

Yakima Valley Trolleys YVT BULLETIN

Winter 2009 - 2010

Special Event Trolleys Are Popular

Yakima's trolleys ran their first ever Halloween Trolley on October 31, and the third annual Santa Trolley on December 12. Both were smashing successes. The two events brought in significantly more money in fares than any one month of the summer season, prompting some to wonder if we should limit our runs to charters and special events. Anybody for an Easter Bunny Trolley? Ground Hog Day Trolley?

Most volunteers would answer *NO* to the above questions. The special events were a lot of work for a relatively small number of people to accomplish. The big draw for the Halloween Trolley was the free pumpkins for the first 100 kids, and we nearly were unable to fulfill that promise. Both Albertson's and Wray's Markets had promised 50 pumpkins each. When

Albertson's backed out at the last moment we faced a crisis.

Bob Brown of Wray's Markets came to the rescue with 50 additional pumpkins to bring our total up to 100.

We got a lot of good publicity for both events thanks to **Yvonne Wilbur**.

Bob Sullivan and **Liz Brown** helped distribute flyers too. Cookies were needed for the Santa Trolley and a number of people helped with them: **Lauri Johnsen**, **Mary Edmondson**, **Larry Fournier**, **June Neel**, **Liz Brown's** daughter-in-law, **Kathy Perrigo** and **Tap Menard**. The refreshment booth and the kids' activities table were manned at various times by **Paul** and **Mary Edmondson**, **Larry** and **Cherryl** and **Sally Fournier**, **Lauri Johnsen**, **Tap Menard**, **Ed** and **June Neel**, **Larry Perrigo** and an **Americorps** volunteer friend of **Paul's** whose name I did not get. **Charlie Cripps** and **Liz Brown** ran the gift shop. **Liz's** granddaughter **Andie** helped too.

Santa made his appearance again thanks to **John Epperson**. The bitter cold of Decem-

ber 12th made it harsh for the motormen, so they rotated duties. People running trolleys that day included **Scott Neel**, **Tap Menard**, **Larry Perrigo**, **Ken Johnsen**, **Paul Edmondson**, **Bob Sullivan**, **Joe Rief** and **Charlie Cripps**. The freezing tem-



Jack Evans

1942 - 2009

One of the trolleys' less well known friends, Jack Evans, died on December 23rd. Jack was the head man of the RiverPointe Landing development planned for the tract of land between North Sixth Avenue and Sixteenth Avenue, bordering Highway 12. When I approached Jack a couple years ago about running the trolley line into his development, he became an enthusiastic supporter of the idea. He even offered to pay for the materials needed for the YVT spur into RiverPointe Landing and had his architects design a waiting station for the trolleys.

Jack was a congenial, gentle man of faith who didn't fit the usual image of a developer. With his passing, a number of questions and rumors have surfaced about the future of RiverPointe Landing. It appears the property may be sold off, and we have no way of knowing if the next owner will be building any kind of shopping mall and whether he would be willing to listen to the idea of trolleys entering his development.



peratures caused the total failure of one of the compressor control valves on the 1776 trolley and so it had to be sidelined. A similar problem occurred on the 1976 trolley, but was manageable by having one crewman standing on the back platform, manually turning the compressor on and off. **Ed and Scott Neel** worked much of the day trying to fix #1776's valve.

The switch points in the track in the street in front of the carbarn were frozen and freeing them took a lot of hard work by **Bob Sullivan, Scott Neel, Ken Johnsen, Larry Perrigo and Ed Neel**. **Ken Johnsen and Ed Neel** tried valiantly to thaw the frozen toilet in the powerhouse, but to no avail and so we were without a public bathroom. Even so, an estimated 250 people rode the Santa Trolley.

Dean Rosenkranz

1929 - 2010

Dean Rosenkranz, motorman and long time friend of the trolleys died on January 4th. Not only did Dean motor the trolleys, but he was always willing to help in other work at the trolley barn. Leftover shingles from Dean's house adorn the McKee waiting station in the museum. Poor health in recent years prevented him from continuing, but he remained a strong trolley supporter and always kept up his dues in the organization. Besides trolleys, Dean was interested in airplanes and cars. He restored a Model A Ford. He also built his own airplane and taught flying lessons. Dean was a pharmacist by profession. Our condolences to Dean's family.

YVT Elections

At the last Board meeting of the Yakima Trolleys, candidates were nominated for the expiring terms of Board members Joe Rief and Ed Neel. There were three nominees: Joe Rief, Ed Neel and Bob Brown. Ballots will be sent out with renewal statements in mid January and need to be returned by

February 15th in order to be counted at the February YVT meeting.

That's it for now.

