



December, 2015

Quarterly News for **Old Pueblo Trolley**

Street Railway, Motor Bus & Museum Divisions



Motor Bus Division

NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR #8

The quality restoration of our 1938 Yellow Coach was the subject of a six-page article in the November issue of the National Bus Trader, a major bus industry magazine. The editor was very complimentary of our efforts. The article has been posted on our website.

SPARTAN COACH ARRIVES

In our last newsletter we put out an appeal for help paying for fuel for **Bill Nelson** to bring the donated 1948 Spartan Coach from Montana. We are pleased that more than enough money was raised, so Bill was able to make the trip and the coach is now in Tucson. The photo was taken by OPT member **Andy Goddard** at a stop in Cedar City, Utah, and shows Bill (right) and his friend **Larry** with Bill's beautifully restored Freightliner.



1973 GM CURVED WINDSHIELD GLASS

The stop in Cedar City was made to pick up curved windshield glass for our 1973 GM Sun Tran bus from **Andy Goddard**. A number of years ago vandals broke the glass. Andy arranged with **Scott Richards** in So. Calif to donate the glass to us, and Andy transported it to his home in Utah. Many thanks Scott. Our task was to get it to Tucson, which Bill did with it safely stored in the Spartan.

1960 GM and 1938 YELLOW COACH – EVENTS AND PROBLEMS

Both the '60 GM and the '38 Yellow Coach have been out to recent car shows, the former to the Cops and Rodders Car Show, and the latter to the Pontiac/GM Truck Show. Thanks to **Alan Walker, Mark Hart, Dave Sterle, and Roger Hobbie** for staffing these events. These trips were not without incident, as the '60 GM has developed an engine problem, the extent of which is not yet known, and the '38 Yellow experienced a separation of the drive shaft from the angle drive. Fortunately with both incidents the drivers were able to get the buses out of traffic so neither they nor the vehicles were in danger. The Yellow Coach has been fixed thanks to the work of **Roger Hobbie, Mark Hart and Dennis Gibbs**.

PROPERTY ACQUISITION LIKELY

By the time you read this, we will know for sure, but it looks like our acquisition of the building and property at S. 4th Avenue and 36th Street will happen. At the time of this writing, the property was in escrow and final approval of a loan from Alliance Bank was anticipated any day. The loan will be for \$475,000 with an interest rate of between 5 and 5¼ % amortized over 20 years with a 5-year stop. The loan, along with a \$400,000 donation from our friends in California, will cover the \$875,000 price of the property. A local member is providing an additional \$100,000 loan to assure we can make the payments for approximately the first 2 ½ years. In addition, two other members have indicated they will provide an additional \$100,000 loan to make the payments the second 2 ½ years until the balloon payment comes due. The challenge will be to develop large income streams, write grant applications, and raise money over the next five years to pay off all three loans. And we will have additional expense for utilities and insurance that will have to be raised monthly. If you have ideas, or are in a position to help, please contact Gene Caywood at caywoodgm@juno.com, or 360-0268, or just mail a donation to P. O. Box 1373, Tucson, AZ 85702. Or instead of a single donation, please consider an ongoing monthly donation to help with the utilities and insurance. Thank you for whatever you can do.

Assuming no last minute glitch, the property will close on December 28. If that happens, we are considering a New Year's Eve event in the new building to give all our members and friends a chance to tour it. So stay tuned for an invitation and plan to join us.

