

# TIMEPOINTS

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Season 's Greetings

# Timepoints

December 1991

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### **President's Column 1991 & 1992**

As this year draws to a close, let us take a moment to review Southern California Traction.

Just a few short years ago all we had were fond memories of the Pacific Electric and Los Angeles Railways long gone and much missed. This year saw the actual completion of the Metro Blue line, our first modern light rail line. Ironically this line mostly follows PE's route to Long Beach. To this day the Washington Blvd. portion remains unsignalized and the RTD hasn't rerouted bus feeder lines to connect.

The Red Line subway, only visible as piles of dirt, debris and clogged downtown streets, now sport escalators, lighting and station signs. All of the first phase tunnels are finished and the 750vDC third rail is

scheduled to go hot this Dec. 2, 1991.

Phase two line construction has begun. Wilshire Blvd. from Westlake Park west to Normandy has been torn up and there are staging sites up Vermont and along Hollywood to Highland.

The light rail line in the new Century Freeway is visible from several overpasses. Green Line ties and support pole bases are the first visible signs of traction activity. An opportunity to make the line compatible with the Blue line it crosses was recently missed, but the driverless system will be standard gaged with conventional overhead. It will be technically possible to run a fan trip over the entire Blue & Green lines in a single day.

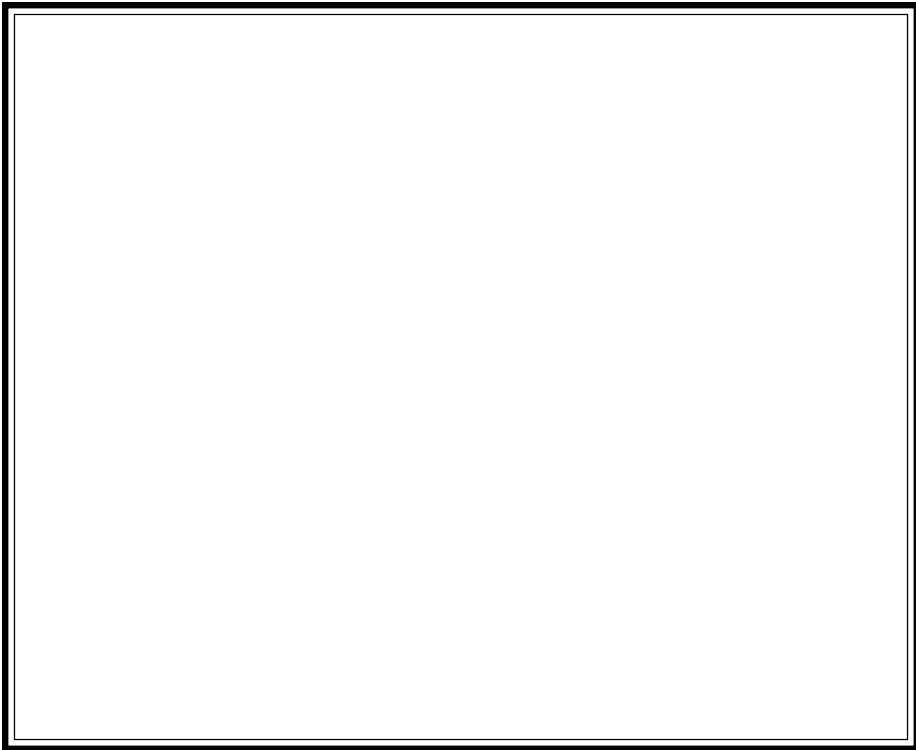
The LRV line to west Los Angeles is struggling to get started. Known to ERHA members as the "Expo Line"; the cities of Santa Monica and Culver City as well as the Coliseum, USC and the Shrine Auditorium are helping to push planning along.

The LRV Pasadena via Highland Park line is deep in the planning stages but the LACTC has been unable to negotiate a sales price with the Santa Fe.

Five major commuter lines are in the offing. Known as MetroLink, there is a tremendous push to build these lines as electrics due to the Los Angeles Basin's status as having the dirtiest air in America. Because of the added time to electrify, (and low emission diesels having already been ordered), we may see the line begin sans electricity with "Juice Jacks" added later on. There is in fact a current study under way to electrify all existing lines in the region, (i.e.: freight and Amtrak), for smog reasons!

Also under study: LRVs to Burbank/Glendale and to Marina del Rey, five new Trolley Bus lines on existing RTD routes, the Red Line extensions to East Los Angeles and West Los Angeles and last but not least Heritage Square's planned historic trolley operation with LARy narrow gage equipment.