Ken Johnsen, President
Yakima Valley Trolleys

The Yakima Trolleys and Special Events

In the early years of the Twentieth Century, Washington had one State Fair and it was held in Yakima. People came from far and

wide to attend, some arriving by train from the Coast. They came to see stock shows, races, and oddities such as a 100-ton pickled whale and new fangled gasoline powered engines. Yakima's trolleys were strained to the limits at Fair Time. Every operable car was placed into service to carry fairgoers out



The YVT had its own entrance into the fairgrounds via a return loop of track and dedicated gates for trolley patrons. Seen here are several trolleys and the express motor 300 with a string of flatcars with benches. *Bob Lince collection.*

to the fairgrounds via the Fairview Line.

Special trains were operated over the interurban routes using flatcars outfitted with benches, pulled by either Line Car #A or one of the Express Motors 300 or 301. By 1915, standee trailer cars from Pacific Car & Foundry had replaced the flatcars for bringing folks in from Wiley City, Henrybro and Selah.

Traveling shows like Buffalo Bill Cody's Wild West Show and the Barnum and Bailey Greatest Show on Earth aroused almost as much interest among valley residents. Special interurban trains were run and the city cars were kept very busy taking people to and from these events.

Advance promotions people for the shows would come to Yakima weeks in advance and post ads and posters for their upcoming shows. One such poster is reproduced here. It is from Barnum and Bailey's "Greatest Circus in the History of the World". Filled with interesting hyperbole, the poster is amusing to read on both sides. Barnum and Bailey's ad men arranged with the YVT to run special trains to and from Wiley City and Taylor (the end of the Selah line).

The schedule for the special trains was printed right on the poster, along with fares

YAKIMA VALLEY EXCURSIONS
TO THE GREATEST CIRCUS IN THE HISTORY OF THE WORLD

The BARNUM and BAILEY
Greatest Show on Earth

AND THE TREMENDOUS NEW INDO-ARABIC SPECTACLE THE **WIZARD PRINCE OF ARABIA**
MOST MARVELOUS CIRCUS EVER PERFECTED.
Grand, Grandest National Band, Thrilling Spectacular Acts, Performances and Stages Never Seen Before.

WORLD FAMOUS, SEEN AND COPIED BY **ARENIC STARS**
Have been crowned the most famous and most famous **50 CLOWNS**
THE COMEDY TALENT OF THE WORLD.

THE WONDER SHOW OF ALL AGES!

THE BIGGEST MENAGERIE ON EARTH
Horns, Hoofs, Hairy Heads, Curious Exhibits for Every Eye.

A Whole Family of WHIRLIPS, HERDS of ELEPHANTS and CARBLS, MARINE MONSTERS, SHIPS, REPTILES, BEASTS from Every Land, Displayed in Exhibits, Comedians, Appropriate Beautiful Sets, Tanks and Pans.

A New Novel ELEPHANT EXHIBITION
In which these huge beasts display the skill of Professionals in a **Final Game of BASE BALL**

GIANTS THE UNMATCHED LEAGUE!

The One Truly Great and Really Fullest Show of the World
A **WIZARD PRINCE OF ARABIA**
A Tremendous Grand Fantastic Power Show.

1200 OPERATORS
AND BARRING OFFERS. **TRAIL HEADS OF SEVENTH**
An Exhibition Park as the World Never Saw Before.

The Yakima Valley Transportation Company
WILL HOLD THROUGHOUT BUSINESS TRAVEL ON THE
BARNUM & BAILEY
GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH
FROM ALL THROUGHOUT BUSINESS TRAVEL ON THE

To North Yakima and Return

| TIME TABLE | STATION | FARE |
|-----------------|-----------------|------|
| Lv. 9:18 a. m. | Wiley City | 50c |
| 9:22 " | Altopass | 40c |
| 9:25 " | Dussard | 30c |
| 9:33 " | Wide Hollow Jet | 20c |
| 9:45 " | Harwood | 40c |
| 9:53 " | Chickola | 30c |
| Lv. 10:12 a. m. | Taylor | 40c |
| 10:15 " | Sure | 30c |
| 10:19 " | Stone | 20c |
| 10:21 " | Selah | 20c |
| 10:27 " | Nashua Bridge | 10c |

GRAND FREE STREET PARADE

RETURNING Trains will leave NORTH YAKIMA for Wiley City at 6:30 and 10:45 p. m. and for Taylor at 6:30 and 10:40 p. m.

