



MAY, 2005 •

*Scheduled and Unscheduled Society Events, Timely News, and Notes of Interest*

• WWW.SCRVRHS.COM

## Plan To Move The RIC Project Gets A Critical Push By The Board

Although certain pending plan items, such as clarifications on the blue prints and a 'sequence of construction' have recently been completed by our design engineer, we still are lacking a detailed electrical plan as per the request of Willdan, the grant administrator. The plan would detail the specifics of the materials to be used and the route it would take along with trench and cable requirements. This includes showing the route of power from the Edison source on Mt. View Street to the turntable. Although the roundhouse and Exhibit Hall are not part of the RICs' initial "Phase P", the total electrical demand for all three phases needs to be specified for a one time installation.

Willdan cannot proceed with putting the project out to bid until this unresolved item has been completed. Once this is done, it will take another 120 days to begin construction.

To complicate things, Edison apparently does not want a required transformer on the power pole located on Mountain View, so the transformer may have to be located on site in an underground vault. The location of this vault needs to be delineated on the plan as well.

The Board recently stressed the urgency of finalizing the bid plans which were requested at a meeting with Willdan on February 2, 2005. The delay in obtaining the electrical plan is costly because as each month passes, the costs for basic construction materials continue to rise at a record pace. Add to that the fact that the longer the project construction is stalled beyond the August 2004 grant approval date, the greater the chance that we may lose the grant funding. To that end the Board has authorized Taft Electric to be contacted to develop the electrical plan as soon as possible. Progress will be made!

*Locomotive Workshop leader Mark Aston (front) and Jim Mendrala (rear) recently installed a new projector mount for the Railroad Visitor Center Morgan Theatre. Next is to paint the ceiling black and install the scrim to hide the light fixtures. Our theatre was the site of Thomas the Tank Engine video's in support of Thomas' visit to the F&W in the last weeks of April.*

*Photo by Sue Mendrala*



## One Fundraiser Down, One Big One To Go Firework Sales Make The Year For SCRVRHS

Our Society has only two major sources of annual income, the Rail Festival in March and the fireworks stand in July. The rest of the year we rely on sporadic donations and Visitor Center gift shop sales. These two fund raising efforts have been the primary sources of the matching funds we needed to meet the grant requirement of the turntable project. Now Phase 2 of the RIC is fast approaching and we need your help again.

The real challenge as always, but particularly this year, is to schedule enough volunteers to operate the stand, especially during the weekdays when the majority of members are at their regular jobs. But as we always say, many hands make light work. And you too can help and have fun at the same time. Husbands and wives alike are invited to join in on a three hour shift or two over the course of a week to help make the money that supports the Society, especially on the 4th of July, our busiest day. Last year the booth was forced to close at times because of a lack of staff and our profits reflected that fact. Don't let that happen this year. We need your support and the dollars it generates. Mark your calendars!

*SCRVRHS and the City of Fillmore have again collaborated in the submission of a grant application requesting funds to build a three stall roundhouse next to the turntable. The proposed roundhouse is Phase 2 of our Railroad Interpretive Center (RIC) project. The \$300,000 in funds is being sought from a Federal transportation enhancement program and will again require State and local plan approval. If approved, SCRVRHS' portion of matching funds required by the grant will be \$45,000 for a total project funding of \$345,000.*

# DISPATCH BOARD

## MAY 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.

**4th** 7:00 p.m. - **SCRVRHS Board of Directors Meeting**  
Railroad Visitor Center 455 Main Street, Fillmore  
Members are welcome to attend

**7th & 8th** **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

**11th** **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
Program: FIREWORKS STAND PREVIEW  
7:00 p.m. — Railroad Visitor Center, Fillmore  
Refreshments

**21st** **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!

**21st & 22th** **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

**28th & 29th** **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

**BE A RAILROAD VISITOR CENTER DOCENT**

Call Fred Ervast at 805 389-0787  
email at him at [www.fervast@scrvrhs.com](mailto:www.fervast@scrvrhs.com)

### AROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE . . .

**NEW TREASURER** — at the request of founding member and SCRVRHS Treasurer Joe Kern, the board has chosen a new Treasurer to fill Joe's unexpired term. Fred Ervast, board member and Chairperson of the Railroad Visitor Center will assume Joe's duties immediately. Joe has served the Society well and will continue on the board. Let's all thank Joe for his years of service overseeing the finances of the Society. Thanks Joe!

**SAVE THE DATE** — Since Rail Festival BBQ sales were a 'bit' less than last year (thanks to the rain), we managed to have some tri-tip roasts left over. So, to thank both our members and the Fillmore & Western for supporting the Society, we are planning an old fashioned BBQ on Saturday afternoon, July 16th beginning at 2 PM. Mark your calendars now and be sure to bring the family. More later.

**SCRVRHS** — would like to thank those members who volunteered their time over the last two weekends of April in support of the Fillmore & Western's Day Out With Thomas event. From car attendants, to gift shop, to security, to the Visitor Center and other tasks, your assistance helped to make the six days really enjoyable for all of the kids and their parents who attended, promoted an interest in railroading and helped to support your Society. We appreciate what you did. Thanks!

**No great deed is done by falterers who ask for certainty.**

-- *George Eliot (Mary Ann Evans),  
English novelist (1819-1880)*

*Editor/Publisher—Rick Swanson*



### TRAIN ORDERS

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Railroad Historical Society, Inc.  
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Fillmore, California 93016-0492

