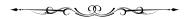


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THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CAROLWOOD SOCIETY

NEW TRAIN EXHIBIT AT WALT'S BARN

BY DOUG MARSH



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PLATFORM 8 CAROLWOOD EVENT CALENDAR To join in Disneyland's Diamond Celebration, the Carolwood Foundation has opened a new exhibit in Walt Disney's Carolwood Barn in Griffith Park. "The Trains of Disneyland": 60 Years of Magical Railroading was officially opened to the public on Sunday, June 21. This is the first completely new exhibit mounted in the barn since it was opened to the public in 1999. The Trains of Disneyland will be on display through December of this year.

Joining a crowd of well-wishers was Disney Legend Bob Gurr, who cut the ribbon inaugurating the display. A line of patient guests wrapped around the barn for the full four hours of the June Public Day. In addition to Bob Gurr, the Foundation also hosted author Kate Abbott, signing her 'tween novel "Disneylanders," as well as artist Paul Lopez, signing prints of a new painting celebrating the "Mine Train Through Nature's Wonderland." Delighting the crowd with live entertainment was a strolling musician from Disneyland. A surprise guest was Disney Legend Tony Anselmo, the animator and voice of Donald Duck. As if that wasn't enough, June 21st was also Father's Day.

Walt Disney's Carolwood Barn is rightly considered the birthplace of Disney Imagineering. It was there, tinkering with his beloved Lilly Belle engine, that Walt distilled a 30-year dream that became Disneyland. It is only fitting that an exhibit devoted to that dream should be presented in this place.

The exhibit includes a wealth of material, drawn from the Foundation collection and through generous loans from private collectors, as well as visual supporting material courtesy of the Walt Disney Company. There are six distinct areas in the exhibit: the creation of Disneyland, trains of Fantasyland, trains of Tomorrowland, the Disneyland Railroad, trains of Frontierland, and a small display illustrating Disney theme park railroads from ground the world.

Among the highlights of the exhibit are many items that have either never before been on public display, or have not been seen in many years.



- A collection of actual builder's plates from Disneyland's steam trains;
- Artifacts from the short-lived Tomorrowland Viewliner (1957-58);
- Rail spikes from every railroad that has operated in Disneyland;
- An original conductor's cap with a set of badges;
- The lantern from the last remaining engine of the original Mine Train attraction; and
- A "gila monster" that once inhabited the Painted Desert in Frontierland.

Continued on Platform 3 ▶



WELCOME ABOARD



f The Carolwood Pacific Historical Society is enriched by its many wonderful members.

New and Renewing Members since April, 2015 are:

Tony and Debra Courtney, St. Petersburg, FL Dave and Brenda Bayless, Auburn, CA Phillip Freer, Cincinnati, OH Glenn Austin, La Crescenta, CA James Cotterman, Orlando, FL Keith Lowery, Murfreesboro, TN Louis Manglass, Sugar Hill, GA David Slack, Englewood, CO Janet and Tom Joyce, San Jose, CA Ashley Leaphart, Leesville, SC Glenn Lane, Sierra Madre, CA Michael Patrick, Newport News, VA Bill Colley, Ignacio, CO G. Miller and Chrissy Smyth, Brielle, NJ Patrick and Helen Lewis, Silverton, OR Mark Scheidegger, Kenilworth, NJ Sandra and Paul Krueger, Roseville, CA Mike Forrester, Kennesaw, GA Jon Kropp, Modesto, CA T. John and Sharon Laser, Centerville, UT Bruce Littman, San Francisco, CA Patricia Erdely, San Diego, CA Richard Sito, Savannah, GA Robert Beyer, Alamo, CA Renard Fuentes, Glendora, CA Jeffrey Bray, Sumpter, IN Andrew Donovan, Hopewell Jct., NY Haylee Van Dalen, Clermont, FL Taylor Martina, Davenport, FL Andrew Farrell, Newhall, CA David A. Sutton, Trenton, NJ Chad Carlock, Davis, CA William W. Foster Jr., Birmingham, AL Catherine Zugar, San Francisco, CA Dwight S. Morgan, Pasadena, CA Cindy Mediavilla, Culver City, CA Paul Schnebelen, Oxnard, CA Robert Filter, La Mirada, CA Leslie Gilder, Newbury Park, CA Jeff and Kimberly Sumners, Garden Grove, CA David Paulson, Fairfield, CA Michael Summers, Middletown, MD Anthony Giuliano, Dover Plains, NY Rod Eaton, Champlin, MN Ronald Ferguson, Golita, CA Robinson Thrower, Reno, NV Kenneth and Sally Fletcher, La Verne, CA

