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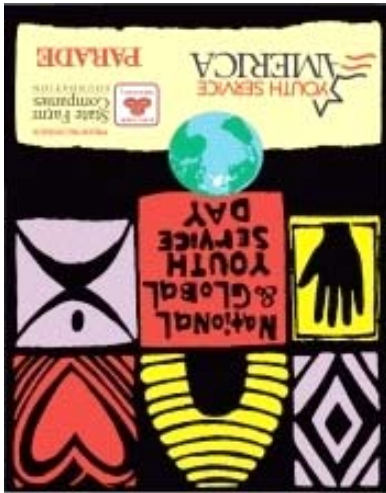
Dodger Night Fundraiser



If you would like to volunteer with your family, there are opportunities available to everyone over the age of 21. We need to remove rocks from all the trains, and we welcome suggestions from the public (especially Youth!) for other work projects. If you would like to come out and help, please call Nancy Gneier at 818-822-7022 to register, or go on-line at [www-traveltown.org](http://www-traveltown.org) and click on the Youth service day button. If you cannot come out and help, would you please consider making a donation to help support all the youth volunteering from the community. \$100 will buy hamburgers for 40 and it's tax deductible!

Travel Town would be nothing without its fantastic youth volunteers, and this year we are excited to participate in the nationally recognized day of youth service. Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and other youth service groups will be participating in helping spruce up the Museum exhibits and give tours. We will celebrate lunch with hamburgers and an awards ceremony for all of our volunteers who have worked over 50 hours for us this year.

## National Youth Service Day



AMERICAN SOUTHWESTERN RAILWAY ASSOCIATION  
P.O. Box 39846 - GRIFFITH STATION  
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# The Travel Town TENDER

A Publication of the Travel Town Museum Foundation

Volume 4, Issue 1  
April 2006

## Greetings from Travel Town!

Greetings Friends!

And a very happy 2006 from everyone at Travel Town! Can you believe it's spring already? We wrapped up 2005 with a lot of fun and excitement around the Museum – including the official Grand Opening of Travel Town's new barbeque picnic area and a great *Polar Express* Holiday Party for our Foundation Patrons! On November 10th, Travel Town welcomed City Councilman Tom LaBonge, along with several busloads of local school children, to help "cut the ribbon" on the beautifully landscaped picnic grounds. This wonderful area south of the Locomotive Pavilion is now hosting scores of birthday parties, family reunions and other outdoor soirees each month! There are three reserveable group areas as well as two unreserved sites and lots of lush green grass for the kids to run and play on. If you're interested in learning more about these new facilities, please give a call to the Travel Town Operations Office at 323-662-5874.

Over 100 of our Foundation Patrons and their families braved a rainy December evening to celebrate the holidays at our first annual Polar Express Pajama Party. It was great to see so many of Travel Town's closest friends, including Mr. and Mrs. Kris

Kringle – although I must admit it was a bit of a challenge for our volunteers to serve that many cups of hot chocolate all at once. I'd like to thank everybody who joined in – members and volunteers alike. It was a wonderful evening of fun and trains!

December was anything but a "holiday" for Travel Town's hard-working volunteers – they've been going like gang-busters all throughout winter months; highlights of their recent accomplishments are featured in the "We've Been Working on the Railroad" section on the next pages. And there's a whole lot more for months ahead, as the rainy winter weather warms up into the spring and summer. We're always looking for new volunteers, and the variety of opportunities are nearly endless. I hope you will consider coming out and seeing what it's like. Please give us a call at 323-668-0104 if you're interested – and we'll tell you more about it!

The next big event on the Travel Town horizon is *National Youth Service Day* on April 22, when we'll be joining with

groups and institutions all across America in a day of encouraging young people to take an active role in improving their communities. And speaking of youth in the community... I want to offer special congratulations to a very energetic Eagle Scout candidate from Burbank B.S.A. Troup 210 – Scott Hanson. In December, Scott met the Travel Town challenge head-on, leading a Herculean effort to completely restore a historic Railway Express Company "Platform Wagon" here at the Museum. The results are fantastic and may now be seen on display along side the Southern Pacific narrow gage Railway Post Office Car inside the big display building. We hope Scott's fine example will light the way for other Scouts and their future projects at Travel Town. Three cheers for Scott Hanson!

There's lots of new stuff to see at Travel Town this summer – come on out and visit us soon!



Greg Gneier, President  
April, 2006





## We've Been Working on the Railroad

Following the old adage that “A picture is worth a thousand words,” this issue’s “We’ve Been Working on the Railroad” explains the fun photographs you see on this page.