After almost thirty years of diesel buses, Los Angeles is becoming a rail fan paradise once again!

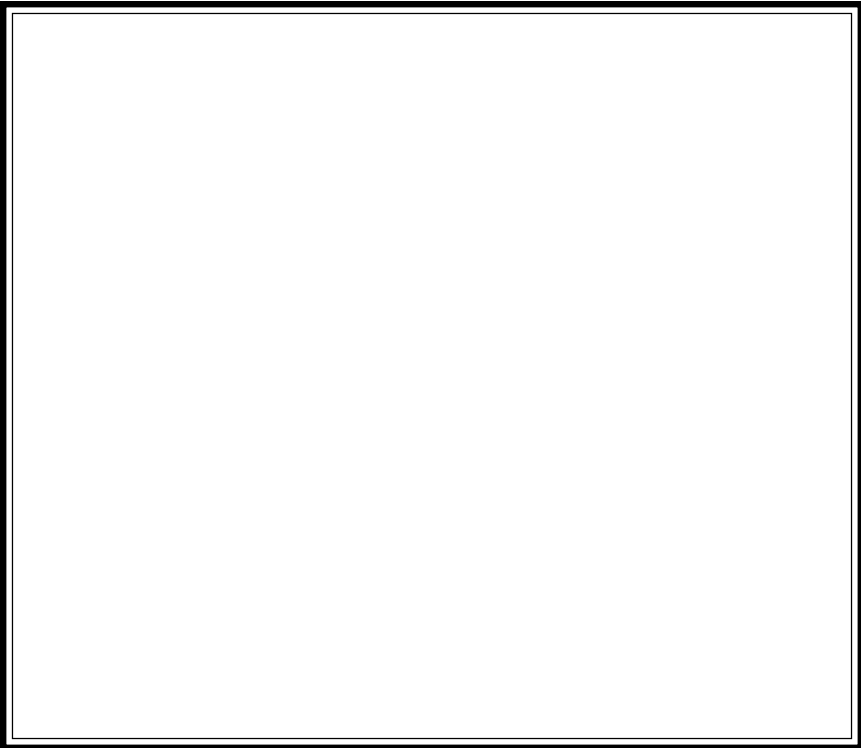


Three PE 900's head inbound on the Venice Short Line crossing La Cienega Blvd. on the Viaduct.