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Peter and Patti Finie, Camarillo, CA





NEW TRAIN EXHIBIT AT WALT'S BARN

CONTINUED FROM PLATFORM 1

Guests may also enjoy a display that brings together photos and histories of all five of the individuals for whom the Disneyland Railroad engines are named: C. K. Holliday, E. P. Ripley, Fred Gurley, Ernest S. Marsh and Ward Kimball. Among a wealth of Disneyland souvenirs is a complete Disneyland Railroad Junior Engineer's outfit, a Schucco HO gauge monorail, record albums, rare ticket media, and other paper memorabilia. In the section devoted to other Disney theme park railroads is an unusual animated display from Japan depicting Walt Disney World.

Guests seeking artifacts from Walt Disney's own Carolwood Pacific Railroad will not be disappointed. In addition to the Barn itself, numerous items from the CPRR are on display, including an original gondola car, a switch stand, and Walt's tools and drawings. There is also a tribute to Harper Goff, an early Imagineer who bonded with Walt Disney over trains.

After meeting at London's famed Ashby-Locke miniature shop, Goff would go on to become one of the most influential designers of the original Disneyland.

The Trains of Disneyland: 60 Years of Magical Railroading was organized by the Carolwood Foundation, under the direct supervision of **Nathan Eick**, curator.



Tony Anselmo, Disney Legend and animator and voice of Donald Duck enjoys a day at the Barn along with other fans there to see the new train exhibit.

"Spent Father's Day at the Barn from 10 to 4 doing autographs. The new show is wonderful... a real class act. Everyone should be very proud." Quote from Bob Gurr

COME AND VISIT WALT'S BARN

Walt Disney's Carolwood Barn is located at the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum at 5202 Zoo Drive in Griffith Park. The Barn is open the third Sunday of every month from 11am to 3pm. Admission is free.

BLAINE GIBSON

WALT'S MASTER SCULPTOR



Blaine Gibson, Harriet Burns and Michael Broggie smile for photographer Doug Marsh at the dedication of Ollie Johnston's quarter-scale Victorian railroad depot at Walt Disney's Carolwood Barn Museum in Griffith Park, Los Angeles.

We are sorry to report the passing of Disney Legend Blaine Gibson on July 5th at the age of 97. Blaine was encouraged by Walt Disney to try sculpting as an addition to his considerable skills as an artist and animator. He joined The Walt Disney Company in 1939 and retired after 45 years. He lived in Montecito near Santa Barbara, California.

As a Disney Imagineer, his talents for capturing realistic features in clay were transformed into latex for the Audio-Animatronics avatar of Abraham Lincoln, which is featured in Great Moments with Mr. Lincoln that was initially presented at the Illinois State Pavilion during the 1964-65 New York World's Fair. The attraction was installed at Disneyland after the fair closed.

Blair's flair for humorous characters is seen in the Pirates of the Caribbean and The Haunted Mansion attractions. He created characters for It's a Small World and Walt Disney's Enchanted Tiki Room. One of his crowning achievements was the sculpting of each of the Presidents of the United States from George Washington to George W. Bush for The Hall of Presidents at Walt Disney World.

His personal favorite was the Partners life-sized bronze statue of Walt and Mickey that is located on the hub in front of the castles at Disneyland, and The Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World and at the Disney Legends Pavilion at Walt Disney Studios in Burbank. Blaine was named a Disney Legend in 1993.

Blaine enjoyed visiting Walt Disney's Carolwood Barn Museum at Griffith Park to meet and greet visitors. He particularly enjoyed encouraging young artists to pursue their goals and aspirations.

On one of his visits, accompanied by his friend and fellow Imagineer/Legend Harriet Burns, he took part in the dedication of Ollie Johnston's Depot, which was fully restored and added to the attractions at the Disney Barn.

The museum is open free to visitors every third Sunday each month throughout the year.



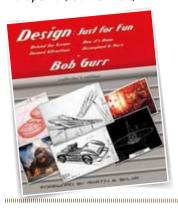


BOB GURR ROAST

BY MICHAEL BROGGIE

n June 13th, over 150 enthusiastic fans of Disney Legend and Imagineer Bob Gurr assembled for a sold out "Roast Bob Gurr Party." It was held at a Holiday Inn near Disneyland, the setting for many Gurr-designed marvels including President Abraham Lincoln, the vehicles on Main Street U.S.A., the Monorail, Autopia, Rocket Ride, People Mover, Flying Saucers, (okay, so not all of Gurr's designs turned out to be winners!).