◀ Volunteer Leader Nancy Gneier helps with removal of the “pilot plate” from Conrock the Tank Engine (Consolidated Rock Products locomotive No. 1). Plate was removed in preparation for replacement of the locomotive’s wooden “pilot beam” - a large timber measuring 14" x 14" x 9' long. The crumbling remains of the original pilot beam can be seen just below the steel plate.

The pilot beam replacement is an initial step in the cosmetic refurbishment of this 0-6-0T locomotive, built by the American Locomotive Company “Cooke Works” in 1925.

➤ Meanwhile, in “The Little Nugget”... Student volunteers Michelle Bryar and Stephanie Nefas, from the Zoo Magnet High School, continue work on restoring the “Compendium of Comedy,” a photo gallery comprised of 108 vintage images of Vaudeville performers that originally lined the walls of this historic Union Pacific club car. Once thought lost forever, many of the original photos and frames were located several years ago and returned to the Museum. In the current phase of work, the surviving original picture frames are being integrated with replacements for those frames that were not recovered. New frames will be painted and finished to match the old ones before the photos are reinstalled.



◀ Cooling fan from the Museum’s Baldwin Diesel locomotive is off-loaded at Powers Bros. Machine Shop in Montebello for bearing repair work. The fan is now back at the Museum and awaiting reinstallation in California Western locomotive No. 56.

➤ Lots of sunshine around Travel Town in December and January allowed our volunteer Track Gang to make some great progress. Working west from “The Junction,” volunteers Matthew Chanal, Craig Smith and Roger Ringle drive spikes along the new “Main Track.”



◀ Continuing the track construction westward, the crew is bending the “stock rail” for the first of two switches currently under construction. Looking over the shoulder of volunteer leader Greg Gneier, fellow volunteer Greg Ramsey and his son

Gregory work the rail bender while civil engineer Bill Doran checks the angle of the bend.

➤ Now even further west, volunteer Craig Smith checks preliminary tie layout in the 2nd of the two turnouts being built. The one starting to take shape in this photo is a “pavement switch” - being constructed with castings and “girder rails” donated to the Museum by the Department of Water and Power along with surplus switchties from the Metro Gold Line.



◀ Two holes are better than none! Volunteer Greg Ramsey drills fresh bolt holes in the end of a newly trimmed piece of 90-pound rail. FYI: the different sizes of rail are designated by their weight. The size or “section” being drilled here is “90-pound,” which means that a piece of this rail one yard long (3') weighs ninety pound. This is real “heavy metal.”

## Join the Fun!

Register to volunteer on-line at [www.traveltown.org](http://www.traveltown.org), or call our office at 323-668-0104, extension 13. Now accepting volunteers for the Brakeman training program! (You must be registered to get this training.)

## Postcards from the Edge... of the Tracks



◀ “Greg & Bert” had dinner in opulent splendor aboard this diner on The Overland Limited in 1908. Chicago & North-Western Railway. (no. 166)

➤ The decor was a bit simpler by the 1920s when this “new” dining car appeared on Union Pacific’s Portland Rose train. Identical in many respects to Travel Town’s own U.P. Diner No. 3669, this is how her interior may have looked in the late ‘20s, before her reassignment to the Challenger about 1935 (see later image on page 6). (no. 62)



◀◀ Mealtime was “an Event” on Northern Pacific’s North Coast Limited of the 1920s. (no. 260)

◀ Thirty years later (about 1958), Northern Pacific’s “friendly, courteous Steward welcomes you to the new, beautifully appointed dining car on the Vista-Dome North Coast Limited.” (no. 59)



◀ Amtrak assumed operation of most of America’s passenger trains in 1971 and tried, for a time, to rekindle the traditional dining car experience. Here’s an early view, from about 1974. There was still some actual “silver” on the tables - but not for long! (no. 23)



