

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE CAROLWOOD SOCIETY

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION SET FOR ROY O. DISNEY STEAM LOCOMOTIVE SEPTEMBER 15 TO 18 2016

ROY P. DISNEY TO SERVE AS HONORARY ENGINEER

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Anyone who visits the Magic Kingdom at Walt Disney World is aware of the special role the steam railroad holds for guests. It's estimated that nearly 50 percent of guests visiting the Park ride the train, making it the most popular attraction. Same is also true of Disneyland.

For those in The Carolwood Society, riding the rails while visiting a Disney park is the only qualification necessary for membership. (While the trains are down during the year and a half construction of Star Wars Land at Disneyland, members are given a pass as long as they visit Main Street Station and the railroad exhibit.)

When Disney Imagineer Roger Broggie arranged the purchase of four Baldwin steam engines for Walt Disney World from the government of Mexico in the Yucatan, he noticed that one of the engines was built in 1916 at Baldwin Locomotive Works' sprawling factory in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. While it was the oldest of the four, it was still operational after more than five decades of chuffing on steelrails throughout the Yucatan peninsula, past densely knotted jungles, limestone mountains and fields of sisal hemp.

After transporting the engines to Florida, they were masterly restored by George Britton and his small crew at the Tampa Shipyards. Engine No. 4 went into service on December 1, 1971, two months after

Walt Disney World opened to the public. As a result of his excellent work, George was hired by Roger Broggie to be the foreman of the railroad, a post he held for 37 years until retiring.

At the time, Roy Oliver Disney was chairman of The Walt Disney Company. He agreed to allow his name to join those of his brother and company co-founder, Walt Disney (No. 1, *Walter E. Disney*); Walt's wife, Lillian Bounds Disney (No. 2, *Lilly Belle*); and, Disney Legend-Imagineer Roger Edward Broggie (No. 3, *Roger E. Broggie*).

For Roy's dedication to fulfilling the visions of his younger brother, the *Roy O. Disney* steam engine is a lasting testimony of his leadership that led to the development of Walt Disney World. He died just three months after the grand opening on October 1, 1971. It was Roy who renamed the project from Disney World to Walt Disney World soon after his brother's passing, December 15, 1966.

Continued on Platform 3 ►



Above: Roy E. Disney is on the throttle of his dad's steam engine as it arrives at Main Street Station for its rededication ceremony on June 6, 2002, at Walt Disney World.



Above: Roy E. Disney in the cab of his father's steam engine. His son, Roy Patrick Disney, will be the honorary steam engineer Sept. 17, 2016, when The Carolwood Society members celebrate the centennial of the Roy O. Disney steam engine at Walt Disney World.



HAPPY RAILS

WELCOME ABOARD

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

New and Renewing Members since November, 2015 are:

