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## Remembering Roy E. Disney

By Sandy Cohen

LOS ANGELES — Roy E. Disney, the son and nephew of the Walt Disney Co. founders, who twice led shareholder revolts that shook up the family business, died Wednesday, December 16. He was 79. The Walt Disney Co. announced that Disney died in Newport Beach, California after a bout with stomach cancer.

Although he generally stayed out of the spotlight, Roy Disney didn't hesitate to lead a successful campaign in 1984 to oust Walt Disney's son-in-law after concluding he was leading the company in the wrong direction. Nearly 20 years later, he launched another successful shareholders revolt, this time against Michael Eisner, the man he'd helped bring in after the previous ouster.

Disney, born in 1930, had practically grown up with the company. His uncle Walt Disney and his father, Roy O. Disney, had co-founded the Disney Brothers Cartoon Studio seven years before, later renaming it The Walt Disney Co. Two years before he was born, the company gave birth to its iconic cartoon character, Mickey Mouse.

While Walt was the company's creative genius, his brother was the one in charge of the company's finances. Starting in the 1950s, the younger Roy Disney worked



for years in the family business as an editor, screenwriter and producer. Two short films he worked on were nominated for Academy Awards: the 1959 *Mysteries of the Deep*, which he wrote, was nominated as best live action short, and the 2003 film *Destino*, which he produced, was nominated as best animated short.

Despite his heritage, Roy Disney never got the chance to lead the company as his father and uncle had. But as an investor who grew his Disney stock into a billion-dollar fortune, he ultimately had a huge impact on the company's destiny. In 1984, dissatisfied with the leadership Walt's son-in-law Ron Miller was providing, Disney resigned from the company's board of directors and sought investors to back a bid to install new management. His efforts resulted in the hiring of Eisner and Frank Wells, who led the company as a team until Wells died in 1994.

During that time, Disney rejoined the board and rose to become the company's vice chairman and chairman of its animation division, where he helped oversee the

making of such films as 1994's *The Lion King*.

He also became a savvy investor over the years, forming Shamrock Holdings with his friend and fellow Disney board member Stanley Gold in 1978. The fund grew to become a major investor in California real estate, the state of Israel and other entertainment and media companies.

In 2007, Forbes magazine ranked him as the 754th richest person in the world and estimated his fortune at \$1.3 billion. He was not on the list in subsequent years. In his spare time he bought a castle in Ireland and indulged his passion for yacht racing, setting several speed records. For years he was a fixture at the Transpacific Yacht Race between California and Hawaii.

After years of dissatisfaction with Eisner's leadership and the company's lagging stock price, Disney and Gold resigned their board seats in 2003 and launched a shareholder revolt. In his resignation letter, Disney called for Eisner's ouster, complaining that on his watch the company's standards had declined, particularly at theme parks like California's Disneyland and Florida's Walt Disney World. "The Walt Disney Company deserves fresh, energetic leadership at this challenging time in its history just as it did in 1984 when I headed a restructuring which resulted in your recruitment to the company," Disney wrote to Eisner. Initially rebuffed, Disney rallied small investors and enthusiasts who responded to his folksy complaints about peeling paint at the theme parks and his anger at being told he

(Continued on page 4)



The flags fly at half-mast in Castaway Cay for Roy Disney.

## Welcome New and Renewing Members!

**The Carolwood Pacific Historical Society is enriched by its many wonderful members. New and renewing members from November 1, 2009 are:**

