
THE DESERT WIND

Volume 9, Issue 4

A Publication of the Joshua Tree and Southern Railroad Museum

Fall 2005

Property Purchase Goal is Met!

Over \$15,000.00 raised!

Thanks to the generosity of many, we have raised the necessary amount to purchase the remainder of the Museum property from the Barnes estate. Carl Vanderspek and Maggie Hope put us over the top with their very generous matching donation of \$5000.00, This amount they pledged contingent on the JT&S membership raising the initial \$10000.00.

Again thanks to everyone who donated to this fund-raising drive, we will now enjoy the luxury of owning 100% of the Museum property. More on this in Tom Arnold's **President's Report**, along with the list of donors, inside this issue...ed. ☀

Shay 6 at the GSQ Convention.

JT&S Grand Scale Division represented...

A band of JT&S members consisting of John Zitrick, Ken Eells, and Yours Truly represented the Museum at the Grand Scales Convention in Reedley, California held during the weekend of Sept. 30th - Oct 2nd, 2005. Over \$600.00 was raised for Grand Scale Division projects through rentals of our Shay #6, and Ken's fundraising efforts at the JT&S display table.

Ten individuals paid for the experience to "play" engineer on our locomotive, and \$25 from each rental was graciously donated to the JT&S by Greg and Susan Robinson of Robinson & Associates, convention hosts. A good deal of cash was raised for the 15" gauge roundhouse construction via Ken Eells "Buy-a-Block" program. Donors were christened honorary "Blockheads". A brief talk was given on the

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Fall Meet 2005 Coming Up.

Make plans now...

Time to reserve your campsite for the Fall Meet, coming up quick! - **November 11th-13th.**

Email Tom Arnold and get your spot:
tomamailbox-jts@yahoo.com

or call the Museum Voice Mailbox:
(760) 366-8503

Reservations for the Saturday night, Nov. 12th, 2005 Fall Meet **Dinner in the Diner** are now open. Seating is limited, as usual, so don't delay! Cost this year is **\$25** per person. The entree is Chicken Pot Pie, expertly cooked by Rita Allan and her galley crew. Payment made be made with credit card via Paypal through the link on our website: **www.jtsrr.org** or you may mail your check made out to **JTSRR Museum** to:

Rita Allan
21016 Longworth Ave.
Lakewood, CA 90715

For more info contact Rita by email:
troop138@earthlink.net

We hope to see lots of old friends and many new faces this year!



President's Message for Fall 2005.

-From Tom Arnold

Great news on the property purchase! We have reached our fundraising goal and our attorney is in the process of completing the agreement. Thanks to all who contributed. We very much appreciate the sacrifice you have made to help secure the future of our Museum. A special thanks to Carl Vanderspek and Maggie Hope. They offered a challenge grant of \$5,000 if we raised \$10,000. This very generous contribution made it possible to reach our goal much more quickly. A list of contributors is posted in this newsletter so please say thanks the next time you see these folks.

Beginning Oct. 29 and lasting through the fall meet on Nov. 13, I and others will be joining Bill & Mary Shepherd at JT&S to work on development projects. Those projects include; another rail crossing from the station to the wye, continued work on the wye, highline and narrow gauge engine house, construction of several stalls for the grand scale engine house, installing the bridge spans over the wash, painting the station and car barn, prep for the meet, and other projects as time allows. Your participation is welcome and will be appreciated. There will be a few days during that time we may be off site so if your thinking about coming out, call the museum to get our schedule.

A special thanks to Rita Allan who has again volunteered to put on a dinner in the diner. This year she has found a way to lower the cost of the dinner in an effort to include more members in the meal. We always appreciate the effort she and her team make to create this special experience. Don't delay. Get your reservations in before the car gets full.

We hope your planning on attending the meet on November 11 – 13. With Veterans Day landing on a Friday this year, we should get a good turnout for the full 3 days. Don't forget the BYOB cocktail hour in the Pullman lounge prior to the dinner on Saturday night. All are welcome and it's always a great time.