Dennis and Shauna Flores, *Vacaville, CA*
 Lance Priez, *New Orleans, LA*
 Russell Banks, *Clermont, FL*
 Darren English, *San Francisco, CA*
 Michael Dietrich, *Peoria, AZ*
 Amy Reynek, *Los Angeles, CA*
 Kenneth Humphries, *San Jose, CA*
 Lynn and Ryan Anderson, *Chesterfield, VA*
 Don E. Wolford and Susan Morris, *Barrington, IL*
 Bob Cochran, *Santa Maria, CA*
 Chris Schwarz, *Davenport, FL*
 Thomas Nelson, *Union City, CA*
 Thomas Phillips, *Tustin, CA*
 Don and Jane Nichols, *Kissimmee, FL*
 Craig, Renee and Beau Story, *Napa, CA*
 Thomas Caron, *Bridgewater, MA*
 Randolph Riscal, *New York, NY*
 Marie schilly, *San Ramon, CA*
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 Cynthia and Jeff Langewisch, *Oakdale, MN*
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 Roy Hollis, *Phoenix, AZ*
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 Sandra Walsh, *Clifton, NJ*
 Susan Speer, *Oviedo, FL*
 Bill and Jane Wissel, *Los Gatos, CA*
 Ken Zack, *Chuluota, FL*
 Ed Booker, *Chuluota, FL*
 John R. Lego, *Phoenixville, PA*
 F. Andrew Chaney, *Seattle, WA*
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 Hugh Rutherford, *Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada*
 Andrew Leigh, *Van Nuys, CA*
 David Manore, *Utica, NY*
 Sara Manore, *Rexford, NY*
 Marty Mackintosh, *Highland, UT*
 James Klich, *Franklin, MA*
 James Garner, *Glendale Heights, IL*
 Carol and Lowell Regehr, *Manhattan, KS*
 Robert Dunn, *Cibola, TX*
 Michael Daly, *Warrenton, MO*
 Joseph Rebello, *Lakeland, FL*
 David Byerly, *Rosamond, CA*
 Chad Angel, *Jonesburg, MO*
 Terry Fairchild, *Venice, FL*
 Brian Ballinger, *Aurora, IL*
 Kenneth Stevens, *Stockton, CA*
 Gary Verville, *Woodstock, GA*
 Richard and Shirley Powell, *Riverside, CA*



View from the Cab

BY JOE BOPP, ENGINEER,
WALT DISNEY WORLD RAILROAD



Review train orders of the day, check chains, couplers and air lines. Up to the cab, confirm water level, valves and supplies for the trip.

Fire the boiler, the engine comes to life and takes on the roar of a fire breathing dragon. Pressure builds, systems power up with smoke and steam. Brakes off, throttle up, now to climb up that grade. Almost in the station, only to find the station is closed...

A real day on the rails??? No, an analogy of the trip I've been on to bring the ROY O. DISNEY (CENTURY OF SERVICE) celebration into the station -- as if a reflection of my trips around the kingdom, numerous rides up the grade, wheels spinning, sparks flying, adjust the J bar, more pressure, slow down, speed up, red signal.

We finally did get into that station and discovered, to my dismay, that there weren't many people on board. Remember, ("they say it all started with a Mouse..., but if it weren't for a train, the mouse would have never gotten here").

Rail On, Joe



IN AND AROUND THE BARN

THE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Southern California weather seems to be unpredictable at best. In February we've had a little rain, some very windy afternoons and several days in the high 80s! This is supposed to be "winter time," right? Now, I'm not complaining.

This is all a pretty good thing (except we do need more rain). It's just when guests ask how they should dress for a visit to



the Barn we can't tell them in advance whether they should wear shorts and sandals or a jacket and bring an umbrella. Well, whatever the weather and whatever the time of year it's always a great time to visit the Disney Barn.

Speaking of visiting the Barn, if you are in the SoCal area, why not come out and be a volunteer? We will train you in the different areas of operation, you will learn a lot about a wide variety of Disney history and you will meet some great people. It's fun and rewarding and we love to see new faces helping out. Just contact us at Combine@Carolwood.org for more information about getting started.

A special announcement about the summer months. We will

be opening the Barn on both the 1st Sunday AND the 3rd Sunday of the month in June, July and August (2016). That time of year is typically busy and we hope to provide additional opportunities for the public to visit.

It is with great pleasure that we announce two new members to the Carolwood Foundation's Board of Directors. First is **Jeff Ino**. Jeff brings a wealth of information and experience as a volunteer at the Walt Disney Family Museum. His enthusiasm and love of the whole Disney experience has also gained him the newly appointed position of assistant Barn curator. Next is someone who really needs no introduction - **Joanna Miller**. Joanna's knowledge and commitment to her grandfather's legacy are

priceless additions to our team. Having a member of the Disney family on board is very exciting and, I'm sure, will be very beneficial to the future success of Walt's Barn and the Carolwood Foundation.

