he would consider donating it to the Foundation so that we might restore it and find a suitable home for it. Ken promised to talk to his brother, Ted, and get back to me.

After a week, Ken did call me and told me that the family had decided to donate the Depot, however, that we would have to remove it soon, as the house was being put up for sale. I phoned Bill Barbe, president of the Carolwood Foundation, and asked him if we could find a temporary place for the Depot while we figured out what we could do with it. Bill hired Lloyd Davis, a Los Angeles Live Steam member and master carpenter, to remove the Depot. We quickly decided that the perfect place for the Depot was as near as possible to Walt's Barn. After lobbying LALS, we were given permission to place the Depot on a permanent concrete foundation adjacent to the Barn, where it now resides.



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*"We don't have boring meetings
~ we just do fun events!"*

VIEW FROM THE CUPOLA BY MICHAEL BROGGIE

An important change was undertaken by the Carolwood Foundation board of directors when it met on January 19. By unanimous vote, the board selected six of its members to serve two-year terms as officers on an Operating Committee (OC). The remaining nine members will serve as advisors to the OC.

Officers are Bill Barbe, president; Fred Lack III, vice president; Larry Varblow, chief financial officer; Debra Turner, secretary; Bob Lemberger, director; and, Nathan Eick, director. Sharon and I will continue as chair emeriti of the Foundation.

The primary function of the OC is to operate Walt's Barn on behalf of Walt Disney's family and to perform other tasks that perpetuate the memory and railroad legacy of Walt Disney. As a prime example of the OC's success is the acquisition and restoration of Ollie Johnston's quarter-scale depot, which was located at the Johnston's home in LaCañada-Flintridge.

From the late 1940s until just a few years ago, Ollie and Marie Johnston were the owners-operators of the LaCañada Valley Railroad and the full-sized narrow gauge Deerlake Park & Julian Railroad in northern

San Diego County. Marie passed away in 2005.

Their home at the foothills of the San Gabriel mountains featured a one-inch (1/12th) scale pike complete with a charming Victorian-era depot that was yellow with white trim and a



Standing next to Ollie's Depot, Michael Broggie shows the scale of the building.

red roof. Over the years, termites and weather had had their way with the wood. It was in need of total restoration. Through the initiative of OC Director Bob Lemberger, the depot was moved to the Los Angeles Live Steamers' area of Griffith Park. (Please see Bob's story on page 7.)

To support the efforts of the Foundation, donations were requested. This was the first fundraising outreach by the none-profit corporation. Not surprisingly, many Carolwood Society members re-

sponded with substantial donations. For a minimum of \$250, donors receive an eight-inch square tile with their name inscribed, which will be permanently placed at the foot of Ollie's depot. A private dedication ceremony will be held at noon on May 17th at Walt's Barn. Barn crew members and invited guests only will attend. A public dedication will be held at 1:00 pm the following day, May 18th, which is a regularly scheduled open day for Walt's Barn.

As of this writing, the following are donors or beneficiaries of donors:

Tom Shafer, Jr., Peter & Patti Finie, Les & Judy Smout Foundation, Ella M. Witter, Marc George Witter & Matthew R. Witter, Gary Oakland,

Bob Gurr, David Krebs, Michael & Sharon Broggie, John Lasseter, Walt Disney Family, Bob Lemberger, Robert, Rita, Robert A. & Daniel Cisneros, Austin Myers, Jim & Nancy Cotterman, Steve Waller, Tony Baxter, Ward & Betty Kimball, Ollie & Marie Johnston, Ken & Carolyn Johnston, Rick & Teya Johnston, Roger Broggie, Fred S. Lack, III, William D. Barbe, James P. Klitch & Family, Michael Campbell Family, Carl & Lois Lehman.