Robert Mason, Billerica, MA  
 Leonard Pihlak, Glendora, CA  
 Catherine Van Emon, Villa Park, CA  
 Loreen & Jason Vaughn, Highlands Ranch, CO  
 The Gary Edwards Family, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL  
 Doug & Laurel Hartwell, Sun Valley, CA  
 Mark & Carol McClaron, Orange, CA  
 Michelle Smith, Long Beach, CA  
 Michael & Patricia Schierbaum, Wilmington, DE  
 Eric Woodard, Windermere, FL  
 Brett Wivel, Agua Dulce, CA  
 Raymond, Dorothy & Carole Bauer, El Monte, CA  
 Bob & Cecelia Cable, Redmond, OR  
 Robert Bullock, Burnham-on-Sea, Somerset, United Kingdom  
 Steven & Tammy Walker, Snohomish, WA  
 Ashley Leaphart, Leesville, SC  
 Timothy G. Lyons, Rowland Heights, CA  
 Thomas Allen, Mount Dora, FL  
 Anthony & Linda Friscia, Reno, NV  
 Robert Pierce, Jupiter, FL  
 George Kreis, Woodcliff Lake, NJ  
 David Bogdanchik, Pasadena, CA  
 Steven D. & Mona A. Crandell Hook, Tahoe Vista, CA  
 John Uzzalino, West Paterson, NJ  
 Carl Lehman, Cheltenham, PA  
 Richard Garabedian, Montgomery Village, MD  
 David Manore, Utica, NY  
 Cheryl Hendrickson, Downers Grove, IL  
 Mark Wesley, Placentia, CA  
 Eleonora Duvivier, Madison, WI  
 John Sloane, Celebration, FL  
 Michael Welch, Vacaville, CA  
 Augie Traino, Brea, CA  
 James Prentki, Blue Point, NY  
 Larry Bohn, Manitowoc, WI  
 Kristin Roling, Stoughton, WI  
 Tom W. Shafer, Jr., Los Gatos, CA  
 Bill & Kathy Couture, Anaheim, CA  
 James Kerr, Culver City, CA  
 Mark & Colleen Daddino, Metuchen, NJ  
 David Simms, Palmyra, PA  
 Ronald Hoadley, Easton, PA  
 Randal Ament, Highland, CA  
 Jane Kreis Welch, Vacaville, CA  
 James Lawter, Topeka, KS  
 Randall Mitchell, Miami, FL  
 Jan MacLaury, Falls Church, VA  
 Matt Musgrove, Cockeysville, MD  
 Jim Salvano, Longwood, FL  
 David Arendes, Santa Ana, CA  
 Bill Hartung, Federal Way, WA  
 Ed DeVall, Glendale, CA

Louis Mooney III, La Cañada, CA  
 Art Ramos, Celebration, FL  
 Mark Scheidegger, Kenilworth, NJ  
 Willard Simms, Tarzana, CA  
 Bruce Foote, Gilbert, AZ  
 Matthew Naldzin, Norristown, PA  
 Jeremy Szydlowski, Painesville, OH  
 Edward Pressnell, Livermore, CA  
 Demy & Margaret Riley, Fallbrook, CA  
 Robert Johnson, Ladera Ranch, CA  
 Robinson Thrower, Reno, NV  
 Terry Peterson, Mesa, AZ  
 Douglas Stoll, Timonium, MD  
 Bill Colley, Ignacio, CO  
 Donald & Martha Edmondson, Virginia Beach, VA  
 Erin Gough, Newport Beach, CA  
 Nash Marquez, Long Beach, CA  
 Edward Sanders, Mont Clair, CA  
 Darrell G. Harvey, San Dimas, CA  
 The Lagerquist Family, Newbury Park, CA 91320  
 Brian R. Chavez, Glendale, AZ  
 Gene & Charlene Roske, Lake View Terrace, CA  
 Glenn Bucek, Arlington, VA  
 John A. Moe, II, La Cañada, CA  
 Jane Boyce, Lititz, PA  
 Jason & Carolyn McManus, Newhall, CA  
 Marti King, Oak Park, CA  
 Susan & Errol Crones, Cerritos, CA  
 Richard Mastanich & Steve Valencia, Los Angeles, CA  
 Lynn & Ryan Anderson, Chesterfield, VA  
 Wayne A. Crabb, San Gabriel, CA  
 Catherine Perrone, Celebration, FL  
 John & Becky Reppeto, Keizer, OR  
 Claude McGuire, Addison, IL  
 Diane Schwartz, Salinas, CA  
 Michael Andrade, Fontana, CA  
 Jason & Ann Marie Risdal, Lincoln, CA  
 Hugh Rutherford, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada  
 Sean Casey, Camarillo, CA

During a recent password audit at a company, it was found that a blonde receptionist was using the following password:

*MickeyMinniePlutoHueyDeweyLouieDonaldGoofySacramento*

When asked why she had such a long password, she said she was told that it had to be at least eight characters long and include at least one capital.