Producer and host Carlene Thie, founder of Ape Pen Publishing--the publisher of Bob's enlightening book, Designing Just for Fun-assembled a cast of Bob's friends, former colleagues and business associates to roast the legendary designer. She invited Marty Sklar, Garner Holt,





Christopher Crump, Eric Johnston, Jeff Heimbuch and Michael Broggie to share myths, rumors, half-truths and outright lies about Mr. Gurrini. The event MC was John Edon, the veteran Golden Horseshoe entertainer, who's now performing at Knott's Berry Farm.

Accompanied by visual evidence of their stories, each roaster took a turn at poking fun at Bob, who remained rather humble throughout the ordeal.

Here's a sample of this writer's comments.

Look closely at what you think is Bob sitting there. Actually, in anticipation of this event, he cleverly created a one-off AudioAnimatronic figure of himself that can sit, stand, walk and talk. Instead of

running on pressurized hydraulic fluid like the figure he built of President Lincoln, his avatar is powered by Bombay Sapphire distilled London Dry Gin from a 1761 recipe, which Bob created.

I'm not saying Bob is old, but his blood type was discontinued. It's not true that Bob was hired by Roger Broggie because he took pity on him. My dad thought Bob would end up living in someone's basement, so he gave him a job designing things no one needed.

Bob smiles all the time. If a man smiles all the time he's probably selling something that doesn't work.

He designed the famous Autopia cars then asked me to test drive the prototypes, which





I did. He failed to tell me one thing: It didn't handle well on pavement. I was only 12. I didn't know any better and frankly didn't care. A gas powered car designed for a kid. What could possibly go wrong?

There was a lot of recall on the cars. Bob said, "I don't recall putting brakes on them." I believe you get the idea. There was no limit on the insults, innuendoes and inferences. All in good fun, of course.

At the conclusion of my bit, I brought out a bottle of Bombay Sapphire Gin and made a "Gurrtini." Lifting my long stemmed martini glass to Bob and the audience, I closed with: "Here's to Bob Gurr: The only person I know that the last time he gave a urine sample there was an olive in it.

"Seriously, it's been over 60 years since the beginning of a beautiful friendship. Here's to 60 more!"

NEW FOR 2015

The brand new Carolwood Society Pin **AVAILABLE IN OUR ONLINE STORE**

The perfect addition to your collection! This handsome new pin has been designed to reflect our new logo and is available for the first time on our website store. Just \$5.00 plus postage.

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www.carolwood.com/store/pins-collectibles-department.html













The Mail Car

REACHING THE MANY CORNERS OF THE WORLD

My name is Jerry Speer. I recently purchased and thoroughly enjoyed your book, Walt Disney's Railroad Story. As an avid rail fan, I found it to be the best book I have ever read on the history of Walt Disney's railroad hobby.

I hope we can visit the Carolwood Barn Museum soon. We would have to split time between it and Disneyland. I may not be able to break the family away from the Park without causing a mutiny!:-) Let me see what they will agree to-Perhaps I can target the visit for the fall.

Thanks again for your book -- it really is a special treasure. Our family watched the Wonderful World of Color every Sunday night when I was a kid. I remember exactly where I was and how bad it hurt when I heard the news that Walt Disney had passed away.

Hope to meet you someday. Thank you again.

Best regards,

Jerry and Susan Speer, Oviedo, FL

I signed up for the Bob Gurr Roast, thank you for bringing this to my attention. I was in the desert over Memorial Day and then off to Marin and Sonoma Counties for the North Bay Burn Relay last week. I put in for a ticket in between the two.

I hope you don't mind that I gave your name to my friend Mia Natsume, whose dad, the late Mitsuo "Mits" Natsume, worked with Roger Sr. in the '60's. Mits' drawings of the 1967 Tomorrowland are spectacular, and Mia told me her brother has them now.

Mia is looking to contact second generation Disney employees, or adult kids of Disney employees, and she has a friend with a radio show that might want to interview them.

See you both at the Roast on the 13th!

Tom Shafer, Los Gatos, CA

On another fun front, I've fixed the old Kodak 8/Super 8 projector, and I'm looking at my Disneyland history.

My family lived in Reseda from November, 1961 to June, 1962. I just found that my first real trip to Disneyland was in November, 1961, right before I turned four. There is nice color footage of me riding Casey Jr.'s train.

