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Thank You!

The Travel Town Tender would like to thank:

Wayne Coleman and The Boeing Employee Community Fund

The Boeing ECF gave a generous grant to our Foundation to help with our Educational Outreach Programs at the Museum, especially in Holden’s Corner. Wayne works for Boeing and is on our Board of Directors, and his nomination and support got us the grant. Thank you for helping make Travel Town a better museum!

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Greg Gneier, President
December, 2005

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Postcards from the Edge... of the Tracks

Pullman, Illinois

In keeping with our holiday theme of The Polar Express, we’d like to offer a brief pictorial visit to America’s quintessential company town, Pullman, Illinois - a.k.a. The North Pole.

The town of Pullman, now a suburb of Chicago, was built in the 1870s by industrialist George M. Pullman as home for his Pullman Palace Car Company. This “model” community included everything Mr. Pullman thought necessary for the successful operation of his railroad car-building company, including a large factory for construction of cars as well as homes for the factory workers, stores, theater, library, hotel and even a Pullman church - all owned by the company. Homes in the town ran the gambit from stately mansions for the company executives down to tenement apartments for the lowliest factory workers. Constructed primarily of red brick in grand Victorian style, much of the Pullman district survives today as an architectural landmark. The main factory building, with its distinctive clock tower, is particularly picturesque.

When you next watch the Tom Hanks holiday film, The Polar Express, see if you recognize Santa's own “company town” at The North Pole!
Pot Roast of Beef

Use the less desirable portions of loin end, trimmings from loin, shoulder and blade of rib or meat furnished by Commissaries. Season with salt and pepper. Sear quickly in a heavy pot containing clear beef fat or lard, diced onion, celery and carrots. When well browned, add flour. Cook, stirring until cheese is melted. Add the well-drained macaroni which has been cooked in salted boiling water until tender. Sprinkle with buttered soft bread crumbs and bake in a moderate oven, 375 degrees, 15 to 20 minutes or until browned.

Macaroni and Cheese DeLuxe (25 servings)

3/4 cup Flour
2 quarts Milk, hot
2 tablespoons Prepared Mustard
1-1/2 tablespoons Salt
2-1/2 cups Cooked Chopped Green Pepper
3/4 cup Butter
2 tablespoons Worcestershire Sauce, salt, pepper, green pepper, pimiento and cheese, string until cheese is melted. Add the well-drained macaroni which has been cooked in salted boiling water until tender. Sprinkle with buttered soft bread crumbs and bake in a moderate oven, 375 degrees, 15 to 20 minutes or until browned.

Western Pot Roast of Beef

The Challenger trains were Union Pacific’s answer to enterprising-minded travelers of the mid-20th Century. In the months following the end of World War II, you could have enjoyed a hearty dinner aboard the Challenger for only 75¢. War-time price ceilings were still in effect when this menu was issued in May of 1946. Travel Town’s own Union Pacific Dining Car No. 3669 was likely assigned to Challenger service during this period. Hungry patrons could choose between Western Pot Roast of Beef and Macaroni and Cheese at the second dinner out, both eastbound and westbound. Here’s what the U.P.R.R. Dining Car Cook Book has to say about those two entrees...
Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and leaders from Glendale helped us so much this year. Here we have scouts ready to run the Game Train where Museum visitors played ring toss, grab bag and ball toss games for small prizes.

Boy Scout Justin Page (left) helped give tours in our sleeping cars, as did Girl Scout Rebecca Goldman (below).

Volunteer Craig Smith checks his time as our guest conductor for the day.

One of our young patrons enjoys the Game Train at the

Depot Day at the Travel Town Museum

Sir Topham Hatt and Harriet the Harvey Girl (Steve DeVorkin and Nancy Gneier) prepare to welcome guests.

Todd Brown and Chuck Kappmeyer gave excellent tours to our visitors in the Dining Car on Depot Day. Both gentlemen graciously dressed up as waiters and served smiles and excellent information on the dining car restoration and china on display.

Sally and Roger Night, Sheri Moses and Danette Lindeman with the Women in Railroading booth. These folks had a nice display featuring Rosie the Riveter, Mary Coulter and Harvey Girls, as well as other prominent women in railroading history, both fictitious and real.

Alice Lewis from Operation Lifesaver gives a presentation on grade crossing safety.

Here are Sally and Roger Night, Sheri Moses and Danette Lindeman with the Women in Railroading booth. These folks had a nice display featuring Rosie the Riveter, Mary Coulter and Harvey Girls, as well as other prominent women in railroading history, both fictitious and real.
Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and leaders from Glendale helped us so much this year. Here we have scouts ready to run the Game Train - where Museum visitors played ring toss, grab bag and ball toss games for small prizes.

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Volunteer Craig Smith checks his time as our guest conductor for the day.

Alice Lewin from Operation Lifesaver gives a presentation on grade crossing safety.

Here are Sally and Roger Wright, Shari Horne and Daisy, and the Women in Railroading booth. These folks had a nice display featuring Route 66 photos,vodkas and other prominent women in railroading history, both fictitious and real.
On the Platform: Linda Barth

In this edition of On the Platform we would like to salute a young lady without whom there would literally be no “platform” at Travel Town – Recreation & Parks Department administrator, Linda Barth.

Linda signed on with the City of Los Angeles in 1985 and among her very first Recreation & Parks assignments was the study and subsequent rejuvenation of a languishing corner of Griffith Park known as Travel Town. Long possessing one of the nation’s largest and most significant collections of historic railroad equipment, the 30-year-old Travel Town facility had fallen into a forlorn state of neglect.

In 1987, recognizing the significance of the Travel Town collection, the Los Angeles Recreation & Parks Commission adopted an exciting Master Plan for the Museum - and Mrs. Barth was appointed to the task of guiding the much-needed renaissance. In the ensuing years, Mrs. Barth has administered the Department’s ongoing efforts to revitalize and enhance the Museum facility, leading the charge of transforming Travel Town into the beautiful and functional family education and recreation facility you enjoy today. She and her staff organized art projects, created an archive for the Museum, and shepherded the momentous efforts of the volunteer organizations in areas of restoration, track rehabilitation and railroad operations. Among the most notable Travel Town improvements made during Mrs. Barth’s 20-year tenure are the redesign of the Museum’s Public Entrance, construction of the magnificent Locomotive Pavilion, creation of Holden’s Corner and acquisition of several additional major pieces of historic railroad equipment – including two working Diesel locomotives! Linda has worked tirelessly to help the Museum grow and prosper. Her professional dedication to both Griffith Park and historic preservation has translated into big rewards for Travel Town and the Los Angeles community.

Linda grew up in Santa Maria, California, and earned a degree in American History at the University of Southern California. She now resides in the San Fernando Valley with husband, Tom, and daughters Alyssa and Olivia. We’re not sure where she finds any spare time... but when she does, Linda enjoys cooking and choral singing (although not necessarily at the same time). While Travel Town has been but one of a multitude of Linda’s City administrative duties over the years, she has really taken her “railroad” assignment to heart – recognizing what a special and unique place Travel Town really is.

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