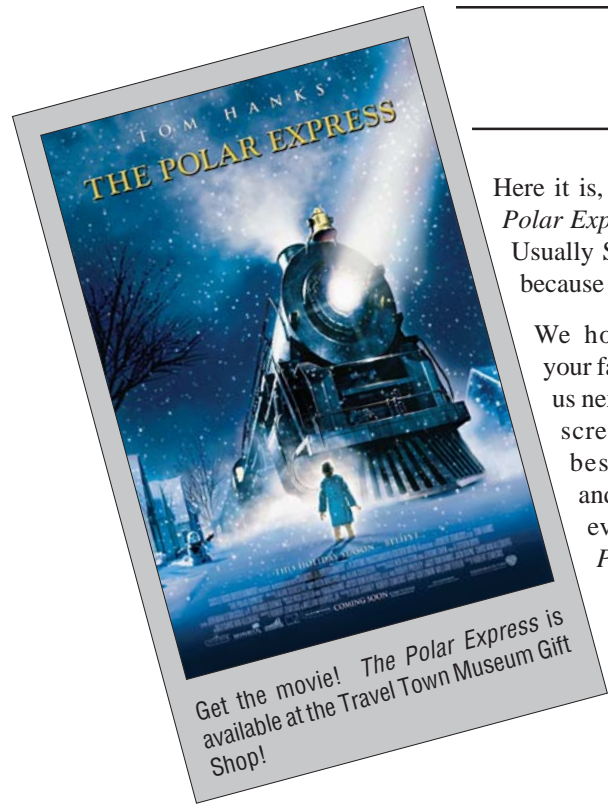
◀ Certainly the most spectacular railroad dining car experience must have been a meal in one of Union Pacific’s unique Dome Dining Cars in the 1950s and 60s. Great food and great views — mountains, lakes, forests . . . or U.P. coach yards! (no. 93)



▲ The piece de resistance: What could be better than a romantic lobster dinner in The Turquoise Room, a private dining room aboard Santa Fe’s posh Super Chief — champagne and everything! (no. 7)

Artifacts on pages 6 & 7 courtesy of G. Gneier Collection





## Polar Express Party in Holden's Corner a Fun Success!

Here it is, Christmas in March! This past December we had a great time watching *The Polar Express* with all of our members who could make it out for the rainy night activity. Usually Santa waits in his village that is set up at Travel Town during the holidays, but because of the rain, Santa actually stopped in the Butler Building before the movie started!

We hope you and your family can join us next year for the screening of the best Christmas and train movie ever made, *The Polar Express*!



▲ Santa visits with some of Travel Town's littlest members.



▲ Here is a shot over Ginger Potter's shoulder as she read *The Polar Express* to young members before the movie began.



▲ Mrs Claus also helped oversee some fun arts and crafts before the movie began. Thanks to Caitlin Merrill for making sure that Mrs. Claus was there!



▲ We had 4 big screen TV's displaying the movie at the same time, so everyone got a good seat!

## Museum Foundation Welcomes Volunteers from Tierra Del Sol Foundation

Every once in a while, we are reminded of what life is all about. I have been reminded of this recently by three wonderful ladies who come out to volunteer in our Gift Shop on Thursday mornings. Barbara, Nancy and Raquel are "special" in many ways. They might be labeled by some as "developmentally disabled," but these ladies are very able to help us dust, clean and tidy the gift shop to keep our product line clean and organized. I get hugs every week from Nancy (and her nails always look great!). Raquel can speak two languages, and Barbara is a very hard worker. All three arrive with smiles and



Barbara Nguyen and Raquel Preciado (at left) help clean up the Thomas table as their instructor Floriselda Perez looks on.



Nancy Ruiz does a great job making our windows sparkle!

enthusiasm to get the job done, and seem a lot more motivated than some employees I know! They also volunteer for "Meals on Wheels" and the Sunland Senior Center. They come out with their instructor every week and help make Travel Town a better museum. The Museum Foundation is proud to partner with this other great Foundation that is helping make Los Angeles a better place for us all to live. That's what its all about, folks, making your world a better place. Please visit [tierradelsol.org](http://tierradelsol.org) on the Web for more information about the foundation. — Nancy Gneier 🚂

## All Aboard!

A warm welcome to the newest members and renewing supporters of the Travel Town Museum Foundation.