Finally, the Force Awakens in Griffith Park on the May 15th Barn Sunday. No, not the movie but live characters from the films. In addition to the usual exhibits it will be "Star Wars Day." There will be jedis, storm troopers, bounty hunters, R2D2, members of the dark side and maybe even a wookiee or two. You don't want to miss this event.

Well, that's about all the news for now. Take care and may the force be with you.

Larry Boone
(AKA: Darth Grumpy)

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

CONTINUED FROM PLATFORM 1

Operating steam engines require periodic restoration to maintain their quality. So it was, the *Roy O. Disney* engine received a complete rebuild over a period of nearly a year and The Carolwood Society celebrated its return to service on June 6, 2002.

To make the occasion even more meaningful, Roy's son, Roy Edward Disney, then vice chairman of The Walt Disney Company, agreed to be the honorary guest engineer on the throttle of his father's engine as it pulled into Main Street Station for the grand rededication festivities.

This year, as it has for the past 13 years, The Carolwood Society will host its annual UnMeeting at Walt Disney World. The dates are September 15 to 18, 2016. The name (UnMeeting) was created by Steve Broggie

and is derived from the decision of the co-founders who didn't wish to add to everyone's lifetime supply of (boring) meetings.

To maintain the family's tradition of guest engineers, **Roy Patrick Disney**, grandson of Roy O., has agreed to be on the throttle for the centennial celebration of this historic engine.

It should be noted that the average lifespan of a steam locomotive is about 25 years. Of the 165,000 steam locomotives manufactured in the United States, less than 1,600 survive--mostly in static displays at museums and in city parks. The Walt Disney Company is the operator of the largest private collection of active full scale steam locomotives in the Western hemisphere.

For updates and scheduling details on the 2016 UnMeeting, visit www.carolwood.com.



Michael Campbell and Tyler Campbell with Roy E. Disney at Walt Disney World.



BUYING A WATCH IN 1880

HISTORY YOU PROBABLY DIDN'T KNOW

Author Unknown

If you were in the market for a watch in 1880, would you know where to get one? You would go to a store, right?

Well, of course you could do that, but if you wanted one that was cheaper and a bit better than most of the store watches, you went to the train station! Sound a bit funny? Well, for about 500 towns across the northern United States, that's where the best watches were found.

Why were the best watches found at the train station? The railroad company wasn't selling the watches, not at all. The telegraph operator was. Most of the time the telegraph operator was located in the railroad station because the telegraph lines followed the railroad tracks from town to town. It was unusually the shortest distance and the

right-of-ways had already been secured for the rail line.

Most of the station agents were also skilled telegraph operators and that was the primary way that they communicated with the railroad. They would know when trains left the previous station and when they were due at their next station. And it was the telegraph operator who had the watches. As a matter of fact, they sold more of them than almost all the stores combined for a period of about nine years.

This was all arranged by "Richard," who was a telegraph operator himself. He was on duty in the North Redwood, Minnesota train station one day when a load of watches arrived from the East. It was a huge crate of pocket watches. No one ever came to claim them.

So Richard sent a telegram to the manufacturer and asked them what they wanted to do with the watches. The manufacturer didn't want to pay the freight back, so they wired Richard to see if he could sell them. So Richard did. He sent a wire to every agent in the system asking them if they wanted a cheap, but good, pocket watch. He sold the entire case in less than two days and at a handsome profit.

That started it all. He ordered more watches from the watch company and encouraged the telegraph operators to set up a display case in the station offering high quality watches for a cheap price to all the travelers. It worked! It didn't take long for the word to spread and, before long, people other than travelers came to the train station to buy watches.



Richard became so busy that he had to hire a professional watch maker to help him with the orders. That was Alvah. And the rest is history as they say. The business took off and soon expanded to many other lines of dry goods.

Richard and Alvah left the train station and moved their company to Chicago -- and it's still there.

YES, IT'S A LITTLE KNOWN FACT that for a while in the 1880's, the biggest watch retailer in the country was at the train station. It all started with a telegraph operator: Richard Sears and his partner Alvah Roebuck!



