Pacific Northwest Railroad Archive

Northwest News

ARCHIVES ACTIVITIES FOR THE SECOND QUARTER OF 2023

News

PNRA was proud to help with Railcamp this year. Mike Bergman and Michael Sawyer of PNRA were volunteers at this year's event, sponsored by the national organization of the NRHS. The Tacoma Chapter of the NRHS is based at PNRA.

PNRA partnered with the Northwest Railroad Museum and J Craig Thorpe for a live event held at NWRM on April 1, 2023. Craig shared a presentation on his book, "Railroads, Art, and American Life," (published by Indiana University).

On June 17 PNRA hosted an open house for Great Northern fans. We shared photos from the Bill Baker collection and we shared drawings/photos created/taken by Norm Hochhalter of the Great Northern, Havermale Island depot in Spokane, Washington

Jonathan Fischer, Executive Director, was the keynote speaker for the National Model Railroad Association, 4th Division meet at Tacoma, Washington on May 13, 2023

PNRA Annual Meeting

The date for our Annual Meeting has been set for 8th of November, 2023 at 7:00 PM via Zoom.

*One of the groups of people that benefits from the collections at the PNRA is the editors of the various railroad historical journals. On one day three of these editors were at the archives and from left to right are **Richard Wilkens**, SP&S Railway Historical Society; **Dr. Marc Entze Ph D**, UP Railroad Historical Society; and **Kurt Armbruster**, NP Railway Historical Association.*

Collection Updates

Casey Adams Collection, *by Bob Kelly*

The photo collection of well known rail photographer Casey Adams has arrived at PNRA. Consisting of approximately 2000 black and white negatives and 5000 slides, the subjects include Great Northern, Northern Pacific, Milwaukee, Spokane Portland & Seattle, Canadian lines, Burlington Northern, and some eastern lines.

Sorting and arranging the materials has just begun. In addition to Adams' own work, he was a very active trader of negatives and several well know photographers are included. The earliest views identified so far are in Minot, North Dakota in the 1940s.

George Bergson Donation, *by Kurt Armbruster*

In June, George Bergson, of Penticton, BC, donated four boxes of his longtime Northwest railroads collection to Archive. His photos of Milwaukee Road and other depots, BN/BNSF equipment and operations, and articles and documents covering various regional railroad issues will make a valuable addition to the PNRA collections. Thank you, George!

Al Haij Collection, *by Mike Bergman*

Al Haij was a Southern Pacific employee in the Portland area who was a prolific railroad photographer starting in the 1940s. Mike Bergman reviewed a sample of his color slides and found 61 images of Portland Traction Co. interurbans and streetcars, 43 images of interurbans and streetcars of the British Columbia Electric Railway Co., and 43 images of the electric locomotives and other rolling stock of the Yakima Valley Transportation Co. The time period for these sample images ranged from 1945 to 1965. While some images would benefit from the use of digital editing, most images are good quality slides, have excellent color reproduction, good composition and clarity. Al was fortunate to record historic streetcars and interurbans in color at a time when black and white photography predominated.

GN Day In Skykomish

The GNRHS and the Skykomish Historical Society are teaming with Sky Artworks to sponsor this year's Great Northern Day in Skykomish event on September 9, 2023. During the morning there will be presentations and displays followed by a Railfan Meet-Up, then the opening party for the art show themed "Light on the Rails" will begin.

The informal event, featuring railroad history and art, will be held in the Maloney Store building. Sky Depot will be used for the Railfan Meet-Up and the annual railroad themed art show, has its opening party starting in the late afternoon.

Here is the schedule:

8:00 am people attending can meet and greet, have drinks at Sky River Coffee, and set up display tables with GN related materials.

At 9:30 am the program will get started. During the morning there will be two presentations and lots of time to talk.

Noon: Lunch - arrangements for sandwiches can be made - delivered to the store at Noon or bring your own.

1:00 pm: we are incorporating a Railfan Meet Up at the Depot. This informal event will run from 1:00 to 4:00 in the Freight Room and on the deck. Refreshments will be served. Free rides on the GN&CR are available

5:00 – 8:00 pm: Maloney Store: Grand Opening event: Light on the Rails - Celebrating All Things Trains and Railroad. Sponsored by Sky Artworks and the Skykomish Historical Society.

All events are free and open to the public, no registration is needed. For more information contact Bob Kelly at mvmmvm@comcast.net or 425-432-3884

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Russell Holter .....Board President
Rich Wilkens ..... Director of Collections
Virginia Wright.....Production & Layout
Jonathan Fischer ..... Executive Director

New Marketing Director

Board Member Virginia Wright has taken on the job of marketing and communicatons for PNRA. Primary responsibilities will include: developing a marketing and communications calendar which will be used to organize and schedule communications to the member communities and to the public, designing and producing marketing and publicity materials for print and online distribution, managing and generating content for social media, including Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, etc., developing a proposal for a redesign of the PNRA website, and acting as liaison with events and other organizations in the local community of arts/culture/heritage. For further info on marketing: vwright@pnrarchive.org.

PRRT&HS Pacific Northwest Chapter Meeting

The next scheduled meeting of the PRRT&HS Pacific Northwest Chapter at the Pacific Northwest Railroad Archive is Saturday July 22, starting at 12:30 and going to 5 PM (more or less).

PRRT&HS needs someone to step up and make presentations. They are asking for: Something PRR related as the main topic, a modeling presentation. They will bring a movie, but if you have something we haven't seen before and want to bring it, contact Jim Trunzo, PRRT&HS-PNWC President: 509-421-3111, jetrunzo@gmail.com.

Historical Society Conventions

The **Union Pacific Historical Society** convention is being held in Pasco, WA on July 19th to 22nd. For more information go to: **uphs.org/conventions/current-convention**

To celebrate the 150th anniversary of the Northern Pacific arriving in the "City of Destiny" the **Northern Pacific Railway Historical Association** is hosting their convention in Tacoma on September 12th to 16th. More information can be found at: **research.nprha.org/Pages/NPRA.aspx**

The **Great Northern Railway Historical Society** convention will be held in St. Cloud, MN on July 22nd to 26th. For more information go to: **gnrhs.org/conventions/2023/convention_info.php**

Vancouver, WA is the location for the annual conversion of the **Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway Historical Society** in September. For more information please go to: **spshs.org/convention**

PNRA receives support from 4 CULTURE