### Roomette Passengers

William Meurer & Family

### "Little Nugget" Club

John B. Vertrees

Hunter Murdaugh

### Pullman Passengers

Theresa & Craig King

Cynthia Ito

### Streamliner Passengers

Casey Nicholson

Cokas Family

Robert Anderson

Larry Thomas

Dr. & Mrs. Dave L. Sell

Linda Vertrees

### Yardmasters

Lindsay Gardner

Jack & Sherrie Jessup

Susan Harrison

Beverly Collins

Kathryn Ragar

J. Bell

Tom & Laura Buchanan

H. R. Moody

Jae Walker

### Express Agents

Alexander Albrecht

Elizabeth Alexander

The Allbright-Andrews

Oscar Alonzo

Rebecca Avellano

Corwin Barre

Ernest Bartlett

Jeff Bazylar

Eric Berman

Carlos Bermeo IV

Oliver Booth

John Breckow

Nonny Breiter

Rodney Buchanan

Col. G. & Margaret Cain

Guadalupe Calkins

Susan Callahan

Kim Campbell

Cameron Ceppi

Lisa Clarkson

Katie Cobb

Pat Colabella

Riley Cummins

Brit Davis

Christina DeRochemont-Best

K. Deutsch

Irvello Diunich

Mier Eckelberry

Gabriel Escobar

Renee & Jimmy Esebag

Elizabeth Fleauman

Peter & Jaime Gertmenian

Fred Glienna

Louis J. Gonzalez

Miko Gonzalez

Family Grippe

Elliot Hutkin

Nancy & John Hutton

Xavier & Nancy Inguanzo

Willis Jackson

Matias Jaryosowe

Connie Jenkins

Jonas Johnson

Douglass Klass

Joers Kleutgens

Spencer Klink

Tazuka Koyama

Alec Krueger

Kim Kuskin

Nicole Kvarda

Louis Kwong

David & Dawn Lasher

Karen Lewer

Eric Liljestrand

Zoe Lisboa Lorenz

Kimberley Litke

James Lockmann

Renee Lopez

Jeanette Lorenzo

Julie Lotz

Cary Lucas

Peter Lychnikoff

Jim, Joanie, &

John Maines

Michelle Maltar

Ignacio Martinez

Karon, Aaron, &

Micaiah McCan

Michael Melo

Sheri Michaels

Jackson Milewski

Kathleen Mlotok

Michael Morris

Coeri Nave

Steve Nice

Kim, Aristotle &

Alexander Ochoa

Salvador Ortega

Stephen Paine

Ann Parsons

Aarienne Parsons

Daniel Penney

Justin Javier Perez

Diane & Timothy Price

Stefani Ramirez

Eileen Rauchberg

Cary Reese

Johanna C. Robin

Jose Salazar

Marguerite & Tom Sawyer

Matthew Schaffner

Barbara Schlosser

Daniel Sherman

Eric Stein

Will Steinberg

Lucas Szentgyorgyi

Silvano & Laura Tellechea

Don Terbush

Sara M. Ticas

Kimberly D. Tomajan

Vicken Vosgueritchian

Michelle Wagner

Theatrice Westbrook

Joy Wright



## Someone's In The Kitchen...



Northern Pacific's message is quite clear on this early 20th Century card. (no. 242)

### "ST. LAWRENCE DRESSING" New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad

New Haven's standard recipe number 14-Q.

To 2 Cups Olive Oil, add:  
Juice of 2 Lemons  
Juice of 2 Oranges  
2 Teaspoons Grated Onion  
4 Teaspoons Chopped Parsley  
16 Olives, thinly sliced  
1 Teaspoon Mustard  
1 Teaspoon Paprika  
4 Teaspoons Worcestershire Sauce  
Mix, chill and stir until thickened.

### PARISIENNE DRESSING Northern Pacific Railway

Served on the famous North Coast Limited, usually over tomatoes.

1/2 cup finely diced celery  
1 tablespoon minced onions  
1 anchovy, minced  
a little minced garlic  
salt & pepper  
chopped parsley  
1 tablespoon vinegar  
2 tablespoons vegetable oil

In a small bowl, combine the first 4 ingredients. Season with salt and pepper to taste; sprinkle with chopped parsley. Pour vinegar and oil over ingredients in bowl; mix well. Chill dressing 2 hours. Makes 4 servings.

This and many other fine Northern Pacific recipes may be found in the book **Dining Car Line to the Pacific** by William A. McKenzie; published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press and available in our Travel Town Gift Shop!

### "S.P. DRESSING"

A favorite of Southern Pacific passengers on the Coast Day-light and Sunset Limited - served over "Hearts of Lettuce."

Dissolve one teaspoonful of salt and two teaspoonfuls of English mustard in one-fourth cup vinegar. Add one-half cup of currant jelly and work until smooth. Mix with one cup of mayonnaise and catsup each. Garnish with finely cut chives or young onion tops.

During the heyday of train travel, many of the individual railroads prided themselves on the fine food and service their passengers could experience in the dining car. The diners were not intended to earn a profit but rather to serve as drawing card to attract passengers. Railroads worked hard to maintain a high quality operation as well as notable attributes that would distinguish their trains from those of the competition. Among the most popular, and simplest of distinctions were the railroad's special salad dressings. Here are a few samples you might try at home...

