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ARTIST PAINTS HISTORIC PRESIDENT OBAMA TRAIN
“A Long Hard Journey”

Atlanta, Ga. Feb. 10, 2009 – Railroad artist Robert West will unveil his recently completed painting, “A Long Hard Journey”, which depicts President Barak Obama, and the First Lady, standing and waving to the crowds, from the rear platform of the Georgia # 300, Presidential train, near Washington, D.C.

Robert is a full time railroad illustrator, whose grandfather, Allen Parrish, worked as Pullman Porter, for the Atlantic Coastline, (CSX), Railroad, out of the Jacksonville, Florida railroad terminal train station!

In celebration of National Black History Month, it is only appropriate, that the elements of the inauguration, of President Obama, the artistry of Robert West, and the legacy of the Pullman Porter, converge during National Black History Month, for Robert to produce a painting which sums up all of the aforementioned elements.

The painting depicts the President and the First Lady, waving to Harriet Tubman, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., George Bush Sr., Ghandi, Rosa Parks, Abraham Lincoln, Robert’s grandfather, and a host of other historically significant people, as they wave back.

Robert will give a ½ hour lecture on the history of the Pullman Porters, on Saturday, April 25, 2009, 10:30 a.m , during the 150th Anniversary Symposium at the, Pullman Museum , Chicago , Illinois, in conjunction with the Passenger Train historical Society Conference.

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For more information about the painting, please call Mike Sanders at (404.357.6951), or Email Robert West at mainlinememories@yahoo.com or visit www.trainpaintings.com , or Google: “artist paints his grandfather history”.

Additional show information can be obtained by contacting David at (330) 819 – 3423 , (evenings) .or www.trainweb.org/pths/symposium.html



Robert West, as he is working on the original painting.



Robert West on the Georgia 300 Business Car, prior to its departure from Jacksonville, Florida, for the inaugural Whistle-stop Tour.