
THE DESERT WIND

Volume 8, Issue 1

A Publication of the Joshua Tree and Southern Railroad Museum

Winter 2004

Happy New Year 2004!

New challenges and a new caretaker!

-from the editor

A happy New Year to all of our Members and Friends! This issue begins my first full year as editor of the *Desert Wind*, our newsletter. My hope is that this publication will continue to improve as well as continue to embody the spirit of my esteemed forebearers. That being said I cannot emphasize enough the need for each of you to contribute to *your* newsletter, either by submitting text, workday schedules, project reports, photos, or even random thoughts pertaining to our shared desert endeavor.

I am happy to report that our new caretaker, Tim Poppell, has moved onto the property. Tim hails from Joshua Tree, a life-long resident. He works in the restaurant trade, and is a volunteer at the Hi-Desert Playhouse alongside our beloved director Cherie Palmer. Kevin and Lisa Kane have gone to great lengths to provide him with suitable accommodation on site until a more permanent situation can be arranged. Please welcome Tim and get to know him next time you come up to the property! - *Chris Allan* ☀

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JTSRR Museum allies with Basin Wide Foundation.

Meetings help increase local exposure.

Recently JTSRR president Tom Arnold and director Chris Allan met with Penny Kemp, executive director of the Yucca Valley based Basin Wide Foundation to discuss how the Museum may become more involved in the local community. The Basin Wide Foundation is an alliance of many non-profit organizations and community leaders in the Morongo Basin area. The Foundation will provide us with access to their Grant Research Program and help with valuable networking opportunities. Chris presented a brief slide program at the monthly Foundation breakfast in Joshua Tree on December 4th, 2003, at which many local contacts and potential new members were introduced to the JT&SRR Museum. -*ed.* ☀

Smiling Faces Around the Museum.

A photo essay

-by Tom Gaszi



Bill Sheperd at the new Car barn foundation.

More photos on page 2

JT&SRR Museum President's Message

-December 21, 2003

I frequently have visitors to our Museum express their observation about the friendly atmosphere they experienced. Some of our newer members told me that was the reason they joined. Over the years I have witnessed the development of a positive, inclusive and supportive culture at JT&S. One that keeps the focus on our desire to continue the development of the museum and a demonstration model railroad while providing an enjoyable experience in the process. There is nothing more important to our future than to nurture this culture.

I appreciate the members of this organization and what they have done to build the physical components and the human relationships we have here. I will never take any of this for granted and have been thinking about how we can make sure this remains our main asset. One way to ensure our organization continues to develop these wonderful attributes is to develop and publish our organizational values. These values will be statements of what we as an organization stand for. It can serve as a guide for our decisions and actions. It is a document that we can refer to when necessary and provide to new members when they join.

I am developing a list of organizational values for the board of directors to consider for adoption early in 2004. If you have any suggestions, thoughts or questions, please send them to me ktla@pacbell.net or call me at (949) 642-9994. I would appreciate any help you have to offer on this process.

As always, there are a lot of exciting projects in the works and I am looking forward to a fun and productive year ahead.

