



Opportunities To Meet Your Interests Are Here

In 2005 SCRVRHS has many opportunities, both old and new, to pique your interests and involve you in your hobby of real railroading. Here are just a few:

RAIL CAR RESTORATION — **Jeff Trimble** and **Steve Pierce** coordinate efforts for the restoration and maintenance of both our #1205 UP Pullman sleeper and the 'Vickie V' Santa Fe caboose. These two also are docents for tours of both cars during our annual Rail Festival. Most of the car interiors are in great shape. The challenge is aluminum corrosion and fading exterior paint. If this is your calling or you have specific skills and/or work experience to lend, or you just want to get involved, let Jeff know via e-mail at jtrimble@scrvrhs.com or call him at (805) 652-1081.

LOCOMOTIVE RESTORATION — **Mark Aston** started our new workshop to help disassemble and eventually rebuild the F&W #14 2-8-0 Baldwin steam locomotive. His group meets regularly at 9 AM on the 3rd Saturday of each month at Yanni's restaurant then moves to the F&W yard. Anyone, skilled or not, is welcome to drop by and get involved with learning about how a steam engine works and gaining hands on experience. Wear safety shoes and gloves!

RAILROAD VISITOR CENTER — Is the most visible, interactive symbol of the Society to the public. **Fred Ervast** and **Stan Hurst** keep the doors open and the displays of artifacts and railroad memorabilia fresh. They, with layout owner **Jerry Mathews**, also keep the Lionel trains and accessories in working order. Our gift shop sells t-shirts and donated railroad related items that benefit the Society. And our totally digital theatre adds special relevance to the history of local railroading with vintage film footage of classic trains. It only takes one person to operate the Center but two or more make it more fun. Drop by and look around on any weekend afternoon. Find a niche that fits your interests. It's up to you. *We're here!*

JUST WHAT IS A SCRVRHS CAR ATTENDANT ANYWAY?

by Rick Swanson

Our SCRVRHS Car Attendant Program has been around for as long as the Society has been in existence. One advantage of Society membership has always been the opportunity to become a passenger train crewmember and experience train travel from a totally new perspective. SCRVRHS uniformed car attendants provide three important functions onboard the various Fillmore & Western trains:

SAFETY – Car attendants are primarily responsible for passenger safety. They receive instruction to include assisting passengers in getting on and off of the train; passing between cars; car vestibule and window operation; and the hazards



posed by children running on the train. They remind passengers of the F&W railroad rules such as body parts being outside of the train, outside food, smoking, and shoes on chairs. In case of emergency, all car attendants must be CPR certified (classes available) and many also have formal first aid training. When in doubt or if difficulties arise, car attendants rely on the train conductor for assistance.

INFORMATION – Car Attendants are not just added passengers that ride in a seat the whole trip. They receive formal training on the history of the railroad corridor and the various pieces of equipment operating on the train. They walk the train, monitoring safety, and engaging passengers without imposing themselves on others. They share facts about the interesting points along the route and answer any questions. This makes the train ride much more interesting for both passengers and car attendants alike while fulfilling the Society's historical and educational goals.

MEMBERSHIP – All car attendants have access to our 'Join Us' brochures either in their possession or available on the train. Attendants act as Society ambassadors offering the brochure to passengers who show more than a passing interest in trains or the activities of the Society. Assisting the Society in gaining new members allows SCRVRHS a greater reach in meeting our goals, completing our projects and sharing the railroading experience with others.

Being a car attendant *IS* truly an opportunity not available everywhere. In addition to F&W trains, once a year, qualified SCRVRHS car attendants also serve on Metrolink high-speed trains during the two weekends of the Ventura County Fair. And the opportunity doesn't stop there. Several brakemen, conductors and even engineers, who work for the Fillmore & Western Railway, are SCRVRHS members who have come up through the ranks starting as SCRVRHS car attendants. The opportunities are here if anyone wants to take advantage of them.

Interested? Participation is worked around your availability. But once you begin participating, you'll find that your availability magically improves! Contact program chairperson Don Hatch by calling him at (805) 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com.

DISPATCH BOARD

JANUARY 2005

Join us for an informal breakfast every Saturday morning at 8:00

Yanni's Charbroil Restaurant.

736 Ventura St., (Hwy 126) Fillmore between IHOP & Carl's Jr.

- 5th** 7:00 pm - **SCRVRHS Board of Directors Meeting**
Railroad Visitor Center 455 Main Street, Fillmore
- 8th & 9th** **F&W WEEKEND EXCURSION TRAINS**
Car Attendants Needed 11:00 am — 4:00 pm
call Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com
- 12th** **MEMBERSHIP MEETING**
7 PM — Railroad Visitor Center, Fillmore
- 15th & 16th** **F&W WEEKEND EXCURSION TRAINS**
Car Attendants Needed 11:00 am — 4:00 pm
call Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com
- 22nd** **LOCOMOTIVE WORKSHOP**
Get involved with the #14 a 2-8-0 Baldwin steam loco
9 AM - Meet at Yanni's. Come early at 8 AM for breakfast!
- 22nd & 23rd** **F&W WEEKEND EXCURSION TRAINS**
Car Attendants Needed 11:00 am — 4:00 pm
call Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com
- 29th & 30th** **F&W WEEKEND EXCURSION TRAINS**
Car Attendants Needed 11:00 am — 4:00 pm
call Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com

Save the date

FILLMORE RAIL FESTIVAL
March 19th & 20th, 2005

AROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE . . .

THE TURNTABLE INSTALLATION — is behind the proposed schedule. Although the Society has signed the management agreement with the City of Fillmore, the City has yet to finalize a contract with grant administrator, the Willdan Company. Until the contract is approved by the city council, no work can begin on construction bid specifications or the bidding process. Once approved, the schedule should go according to plan.

THE 2005 ANNUAL MEETING — of the Society has been scheduled for the February 2nd Board of Directors meeting. Officers for 2005 will be elected and candidates for board membership will be considered. If you have an interest to serve on the Board of Directors, contact Nominating Committee Chairperson Fred Ervast at (805) 389-0787 or email at fervast@scrvrhs.com. All Society members are welcome to attend the meeting.

DID YOU KNOW — that it was railroad protocol for conductors to remove their hats while walking through a passenger dining room, like the dining car, during meals.

AS IS OFTEN THE CASE — in any volunteer organization, the work that requires so many, is usually always handled by the same very few. In 2005, how's this for a News Years resolution?

I am only one, but still, I am one. I cannot do everything but I can do something. And, because I cannot do everything, I will not refuse to do what I can.

-- Edward Everett Hale, American clergyman/writer (1822-1909)



Editor/Publisher — Rick Swanson



TRAIN ORDERS

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