In 2008, I happened to sit across from Bob Gurr on one of the passenger cars at the Carolwood event in Santa Margarita, and I asked, "Hey, Bob, those are school bus windows, latches and seats – did Crown Coach in Los Angeles provide them?" Bob answered yes, and he shared some great stories of going to their factory in downtown L.A. in the '50's.

I'm an unofficial Crown historian, and I had their original sales records for two fire engines that were traded in to Crown and bought by Disneyland in 1958. Bob told me that the hood latches and some other parts were used on his new motorized fire engine from the same year, and yes, they're still there today! I sent him copies of the sales sheets.

I ended up buying the remainder of the window latches from the old stock of the company that did Crown warranty work after they closed, and I donated these pieces for the restoration of Walt's Combine Car.

Thanks for letting me share one of my favorite Bob Gurr stories.

Tom Shafer, Los Gatos, CA

Send your letters to: Carolwood Pacific Historical Society, 1653 Gettysvue Way, Prescott, AZ 86301 or email us at sharon@carolwood.com

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CAROLWOOD SOCIETY'S UNMEETING IN WALT DISNEY WORLD OPENED MY EYES TO NEW EXPERIENCES!

BY DAN BUONAROTA

thought I knew a lot about all that Walt Disney World has to offer until I was trading stories about my experiences with my co-worker - Ray Fleischmann. I don't think a day goes by that we are not mentioning Disney or our up and coming plans for the next Carolwood Society UnMeeting. Ray, being a member of The Carolwood Society, stirred my interest so much that I joined in 2013 to experience the events scheduled during the UnMeetings at Walt Disney World in Orlando, FL.

That year, I had the opportunity to attend the Steam Engine and Marceline Tours, both of which are a great benefit of becoming a Carolwood member. I talked to a couple on the tour with us from San Diego (it was their first time in Walt Disney World) and they loved it so much that they said they wanted to sell their home and move to Orlando!



Last year while we were all gathered in the Wilderness Lodge Carolwood Room, author Michael Broggie signed our Walt Disney's Railroad Story book which is a wealth of information not only on Walt's passion for trains, but also about his life – Alpha to Omega. Michael, as a young boy, was blessed to spend time with Walt.

Last year we traveled off Disney property to Tavares, Florida where we boarded the Orange Blossom Cannonball (this tour was organized and engineered by our very own Carolwood member, Phil Piet) which is the only wood burning steam engine in Florida. During the ride, our steam train was held up by a Civil War re-enactment. It was fun to experience what life was like on the Rails during the history of our country.

My daughter enjoyed the Carolwood UnMeeting with me which has turned into a yearly father/daughter vacation. We talked to a couple while attending the Wine and Food Festival – real Disney lovers. We were sharing our experience of what it was like to be a member and they said they wanted to also join to be able to learn a different dimension of the whole Disney concept.

Earlier this year I ordered an actual piece of track from the 1.5 mile Magic Kingdom rail line through The Carolwood Society website. The piece of rail was originally installed in 1971 and was completely replaced in the fall of 2014. This rail piece is a wonderful commemorative.

The last day of each UnMeeting ends with a picnic at the Fort Wilderness Lodge hosted by Ray and June Fleischmann. It was an education listening to Carolwood members' passion for Disney and also talk to past Magic Kingdom Steam Train Engineers. The picnic was also hosted by Wendy Reilly and Greg Salisbury.

It is astonishing to think that what has brought so much joy and happiness to millions of people around the world was derived from just one man and his love and passion for trains.







VIEW FROM THE CUPOLA

ver two decades ago, when I first proposed to The Walt Disney Company that I wanted to produce a book about Walt's lifelong interest in railroads, the company's publishing office in New York responded that they didn't think there would be sufficient interest to justify such a project. They suggested that I write an article for a magazine on the subject.

Several years later, in 1997, that "magazine article" was introduced at a Disneyana convention at Walt Disney World. It turned out to be 432 pages, 100 thousand words of text accompanied by 350 photographs--most never had been published before. It took the better part of 10 years to research, write, edit and design the book. The final two years of effort were sponsored by Walt Disney's widow, Lillian Disney, through her holding company, Retlaw Enterprises. She also agreed to write the foreword to the book, the only book to carry this unique distinction.

By having the support and involvement of Mrs. Disney, The Disney Company allowed me to use its archival photos without charge and they waived their limit of eight photos for non-company publications. Our book published 172 Disney copyrighted images.