WALT DISNEY'S OFFICE SUITE RESTORED

Disney Chairman and CEO Bob Iger joined Disney Legends, members of the Disney family and other Disney luminaries Dec. 7 2015 to dedicate Walt Disney's newly restored office suite on the Walt Disney Studios lot in Burbank. The restoration reconstructs Walt's formal and working offices and includes original furnishings, some items from his collection of miniatures, awards and his piano.

"We put this permanent exhibit together to serve as a source of inspiration," Bob said during the ceremony, "a reminder to have great ambition, to take bold creative risks, to constantly innovate and push the limits of possibility, to relentlessly pursue perfection and to tell fantastic stories that touch peoples' hearts. That was Walt Disney."

Walt Disney's office will be open to Disney employees, Cast and studio visitors.

Michelle Lund, Jennifer Goff, Joanna Miller and Bob Iger



Walt Disney Imagineering



NEW LOOK COMING TO THE RIVERS OF AMERICA WATERFRONT

DISNEYLAND PARK, CALIFORNIA



New experiences await Guests on steam trains and rivercraft.

The Walt Disney Imagineering rendering above shows the beautiful new waterfront being created for the Rivers of America as part of the expansion for the new 14-acre Star Wars-themed land in Disneyland Park.

The new riverbank will feature waterfalls and an elevated trestle over which the iconic Disneyland Resort Railroad will travel. The work requires the temporary closure of the river (including all of the attractions on it) and the Disneyland Railroad for at least a year.

During construction, Guests will have the opportunity to experience some of their favorite Disneyland attractions in new ways, with unique, limited-time experiences. For the Disneyland Railroad, Guests at the Main Street and New Orleans Square Train Stations will be able to get up close to the historic steam engines, learning more about these fascinating machines firsthand from the train engineers. In addition, Guests will discover more of these special opportunities during the year aboard the Mark Twain Riverboat and Sailing Ship Columbia.



HONORING OUR BARN VOLUNTEERS

BY LARRY BOONE



SWELL WORK VOLUNTEERS

Every year the Carolwood Foundation gives recognition to a number of our volunteers. The first category is for participation at the Barn and at other Foundation events. This is in the form of "Hours of Service" pins and is awarded for total hours of service (not just for 2015).

Here is the breakdown as presented by Carolwood Foundation VP Larry Boone and Secretary Bill Reyes:

100 HOURS

Alicia Berg, Brian Berg, Danica Berg, Tei Brandle, Scott Brooks, Jeff Ino, Tim Lyons, Michelle Mock, Ed Romero

250 HOURS

Cathy Bluem, Bob Cisneros, Carolyn Hoagland, Scott Hoagland, Paul Liu

750 HOURS

Larry Boone

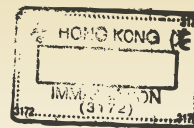
1000 HOURS

Bill Barbe

The next award is a new category established in 2014 called the Julie Thomas Spirit Award. It is not necessarily given every year, but when there is someone who excels in showing the true meaning of volunteering in every aspect, it is awarded. Presented by Carolwood Foundation Curator **Nathan Eick**, the 2015 recipient was **John Fennell**. John has been giving his time and energy at the Barn and at many other events for over eight years and was the Volunteer of the Year in 2008. Congratulations John.

Our final award is for Volunteer of the Year. It is difficult to summarize all that a person does to be nominated for this honor. We have a number of people who get considered each year but, as with 2015, there was someone who just really stood out. This year's award, which was presented by the entire Carolwood Foundation Board of Directors, went to **Paul Liu**. Well done Paul and congrats from all of us.

To all of our volunteers a very big thank you. Your dedication is what makes Walt's Barn a big success. You are all winners in our book.



The Mail Car

REACHING THE MANY CORNERS OF THE WORLD

Michael,

It was a tremendous pleasure meeting you last year at the WDW UnMeeting, and the Carolwood Society, and you specifically, have been the subject of many conversations ever since. Thank you for being such a gracious host.