## Just a Reminder

By Sharon Broggie

“We don’t have meetings — we just do fun events.”

The only rule that the Carolwood Pacific Historical Society has is that our members ride the steam train whenever visiting a Disney Park. As a refresher, and for those who have not been with us to experience some of our most memorable events, here is a list of some of the fun we’ve enjoyed together, and some of the heartbreak —

- 1997 — Ward Kimball invites CPHS members to his home in San Gabriel, CA  
Walt Disney’s Railroad Story book is published
- 1998 — Walt Disney’s Barn moves to Griffith Park for reconstruction  
Behind the scenes tour of Disney Studios in Burbank, CA — Bob Gurr keynote speaker  
Salute to Fess Parker Winery tour and dinner  
Steam trains honored at Disneyland  
A fond farewell to Mrs. Walt Disney  
Honoring pioneers of Walt’s Carolwood Pacific Railroad  
Napa Valley Wine Train and Silverado Winery visit
- 1999 — CPHS 50th year reunion with Disney Legends  
CA State Railroad Museum hosts Railfair ‘99
- 2000 — Remembering Marc Davis  
Public opening of Walt’s Barn  
Visit to Ollie & Marie Johnston’s miniature La Cañada Railroad  
Ward Kimball locomotive dedication at WDW  
Disney Barn rededicated by Walt’s family  
Fall Napa Valley tour
- 2001 — Fort Wilderness trains come home  
Engineer Bill Stulla visits Walt’s Barn  
Marceline plans a party — and invites the world  
Ronald Reagan Presidential Library & Museum hosts Walt Disney tribute  
Walt’s 100th birthday celebration in Marceline, MO
- 2002 — Tinker Bell day at the Barn with Margaret Kerry and David Pacheco  
Imagineer Legends featured at Walt’s Barn  
Visit to Smoke Tree Ranch  
Roy E. Disney rededicates father’s engine in Walt Disney World  
Ward Kimball remembered  
Exploring treasures of the Sierras (Yosemite)  
Holiday season celebrated at Walt’s Barn  
Disney’s Carolwood train displayed at CA State Railroad Museum  
The Walt Disney Company celebrates Ward Kimball’s life and works
- 2003 — Roger E. Broggie’s locomotive rededicated at WDW  
Napa Valley Wine Train event  
Design the pin contest — won by Glenn Austin
- 2004 — Celebrating John Hench  
Five years of Walt’s Barn at L A Live Steamers  
Ward Kimball’s toy train collection auctioned off  
Rare appearance of Bill Justice  
Second annual Carolwood East un-meeting at WDW  
Tony Baxter home tour announced  
Fort Wilderness coach restoration
- 2005 — Society members tour Tony Baxter’s Gothic Mansion  
John Lasseter surprises Ollie Johnston at Disneyland  
Club 33 fundraiser  
Bill Justice gets “Window on Main Street”  
Of ships and men and sealing wax — Roy E. Disney’s visit to Westlake Yacht Club
- 2006 — Veteran Disney Railroader George Britton retires  
Happy 50th birthday, Disneyland Railroad  
Steam trains at Santa Margarita Ranch  
Rush Johnson and Irving Ludwig remembered  
E. P. Ripley engine honored guest at Fullerton Railroad Days  
Napa Valley/Carolwood Rail & Wine Fest  
Holiday gathering and tour of Ronald Reagan Presidential Library and Air Force One Pavilion  
First dedication run for the Ward Kimball engine at Disneyland  
The Great Locomotive Chase 50th anniversary with Fess Parker in Santa Barbara
- 2007 — Roger Broggie posthumously honored with Disneyland “Window on Main Street”  
Carolwood Foundation established  
A solemn goodbye to Morrie Houser  
Un-meeting in WDW
- 2008 — Michael Broggie dedicates newly renamed Carolwood Pacific Room at Fort Wilderness  
Villas in WDW  
Welcome aboard the Lilly Belle Coach  
Remembering Ollie Johnston  
Ollie Johnston’s Depot lives on in Griffith Park  
Disney loses another legend — Harriet Burns  
A final farewell to the La Cañada Railroad  
Carolwood Society and Foundation honor John Lasseter  
The Walt Disney Family Museum plan announced
- 2009 — Disney Legend Bob Broughton celebrated  
Carolwood Foundation plans to save Walt’s Combine coach  
Rest in peace Wayne Allwine  
Walt’s Barn 10th anniversary celebration  
Remembering Virginia Davis  
Fort Wilderness Cast Railroad reunion in WDW  
Walt Disney Family Museum and St. Francis Yacht Club event