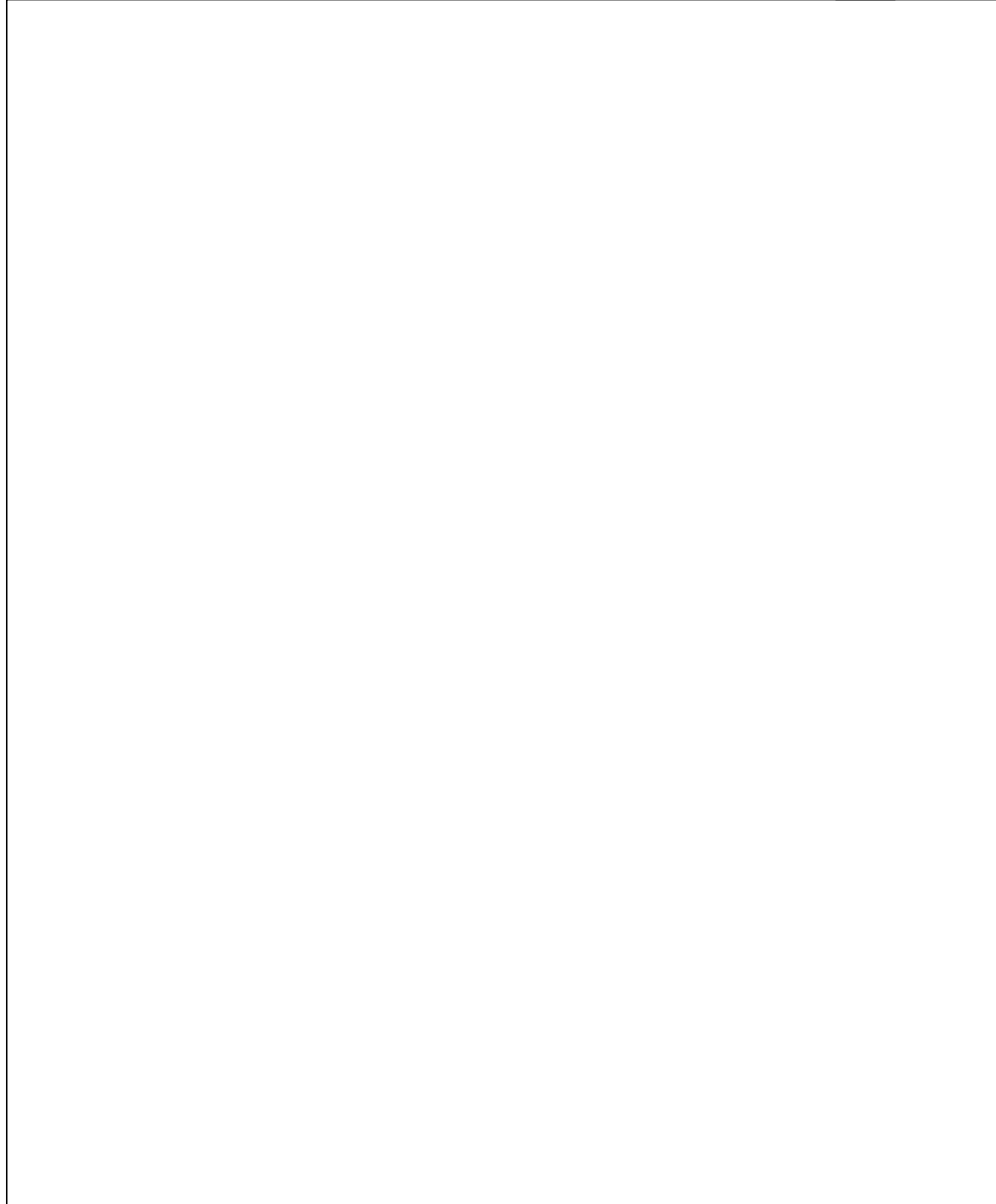
**3 Car Trains of PE 900's**

Three PE 900's head inbound, the "City of Burbank" is on the Glendale/Burbank Line seen here on private right-of-way above Riverside Drive.

