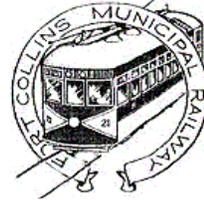


# Trolley Fare

## Fort Collins Municipal Railway Society News

Volume 31, Number 2, November 2011

[www.fortnet.org/trolley/](http://www.fortnet.org/trolley/)



### Upcoming events

**Open House** – You're invited to visit the 1907 historic streetcar barn, 330 N. Howes St., on Saturday, December 3, from 9:00 AM to Noon. You'll see our progress restoring Car 25 and can pick up souvenirs for the holidays. For info call **Carol Tunner**, 970-484-3957.

**Annual meeting** – Open to all members and begins at 7 PM in the Fort Collins Community Room, 215 N. Mason. FCMRS Staff will review 2011 accomplishments and plans for the new year. Please use the parking lot on the north side of the building and enter through the door right off the lot. Refreshments will be available.

### Minutes from the 2011 volunteer banquet

by Craig Stith

This is the annual banquet where the Society thanks each of our volunteers for their individual effort.

I want to start by thanking **Brad March** for arranging the Elks Lodge for this event. The Webster House that we've enjoyed the past several years has been sold and we no longer have access to it. There was some confusion about this venue and its lodge affiliation. Some remember this as the Moose Lodge. The Elks have occupied it since vacating their downtown edifice. Here's how I remember which is which: Brad is an Elk not a Moose, and he set this up. Our only **Moose** (Shattuck), is actually a Santa Claus, and had nothing to do with this.

New volunteers this year include **Alan Cram, Howard and Maureen Lowell, Bob G. Jones, Paul McKelvey, Asad Aziz, Aaron Cook, Rob Samuel** and **Dave Thompson**.

We have a lot of folks to thank this year for a wide range of work that keeps our operation running.

I'd like to begin by thanking the Board of Directors for their dedication to the issues that require attention and action: **Moose Shattuck**, Vice-president; **Carol Tunner**, Secretary; **John Beckett**, Treasurer; **Roger Mitchell**, CMO Emeritus; **Brad March**, director; **Brent Carmack**, director and Museum Liaison; returning to the board this year, **Gary Thomas**; and new this year, **Bob Browning**. Moose has become more involved in administrative activities helping me out.

**Carol** continues to do everything Carol has always done in her role as Mother Trolley. Always a go-to person when other volunteers can't be found.

**John** continues to do a great job as Treasurer. He's proactive with **Tom Dandy**, our accountant, and is forthcoming with ideas to streamline our financial operations. Additionally, he counsels the Board with

sound insurance advice, and was helpful in leading our interactions with insurance companies following the Car 21-Honda CRV confrontation. And in 2011 John took on the responsibility of conducting conductor retraining, in an effort to help lighten Carol's burden.

Thanks go to **Brad** for legal guidance and recommendations. Brad has continued to be more involved with other volunteer activities, including making the Coloradoan as the greasiest person to ever set foot in the Mountain Avenue barn.

**Brent** has been very busy with the Museum's construction and move to its new facility. He has acted as liaison between the Society and the Museum for several years. His experience and insights are very useful to the Board.

**Roger Mitchell** continues as a long-term board member and is moving to a maintenance consultation role. I like to refer to him as the Chief Mechanical Officer, Emeritus. He has been involved with almost every mechanical operation we've conducted including Car 21, Car 25 and even Maintenance-of-Way repairs, including just this week addressing an overhead cross arm with **Roger Smith**.



Car 25 in 1949 running light on Whedbee St. Photo by Jim Kunkle.

We're pleased to have **Gary Thomas** rejoin the Board after a year's absence. He stays involved with many aspects of our operation and administration. He's been Charter Czar for many years, setting new charter quantity records almost every year. I think this year we were near 50 charters.

New to the Board is **Bob Browning** who adds a directorship to his already extensive list of services he provides the Society. He's become one of the lead motorman trainers and brings a military-like discipline to help us evolve our motormen to better collective

performance than ever. Bob has been active with Car 21 maintenance and Car 25 restoration activities. He's been active with wood restoration and refinishing primarily on Car 21.

I want to thank **Al Jackson** for his continued work as editor of the Trolley Fare and for maintaining the on-line schedule. Al has also taken on the role of Restoration lead for Car 25. He is also one of the primary MoW workers and spends hours and hours on all Society activities. On the Car 25 front I think of **Roger Smith** as our Chief Restoration Officer, Emeritus.