### "UNION PACIFIC SALAD DRESSING"

Served for many years with the Union Pacific's famous "Salad Bowl."

Rub the inside of a mixing bowl with a clove of garlic, then add:

2 level tablespoonfuls of Berry Sugar  
1-1/2 level teaspoonfuls of Salt  
1 level teaspoonful of Paprika  
1/2 level teaspoonful of Dry Mustard

Mix the dry ingredients thoroughly in the bowl to absorb the garlic flavor, then add:

The strained juice of two Lemons  
1/2 cupful of Vinegar  
1 raw Egg White

and beat all together vigorously with an egg beater. When well beaten, stir in gradually:

1-1/2 cupfuls of Mazola Oil and  
1 cupful of California or Old Monk Olive Oil

Again beat the mixture thoroughly and whip in a half bottle of Chili Sauce and a level tablespoonful of coarse chopped and washed parsley. - The recipe here makes about 3 pints.

A word of warning about "raw eggs"... in recent years, many food safety and health organizations advise against eating raw eggs, due to the possible presence of a nasty strain of Salmonella bacteria - which, oddly enough, was not a problem 50-100 years ago when these recipes were written. Today's cook may wish to "pasteurize" raw eggs first or use an egg substitute when preparing salad dressings.



The photo on this 1935 postcard, publicizing "Low-cost dining car meals" on Union Pacific's Challenger, was quite likely taken inside U.P. Diner 3669 - now on display at Travel Town! (no. 117)

## On the Platform: Eagle Scout Scott Hanson

This quarter's On the Platform subject is Mr. Scott Hanson, a senior at John Burroughs High School in Burbank, who has helped out Travel Town immensely by doing his Boy Scout Eagle project here at the Museum.



For people not familiar with the Boy Scouts of America Program, the Eagle rank is the highest achievement one can obtain in scouting, and it must be done before the young man turns 18. Boys should do projects that demonstrate leadership qualities; and they must plan, organize and direct a project of significant value to the community. Scott chose to refurbish a Railway Express baggage cart that had been donated to the Museum by Bryan Reese. This project was no small feat, as it involved getting donated oak and hardware, coordinating the measuring, cutting and re-building the cart, as well as getting everything primed and painted and put

back together! As you can see in the before and after pictures, Scott did a great job. Following is our interview with Scott:



▲ **Before** . . . This is the start of this project. Notice that one wheel isn't even attached, most of the wood is significantly deteriorated, and the paint is so faded that an accurate sample couldn't be taken for matching. Scott did research to find what colors were appropriate.



▲ Scott demonstrates the turning ability on the newly constructed cart. Note that this work was done well into the evening on day 7 or 8 of work here at the Park. Scott did a great job keeping the work area clean and tidy when the Scouts from Troop 210 were not working, an important requirement the Museum placed on the restoration project for the safety of public visitors.

### Scott, when did you start in scouting?

*I joined Boy Scouts in 1999 but had been in Cub Scouts since 95-96.*

### What have you learned as a Boy Scout?

*Scouting has taught me many things about camping and survival and safety but most importantly it has taught me how to lead and how to follow.*

### Why did you decide to do your Eagle Project at Travel Town?

*I chose Travel Town because when I was young I spent countless afternoons playing in those trains and I know that there is always being work done there, the baggage cart was perfect for my time frame and my budget and it was something that guests would be able to see.*

### What did you learn about railroad history doing this project?

*I did not know that the Railway Express Company even existed before I started this project! During my research I learned a lot about the history of that once mighty company.*

### What else did you learn in doing this project?

*I learned restoration work is a lot harder than it looks. I took a whole range of life experience from this project, from learning how to get expensive supplies donated, how to run a small scale construction site, to learning just how fair artifacts from our past are and how easily they will disappear into nothingness without our help.*



▲ This photo really shows how Eagle Projects get done - Scott rallied adults and other scouts from his troop to do the work at TT, note the large sandwich to the left of the picture, the best way to keep your volunteers happy is to feed them! Under the tarp there were several work areas established, and although this is Scott's back to the camera, he is overseeing a Troop leader cutting off rusted hardware from the original platform.



▲ Scott and Senior Patrol Leader Matt examine the underside of the cart platform before disassembly. The wheels have already been removed at this point, but careful attention to the cart's construction was taken so that when it was put back together everything fit!



➤ **And After!** The finished project, before it was rolled over to its new display area in the Butler Building.