WILL EXHIBIT AT
North Yakima
— ON —
Saturday, AUG. 15
Afternoon and Night

No exaggeration was too great to put on the poster for "The Greatest Circus in the History of the World!" Both sides are shown here. A reproduction of this poster is available for sale in the gift shop. *Kenneth G. Johnsen collection.*

CHILDHOOD'S DREAMS COME TRUE -- ARABIAN NIGHTS OUTDOOR

THE WIZARD PRINCE OF ARABIA
STUPENDOUS, SURPASSING FAIRY ROMANCE
Presented Without Additional Cost or Price as a Tribute to the Ancient Treatment of the

BARNUM AND BAILEY
GREATEST SHOW ON EARTH

GREATEST AND GRANDDEST ACHIEVEMENT IN THE ANNALS OF THE WORLD

MYSTERY, MARVELS, MAGIC AND MAGNIFICENCE OF THE ORIENT

THEME, GAZE AND WONDER OF DAZZLED NEW YORK
Instantly and Unanimously Accepted When First Triumphantly Presented in Madison Square Garden, New York City, in the Spring, as the Most Superbly Splendid Spectacle the Metropolis Ever Beheld

1250 PERFORMERS IN THE GRAND ENSEMBLES
300 DANCING AND SINGING GIRLS
3500 COSTLY COSTUMES FOR BUREAU
3500 GIGANTIC MUSICAL INSTRUMENTALISTS

NEVER BEFORE A PRODUCTION LIKE THIS
Centuries of Egyptian, Greek and Roman Traditions of Ancient Accompanying Spectacular Light, Color, Movement, Orchestra, Electrical Effects, Sublime Talismans, Ranked as the Most Magnificently Equipped and **LARGEST STAGE SPACE EVER DEVISED**

BEWILDERINGLY AND BEWITCHINGLY BEAUTIFUL BALLET

NO CHILD SHOULD BE DENIED A VIEW OF ITS DREAMLAND GLORIES
Every Parent should deem it an imperative and Delightful duty to his Children to bring or send them to witness this beautiful, enchanting vision of fairyland reality. Great interest should be provided to those so young as a visit to the wonderful realm of childhood's happy dreams, where

PRINCE ABDALLAH STAKES HIS LIFE TO WIN A BRIDE.
Witness the without precedent or parallel in magnitude or magnificence, portraying the plights of the royal Arabian youth and his progress entrance to the Grand Magic City of magic, old King, Sultan of India and the marvelous world of the Prince Wizard and the King's Majesty before the goddess who saved the head of Allah, her daughter of the Oriental ruler.

Absolutely New, Gratuitous Inaugural to the Regular Arenic Performance of the GIANT CIRCUS INSTITUTION OF ALL TIME

Special Free Street Parade at 10 o'clock A. M. Passing First Middle. See Performance July 27 and 28 A. M. See Day 1 the Order. One 50-Cent Ticket Admits to Everything. Children, Under 12 Years Old, Half Price.

GRAND AND GRANDS CIRCUS **GRAND AND GRANDS CIRCUS**

CONVENIENT SERVICE ON ALL LINES OF TRAVEL
See Map and Brochure for Street Side of the City at Station of Musical Train Again.

from various points. (See lower left portion of the illustration.) The show was to be held on Saturday, August 15, 1914. An authentic reproduction of this poster, printed on the correct style of newspaper paper, is available for sale in the trolleys' powerhouse gift shop.

Ken Johnsen

Yakima Valley Trolleys - Membership Application

Name _____ Phone (____) _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
E-mail address _____ New Member Renewal

Please list those areas you have experience in or would like to help with:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trolley restoration / maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors / officers | <input type="checkbox"/> Website and e-mail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trolley operation | <input type="checkbox"/> Liaison with City of Yakima | <input type="checkbox"/> Publications / newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Track maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Museum development | <input type="checkbox"/> Audio / video productions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Overhead wire maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Relations | <input type="checkbox"/> Archives / library |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ticket selling / gift shop | <input type="checkbox"/> Finances and bookkeeping | <input type="checkbox"/> Fund raising |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | |

DUES AND DONATIONS

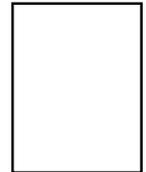
Dues are \$25.00 per calendar year. Donations are gladly accepted to help with necessary repairs and projects of the YVT. YVT is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible.

- Enclosed is \$25.00 for my membership. \$ _____
 Enclosed is my donation in the amount of: \$ _____
Total enclosed: \$ _____

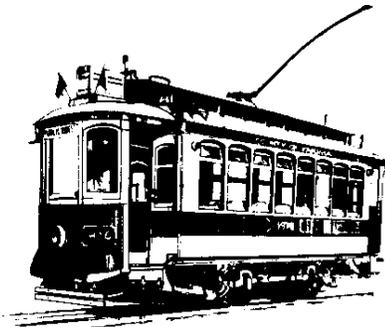
Mail application and dues, payable to Yakima Valley Trolleys, to:
Ken Johnsen, Membership Secretary, P.O. Box 161, Renton, WA 98057-0161

YVT Bulletin

Yakima Valley Trolleys
P.O. Box 796
Yakima, WA 98907-0796



Beginning the Next 100 Years !



FIRST CLASS