

THE MANIFEST September 2017



Greetings All:

We have had a fantastic year!. Just 2 days left and the show is just around the corner. If you have not already done so, please sign up for a job or 2 or 3 ☺ at the show. Bruce Kelly has the sign-up sheet I believe.

We voted in two new members at our last meeting. Please join me in welcoming Cicely Jenkins and Matthew Knauss to SoRail. Welcome!

Train Trivia, does anyone know when the first train robbery from a moving train took place? I didn't, until I was watching a show on the history channel.

As the story was presented on the History Channel, the first (moving) train robbery in the U.S. took place in 1866. A Gang known as the Reno gang held up a train and made off with some \$10,000.00! That was a boatload of money back then!. They robbed the Ohio & Mississippi train in Jackson County Indiana.

Apparently, before the Reno gang's big haul in 1866, the only other robberies on trains took place when the train was sitting at a station or freight yard.

Apparently, this method of robbery caught on fast, as they could rob the trains in remote locations with little or no law enforcement close by. As the economy was on the rise during this time period, trains often carried large stashes

of cash and precious minerals. The remote areas where the trains would pass through were the perfect place to stop a train, hop on one, and to head to a remote hideout afterward.

The Reno gang consisted of four brothers and some associates. Their reign of terror lasted about 2 years, when they were finally captured after, according to the program, the Pinkerton Agency set a trap. They put out the word that a certain train would be carrying over \$100,000.00 in hopes that the Reno gang would find this too good to pass up.

They were right, there was the typical "shootout" and some of the gang was caught right there and the rest were rounded up shortly thereafter. In December of 1868, a mob stormed a jail in Indiana where the bandits were being held, and handed out some western vigilante justice, hanging the brothers Frank, Simeon and William. The other brother John had been caught earlier and had already been sent to prison, along with his fellow gang member Charlie Anderson.

Thankfully, this new method of robbery did not last too long. By the late 1800's, the train officials and law enforcement had gotten wise and fought back, by protecting their cargo and trains with safes, and armed guards. Thus, making this "career" choice increasingly dangerous.

This story is as I heard it and was told on the History Channel, from my research it appears to be accurate.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES**

**Southern Oregon Railway Historical Society
Board of Directors/Regular Meeting
Minutes of September 12, 2017**

Our entertainment for the September 12, 2017 meeting will be "Southern Pacific on Willamette Pass from 1950 to 1969" presented by Allen Dobney.

Call to Order

- 7:29 Bruce Kelly Called the meeting to order.

Roll Call:

- Bruce Kelly, Chris Manley, Jerry Hellinga, Allen Dobney, as well as numerous members.

Consent of the Agenda:

- The agenda was approved by consensus.

Minutes

- Approved, by Jerry and seconded by Allen.

Treasurer's Report:

- The report was approved via a motion by Allen and a second by Chris.

Committee Reports:

- **Medco 4:**

- Nothing new to report, however the line collar was fixed.

- **Burger Shack:**

- Allen and Larry are going to work on replacing flooring in the burger shack this fall, as well as some new shelves inside of the souvenir stand.

- **Surplus Sales:**

- Allen has sold about \$2,400.00 to date and will be selling some donations from Larry Tuttle in the coming week.

- **Web Site**

- NA

- **Butte Falls**

- NA

Old Business:

- NA

New Business

- We voted in two new members, as stated above, Cicely Jenkins and Matthew Knauss.

- Bruce had the train show sign-up sheet to pass around.
- Bruce discussed the formation of a Board of Governors for the Railroad Park. It will consist of two members from each club. There will be one vote per club, each club will have their member be president for one year. They cannot be president multiple years in a row. The president will have the deciding vote in the event of a tie. It will not have the power to force any one club to pay for something they do not wish to do. Going to try to get news about the park into different publications to help increase attendance, membership, and hopefully donations, as well as awareness of the park.

Good of the Order:

- Bruce Petty had invited us to go through his stash of railroad parts, etc. and take whatever we thought we could use and/or sell. Jerry and Dan are going to go up and do that on Wednesday, 9/6/17.
- The Calligraphers closed out their bank account and split the proceeds amongst the remaining groups, our share was \$2,170.00.

Adjournment:

- Jerry Hellinga moved to adjourn, Chris Manley seconded Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Chris Manley, Secretary

Our next meeting is October 10, 2017

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UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

The entertainment was presented prior to the start of the meeting. Allen Dobney presented two videos, "Denver & Rio Grands Western Volume 1" and "Chasing a UP train along the Truckee River"

WARNING on the second show: If you have a problem with seasickness please take your Dramamine before viewing.

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

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