After that, the task of readying the building and property for use and moving everything to the new site will begin. For that we will need lots of volunteers to help out with a myriad of small to large tasks. (continued on page 4)

SOUTHERN ARIZONA TRANSPORTATION MUSEUM PRESENTS

11TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY EXPRESS WITH SANTA



At the Historic Train Depot

- Talk with Santa and Photo with Santa in front of Locomotive 1673
 - (the star of the movie "Oklahoma")
- Holiday Music and Join in Singing Holiday Music
- Write a letter to Santa at the North Pole:
 - With the Tucson Postal History Museum Elves' help
- Look at the museum's bilingual exhibits, new live action displays
 - With operating model trains
- Listen to a reading of the *Polar Express*
- Climb into the cab of steam Locomotive 1673
- Receive Goodies from AMTRAK
- View the Railroad art exhibits and train layout in the Amtrak Lobby
- Arts and Crafts Show

FREE FAMILY FUN AT THE HISTORIC DEPOT

DATE **December 19, 2015**
 DAY Saturday
 TIME **1 PM—4 PM**
 ADDRESS 414 N. Toole, Tucson 85701
 TELEPHONE 520-623-2223

PLENTY of FREE Parking around the Depot

www.TucsonHistoricDepot.org

Wishing you and your family a happy holiday.

From the volunteers at the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum

Museum Management Team

Dr. Rodney Pratt

Ivan English

Dr. Ken Karrels

Tony Haswell

Gene Caywood

Jan Hurst

Dr. Ken Sandock

Stephen Hackney

Ron Dawson

Henry Zappia

Richard Dick

Katherine Marshall

Randy Hill

Rosann Gomez

Docents

Rick Gast

Paul Horkey

Rick Hoffman

Mike DiCenso

Kurt Denbaars

Katherine Regan

Gail Meyer

Stephen Anderson

Judy Dare

Jim Sharpneck

Gene Anderson

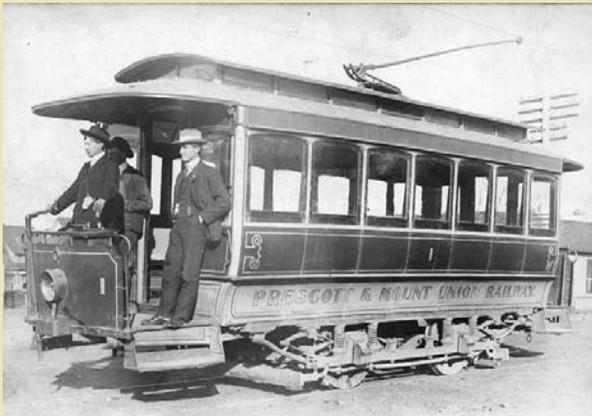
Armida Leyva

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum at 414 N. Toole at the Historic Depot
2nd Saturday Movie: Polar Express, Dec. 12, 5 pm. Kids Activities start at 4 p m

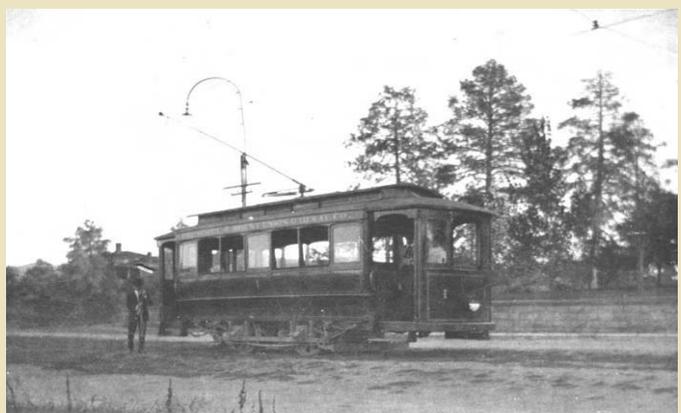


Street Railway Division

OPT's Lisbon car will historically represent Prescott & Mt. Union Railway No. 1, shown



Here is No.1 after the ends were partially enclosed



Prescott & Mt. Union Railway opened in 1904 and lasted only until about 1912. It had been intended to reach into the Mt. Union mining district, but did not go further than Fort Whipple.

Eric Sitiko Returns to Tucson and Old Pueblo Trolley

Eric Sitiko and his wife Julie will be moving to Tucson in January and effective mid-January Eric will become the Operations Manager (so 2nd in charge) at the modern streetcar, working for McDonald Transit Associates, the management firm hired by the City to run the streetcar.