*Continued from page 1* \_\_\_\_\_ would have to leave the board because he was too old. "One of the reasons for my leaving, other than the fact that they fired me, was that I saw that quality slipping away from us," Disney told a 2004 meeting of memorabilia collectors.

Slowly, Disney built support for his cause, and at the company's annual shareholders meeting in 2004 he received a standing ovation. Shareholders eventually delivered an unprecedented rebuke to Eisner, withholding 45 percent of votes cast for his re-election to the board. The chief executive was later stripped of his role as board chairman and announced his retirement in 2005, a year before his contract was up.

Disney initially opposed Eisner's successor, Robert Iger, but they reconciled and in 2005 Iger named Disney a board member emeritus and welcomed him back to company events.

Born in Los Angeles on Jan. 10, 1903, Roy Edward Disney was Roy and Edna Disney's only child. As an adult, he often wore a mustache which gave him a striking resemblance to Walt Disney, his legendary uncle. After graduating from Pomona College in 1951, he briefly worked at NBC as an assistant editor on the "Dragnet" TV series. After joining Disney, he worked on a series of live action short features, including *The Living Desert* and *The Vanishing Prairie*." Disney was also an active philanthropist, supporting the California Institute of the Arts in Valencia, a school founded by his father and uncle. In 1999, he matched a gift from The Walt Disney Co. to establish an experimental theater space as part of the Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles. The theater was named the Roy and Edna Disney-CalArts Theater or Redcat. In 2005, he pledged \$10 million to establish the Roy and Patricia Disney Cancer Center at Providence St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank.

(Photo of Roy E. Disney by Michael Campbell. Ms. Cohen writes for Associated Press.)

## Around the Barn

by Bill Barbe

Well, it is hard to believe 2009 is over and another year at Walt's Barn has begun. It's been an exciting year for us at the Disney Barn. First, I want to congratulate our new "Volunteer of the Year," **Larry Boone**.

Larry is also an LALS member, having recently completed his engineer certification. Larry was chosen Volunteer of the Year because of all the extra work he has put in at the Barn.

In addition to working on Sundays, he wired up the Ollie Johnston Depot with sound and lights, installed exterior phone and power outlets for the Barn souvenir sales and reworked the Barn sound system. He will tackle any project we throw at him. Congratulations, Larry!!

The Barn was open on January 17th for our regular Barn day. We had a supply of brand new railroad themed books that were donated to us by **Michael** and **Sharon Broggie**. We sold them at far below their retail price. Many were worth over \$50.00 and you could have your pick for \$10.00 each. Those of you who came by were able to increase your libraries considerably.

Some of you have expressed an interest in helping out at the Barn. Anyone is welcome. Just come down on a Barn day and find me or **Fred Lack**, and we will get you set up. We will even buy you lunch.

In February we were honored by our special guest, Pam Burns-Clair, the author of "WALT DISNEY'S FIRST LADY OF IMAGINEERING, HARRIET BURNS." Pam was at the Barn autographing copies of her new book, co-authored by Don Peri.

## Summer Movie Night Returns to Walt's Barn

By Steve Waller

Disney Barn Movie Night, hosted by the Carolwood Foundation's Special Events Committee (chaired by **Bob Lemberger**), is scheduled to continue this summer for a fourth season. The 2010 dates, all of which fall on a Saturday, are June 26, July 24 and August 21. Show times vary, but usually the movie starts between 8 and 8:30 pm, or whenever it is dark enough for the projected image. Movie Night is held in conjunction with the Los Angeles Live Steamers' night runs, which gives LALS members a chance to operate their trains after dark.