Tom Arnold

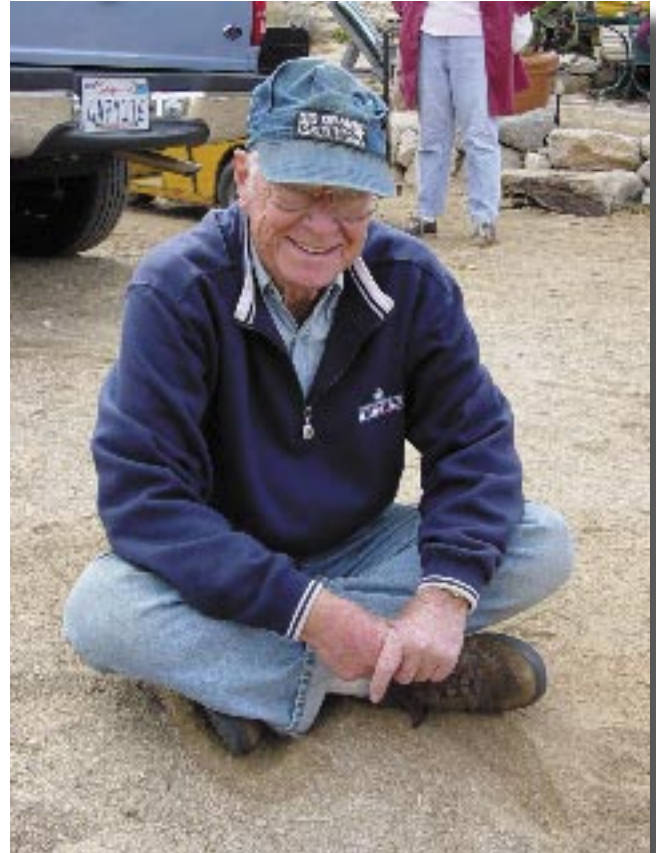
President

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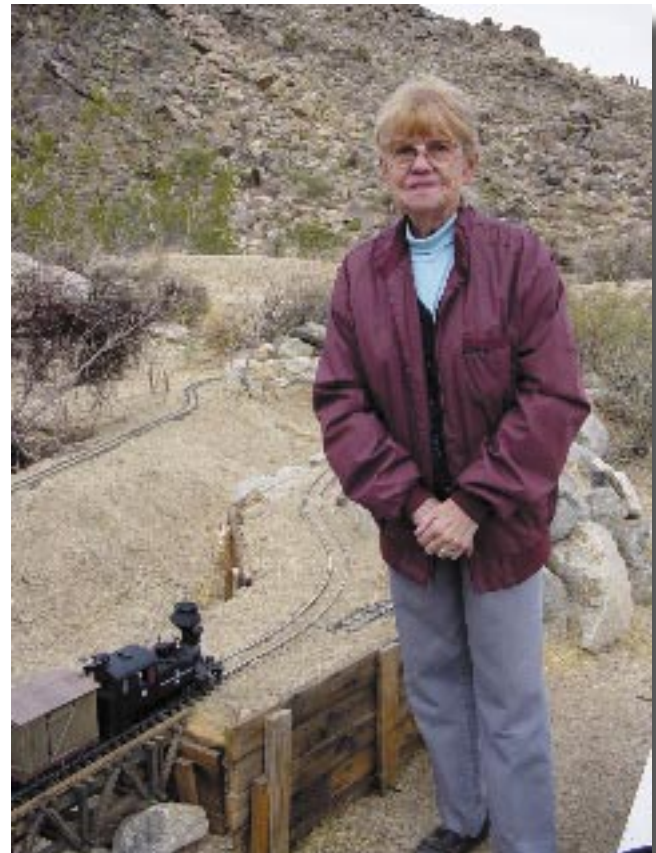
www.cafepress.com/jtsdiningcar

Proceeds go to worthy Museum projects!

Smiling Faces... *from page 1*



Ken Johnson takes a break.



Cherie Palmer enjoys some G-scale sightseeing.

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**Board of Directors Meeting - November 9th, 2003
Regular Membership Election Results**

The following were voted in by regular members in attendance for the year 2004:

Tom Arnold - President / Director
Rudy van Wingen - Vice President / Director
Cherie Palmer - Secretary / Director
Chris Allan - Treasurer / Director
Allan Ratliff - Member at large / Director

The next scheduled meeting of the Board of Directors is Sunday, February 15, 2004 at the Museum. All are welcome to attend.



Calendar of Events

•*Spring Meet*

Feb. 13th - 17th, 2004

Saturday night- Potluck dinner.

•*Narrow Gauge Meet*

March 12th - 15th, 2004

Email Rudy van Wingen for more info:
dmmcomo@sprintmail.com

•*Upcoming Grand Scale Division Workdays:*

January 10th, 2004

February 9th-14th, 2004 (annual GSD work week) Come out for a day or the whole week!

March 13th, 2004

April 10th, 2004

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

Grand Scale Division Update

-from Chris Allan

The monthly workday, December 13th, saw grading of the low line, (aka "Mules's Relief") as well as more form work for the "Big" bridge on the east approach. Rick Mugele, Kevin Kane, and Tom Arnold all got to experience the lost art of hand grading, as well as levering large rocks off the hillside. Rita Allan finished priming another bedroom in the Pullman as well as fixing up the women's lounge in the car, and Lisa Kane provided much needed moral support for the crew. Saturday night steaks were grilled and an enjoyable time was had by all. Thanks again to those who came out to support the Museum and the GSD!

Grand Scale Division workdays are now scheduled for the **2nd Saturday of each month**. This should give everyone plenty of time to plan a trip out to our beautiful desert. Come out for some hard work, good clean fun, and bring some meat for the evening BBQ!☀

Donations Made to Enhance 7 1/2" Gauge.

The Fall Meet saw a new turntable being riveted together for the Hiline by Peter Moseley, Ron Schmidt, and Ken Burns. Peter generously donated the turntable bridge. Ron also donated a 2 1/2" scale Davenport gas loco for use as the Museum engine. Thanks also to Jack Sessums for agreeing to rebuild the donated locomotive -ed. ☀



Peter and Ken riveting on the turntable bridge.

Smiling Faces... *from page 2*



Gary Conley helping out during the G-Scale expansion.



Rick Mugele mans his "batch plant" for the 15" gauge bridge footing concrete pour.

Thanks to Tom Gaszi for this wonderful submission of photos! He reminds us why we go out to the JT&S in the first place- fun and fellowship!

-ed. ☀



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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