



Streetcar CURRENTS

SPECIAL PHOTO SUPPLEMENT

AUGUST 2008



MSM CELEBRATES THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF TCRT No. 1300

On July 13, 2008 MSM held it's birthday party for TCRT streetcar No. 1300. In the late spring a committee was formed to organize and conduct the party. Committee members included **Rod Eaton, Bob Bayers, Kay Kullberg, Ron Middlestaedt, Tom Balcom, Jim Harrison, and Ashley Todd**. **Bob Bayers** arranged for the cake and refreshments and helped staff the refreshment tent along with **Kay Kullberg** and **Ashley Todd**. On the appointed day the weather was perfect and we had a good turnout of members and neighbors with over 780 passengers riding that day, well above the average for a Sunday. We'd like to give special thanks to the Minnesota Transportation Museum and **Phil Epstein** for bringing Twin City Lines GM classic bus No. 1399 to the event. **Mike Buck** drove No. 1399 through the Linden Hills neighborhood following the still visible Como-Harriet line's right of way. Here are some photos showing the events and some of the people who helped make the day a great success.



(Above) The platform looked like this for most of the day. Lots of neighbors and visitors enjoying some cake and a streetcar ride. (Phil Settergren photo)



(Above) We had a great barbershop quartet come and entertain our passengers for a few hours. They also rode along on No. 1300 to serenade our passengers with the old songs. (Ron Middlestaedt photo)



(Left) Here's the birthday cake decorated with a photo of No. 1300 and the birthday logo. Many thanks to **Bob Bayers** for procuring this and another cake. (Ron Middlestaedt photo)



(Above left) **Phil Epstein** (left) and **Mike Buck** provided tours through the Linden Hills neighborhood in Twin City Lines GM classic bus No. 1399. The bus route followed the Como-Harriet line's right way, most of which is still visible, out to the location of the turning loop at 44th and France Avenues. (Ron Middlestaedt photo)

(Above right) Here's the birthday girl on the mainline passing Duluth St. Rwy No. 265 waiting on the siding ready to proceed north. (John Kennedy photo)

(Right) Museum Board Chair, **Dave French** says a few words to the assembled visitors prior to the grand arrival of No. 1300 which is poised to come down the mainline from the Isaacs carbarn. (Photo by Ron Middlestaedt)



EXCELSIOR STREETCAR LINE PHOTOS



Here's **Bob Johnson** staffing the display at the Mt. Calvary Nursery School event mentioned in the August *Streetcar Currents*. Bob is standing behind the portable O-gauge operating trolley model built by Bill Olson. (Bruce Kobs photo)



This photo shows the new photo display in the Excelsior ready barn constructed by **Bruce Kobs**. There is another photo display with some "before and after" photos of the three streetcars currently located at the Excelsior Streetcar Line. (Bruce Kobs photo)

WINONA NO. 10 RESTORATION PROGRESS

Steady progress has been made on restoring Winona No. 10 over the last several months. A team comprised of project leader **Ken Albrecht**, **Jim Willmore**, **Tom Fairbairn**, **Russ Isbrandt**, **Phil Settergren** and **George Ittner** have been working on Tuesdays and Saturday mornings to get the car ready for some major reconstructive surgery. What that will entail is cutting out the very corroded underframe pieces and the bottom six inches of the side sheets and installing new steel underframe members. Both platforms also have to be dismantled and then reconstructed. We will have a detailed report in the next issue of the Streetcar Currents on what has to be done and why, but for now here are some photos illustrating where we are in the project.



(Above left) This is the “before” shot of one of the platforms of Winona No. 10. The truss you see running through the first window is one of eight that will support the carbody when the corroded underframe is cut away. *(Bob Johnson photo)*

(Above right) This photo shows some of the “full-time” crew working on Winona No. 10. On the floor, from left to right is **Jim Willmore**, **Ken Albrecht** and **Russ Isbrandt** with **Tom Fairbairn** standing on the platform above Ken. Note that the platform is already partially dismantled. It must have been a humid day judging by the wet shirts on the guys. *(Phil Settergren photo)*



(Left) Here’s a shot of the platform with everything removed except for the floor boards. Note the trusses going through each window opening that will support the main car body when the corroded underframe is cut away and replaced. *(Bob Johnson photo)*



(Left) A streetcar is made up of hundreds of individual parts. These include wood molding pieces, wood panels, metal hardware such as ceiling vents, window lifts, and so forth. One of the major challenges when you dismantle a streetcar to prepare it for restoration is keeping track of each part and marking or tagging it, so you know where it goes when it comes time to put all the pieces back where they came from. This photo shows some of the parts in storage up on the mezzanine of the Excelsior carbarn, all individually marked and catalogued. *(Bob Johnson photo)*

WANT TO HELP?

If you want to help with the Winona No. 10 restoration project, we’d love to have you come and join us. If you’re interested call Ken Albrecht at 507-625-8428