Eric will oversee the day to day operation of the Sun Link modern streetcar working directly under Steve Bethel, the General Manager. Steve will be spending more time on corporate matters and will travel extensively to D.C. helping resolve issues and get the D.C. streetcar up and running. When Steve is frequently gone, Eric will by default be the person in charge.

As a reminder of his background, Eric is from Prescott, AZ, and began volunteering with Old Pueblo Trolley when he entered the UA as a freshman. We mentored him the basics, but he is a very quick study and within three years was made our Restoration and Maintenance Superintendent.

From here he went to Tampa where he was Assistant Maintenance Manager for their heritage trolley line, maintaining both historic restored trolleys and new replica trolleys (made to look old).

After about 9 years there he was hired by the Portland (OR) Streetcar as their Maintenance Manager where he kept modern streetcars running. By the end of his tenure there he had become recognized as one of the rising stars in the streetcar revival.

While overseeing the procurement of modern streetcars for Portland from the same company that was building the streetcars for Tucson, his abilities attracted the attention of Tucson Department of Transportation personnel who made frequent trips to the United Streetcar factory. As the opening of Tucson's modern streetcar approached, and the city was facing substantial challenges resolving many technical issues, they contracted with Interfleet Technology with the request that Eric be sent to Tucson to work through the issues and get the system up and running. He did that, earning the respect of Steve Bethel and the other employees of Sun Link, and the officials in the City of Tucson Department of Transportation - thus the job offer.

Before accepting the job offer, Eric obtained written commitments from Steve Bethel, and Steve's boss at McDonald in their Fort Worth headquarters, and from Carlos DeLeon, Deputy Director of TDOT, that he can spend as much time as necessary working with Old Pueblo Trolley to assure our streetcar gets through the required testing and that excursion service begins on the Sun Link system. This, I think, indicates the commitment of both city and Sun Link to follow through on the verbal commitments previously made to Old Pueblo Trolley leadership.

From Gene Caywood



TO:

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Website

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Quarterly Newsletter

December 2015

(from page 1) If you would be able to help, please contact Gene. And we will need additional money for building repair and moving expenses. We are expecting a \$20,000 donation from a foundation designated to cover much of that expense. But to do everything we would like to do to the building – things it will be easier to do before moving in – will require donations and in-kind help from individuals and businesses.

This opportunity is both exciting and scary – exciting because of the potential to greatly expand the impact of all aspects of our organization, but scary as we wonder where the additional resources will come from. Nevertheless, it is a step we need to take as we may soon have to move out of our leased quarters at Broadway and Park and on 18th Street, and it will provide the space to expand our student intern training, provide improved restoration space, and provide covered storage for vehicles we have worked hard to restore, and others our collections policy has committed us to preserve. In short it is an absolutely necessary step forward in realizing our goal of preserving a portion of Tucson's transit and transportation history.

- ◇ Old Pueblo Trolley is a not-for-profit operating transportation museum consisting of three divisions;
- ◇ Tom Gorman, Vice President, Street Railway Div.
- ◇ Roger Hobbie, Vice President, Motor Bus Div.
- ◇ Ken Karrels, Vice President, Museum Div.
- ◇ CEO: W. Eugene Caywood email: caywoodgm@juno.com

Become a member of Old Pueblo Trolley

Mail form and payment to PO Box 1373, Tucson, AZ 85702

NAME _____ PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

New Member ___ Renewal ___ DATE _____

Please check the appropriate membership donation category:

Student/Senior \$15 ___ Regular \$25 ___

Honorary Motorman \$50 ___ Contributor \$100 ___

Donor \$250 ___ Sponsor \$500 ___

Benefactor \$1000 ___ Life \$2500 ___

Division interest: Streetcar ___ Bus ___ Museum ___ All ___