And along the lines of maintenance and restoration, more and more I think of the history of the Society and the value that Carol, Roger Smith and others bring in the form of Corporate Memory. Another item to place on our growing list of improvement opportunities is how to capture all the pieces of information only they know.

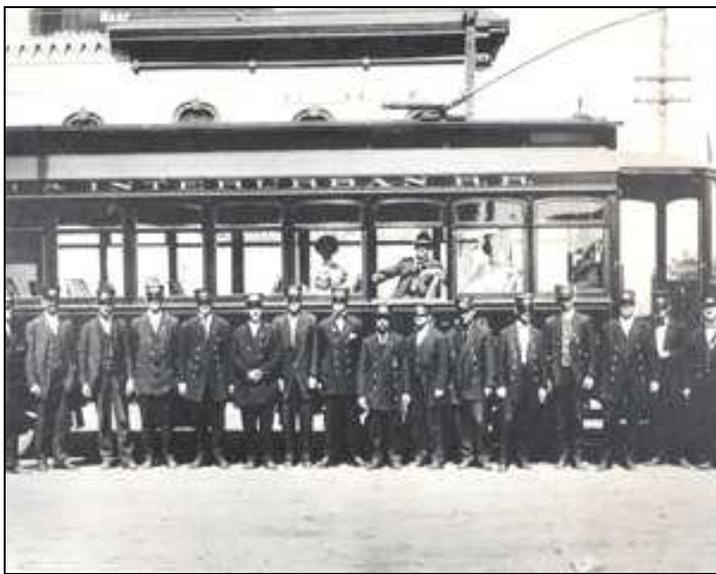
Thanks, **Deb Stith**, for creativity and organization as our Souvenir Despot.

Thanks to **Wayne Sundberg** for publicity activities, keeping us in front of our adoring public. And to **John Beckett** for selling a world-record number of advertising cards. I think this was the first time we filled all the advertising space with paid commercial messages.

And to the Wilkins Trust for chartering our July 4th event. And the DBA for chartering two other days that week during their special sidewalk sale event.

We thank **Tom Dandy** for his third year of preparing financial statements for the Society. His volunteer effort saves us about \$1,000 annually.

Let's thank all the Motormen, Conductors, Depot Agents and Carmen who worked throughout the season. Including with us tonight are **Bob Beavers, Gary Boughton, Jeff Cleverley, Ron Fey, Bob Jones, Harold Kelly, Jim Thake** and **John Waples**.



*Motorman and conductors gathered for a photo in downtown Fort Collins on a hot afternoon over 100 years ago.*

On the Car 25 front: thanks to **Al Jackson** for helping organize activities and working up a schedule, along with those on that project, including **Charlie Rock, Asad Aziz, Reid Jacob, Andy Conrak, Fred Snyder,**

**Alan Cram, Roger Smith, Roger Mitchell, Bob Browning, Jim Thake, John Cooney and Brad March.**

This spring, **Chuck Bade** stepped forward to lead the Car 21 maintenance program. Chuck's done a great job working with many folks to develop and execute a four-week, rotating maintenance schedule. He's brought along some younger members like **Matthew Cook** and his brother **Aaron**.



*The Car 21/25 crew in action. L to R: Charlie Rock, Al, Alan Cram, Chuck Bade, Brad March (seated), Jeff Cleverley, and Roger Mitchell (hidden).*

Last but not least, thanks to my personal favorite volunteer of 2011: **Connie Nelson-Cleverley** for taking on the scheduling role.

As a special recognition this year, the board is pleased to take this opportunity to thank the Maintenance and Restoration Team members who put in a tremendous amount of time through the cold of winter and right up through mid-April in a final push to get Car 21 running following the July 2010 axle break. To recognize the extra effort and to show our appreciation, we're presenting certificates to each individual that worked so hard to make our May 1 opening day possible.

Next I'd like to introduce **Millie Kneeland** who has agreed to take on a special project. We have been accepted into the Senior Center's Annual Holiday Market Friday and Saturday after Thanksgiving. Millie has taken on the role of event coordinator. Millie will be looking for volunteers to staff our table.

And of course, we're awarding the Bent Pole Award this year for the first time since, well, since last year. Without going into a lot of detail, **Gary Thomas** managed to run one of our speeders into Car 21 while trying to move the car in the barn using a long connecting link. No damage to Car 21, but some radiator damage to the speeder. Gary quickly pulled the radiator and had repairs made. Al Jackson, seeking a silver lining admitted it was time to flush and replace the coolant. Gary's action forced the priority. Thanks, Gary.