A recent conversation with my company VP, an exceptional young man from Germany, was cause for me to loan him my prized copy of Walt Disney's RR Story, which you autographed for my wife and me. Ralph (Musmann) and his young daughter were so enthralled by the story, that he recently ordered a copy of the book and asked that you sign it for him, as you did for Diane and me.

Speaking with him just minutes ago, he is quite anxious to receive it so that he can continue reading it to his daughter. It's truly a testament to your skill as an author and historian that you can touch people of any age in much the same way that Walt himself did.

Thank you so very much for the opportunity to meet and hopefully my wife and I can attend the UnMeeting again next year.

Bob Fallier, Hollis, NH



A week late, but I still wanted to drop you a quick note to let you know how much I enjoyed meeting you and seeing your presentation at the train show in Kansas City last weekend. I was the guy that purchased one of your books, as well as the very last of your miniature bells.

While it was my original thought that your book would be a nice addition to the "coffee table" Disney books we have on display in our home, it turned out to be an awesome read. I started on it the same afternoon after we returned from the show, and I finished it a few nights later.

My family are big Disney junkies, with my daughter being married in the Rose Garden at Cinderella Castle in 2011 and my 20 month old grandson having already been to WDW four times. We will be there again in May and will make it a mission to locate and get photos with the engine bearing your dad's name.

Hope all is well in your train travels... And I look forward to crossing paths with you again!

Steve McCandless, Kansas City, MO



Hi Steve--

Thank you for your very kind remarks. Sometimes we forget about the many lives we have had the privilege of touching.

Happy rails, Michael

I just finished reading your 'Walt Disney's Railroad Story.' What an amazing work of art and professionalism. I love the book and will cherish it always. Thank you for autographing it.

However, I was extremely distressed by Chapter 26, Fort Wilderness Folly. My wife and I and our four sons made our first trip to Walt Disney World in 1975, and we stayed at Ft. Wilderness when the train was still operating. We absolutely fell in love with the campground and especially the train. We knew we would be back every year from then on.

You, of all people, understand what it is like to fall in love with a train. Then, in 1977, they shut the train down. To this day, you can still see portions of the railroad tracks. We weren't interested in reasons for shutting it down; we felt sure that Disney could fix anything they wanted to. Imagine, a campground with its own steam train and then it was gone. This is when the magic died a little for us. None of us ever really got over it.

I guess labeling Chapter 26 as Fort Wilderness Folly is what I find inappropriate. It wasn't the folly of Ft. Wilderness that caused the problems and the heartbreak of those who thought the train would go on for always. The problem was the folly of those who tried to cut corners in the planning and construction of the trains and the railway. You give people something they love and then you take it away - it is hard to take. I don't think it would have happened if Walt was still around.

I have needed to vent that sentiment for a long time. Thank you for giving me the opportunity. Your book is so amazing - I am recommending it to everyone I know.

Robert Conklin, another RR book fan

Hi Robert--

Thank you for your thoughtful comments regarding my book and the Ft. Wilderness RR.

The actual reason (beyond the mechanical and operational challenges) the railroad was removed was the constant complaints received from campground guests about the sound of the steam whistles as the trains ran through the grounds. By law, an engineer has to signal two whistles when approaching a crossing. The tracks were laid through numerous crossings within the grounds. The whistles were audible up to three miles! The trains ran late into the night, disturbing many guests, particularly children who were trying to rest up for their next day in the Parks. That was the final spike in the coffin that forced Park management (Dick Nunis) to order the trains into early retirement.

Happy rails, Michael

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



MICHAEL BROGGIE
MEMBER SINCE DAY ONE

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Sharon Broggie,
Editor and Publisher
Paul Brown, Graphic Design
www.labanbrowndesign.co.uk

Contributors

Larry Boone, Jo Bopp and
Michael Broggie

Michael Broggie, Jr, Webmaster
Paul Brown, Internet Design

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VIEW FROM THE CUPOLA

The stated objective of The Carolwood Society is to “celebrate the railroad legacy of Walt Disney.” A parallel objective is to “keep Walt in Disney.”

