



TRAIN ORDERS

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

JUNE - JULY, 2011

www.scrvrhs.com

It's Fireworks Time Again!



The largest Society fundraiser of the year is once again upon us. **FIREWORKS!**

Each year we join other civic groups in Fillmore for the annual fireworks sale. For SCRVRHS, the sales benefit our Railroad Interpretive Center (RIC) project, and specifically, to build a fund to install protective, removable fencing around the turntable itself. As you know we currently have ugly temporary wire fencing in place. But 1) approved city plans call for a decorative steel fence and; 2) potential movie venues require that the fencing be removable for photo shoots. However the required fencing and its installation is expensive and we are only one third of the way in securing the needed money to do the job. So fireworks sales are the absolute best way to achieve our goals.

Much like the recent Railfest, it takes many hands to make this a success. Needed are a few members to help set-up the booth on Saturday, June 25th and a few more to stock the booth with fireworks on June 27th and 28th. Then we need a committed group of volunteers to spend a few hours selling the fireworks both during the week (beginning on June 28th) and on the holiday weekend of July 2 - 4. (see the Dispatch Board) Hours of operation for all days are from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm.

So if you have a few hours or a couple of days and would like to help, contact Rick Swanson at rswanson@scrvrhs.com to sign up. And be sure to stop by and purchase your own personal fireworks and tell your friends and family to do the same. The booth is located at 1120 W. Ventura Street (Hwy 126) in Fillmore. For directions visit the SCRVRHS website at www.scrvrhs.com.

If you can only volunteer once in a year, this is the time to do so. We look forward to seeing you there!

A F&W Thomas the Tank Engine Update

By SCRVRHS Member Larry Jennings

During several recent April weekends, Thomas the Tank Engine was at the Fillmore & Western Railway. Even though we grown-ups tend to scoff at Thomas, for the 2 to 6 year old crowd, Thomas is a true hero. A TV star here in real life. Kind of like when we got to see Roy Rogers in person or went to a live Beatles concert.

All of the estimated 15,000 passengers who bought a ticket got a 25 minute ride. Plus or minus one minute. The trip ran two miles east of Fillmore to a rural farm crossing and back. Six days. Forty-two trips total. One hundred sixty-eight miles on two miles of track!

Train consist was two F-7's back to back and M Ued plus eight cars: five heavyweight coaches and three rider flat cars, plus Thomas. I was engineer for most of the runs. Rode in Thomas for a couple of trips. The kids wave as you pass, but you soon realize they are not waving at you. They are waving at Thomas. You are the luckiest person in the world because Thomas is giving you a ride. You need a conductor and brakeman in Thomas. The brakeman makes Thomas' eyes move with a crank handle and make smoke with the same kind of fog machine that is used at rock concerts. The Conductor takes the shove for the reverse move. That is, watches to be sure the track is clear as the train is backing up and calls the engineer on the radio to relay that information. Maximum speed is 15 mph.

There are several Thomas replicas. One is an actual operating steam locomotive. The rest are empty shells. They ride and sound like empty tank cars. That is rough and noisy. They are light weight so they can be moved by highway truck from location to location without being an overweight permit load. Posted in the cab is the notice to handle on the rear of the train only and coupled to other equipment on one end only. Oh well. In the end, I guess it's all Hollywood magic!

DISPATCH BOARD

JUNE 2011

- 18th Fireworks booth Site grading & fence relocation
- 23rd Fireworks booth delivered
- 24th & 25th Fireworks booth floor and lighting installed
- 27th Fireworks delivered and set-up in booth
- 28th Fireworks sales begin 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

JULY 2011



- 4th Fillmore Family 4th & Car Show
Fireworks sales conclude at 9:00 pm
- 5th Unsold fireworks returned in morning
- 6th No SCRVRHS Board of Directors Meeting
- 9th NO GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Thank for assisting with fireworks!

BE A PART OF RAILROAD HISTORY

Buy-A-Brick

As a rail enthusiast, memorialize your support for SCRVRHS and be a part of railroad history by having an engraved brick installed in the walkway surrounding our railroad Turntable. Located in Fillmore, California, the turntable walkway will lead directly from the Promenade next to the railroad tracks to Main Street on the North. Bricks can be engraved with either two or three 18 character lines.

The bricks are "Standard Kiln Fired Common Red Bricks" (2 1/4" x 3 7/8" x 8 1/8"). These special engraved bricks are a great way to pay recognition to a loved one, family, kids, a friend, business or yourself as a proud Society supporter. The tax deductible donation for a two line brick is \$120.00, a three line brick \$130.00. Funds benefit the completion of the Railroad Interpretive Center and turntable.



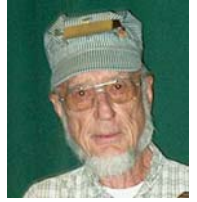
For information and an order form go to www.scrvrhs.com or contact Jim Mendrala at Jmendrala@scrvrhs.com
Donations to this project are tax deductible

AROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE . . .

From Stan Hurst, Senior Advisor:

First, I would like to say, "Welcome back, to Rick Swanson."

Secondly, but no less important, I must express my appreciation and thanks to all those that worked so hard to make the Railfest a success. I know it is hard work overcoming the many challenges. The visitors all seemed to be having a fun time, and several said they looked forward to the event each year. If everyone pitches in, we can continue to make the event happen.



Again, thanks.

Stan Hurst, Senior Advisor



Editor's Note: to volunteer to sell fireworks, contact Rick Swanson at rswanson@scrvrhs.com

Welcome New Society Members:

Dan Wooten Paul Squillo
Santa Clarita Fillmore

HELP WANTED!

It only takes a few hands to keep the wheels of the Society rolling. Yes, the board does a great deal to keep the society vibrant but they can't do it all. Volunteer assistance is needed for a Visitor Center Gift Shop Coordinator. This involves a few hours a month to maintain and select an inventory of products as well as coordinating a staff for weekend sales. We also need a volunteer coordinator for our famous Car Attendant Program that assists passengers onboard both the Fillmore & Western and special Metrolink trains. Duties entail maintaining Attendant training requirements, uniform standards and the staffing of weekend trains. It's fun and provides a great service to passenger safety while informing visitors about the history of the railroad line and our Society. Interested? Contact President Ron Lewis at rlewis@scrvrhs.com or attend a Membership Meeting for more information. Get involved!

You'll love it!