Since Disney declined to publish my book due to the estimated \$200,000 cost, I had to find an independent publisher, which turned out to be Pentrex, based in Pasadena, California. Michael Clayton, the owner, agreed to finance designing, production and initial printing of 2,500 copies. Later, Lady Sharon, who was and is my chief editor, and I acquired the publishing rights from Pentrex and hired Walsworth Publishina in Walt's boyhood home town of Marceline, Missouri, to print for us. This company has printed all of the eight books I have written so far, even though it would have been less expensive to print them in China.

That book went on to be honored by the publishing

industry with the Benjamin Franklin Gold Medal for Best Biography of the Year. Out of 200 thousand new titles produced each year, only one wins this award. To be clear, the quality of the author's writing is only one component of the judging. They consider all aspects including the quality of the binding, the paper stock, the cover design, the layout, the artwork, the writing, and overall presentation of the subject matter. Now in its fourth edition, production is nearing 20,000 copies worldwide.

When I learned that a new Disney railroad book was coming, produced by The Walt Disney Company titled "All Aboard The Wonderful World of Disney Trains," I quickly went to www.amazon.com to check it out.

I was delighted to see the cover features a color photograph of Carolwood Governor John Lasseter aboard his beloved Marie E. steam locomotive, which he purchased from a gentleman who had acquired Ollie Johnston's narrow-gauge train along with his property in Julian, California. John approached Ollie about buying the vintage railroad equipment from its new owner.

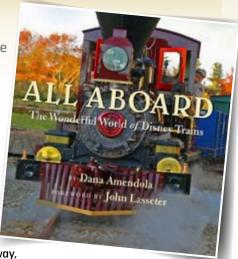
The veteran animator and Disney Legend was thrilled that John would be interested in saving his train, since its owner showed no interest. Ollie had named his locomotive after his wife, Marie, herself a veteran of Disney's Ink & Paint Department. After several years of painstaking restoration, John arranged for the train to be transported to Disneyland.

On the early morning of May 10, 2005, Ollie--who was accompanied by a host of Disney company executives who had to approve the unique event--received the privilege of running the train on the tracks of Disneyland. The train is now the featured rolling stock of the Justi Creek Railway, adjacent to the Lasseter Winery in Glen Ellen, California, owned by John and Nancy Lasseter (www.lasseterfamilywinery.com).

The 192-page All Aboard The Wonderful World of Disney Trains was written by Dana Amendola, a Disney cast member who acknowledges in his introduction that he shares Walt's lifelong interest in trains. John Lasseter wrote the foreword. It's currently available for advanced ordering on amazon.com. Publishing is scheduled this September.

My hope is that members of The Carolwood Society will support Dana Amendola's effort to expand on the topic of Walt Disney's passion for trains and his desire to preserve America's steam-powered railroad legacy; just as they did recently by attending the marvelous exhibit on Disney trains produced by Carolwood Governor Michael Campbell at the Walt Disney Family Museum.

In addition, there have been other authors who have produced books on Disney railroads including Steve DeGaetano ("From Plantation to Theme Park") and David Leaphart ("Walt Disney World Railroads"). Both of these authors have long been members of The Carolwood Society.



Would I rather have had my book published by The Walt Disney Company? Of course, as they were given first publishing rights in exchange for the use of their images. They made a business judgment. In retrospect, their decision provided us with tremendous benefits as the resulting book opened many doors and led to meeting many future Carolwood Society members throughout the country on our national book tours sponsored by The World's Greatest Hobby train shows.

Carolwood Program Note: Registration is now open for the 2015 annual UnMeeting at Walt Disney World, September 24–27. A link is available at www. carolwood.com. This year marks the 13th anniversary of this member event.

Disney Trivia: Walt considered 13 to be his "lucky number." The 13th letter of the alphabet is M for Mickey. When he handcrafted his yellow bobber caboose for his miniature Carolwood Pacific Railroad, he assigned it number 13. And, when the physical address for Disneyland was selected by Walt, he chose 1313 Harbor Boulevard. Coincidence? I believe not.

Until next time, Happy Rails!



The Carolwood Society 1653 Gettysvue Way, Prescott, AZ 86301

Email us at sharon@carolwood.com



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

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Carolwood Event Calendar

July 19 - Walt Disney's Barn open to the public 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

August 14, 15, 16 - D23, Anaheim Convention Center (we hope to see you there!)

August 16 - Walt Disney's Barn open to the public 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

September 20 - Walt Disney's Barn open to the public 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

September 25, 26, 27 - Annual Un-Meeting at WDW

October 18 - Walt Disney's Barn open to the public 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

November 15 - Walt Disney's Barn open to the public 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

December 20 - Santa at Walt's Barn - open to the public 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!