Disney Barn Movie Night was conceived by Carolwood webmaster Dave Tavres as a way to bring the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum and Carolwood members closer together, and to that extent it has been a great success. The movies presented in the series are railroad-related or have a Disney theme or both. Here is a listing of the films that have been shown so far, starting in June, 2007:

- Walt Disney's *The Great Locomotive Chase* (1956) wide-screen edition
- Walt Disney's *So Dear to My Heart* (1948) hosted by the Disney DVD producers
- 40 Pounds of Trouble* (1962) with special guest star Tom Reese, filmed at Disneyland
- Walt Disney's *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* (1954) wide-screen edition
- The Harvey Girls* (1946) with special guest star Virginia Davis (Alice in Cartoonland))
- Disney's *Bedknobs and Broomsticks* (1971) with special Guest puppeteer Bob Baker
- Disney's *Return to Neverland* (2002) with special guest star Margaret (*Tinker Bell*) Kerry
- Disney's *The Love Bug* (1968) with special guest replica Herbie, the VW Beetle

This event remains free of charge through the use of a loaned video projector, a donated screen and the help of numerous Carolwood volunteers, without whom there would be no movie night.

The screenings are open to LALS and Carolwood members in good standing and their guests. Doors open at 7 pm. Audience members may bring a towel, blanket or folding chair to sit on, plus there is limited bench seating available. Flashlights are recommended, but not required. Watch for future announcements regarding our 2010 Movie Night lineup.

If you would like to suggest a movie to show (especially if you have a special guest contact) or would like to volunteer (donations of equipment gratefully accepted), email **Steve Waller** at this address: [steve@carolwood.org](mailto:steve@carolwood.org).



# MAIL CAR

**Margaret “Tinker Bell” Kerry** was appearing professionally on a seven-day Disney Magic Cruise to the Caribbean and invited me to be her room mate. I had a great time and have included pictures of a happy time over dinner with Captain Thord Haugen at sea near the Caymans and then a picture of the flags at half mast for Roy Disney at Castaway Cay. We went to Key West, FL, Grand Cayman, Cozumel, Mexico, Castaway Cay, Bahamas and two days at sea.

~~ Scarlett Stahl  
~~ Canoga park, CA

*One quick question . . . I had read online that the author of the book, WALT DISNEY’S RAILROAD STORY, was very “approachable” about autographs. If that is the case, could you have him autograph the book for my father (Larry)? It would make it extra special. If it is already boxed for shipment, but Michael would be willing to autograph a bookplate or bookmark, that would be fantastic.*

*I really appreciate all of your help. My father is such a rail enthusiast that he has nearly every book written on the subject, and at this point is contributing to the new books being written. In other words, it is hard to find a gift for him! Last year I was able to find a few books from Ward Kimball’s estate. This year, at a recent reunion trip to Disney, I sent dad on the backstage train tour — it was a double whammy gift — he was able to get a close look at the trains, and enjoy the Magic Kingdom before it opened (something I used to photograph for him when I worked there — I was actually a monorail driver back in the 80s). So, as you said, I’m sure he will love this book. I look forward to shopping with you again!*

~~ Kristin Roling  
~~ Stoughton, WI

I want to thank the entire crew at Walt’s Barn. You really made me feel welcome and I am looking forward to helping again this month. A great bunch of people and I am proud to be the “Rookie” in the group. I was wondering how I would go about ordering a badge with my name on it and the Carolwood logo. Is that possible? Badges are available by emailing Sharon at [sharon@carolwood.com](mailto:sharon@carolwood.com) — Ed.

~~ Wayne A. Crabb  
~~ San Gabriel, CA

*Walt Disney’s Words of Wisdom is a lovely book! You know that we are all very partial to anything Disney. The pictures are just magnificent. I think my favorite is the cover picture of Walt Disney. I also love pictures of children and their fascination with the world. You have really captured all of them so well.*

*You should be so proud to be able to incorporate so many of your memories into one book and be able to share it with the world. Thank you so very much for sharing your wonderful book with me.*

~~ Fay Menicke, Principal  
~~ Walt Disney Elementary School, Levittown, PA

We were in WDW the first week of November and went on the ‘behind the scenes’ train tour. My son, Brett, loved it! The engineer who ran the tour spoke of you and your Railroad Story book. Ironically, my son had been asking for this book for the past year or two. He has been a train buff since he was three years old. He is not 16 and had spent a great deal of time studying Walt Disney and his trains. In November he requested to go to the Fort Wilderness Lodge so he could see Walt’s original trains. He knew the name of the room where the trains are at the Lodge and because he asked for it by name, our family was chosen to be the family to view Magic Kingdom fireworks from the roof of the lodge that evening. What a nice treat!