Recently, this second goal was provided a tremendous lift when Bob Iger, Disney chairman and CEO, approved the restoration of Walt’s office known as suite 3H located in the third floor wing of the original animation building on the Disney Studio lot at the Burbank, California, headquarters of the company.

The five-room suite was carefully restored by the Walt Disney Archives staff with the support of Disney Corporate Communications, Disney Corporate Operations & Real Estate and the craftspeople of the Disney Studio Mill. Fortunately, the Archives had curated much of the original furniture and fixtures in 1970 when a young library science graduate joined the company to start saving its history. His name is Dave Smith, a Disney Legend who is now retired. Dave’s first work space was 3H-1, the first office in the suite. He recognized the historic significance of the suite and was responsible for saving its contents.

When the feature motion picture, “Saving Mr. Banks,” was in production, the suite was recreated as a set using

photographs and blueprints for reference. This project paved the way to restore the actual offices. As an eight-year-old, this writer recalls going up to 3H to visit Walt. Being the son of Disney’s first Imagineer had its benefits as I often visited the Studio when my dad was head of the Studio Machine Shop.

I’d check in with Tommie Wilck, Walt’s secretary, who would ask Walt if he had time to chat with Michael Broggie. Of course, I had no concept of business protocol that dictates an appointment is normally required, especially to see a busy company executive. However, Walt always found time. He asked questions about what I was reading, learning in school, watching on television, doing for hobbies. Later, I realized I was serving as a focus group of one, while Walt mentally recorded my responses for future evaluation and planning. (I believe I was the person who suggested that he needed a railroad that was larger than the miniature Carolwood Pacific that ran on his property.)

When the newly restored office was dedicated on December 7, 2015, by Bob Iger, he was joined



by Walt’s granddaughters, Michelle Lund, Jennifer Goff and Joanna Miller.

In another gesture of support for Walt’s history, Bob Iger announced at the annual Disney shareholders meeting, which was held in Chicago several weeks ago, that the company is donating \$250,000 toward the restoration and preservation of Walt’s birthplace on Tripp Avenue in Chicago. The wood frame house was built by Walt’s father, Elias from plans drawn by his mother, Flora. Walt was born in an upstairs bedroom on December 5, 1901. In making the commitment to the non-profit foundation (thewaltdisneybirthplace.org) that owns the property, Bob noted the importance of preserving Walt’s history.



This is in concert with the Carolwood Foundation and its preservation and operation of Walt’s Carolwood Barn in Griffith Park, Los Angeles, which will open for visitors two weekends each month during this summer beginning in June. The Foundation recently welcomed its newest board member, Walt’s granddaughter, **Joanna Miller**, who also is on the board of the Walt Disney Family Museum in San Francisco.

Michael Broggie





The Carolwood Society
1653 Gettysvue Way,
Prescott, AZ 86301

Email us at sharon@carolwood.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*

BE SURE TO VISIT US



The Barn is open the **first and third
Sunday of June, July and August** from
11:00 am to 3 pm weather permitting.

Admission and parking are free.

The Barn is located at: 5202 Zoo Drive,
Los Angeles, CA 90027

Carolwood Event Calendar

April 17

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

April 30 - May 1

Fullerton Railroad Days, Carolwood Foundation will have a booth

May 15

Walt Disney Barn open for special event -- Star Wars Day with
Star Wars Characters! From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

June 5

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

June 19

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

July 3

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

July 17

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

August 7

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

August 21

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

September 15 - 18

Annual UnMeeting at Walt Disney World (see story on Platform 1)

September 18

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

October 16

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

November 20

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

December 18

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

**WATCH FOR DATES AND CITIES FEATURING
THE WORLD'S GREATEST HOBBY ON TOUR IN 2017**