We thank all of you for the support you provide me and the Society!

## Car 21 update

After operating almost flawlessly this season, Car 21 is back in the barn and up on blocks (again) for more need maintenance:

- Replacing springs – we found that the leaf spring packs were in various stages of wear and repair, so we ordered a new set to ensure that we have no more surprises like last year.
- Replacing all side windows with tempered glass.
- Adjusting brake hangers – brakes are wearing unevenly on one end.
- Removing seats and sand boxes so we can have the floor refinished next spring.
- Repainting more brightwork and refinishing wood trim.
- Locating and fixing some elusive air leaks, including disabling the troublesome deadman foot-valves.

For more info or to join the Car 21 maintenance team, contact **Chuck Bade** at 970-472-1007.



*Motorman waiting to board passengers onto Car 21 at the Mountain & College Ave. wye on a snowy day in 1950.*

## Car 25 reconditioning status

To accomplish the work needed on Car 21, the Car 25 team worked on Car 21 from early January through April, plus some follow-up work throughout the summer. Work finally resumed on Car 25 late this season. Of the goals we had for this year, we've been able to:

- Resume cleaning and replacing air piping under the floor.
- Finish running under-floor controller conduit.
- Resume installing new floor shims.
- Prime and paint most under-floor details.
- Finish reconditioning the compressor governor.
- Pressure-test the sanding reservoir.

Our goals for the off season are to:

- Finish installing under-floor piping.
- Install remaining under-floor conduit and boxes.
- Finish installing and priming under-floor shims.
- Install new sub-flooring.
- Resume work inside the car (pull new wiring, install air components, mount piping, etc.).

## From the Secretary's keyboard

*by Carol Tunner*

First let me give a big thank you to "Class of 2010" conductor **Millie Kneeland** who kindly stepped forward to organize the Senior Center Craft Fair booth for our organization. It is November 25 and 26. That is big positive publicity in the community for the FCMRS and it raises money with souvenir sales.

Also, I will be managing our Annual Open House at the 330 N. Howes St. Streetcar Barn, 9 AM-Noon, on Saturday, December 3. You can tour progress on the Car 25 restoration and buy souvenirs for Christmas. Trolley models are good Christmas gifts, and we have new knit caps with our logo! We still really need volunteers to restore Car 25, especially with electrical, plumbing, and mechanical skills.

Next, we had another wonderful recruiting year for new crew members. **Ron Fey**, **Tom Rueb**, and **Jim Thake** became motormen, while **Asad Aziz** continues his training. New conductors are **Howard Lowell** (wife **Maureen** helped in the depot), **Bob G. Jones**, **Paul McKelvey**, **Asad**, **Aaron Cook** and **Rob Samuel**. All became very active. New motorman **Jim**, along with other motormen such as **Bob Browning** and **Al Jackson** also pulled many conductor shifts this year. **Dave Thompson** was in this class but got too busy to finish; however, he gets 5 gold stars for a splendid professional job painting the depot in May! It looked beautiful for the start of our season. **Howard Lowell** had his singing quartet come to help us kick off our opening day. I also need to give a big thanks to **John Beckett** who led training for returning conductors while I took the new recruits. If I've forgotten anyone, let me know and I'll catch you in the next newsletter.

In all, it has been a busy year, though we're going to have to find more conductors next year because they keep leaving me to become motormen! From my standpoint, conductors have more fun.

*Trolley Fare is published for members and friends of the Fort Collins Municipal Railway Society.*

### FCMRS Staff

President: Craig Stith, 498-0286  
Vice-president: Moose Shattuck, 472-1071  
Secretary: Carol Tunner, 484-3957  
Treasurer: John Beckett, 482-0130

### Directors

Bob Browning, 225-0136, Brent Carmack, 416-2702, Brad March, 482-4322, Roger Mitchell, 207-9295, Moose Shattuck, 472-1071

### Departments

Advertising on Car 21: John Beckett  
Car 21 maintenance: Chuck Bade  
Car 25 reconditioning: Al Jackson  
Crew scheduling: open  
Charters: open  
Conductor & depot-agent training: Carol Tunner  
Maintenance of way: Al Jackson, Roger Smith  
Membership, *Trolley Fare* & website: Al Jackson, fcmrs@netzero.com  
Motormen training: Bob Browning, Roger Smith  
Public Relations, Wayne Sundberg  
Souvenirs: Deb Stith  
Volunteer recruitment: Carol Tunner

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*Car 21 is on blocks again while the power truck is in the other bay for needed maintenance.  
Photo by Bob Browning.*