
THE DESERT WIND

Volume 7, Issue 3

A Publication of the Joshua Tree and Southern Railroad Museum

Fall 2003

Flood 2003 Does Minor Damage.

2+ inches fall in less than one hour!

-from Rudy van Wingen

The damage shown occurred between 7-9PM Wednesday night August 27th; Pat Skrilets (our neighbor) took these photos early Thursday AM. Our flood control efforts paid off and little serious damage was done; we will learn from this event also. ☀



Sand from the wash covers the road adjacent to the Shop Car.

More photos on page 2

Three concrete pours in one day!

Bill Shepard and crew do it again!

On Saturday, Oct 11th, at 7am, just as the sun was rising, a small, bleary-eyed army attacked on three fronts. Armed with a tireless concrete pumper fed by two trucks, wall foundations for the new carbarn were poured, followed by a 15' X 50' slab adjacent to the Shop Car, and finally (just barely) a pier for the 15" gauge bridge. There was a great turnout by many members, thanks for coming out and pitching in to everyone who participated!

Member Bill Shepard, of Fort Bragg, California, along with Terry Watson and Gary Conley spent the week prior constructing the needed formwork in preparation for the Saturday pour. Thanks to their efforts all three projects were completed in one morning.

Tom Arnold and the Bastrup Family (Ron, Laren, Eric & Scott) pitched in the weekend prior on several dirt-moving operations, and removal of the track allowing the pumper access to the carbarn foundation. Tom Arnold generously donated the rental of a Bobcat loader to speed up the earthmoving. Thanks also to Rich Middlebrough who graciously loaned the use of his truck to pick up and return the Bobcat to the rental yard. -ed. ☀

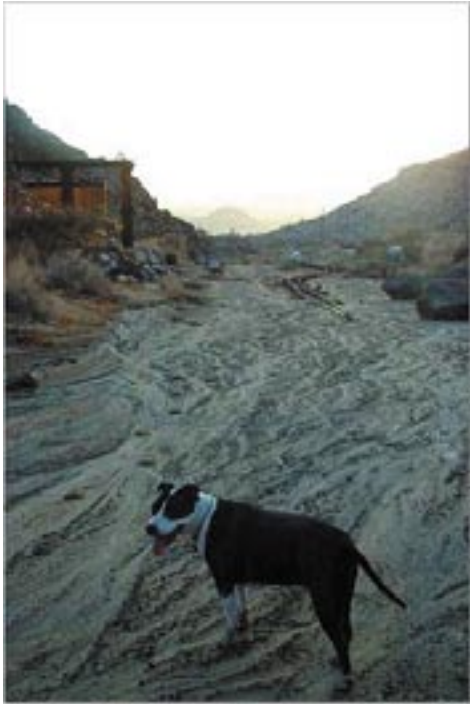


View of the Carbarn Pit with newly poured foundation walls on each side.

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One of the locals checks out the wash under the future 15" gauge bridge. The new concrete piers were untouched, however the temporary construction tramway is a total loss.



Sand washed over the tracks in several places. A quick clean up was accomplished by Gary Conley, Terry Watson, new members The Bastrup Family, and others. A big thank you to everyone who pitched in on the clean up effort! -ed.



Paul Lavacot wets down the fresh concrete at the Shop Car slab, while Bill Shepard starts on the second pass of finishing.



A closer look at "Shoeless" Bill Shepard performing the highly skilled task of finishing the concrete. This new Shop Car addition required over 10 yards of concrete, and will eventually have a roof over it. Plans call for this area to serve as a motor pool servicing bay and open-air woodshop.

Grand Scale Division Update -from Chris Allan

Prior to the Summer hiatus, Jack Sessums, Lars Tenpas, and Paul Lavacot poured the east pier foundation for the bridge. Thanks for coming out and keeping the project moving forward, and thanks especially to Jack for his continuing generosity! For the Track Dept., Ken Eells has donated enough water-jet cut frog points to fabricate twelve #5 switch frogs, these will be used in the engine servicing area as well as out on the mainline.

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Visit our online gift shop at:
www.cafepress.com/jtsdiningcar

Proceeds go to worthy Museum projects!

Our Current Wants:

If you can donate or know of someone who can donate any of these items or services please call Chris Allan at (562) 809-7455 or email to wslfco@earthlink.net - *Thanks!*

- A working industrial quality vaccum for the Dining Car.
- A servicable Shop-Vac for general cleanup chores.
- A quantity of Acid-free 8 ½" x 11" envelopes for document storage in the Library.
- Signage services for interpretation of artifacts in the Museum Building (Silk screen on Plastic or Masonite would be great).
- Tractor services for cleanup, riprap placement in the wash, or grading new rail lines. If you would like to donate a day of backhoe or Bobcat rental please contact Chris at the number above.