~~ Deborah Hall  
~~ Glendale, AZ

*It was so wonderful to see you folks on Saturday. I look at Michael and think of what it would have been like to live that close to a dream. As a child growing up in the San Fernando Valley, I was on the fringe of Disney life. Beyond TV, occasionally there would be a local event — the Mousekateers came to our school once. I was born in 1956 so I do not have the time before Disneyland in my head. But, from a young age — as young as three — I do have the images of Disney and Disneyland. To be able to reach back further through Michael and to touch Walt is so marvelous. I appreciate your sharing your family and the legacy with us all. On the opening day of Disneyland, as Walt Disney broadcast the event to an anxious nation, my older sister Susan was touched with innocent anticipation of this magical event. She followed the show from a small apartment just outside of New York. Susan was so caught up in the magic that she announced that she was going to go there someday. Little did she know that “someday” was in 1956 when our father was transferred to Lockheed’s facility in Burbank, CA. There was no Matterhorn (as you know) but the Park was filled with magic and excitement for her. In July, I came along. Susan made sure that I was schooled properly — Disney and the Beatles with a touch of Elvis.*

~~ Armand D’Alo  
~~ Carlsbad, CA

I would like to inquire about making a \$30 (News Butch) donation to the purchase and restoration of the “Retlaw 1 Combine Coach” to the Carolwood Foundation. The limited edition pin would be a bonus. It would be good to know that I have done a little bit to preserve a piece of Disney history. Can I do this through you? If so, I can send you my VISA information. We were happy to accept your donation. — Ed.

~~ John Whitlock  
~~ Australia

**Board of Governors**

Michael Broggie, Chairman  
 Bill Barbe  
 Tony Baxter  
 Michael Campbell  
 Dick Cook  
 Miguel Fernandez  
 David Flesh  
 Bob Gurr  
 Darrell Holmquist  
 Fred Lack III  
 John Lasseter  
 Doug Marsh  
 Diane Disney Miller  
 Jon Newbill  
 Gary Oakland  
 Scott Rhodes  
 Kendra Trahan  
 Steve Waller  
 Bob Witter

**In Memoriam**

Ollie Johnston  
 Ward Kimball  
 William Norred  
 Richard Thompson

**Carolwood Foundation  
Operating Committee**

President Bill Barbe  
 Vice President Fred Lack III  
 CFO Larry Varblow  
 Director Nathan Eick  
 Director Bob Lemberger  
 Secretary Debra Turner

Society membership information is available by emailing Sharon at Sharon@carolwood.com or going to the website at www.carolwood.com.

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Sharon & Michael Broggie, Editors  
 Sharon Broggie, Publisher

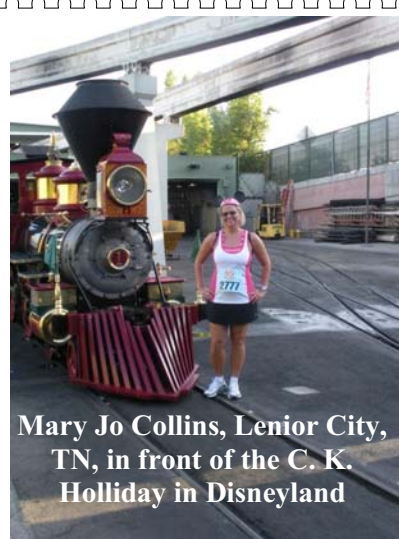
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 Sandy Cohen  
 Bob Lemberger  
 Steve Waller

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 Historical Society, LLC

**Member Pictures**

David Bogdanchik, Pasadena, CA  
 at Walt's Barn



Mary Jo Collins, Lenior City,  
 TN, in front of the C. K.  
 Holliday in Disneyland



Thanks to  
 Larry Boone,  
 we can only  
 dream of tak-  
 ing a trip in a  
 beautiful  
 parlor car like  
 this one!  
 (Owner  
 unknown)

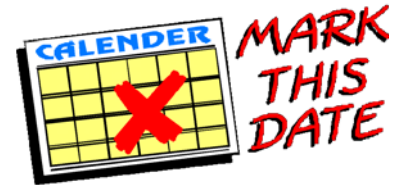
Looks like  
 Captain Thord  
 Haugen has his  
 hands full with  
 Margaret Kerry  
 and Scarlett Stahl  
 on their  
 Disney cruise!