See you at the railroad!

Tom Arnold, President



Property Fund Donors As of October 2005.

Carl Vanderspek and Maggie Hope - \$5000.00

Bill and Mary Shepherd - \$1100.00

The Allan Family - \$1000.00

Herb and Freida Baker - \$1000.00

Tom Arnold and Kathy Ladd - \$1000.00

Peter and Jacki Moseley - \$1000.00

Ronald and Lila Schmidt - \$1000.00

Eric & Fran Bauer - \$500.00

Ron Hirschberg - \$500.00

Allan and Lynn Ratliff - \$500.00

Ken and Linda Johnson - \$500.00

The Gaszi Family - \$300.00

Mark Josephs and Eileen Brown - \$200.00

Howard Springer - \$150.00

Robert, Kim & Linda Beard - \$100.00

Jack Beauchamp - \$100.00

Ken and Elizabeth Burns - \$100.00

Gary Conley - \$100.00

Wm. Robert and Doris Fletcher - \$100.00

Karen Sexton-Josephs - \$100.00

Hollis Ladd - \$100.00

Dick Miller - \$100.00

Russell and Marji Patterson - \$100.00

Lucille Peoples - \$100.00

Carl Ulrich - \$100.00

Terry Watson - \$100.00

Roger Gash - \$90.00

Kevin and Mageeda Doe - \$50.00

Paul E. Patten, Jr. - \$50.00

***Thank you to one and all,
Together, we did it!***

Library Recieves Makeover.

Organization replaces chaos...

Member Gary Conley has diligently been making progress on the Museum Library, book by book, periodical by periodical. The shelves are now organized neatly by Subject, making it much easier to just browse, or find any particular shred of information being sought.

Literally mountains of magazines and periodicals were sorted, yielding numerous (to say the least!) extra copies, **During the Fall Meet, Gary will have any duplicates out for members to take off his hands, free of charge!** So come out and grab a handful, you will be doing him a favor.

We owe Gary a deep debt of gratitude for taking on this huge task. His efforts help make the Depot Museum and Library a *much* nicer place to visit! -ed. ☀



Calendar of Events

•*Work Day Schedule:*

November 12, 2005

December 10, 2005

January 14, 2006

February 11, 2006

March 11, 2006

April 8, 2006

May 13, 2006

•*Fall Meet Spectacular:*

November 11-13, 2005

Dinner in the Diner Saturday Night - \$25

Contact Rita Allan for info: (562) 809-7455

or Email: troop138@earthlink.net

•*Run Weekend:*

February 18-20, 2006

•*Narrow Gauge Meet:*

March 24-26, 2006

Email tomamailbox-jts@yahoo.com for more info and member camping reservations.

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

Grand Scale Convention Report

Continued from page 1...

JT&S which focused on the rebuild of the Shay by Ken Kukuk, the need for new membership, and the Block program, after which many new acquaintances were made and donations were graciously accepted.

Three days in the Central Valley sun was a formidable challenge for man and machine, but the task was met with vigor and enthusiasm by the JT&S personnel, especially John Zitrick, who patiently tutored the Rent-an-Engine participants one after the other around the Hillcrest & Wahtoke Railroad. John kept the Shay in good order the whole time. Thanks also to my old friend, Phil Reader, manager of the 3' gauge Pacific Coast Railway of Santa Margarita, Ca. who helped us out Friday and Saturday as a co-engineer.

Needless to say that we owe a debt of gratitude to Greg and Susan Robinson, the Convention hosts, and to Sean and Melissa Bautista, owners of the host railroad, the Hillcrest & Wahtoke, who will also generously store our Engine until it is ready to come home to the desert. A big thanks to the JT&S crew who braved the heat, the dust and the price of gas to get us safely and professionally "Over the Road".

- Chris Allan ☀



John Zitrick, Chris Allan and Ken Eells represent the JT&S at the GSQ Convention.



John fires up #6 for the day's run on Sunday morning.



The Shay out on the line.



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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