

# THE MANIFEST

## February 2017



Well here, we are only about a month out from our run season time certainly flies by. For my part, I have ordered some trinkets for the Burger Shack, need to go by and clean up the Shack sometime this month, and organize everything, maybe plant some flowers, if it ever warms up ☺

I am running low on new stories for the newsletter, so if you have any stories and/or pictures please email them to me.

This month I think I will tell a short story about one of my trips back to Montana on the Empire Builder. It was back about two years after 9/11. There had been some hijacking again of a plane to Cuba apparently, anyway according to the lady sitting next to me. I noticed she seemed quite nervous; she kept fidgeting, looking over her shoulder, eyes darting back and forth. I was beginning to think she was some informant about to be assassinated.

Anyway, rather than just move, I asked her if she was okay. She looked at me for a few seconds, as if she were trying to decide if I was some sort of Russian spy, then she said oh yes, I'm just worried we might be hijacked!

Now that took me by surprise, I had to digest that one for a moment. Hijacked, I said. Yes, you know like to Cuba or Russia! It was all I could do to keep a straight face. I thought, surely, she is joking, I mean what idiot would be afraid that their train was going to be hijacked to Cuba or Russia! Apparently, I was sitting next to one, as I was about to find out.

Therefore, at the risk of offending her, although I had decided that if she was dumb enough to think that, offending her

seemed like a good idea, I said, you're joking right. She looked at me as if I had just called her some nasty name. NO, was her resounding answer. You people that go around with your head in the sand wake up and smell the coffee.

Well, that was about all I could take, I was done being polite, and sure as heck did not care if I offended her, as a matter of fact, that had become my intention. First of all, I said, trains travel on tracks, they need tracks to function. The train cannot just be picked up and diverted to Cuba or Russia, even if there was a train route to Cuba or Russia!! Have you looked at a map lately? You don't have your head in the sand lady, you have it shoved up your backside (which I did not use that word). I then got up and walked away. For her part, she just sat there staring, and the guy in the seat behind us was practically rolling in the isle laughing.!

So that's it my friends, one of my trips on the Empire Builder, where I apparently narrowly escaped being hijacked to Russia!

The End.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
2/14/17/

I was ill last month, but Allen Dobney took minutes for me and sent me a copy. Thank you so much Allen.

Southern Oregon Railway Historical Society  
Board of Directors  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes of February 14, 2017

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Bruce Kelly
2. Roll Call: Bruce Kelly, Allen Dobney, Jerry Hellinga, Ric Walsh and 9 other members were present. Chris Manley was absent.

3. Consent of the Agenda: The agenda was approved by consensus.
4. Approval of January minutes: No Meeting.
5. Treasurer's Report: Jerry Hellinga presented the Treasurer's Report. Allen Dobney moved to accept the treasurer's report. Ric Walsh seconded. Motion passed.
6. Committee Reports:
  - a. Medco 4: Jerry Hellinga reported that our machinist moved to Colorado. He cleaned up most of the works we had for him on #4 except bearings. Dollar wise it came in less than expected at \$13,100. We will need an additional \$12K to \$15K to finish. The air pump has been finished and hung on the locomotive.
  - b. Burger Shack: Larry Tuttle reported that we are still planning on getting the floors repaired next month.
  - c. Excess Sales: No update.
  - d. Web Site - Allen Reported he is planning on updating #4 rebuild status
  - e. Motor Car - Ken Hill & Ric Walsh reported that they are making good progress on rebuilding the ex. Amtrak motor car.
  - f. Parking - We are not sure if we will be able to use any of the fire station space for parking after the station is completed. We have lost Carol & Dick due to health issues. Bruce reported that he plans to contact all

of the clubs to get 2 volunteers from each group for parking duty.

- g. Museum - Tony Johnson reported that he has made good progress on cleaning up and organizing the museum materials. He is working to get the oak desk set up as a dispatcher's desk display. You can now walk into the climate-controlled room.

#### 7. Old Business:

- a. There was no old business.

#### 8. New Business

- a. The motor car station cover was heavily damaged during the snow storm. Jerry Hellinga proposed replacing the cover with an All-Steel cover at a cost of about \$4,000.00. Allen Dobney moved to fund the cover replacement. Ric Walsh seconded, the motion passed.

9. Good of the Order: Dan Wilkinson reported that we need to get started repainting the Burlington caboose as soon as weather permits. The scout that was interested in the project is no longer available. Ric Walsh will check with the Scout council to see if there are other scouts available to take on the project.

10. Adjournment: Jerry Hellinga moved to adjourn; Ric Walsh seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8.25 PM.

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Allen Dobney, Acting Secretary

Next Society Meeting: March 14, 2017 at 7:00PM

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

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## UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

Our entertainment for our meeting on March 14, will be presented by Allen Dobney, "Southern Pacific in the Willamette Valley Volume 2".

*If you know of any other events that should be added to our newsletter, please email, me at [chrismanleysteam@gmail.com](mailto:chrismanleysteam@gmail.com)/ call, (541-291-1705), with the details.*

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