



# TRAIN ORDERS

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

JUNE, 2004

www.scrvrhs.com

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Mark Aston Named Replaces Ken Shaner

A member since 2001, Mark has been a big help in establishing the Railroad Visitor Center in our new location. Being a construction contractor of large facilities doesn't hurt either!

Mark got back into 'training' when his kids were smaller and he purchased a G Scale train to put under the proverbial Christmas tree. A tradition that he enjoyed himself as a kid with Lionel trains.

That led to his, as he puts it, personal mid-life crisis and he joined the Feather River Rail Society in Portola. There he assisted with the restoration of former Western Pacific locomotives. Mark says, "I'm at an age where I don't care what people think of me anymore, I do things that I like and have fun at it".



Traveling to Portola from Southern California was becoming a chore, so Mark joined SCRVRHS to continue his love for trains locally. He would like to establish a Society program in which volunteers can perform maintenance and repairs on Fillmore & Western locomotives and learn the mechanics of engines at the same time. (If you are interested, contact him at [maston@scrvrhs.com](mailto:maston@scrvrhs.com)).

Congratulations Mark!

## Car Attendants

### Metrolink County Fair Trains Coming!

A treat for all SCRVRHS Car Attendants is our annual assistance on the Ventura County Fair Metrolink trains. Sponsored by the Ventura County Transportation Commission and in cooperation with the Ventura County Fair Board on the two week-year being August 15th. Two trains and crews are needed on each. More details will follow next month. But feel free to get a head start by contracting our Car Attendant Chief **Don Hatch**. Need a name badge? Don can help with that too. All aboard!



## The Fuse Is Lit!

### It's Our Annual Fireworks Fundraiser



Can you believe that some \$20,000 to \$30,000 is on the table for us to make at this year's Red Devil fireworks stand in Fillmore! It's traditionally our biggest fundraiser of the entire year.

Our members will once again be setting up the inventory and organizing the shelves on June 26th for a week's worth of selling America's favorite item to celebrate the founding of our country—*fireworks!* To attract attention to our organization and stand, our giant, black locomotive Bar-B-Que will be positioned out front. No way will people confuse us with other non-

profit organizations along Highway 126. As an added customer convenience we will again have a wireless Visa and Mastercard credit card machine thanks to Santa Barbara Bank & Trust. It's simple and easy to use.

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 working. Operating hours will be from 9 AM to 9 PM daily and volunteers can sign on for two hour shifts. Our past leader, **Troy Helton**, will be out of the area during this time and we really need some help. So **Don Hatch** has volunteered to pick up the leadership role for this year. But as we always say, many hands make light work. And you too can help and have fun at the same time while supporting a true American tradition—fireworks on the 4th of July!

It's great to see the look on those young faces as they scan the countertop searching for that very special firework. Husbands, wives and their kids over 18 alike are invited to join in on a shift or two to help make the money that makes the wheels of the Society go round, especially on the 4th of July, our busiest day.

It's important that you sign up in advance so that we can arrange coverage and keep the stand open. Contact **Don Hatch** at 805 484-8624 or at [dhatch@scrvrhs.com](mailto:dhatch@scrvrhs.com). Otherwise he'll be calling you to schedule a shift or two. Remember, \$20,000 to \$30,000 is nothing for us to ignore, especially if we end up footing the entire bill for the turntable installation. So help out! As always, we REALLY need you!

At last month's Membership Meeting, attendees were treated to a round of Celtic tunes on the bagpipes, courtesy of recent new member **Cameron Stewart**. His song selection included *Scotland Forever* and *Amazing Grace*. Cameron is part Scottish and part Scandinavian and began playing the 'pipes' at the early age of 9. Needless to say he commanded the attention of both those inside and outside of the Railroad Visitor Center! Great job Cameron.



# DISPATCH BOARD

## JUNE 2004

*This is an open invitation for breakfast every Saturday morning at 8 am at the Fillmore Cafe on Santa Clara Street across from City Hall.*

- 2nd**      **SCRVRHS Board of Directors Meeting**  
7:00 PM—Railroad Visitor Center 455 Main Street, Fillmore  
Members are always welcome to attend!
- 5th & 6th**      **Call for CAR ATTENDANTS & DOCENTS!**  
- Fillmore & Western Daytime Trains  
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM — Call Don Hatch: 805 484-8624  
- Railroad Visitor Center — Call Fred Ervast: 805 389-0787
- 9th**      **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**Railroad Visitor Center — Fillmore**  
**7:00 PM Morgan Railroad Theatre Dedication**
- 12th & 13th**      **Call for CAR ATTENDANTS & DOCENTS!**  
- Fillmore & Western Daytime Trains  
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM — Call Don Hatch: 805 484-8624  
- Railroad Visitor Center — Call Fred Ervast: 805 389-0787
- 19th & 20th**      **Call for CAR ATTENDANTS & DOCENTS!**  
- Fillmore & Western Daytime Trains  
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM — Call Don Hatch: 805 484-8624  
- Railroad Visitor Center — Call Fred Ervast: 805 389-0787
- 26th & 27th**      **Call for CAR ATTENDANTS & DOCENTS!**  
- Fillmore & Western Daytime Trains  
11:00 AM to 3:00 PM — Call Don Hatch: 805 484-8624  
- Railroad Visitor Center — Call Fred Ervast: 805 389-0787
- 27th—4th**      **SCRVRHS FIREWORKS FUNDRAISER**  
**Show your patriotism + your red, white & blue**  
Pick a shift and help with our biggest fundraiser of the year  
**Contact Event Chairman Don Hatch at**  
**(805) 484-8624 or dhatch@scrvrhs.com**

## AROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE . . .

**TURNTABLE** — Ventura County Transportation Commission officials met early last month with CalTrans regarding the status of the turntable plan approval. CalTrans informed them that since the turntable was located along the railroad right-of-way, they needed VCTC's approval. This was the first that VCTC heard of this need. VCTC immediately wrote and sent the required approval to CalTrans. However, the status of the turntable plan approval remains the same as before. If approval does not come soon, we could stand to lose our \$250k in State transportation grant funding and be forced to look at other revenue sources to install the turntable. Needless to say, a letter or two to your local State legislator might prove helpful. We're running out of options.

**SPEAKING OF REVENUE** — \$850. was earned by SCRVRHS volunteers for their assistance in the recent Fillmore & Western Thomas the Tank Engine event over two weekends. We thank you!

**RAIL FESTIVAL** — final tally of profits from the March Festival hit nearly \$4,000 thanks in part to a \$1,000 sponsorship by Santa Barbara Bank & Trust. Thank you SBB&T!

**GOLDLINE REVISITED** — since our planned trip was cancelled due to the MTA strike, we are looking to try it again on August 14th. Have any suggestions? Lunch ideas? Contact VP **Ron Lewis** at rlewis@scrvrhs.com. Details to follow.

**VISITOR CENTER** — **Fred Ervast & Stan Hurst** have volunteered to be Co-Chairpersons of the Center. Give them your support as a docent whenever you have an opportunity. Thanks guys!

Editor — Rick Swanson



## TRAIN ORDERS

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