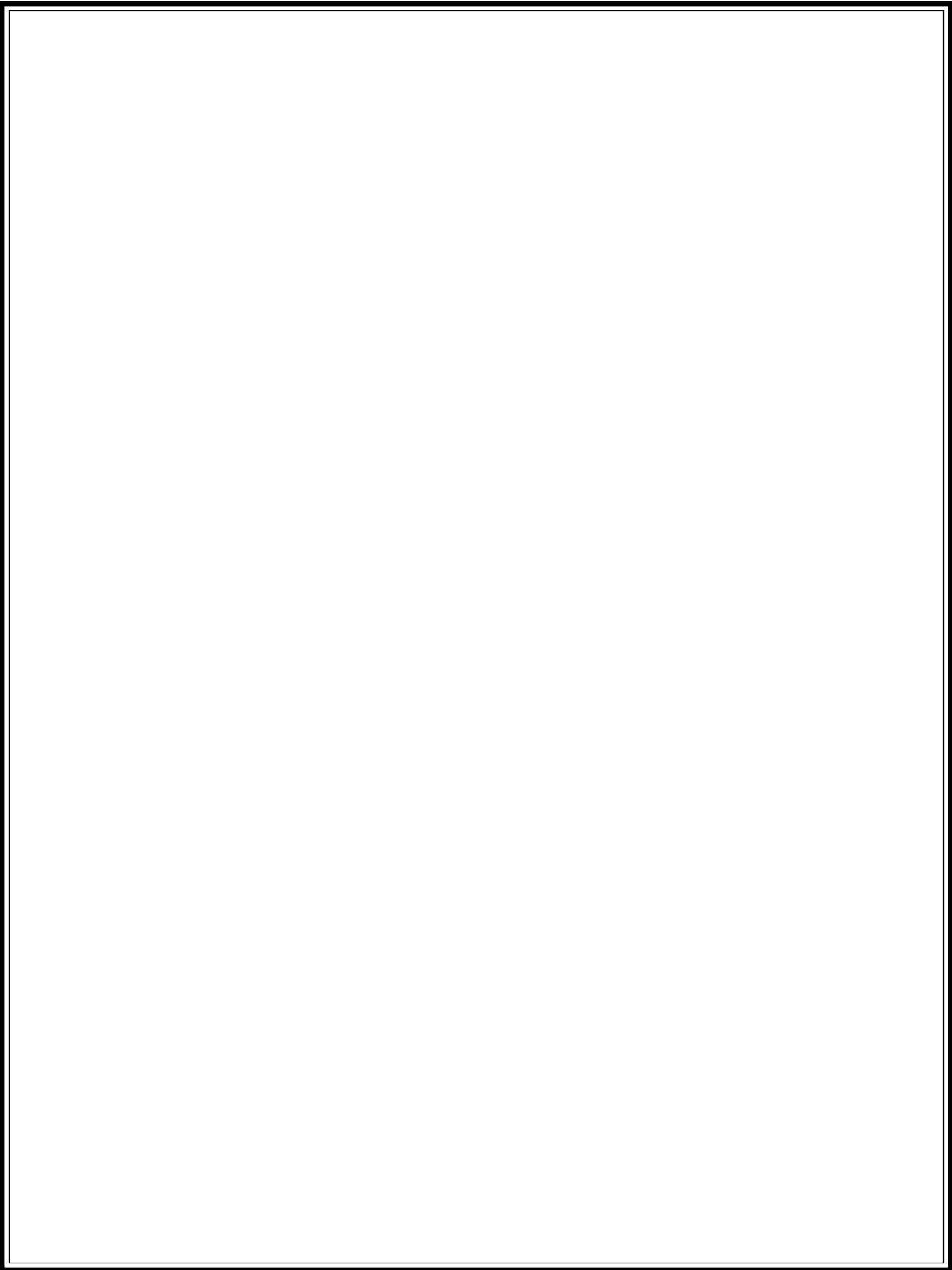


On the Cover  
PE's San Berdoo Butterfly Twelveves  
on the Long Beach Line at Compton.

ERHA wishes to thank Don Olsen  
for the terriffic show at this years  
banquet and also for his kind loan of  
Art Alder's wonderful color slides  
and 4x5 transparencies seen this  
month in TIMEPOINTS.







Los Angeles Railway System Map

June 1,1938

# TIME TABLES

December

6, Friday. MEETING, Bay Area Electric Railroad Association, 8:00 PM, 2024 Durant Avenue, Berkeley

13, Friday. MEETING, Pacific Railroad Society regular monthly meeting, 7:30 PM at Joslyn Recreation Center, Alhambra

14, Saturday. MEETING, San Diego Electric Railway Association regular monthly meeting, 7:30 PM at SDG&E Co. 1st & Ash Sts., Ed Berger, Far East Steam & Electric

**20, Friday. MEETING, ELECTRIC RAILWAY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION regular monthly meeting. in the Church, Heritage Square. 7:30 PM Business Meeting, 8:00 PM Program: South of the Border, Traction in Mexico, Ken Douglas slides from 50's & 60's**

January

3, Friday. MEETING, Bay Area Electric Railroad Association, 8:00 PM, 2024 Durant Avenue, Berkeley

10, Friday. MEETING, Pacific Railroad Society regular monthly meeting, 7:30 PM at Joslyn Recreation Center, Alhambra

11, Saturday. MEETING, San Diego Electric Railway Association regular monthly meeting, 7:30 PM at SDG&E Co. 1st & Ash Sts.,

**17, Friday. MEETING, ELECTRIC RAILWAY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION regular monthly meeting. in the Church, Heritage Square. 7:30 PM Business Meeting, 8:00 PM Program: Descanso funeral car restoration, presentation by the "Irish Tram Team"**

February

7, Friday. MEETING, Bay Area Electric Railroad Association, 8:00 PM, 2024 Durant Avenue, Berkeley

14, Friday. MEETING, Pacific Railroad Society regular monthly meeting, 7:30 PM at Joslyn Recreation Center, Alhambra

15, Saturday. MEETING, San Diego Electric Railway Association regular monthly meeting, 7:30 PM at SDG&E Co. 1st & Ash Sts.,

**21, Friday. MEETING, ELECTRIC RAILWAY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION regular monthly meeting. in the Church, Heritage Square. 7:30 PM Business Meeting, 8:00 PM Program: Dick Reynolds 16mm movies of PE in 30's & 40's**

March

6, Friday. MEETING, Bay Area Electric Railroad Association, 8:00 PM, 2024 Durant Avenue, Berkeley

13, Friday. MEETING, Pacific Railroad Society regular monthly meeting, 7:30 PM at Joslyn Recreation Center, Alhambra

14, Saturday. MEETING, San Diego Electric Railway Association regular monthly meeting, 7:30 PM at SDG&E Co. 1st & Ash Sts.,

**20, Friday. MEETING, ELECTRIC RAILWAY HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION regular monthly meeting. in the Church, Heritage Square. 7:30 PM Business Meeting, 8:00 PM Program: To be announced**



