



# Streetcar CURRENTS



## SPECIAL PHOTO SUPPLEMENT

### JULY - 2011

#### MSM'S WORK CREWS IN ACTION

With the summer months upon us, the CHSL Tuesday crew has completed the yearly streetcar maintenance and we are working on small projects around the George Isaacs car barn and on the right of way. **Russ Isbrandt** and **Mark Digre** have been working on updating our maintenance manual for PCC No. 322 and they also fixed a brake problem that developed early in June. The hard-working crew, consisting of **Neil Howes**, **Walt Strobel**, **Bob Smith**, **Jim Otto**, **Keith Lindberg** and **Phil Settergren**, have been working to expand the brick paving in front of the Isaacs car barn to allow vehicles the ability to get to the car barn doors.

There are two things you should notice the next time you visit Lake Harriett, if you haven't already noticed them. Our new platform is looking real good, and we are getting a lot of compliments from our passengers. Thank you to all the crew mentioned earlier in the May, 2011 Photo Supplement and in the June *Streetcar Currents* for all the great work. If you have ridden PCC No. 322 in the last few years, and noticed several missing light globes in the back of the car, they are reinstalled and looking great. It was 2 or 3 years ago that I finally found a person who would do a small chrome-plating job, and I brought all 30 of the retaining rings to be cleaned and re-plated. There were 25 rings that were easy to do, but the remaining 5 needed a lot of work and only 4 were saved. Those remaining 4 are now mounted along with a replacement ring so the car looks like it just came off the production line. – *John Prestholdt, Shop Foreman*



**(Above Left)** This crew consists of (l to r) **Bob Smith**, **Jim Otto** (in the far background bring up more pavers), **Walt Strobel**, **Keith Lindberg**, **Phil Settergren** and **Neil Howes** installing the brick pavers in front of the Isaacs car barn. (*John Prestholdt photo*)

**(Above Right)** There's always plenty to do in the shop requiring a variety of skills. Several weeks ago someone donated to MSM a Johnson fare box. It is a motorized version so it probably came from a Twin City Lines bus. This photo shows Shop Foreman **John Prestholdt** dismantling it and trying to make it work. When he got it taken apart he found several dollars-worth of change in it, which went into our donation box. (*Jim Vaitkunas photo*)

**(Right)** The shop crew is a hard-working bunch, but they also will take time to honor one of the crew's birthday, in this case **Jim Otto's** 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. Here you see **Karl Jones** cutting Jim's birthday cake after he blew out the candle. The birthday boy is out of the photo to the left—he's kind of shy it seems. (*Jim Vaitkunas photo*)





That's **Dave French** on the ground assisting **Rod Eaton** and **Bill Arends** on the tower wagon. The initial task for the morning's work was to re-paint all of the overhead targets on CHSL and to re-position a couple of them. But along the way a lot of limbs were near to or touching the overhead trolley wire, and the crew had to take care of that problem. These two photos show the crew in the archery range curve area of our Como-Harriet Streetcar Line. (*Jim Vaitkunas photos*)

## CLASSIC AUTO & TRUCK SHOW REPORT – MAY 29, 2011

### Report by Dave Irey

This year's classic Auto rally/show started out with a cloudy and drizzly morning and this kept many of the classic automobiles and trucks away from our annual classic car rally. Despite this, 40-50 vehicles did come by during the course of the afternoon and we gave out 43 free streetcar rides to those who did stop for a while. The button people furnished free buttons for us and were on hand to photograph the classic cars and sell the buttons and magnet photos of the autos. We had good spectator/visitor attendance and the atmosphere was festive. The finale of the day's festivities was the cruise around Lake Harriet by all of the cars, with the lead car being a great looking 1959 Ford Stillwater Police Department squad car (see photo below), Many thanks to all who helped make this a memorable and flawless day. I'd like to especially thank **Angela Frerichs** and **John Reinan** for helping to obtain permission to have the rally on their street from the people who live on Queen Avenue, south.



Here are some of the classic autos that visited our annual rally on May 29, 2011. The fellow in the bowler hat in the photo on the left is the event organizer, **Dave Irey**. (*John Prestholdt photos*)