

TRAIN



ORDERS

APRIL 2006

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The Newsletter of the Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society



Dignitaries and crew members pose in front of F&W F7 no. 101, celebrating the return of passenger service to Piru.

Railfest 2006 A Great Success

by William Golden Wilkins, Editor

Railfest 2006 was notable in that it marked the return of passenger rail service to Piru after a hiatus of more than fifty years, in that for the first time activities occurred in three cities (Fillmore, Santa Paula and Piru), and that it was the first Railfest in several years to see an increase in attendance compared with prior events. Railfest co-chair Jim Mendrala has written a comprehensive review of Railfest 2006, available in full color in the online edition of the April train orders (at members.scrvrhs.org), that I would encourage you to read. SCRVRHS is extremely grateful for all of the hard work our volunteers contributed towards making this Railfest a success.

Turntable Project Update

by Mike Morgan, Director

During the city council meeting on the evening of March 14, 2006 several events regarding the SCRVRHS Turntable Project took place. The council voted to buy the #14 Locomotive from Fillmore & Western for \$1.00, and then to accept the bid from the sole Bidding Contractor (J. T. Contracting) for both Schedule "A" (The Turntable installation) and Schedule "B" (The Steam Locomotive rebuild). J. T. Contracting won the contract with a bid that was about \$109,000.00 more than we have available. The original TEA Grant was for 195,900. To that SCRVRHS has paid \$29,242.00. Total Monies available should be around \$230,142.00, and the bid was \$339,992.00 for the entire Schedule A of the contract. City Council documents show that \$20,000 has been set aside for administrative costs and there will be \$191,500 for construction before the city council resolution:

The next item on the agenda that the Council addressed was a proposal by Ron Lewis (SCRVRHS President). That SCRVRHS would put up another \$25,000.00 toward the completion of the Turntable installation if the City of Fillmore would Grant us matching funds in the amount of \$75,000.00. After some discussion about the actual funding expenditure, and the amount of money required to complete the Turntable installation, the Council voted to Grant us (SCRVRHS) \$80,000.00 (for a total of \$105,000.00) which still leaves us a shortfall in the total contract. Construction should begin within three weeks from the writing of this article.

DISPATCH BOARD

SCHEDULE OF UPCOMING EVENTS

JOIN US FOR AN INFORMAL BREAKFAST
*at the Fillmore Cafe - Saturdays at 8:00 AM**

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THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE
April 28th and 29th, May 5th and 6th

FIREWORKS BOOTH
June 26th through July 4th

BOARD MEETING
Railroad Visitor Center...May 3rd at 7:00 PM

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GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Railroad Visitor Center...May 10th at 7:00 PM

*If for any reason the Fillmore Cafe is closed on a given Saturday morning, the alternate breakfast location is La Fondita, a Mexican cafe serving a full breakfast menu, on Central Ave, in downtown Fillmore.

Contact the Editor:
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SCRVRHS T-Shirts Available

SCRVRHS has numerous styles of T-shirts available in the Visitor Center gift shop. The RAILFEST 2006 shirts (shown in the enclosed photo) are included in the selection, and they come in adult S, M, L, XL, XXL, and even XXXL! Also for children, there are M and L sizes. All T-shirts are \$14 (includes sales tax) for non-members and \$12 for members, and the polo shirts, coming in sky blue and ash color, are \$18 each. Additionally, there are other T-shirts with the large SCRVRHS logo, previous RAILFEST designs, and the ever popular SESPE Locomotive in most adult sizes. Come on by soon and get your T-shirt!

Thomas Returns to Fillmore

Thomas The Tank Engine is coming to Fillmore again, taking place on the last weekend of April (28th, 29th, and 30th) and the first weekend of May (5th, 6th, and 7th). We are looking for volunteers as docents in our Railroad Visitor Center, greeting visitors and running the model trains. Previous *Thomas The Tank Engine* weekends have brought in numerous visitors to the Center, resulting in many gift shop sales and contributions. If you could provide a small amount of your time on those weekends, SCRVRHS would be most grateful. For you retirees, your help is needed in keeping the Center on those Fridays (April 28th and May 5th).

Discover *Train Orders* Online:

members.scrvrhs.com

call Jim Mendrela at (661) 294-1049 for assistance



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