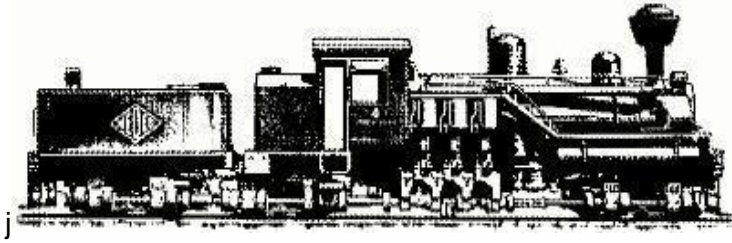


THE MANIFEST Spring 2023



Greetings All:

I have missed the first two run days this year due to my father's illness and ultimate passing. I hope this newsletter finds you all well and I hope to see many of you on Mother's Day for our first run day in May. I am told our first two run days were quite successful and thank you everyone who stepped up to make sure that they were.

I am simply combining the last three months into this newsletter, which I am calling our "Spring 2023" newsletter. However, they will be published monthly from this point forward. I did want to remind anyone who may not have paid their annual dues to please do so as soon as possible, and, of course, we always need extra hands to cover the various areas and jobs during our run days, as well as general maintenance.

I will be going to the park in a day or two and making sure things are ready in the burger shack for our Mother's Day run, weeding, and planting a few flowers, etc. My story today comes from my great grandmother. I found her jottings while looking through family history with my aunt. It seems my maternal side of the family has had some adventures on their train travels.

Shaming a Would-Be Train Robber

On a trip between Oregon and Kansas, my great grandmother and grandmother encountered two unlikely train robbers. These robbers were just young boys, ages about 15 and 16, according to my great grandmother's notes.

Grandma writes that on the first evening of their journey, two masked robbers entered the car where she and my grandmother were riding. Exactly how or where they had originally boarded the train is unknown to me and perhaps to my grandmother and great-grandmother.

However, as the story goes, these two young hoodlums (as my grandmother would have called them, I'm sure) entered the train brandishing what appeared to be a pistol each and demanding that the passengers empty their pockets, pocketbooks, remove watches, necklaces, etc. and place everything in a bag held by one of the robbers.

Now these two boys were not very experienced in robbing trains, as they picked a train that was more or less local to where they lived in Kansas, where my grandmother was born and raised and lived at the time.

As my great-grandmother wrote:

"I knew immediately that young James was the boy who appeared to be the leader and shouting orders at us and his young partner in crime. I was not about to give this wayward boy my grandmother's necklace, and I told Neta (my grandmother) not to give them her valuables.

When James ordered me to take off my necklace and empty my pocketbook, I sternly told him I would do no such thing and that he should be ashamed of himself for trying to rob his neighbors and friends of his family. I told him I knew his mother and she would learn about his misbehavior as soon as I arrived home."

Apparently, James was taken aback by this and, according to my great-grandmother, began to "hem and haw" and stutter. My great-grandmother told him she would see to it that his father "tanned his hide". This obviously hit home because my great-grandmother said that James began to cry and say he was sorry and please, please do not tell his father and the two would-be

robbers dropped their bag and left the train, which at the time was just one town over from where they lived.

I did not know my great-grandmother, but I could definitely see my grandmother reacting this same way. The story had my aunt and I laughing until we were in tears. I am not sure if great-grandmother informed the parents of the boy or not, but I would hope that it was the beginning and end of a very short train-robbing career.

Below you will find the March Minutes and the April Minutes from the monthly board and general meetings.

**March 2023 Minutes
Board Meeting/General Meeting**

**Southern Oregon Railway Historical Society
Board of Directors
Regular Meeting March 14, 2023**

1. **Call to Order** by Bruce Kelly at 7:23 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Bruce Kelly, Jerry Hellinga, Allen Dobney, and five members present. Chris Manley and Ric Walch were absent.
3. **Consent of the Agenda:** The agenda was approved by consensus.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** Bruce Kelly reviewed the minutes of the February 2023 meeting. Jerry moved to approve the minutes as read. Allen seconded; the motion passed.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Jerry Hellinga presented the treasurer's report. Allen moved to approve the report. Bruce seconded; the motion passed.
6. **Committee Reports:**

- a. Medco 4: No Update
 - b. Burger Shack: Allen is making progress on getting the burger shack ready for April. Our new member Lynette will be supporting the shack team replacing Larry Tuttle. Allen will be working on the picnic tables this Thursday.
 - c. Newsletter: No update
 - d. Website: No update
 - e. Butte Falls: No update
 - f. Excess Sales: Allen reported that the sales are going well with the new eBay Society account. So far this year, we have made \$1,678.
 - g. RR Park: The next quarterly meeting is on the 23rd of March.
7. **Old Business** Jerry reported that the spill clean-up has been completed. Scott's crew has refilled the hole, and we are now waiting for Terrami's final approval so that Scott can re-lay the ties and rail.
8. **New Business:** None
9. **Good of the Order:** Allen reviewed and updated our project list.
10. **Adjournment:** Allen moved to adjourn, Jerry seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Prepared by Allen Dobney

**April 2023 Minutes
Board Meeting/General Meeting**

**Southern Oregon Railway Historical Society
Board of Directors
Regular Meeting April 11, 2023**

1. **Call to Order:** By Bruce Kelly at 7:26 p.m.
2. **Roll Call:** Bruce Kelly, Jerry Hellinga, Allen Dobney, Ric Walch, and five members were present. Chris Manley was absent.
3. **Consent of the Agenda:** The agenda was approved by consensus.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** The March minutes were reviewed by Allen Dobney. One minor typo was identified and corrected. Jerry Hellinga moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Bruce Kelly seconded; the motion passed.
5. **Treasurer's Report:** Jerry Hellinga presented the treasurer's report. Allen Dobney moved to approve the treasurer's report. Ric Walch seconded, and the motion passed.
6. **Committee Reports:**
 - a. Medco 4: No update
 - b. Burger Shack: Allen reported that all but one of the picnic tables were repaired and repainted. Two new crew members, Lynette Gains and Phil Wilkinson, helped at the burger shack on our first run day.
 - c. Newsletter: No update
 - d. Website: No update

- e. Butte Falls: Ric Walch reported that a couple of members of the town of Butte Falls are planning on attending our May meeting to discuss the Butte Falls Scenic Railway project.
 - f. Excess Sales: Allen reported that we made a little over \$600.00 from slide sales in the month of March.
 - g. RR Park: Bruce Kelly reported that we made a little over \$600.00 from slide sales for the month of March.
7. **Old Business:** Jerry Hellinga reported that the cleanup at Terramai has been completed with the replacement of rail and ties by Scott's crew.
8. **New Business:** Jerry Hellinga requested that the board approve the purchase of \$600.00 for a pair of 1.5" scale passenger trucks donated to the RR Park by Claude's estate with 50% of the funds going to the Historical Society and the other 50% going to the Live Steamers. Allen moved that we accept Jerry's request; Jerry seconded, and the motion passed.
9. **Good of the Order:** Jerry reported that a person, name unknown, contacted Jerry interested in doing an article about the history of the RR Park.
10. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Prepared by Allen Dobney

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