Calendar of Events

•Fall Meet Spectacular

November 7th - 11th, 2003

*Saturday night- Dinner in the Diner
Reservations recommended.*

•Spring Meet

Feb. 13th - 17th, 2004

*Saturday night- Dinner in the Diner
Reservations recommended.*

•Narrow Gauge Meet

March 12th - 15th, 2004

Email Rudy van Wingen for more info:

dmmcomo@sprintmail.com

Logon at www.jtsrr.org for all the latest!

GSD Report... *from page 2*

Ken Kukuk of the West Side Locomotive Works has finished the rebuild on the trucks for our Shay #6. The new trucks sport 10" steel wheels, and are now 15" gauge instead of the as-built 14½" Thanks to Ken, as well as Gary Smith of Danville, California for the donation of the new Boston Bevel Gears.



One of two rebuilt Shay trucks.

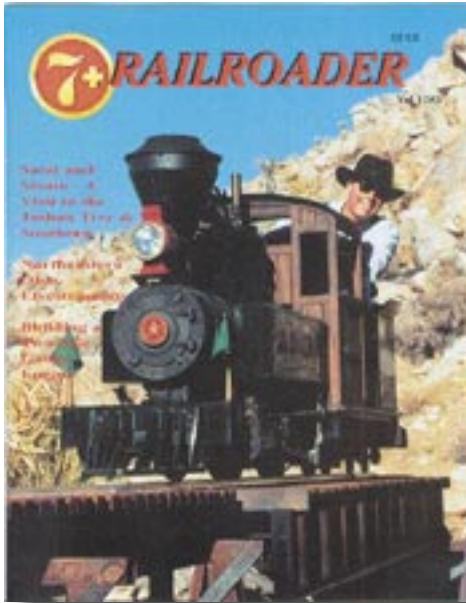
Please note: Future Grand Scale Division work-days will be set on the second Saturday of each month. This avoids any last minute scrambling to get people at the last moment, and will hopefully get a routine established. Call me at (562) 809-7455 or email at wslfco@earthlink.net if you have any comments or suggestions for workdays or projects.

Finally we are sad to see the departure of our good friends the Pimlott Family, Ken, Karen, Nick and Steve for Sacramento. Ken has accepted a new position with the CDF up there, and we wish them all the best in Northern California. We'll miss you guys!

JT&S Well Represented at Grand Scales Convention.

The weekend of October 3rd-5th in Reedley, California, just south of Fresno saw the second Grand Scale Convention. The event was hosted by the Hillcrest & Wahtoke Railroad, a burgeoning 15" gauge, 5" scale operation. The Grand Scales Quarterly magazine sponsored the event, with editor-in-chief Greg Robinson and his capable wife Susan at the helm. JT&S members in attendance included Tom Gaszi, Peter Moseley, Ron Schmidt, Ken Eells, Jack Sessums, Ray Bejerrum, and Yours Truly. My engine, #18, an 0-4-0 was available to rent by the half-hour. It didn't stop moving during those three days, and neither did any of the other "rental" locomotives, which included Redwood Valley 4-6-0 #11, Glenwood 2-8-0 #13, and

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GSD Report...from page 3

Hillcrest #57, a new 6-wheel diesel. Jack graciously brought his Shay #7 to add a bit of gear noise to the commotion. Symposiums, and trade booths kept participants busy, as well as meeting new folks and catching up with old acquaintances and friends. The Convention marked the debut of our new "bobber" caboose #5, which was completed just hours before leaving Lakewood for Reedley.☀



JT&S Member Tom Gaszi and the "Joshua" adorn the cover of the current 7+ *Railroader*. An extensive article on The Joshua Tree Railroad Museum, written by editor Greg Robinson, is featured. Thanks to Greg for such wonderful coverage! Subscriptions to this periodical and Greg's other effort, the *Grand Scales Quarterly*, which features mainly railways of 12" gauge and above, may be purchased by contacting: Robinson & Associates, P.O. Box 8953, Red Bluff, CA 96080, or phone 530-527-0141
web: <http://7plusrailroader.com>

New Allan Family Caboose #5, in 5" scale, 15" gauge, at the Hillcrest & Wahtoke. Hillcrest is a generous sponsor of the JT&S GSD.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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