## CAROLWOOD EVENT CALENDAR

**C**arolwood Pacific Historical Society has exciting events and presentations in the upcoming months! Be sure to mark your calendars.



March 21, 2010	Walt's Barn in Griffith Park open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
April 18	Walt's Barn in Griffith Park open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
May 1 & 2	Brea Railfest, Brea, CA (Formerly Fullerton Train Days)
May 16	Walt's Barn in Griffith Park open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
May 29, 30, 31	Carolwood Foundation train trip/excursion to San Francisco/Disney Museum/other exploration
June 5 & 6	The Big Train Show, Ontario Convention Center, Ontario, CA
June 20	Walt's Barn in Griffith Park open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
July 18	Walt's Barn in Griffith Park open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
August 15	Walt's Barn in Griffith Park open 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### CAROLWOOD FOUNDATION TRAIN TRIP

BY BOB LEMBERGER

Have fun and help us save Walt Disney's Combine car. As you may have heard the Carolwood Foundation is trying to buy, restore and place next to Walt's Barn in Griffith Park the original Combine Car (Walt's personal favorite) that circled Disneyland when it first opened in 1955. As a fundraiser we have planned a fun trip for this coming Memorial Day Weekend. On Saturday, May 29th we will board a private railcar at Union Station in Los Angeles. About 9:00 AM we depart for Oakland as our adventure begins. On board will be a private chef and two servers. The trip includes specially prepared meals, beer, wine, soft drinks and snacks. Special rare items will be offered for auction and four speakers will be on board. They include Disney Imagineer Bob Gurr, who built the monorail, practically himself, with a pair of pliers and a screwdriver, famed Disney Historian and accomplished author Michael Broggie, and John Kimball, the son of legendary Ward Kimball, who is quite an accomplished animator in his own right. Also joining us is Ray Spencer, who is currently involved in the creation of the red cars for Disney's California Adventure. Each will have plenty to say and this will be a great opportunity to get up close and personal.

We will arrive at Oakland about 9:00 PM where a motor coach will take us to The Hilton Hotel in Emeryville. The following morning there will be time to have breakfast at the hotel or in one of the many nearby restaurants. Around 10:00 am we will board a motor coach that will take us to the newly opened Walt Disney Family Museum. There, we will have a special tour and a special movie screening. After a day at the museum we'll board a motor coach to Fisherman's Wharf where you can debark and be on your own for the evening or take the motor coach back to the hotel where you can have dinner or check out the dining and shopping in the area. Those getting off at Fisherman's Wharf can dine at their favorite seaside restaurant or grab a cable car to downtown for an evening of fun. Take the last ferry at about 9:30 PM to Jack London Square where the motor coach will be waiting to take you back to the Hilton. Purchasing a ferry ticket is your responsibility and anyone missing the ferry will be on their own. We will however have some local members with vehicles who may be able to help out.

The following morning we will board the train for home and enjoy a Monday Brunch as we depart around 8:00 AM. Our guest speakers will be entertaining and available the whole way home. We will arrive at Union Station back in Los Angeles around 9:00 PM.

The cost of the trip is \$500.00 per person and will benefit the Carolwood Foundation and the effort to save Walt's Combine Car. All is included except your room at the Hilton Hotel and individual meals in the Bay Area. We have arranged a special rate at the Hilton Hotel of \$85.00 per night. Just call them at 510-658-9300 and tell them you're with the Carolwood group. They will honor cancellations up to one week prior to the reservation. **No reservations will be taken for this trip after April 10<sup>th</sup>. Please RSVP early to guarantee your spot.**

The trip will require a minimum number of guests. We will notify you in plenty of time if it is cancelled for a lack of participants. Unless the trip is cancelled for too small a number, we cannot issue refunds. We will however attempt to fill your spot off our waiting list. Since the Carolwood Foundation is non-profit we will issue donation receipts. Your tax advisor can guide you on that portion of your trip that may be tax deductible.

Contact Bob Lemberger at [rlember104@msn.com](mailto:rlember104@msn.com) with any questions and to get your name on the reservation list.



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

Email us at: [scbroggie@msn.com](mailto:scbroggie@msn.com)

**We're on the WEB!**  
**carolwood.com**

*"We don't have boring  
meetings,  
we just do fun stuff!"*

First Class Mail  
Address Correction  
Requested

## VIEW FROM THE CUPOLA . . . . .

BY MICHAEL BROGGIE

On the front page, there's a feature story by Sandy Cohen on our late friend and Carolwood Society member Roy E. Disney, which covers in detail much of his six-decade career with The Walt Disney Company. The person I had the privilege to know was a defender of his uncle's and dad's standards that led to the creation of the most successful entertainment company in history. He went to "war" several times to implement management changes at the highest levels in the company.

However, the Roy I first met while riding aboard the Carolwood Pacific Railroad at Walt's home when I was eight and he was 20 was a carefree, lanky, mischievous fellow with a sense of humor that later sustained him through many challenges. On that particular Saturday, on one of the runs, there was a full load of passengers and Roy and I were each straddling a freight car. Along the way, Roy started to drag one foot causing the rock ballast to go soaring. My legs weren't long enough to reach the ground or I probably would have joined in on the fun.

While rounding a turn, Roy caused a number of rocks to kick onto the track, causing several of the cars to derail. Walt was on the throttle of his *Lilly Belle* engine and one is reminded of the scene from the classic cartoon short *Out of Scale* when the two pesky chipmunks apply the brakes to Donald Duck's backyard steam railroad sending him headfirst into a pond. Well, Walt didn't get launched as Donald did, but

he certainly was not the least bit happy as he got up from his seat on the tender and walked back to survey what had happened. Nothing is more upsetting to an engineer than a derailment with a load of passengers.

Walt pushed back his hickory striped engineer's cap and with his hands on his hips, studied the path in the rock ballast and the rocks that were scattered onto the track. He walked over to where Roy was sitting and looked down at him noting the dust on the toe of his right shoe. Now, Walt had a way of looking at someone with extreme displeasure that could make your blood run cold. It consisted of an eyebrow low over one eye while the other eyebrow arched high. It was referred around the studio as "The Look" and Roy was getting its full measure. After a few seconds that seemed like forever, Roy simply shrugged his narrow shoulders and said something like, "Gee, Uncle Walt, I didn't mean any harm." "Harrumph," Walt said as he turned toward the now-empty derailed gondolas and started placing them back on the track as his passengers watched. When finished and everyone had reboarded, he told Roy, with the jerk of his thumb, that he could *walk* back to the Barn, thus cancelling his passenger privileges for the rest of the day.

Years later, Roy and I laughed recalling that incident when I interviewed him for a book I was writing. While model railroading for Roy never went beyond HO scale, which he and Walt used to share when his aunt and uncle visited Roy's parents, he developed a passion for sailing that equaled Walt's pas-

sion for steam railroading. Each in his way provided a legacy that lives on. The American Sailing Association's junior sailing program was the beneficiary of charitable donations made in Roy's memory at the request of his family. Walt's railroad legacy is well established and the reason the Carolwood Pacific Historical Society and Foundation were founded.

Of course, Roy is greatly missed by his family and the legions of friends and colleagues who benefited from knowing him. A tribute was held by The Walt Disney Company to celebrate his life at the El Capitan Theater in Hollywood on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Addressing the capacity audience, Carolwood Governor John Lasseter credited Roy with saving Disney animation. He said that without Roy, the company probably would have gotten out of the animation industry. Another Carolwood Governor, Dick Cook, the former chairman of Walt Disney Studios, said privately that Roy stood for and defended the values his family established. Dick and his career at the studio will be the subject of a future Cupola column.

--Michael Broggie

