



**JULY & AUGUST, 2010**

**WWW.SCRVRHS.COM**

*A publication of the Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society; News, Notes of interest and upcoming events.*

## **THE CIRCUS COMES TO TOWN...**

In late May, evidence of a circus arrived in Fillmore... Several antique circus wagons were brought here from Circus World in Baraboo, Wisconsin, on loan, for usage in the filming "Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen.

On two separate occasions, all the 13 cars plus the Steam Locomotive No. 18 used on the circus train were turned by the SCRVRHS Crew. Many fans were on hand to take advantage of the photo opportunities of seeing big steam and the unique cars on the turntable.

Below, you see a Binzini Box Car on the Turntable. The movie company needed the train spotted in opposite directions for parts of the shooting.



This event was a "once in a life time opportunity" to participate in the turning of this equipment. Below, you see some of the Circus Wagons used on the train. Needless to say, we handled the



cars very carefully to assure that no damage occurred to these unique treasures of Circus History. The filming was done on two closed sets, one West of Fillmore (the Fox Bros. Circus) and the other West of Piru (the Binzini Bros. Circus). Below is the Binzini Big Top near Piru.



## **VOLUNTEERS GIVE OVER 308 HOURS TO THE FIREWORKS BOOTH...**

Fireworks sales for 2010 were down from prior years, however, we had a great crew volunteering to handle the booth. Steven Pierce, Director co-chaired the event, giving up a week of his annual vacation on behalf of SCRVRHS, working the booth from opening to closing. Mark Aston, Vice President was there every day to assist in sales, banking and errand running. Thank you to the following Volunteers who gave of their time to the Society: Sign in Sheet: Ken Zimet, Jim Mendrala, Gary Phillips, Mark Aston, Jenny Lewis, Jennifer Mendrala, Joyce Morgan, Barbara Aston, Shelly Morgan, Jason Zulke, Carrie Knight, Jeff Knight, Ariana Steinert, Dennis Steinert, Don Hatch, Don Ellis, Ken VanFleet & Gerry Mathews.

## **TURNTABLE IMPROVEMENTS MADE**

During May, we had a welding crew working on the turntable for some six days. First, repairs were made to rivets, and hold down clips for the rail on the table. Then, we undertook the creation and installation of two slip plates to lock the table in place while moving cars on and off. These plates worked very well, eliminating the previous time consuming and dangerous method of bolting rail joiners to the table and the approach track. We also had the brake mechanism rebuilt and installed. In keeping with the age of the turntable an antique brake handle was installed to make stopping this huge piece of equipment much easier. Right is a picture showing the usage of the brake system while turning the 18. After installation of the slide plates, repairing the rail and the brake system, we then began the task of welding in support steel for the full length of the turn table, on both sides of the track, so that wooden planking can now be installed, allowing us to walk on either side of the tracks. The planking is our next project on the table.



## **Members Needed on the Board of Directors and as Treasurer**

We currently have two openings on the Board. In addition, we need a Treasurer (also a member of the Board) to handle the financial aspects of our Society. If any of you are interested in serving on the board or as Treasurer, please contact me by email or phone (mogulsmoke@sbcglobal.net or 818-523-8198). I can give you more details on the positions. We cannot continue to be effective without your support and voice in the guidance of this fine organization! Please seriously consider volunteering for the Board. We meet one evening a month, usually the first Wednesday of the month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Visitor Center. We sincerely appreciate your volunteering to help the Board of Directors! Ron Lewis, President

## DISPATCH BOARD

### AUGUST 2010

Join us for breakfast Saturday mornings at 8:00 a.m.  
IHOP RESTAURANT; 126 and Highway 23

- August 4, 2010\***    **No Board Meeting**
- August 11, 2010\***    **No General Meeting**
- September 1, 2010**    **Board Meeting**  
7:00 p.m. Visitor Center
- September 8, 2010**    **General Meeting**  
7:00 p.m. Visitor Center

\* August Meetings cancelled due to summer vacations



## 2010 Weekend Scenic Excursion

Saturdays-Santa Paula/Loose Caboose-Jan-Sept & Nov  
Sundays-Wine & Honey Express Apr-Sept & Nov  
Depart: 12:00 pm    Return approx: 3:30-4:00 pm

Relax on board 1930's vintage passenger or dining cars as the train travels through century old citrus and avocado groves in the beautiful Heritage Valley.

On Saturdays the first stop is in downtown Santa Paula, where you can visit the historic Southern Pacific Depot, the St. Francis Dam memorial sculpture, the amazing rotating water ball in Railroad Plaza Park, all within walking distance of the depot. During the return trip to Fillmore, the train will make its second stop at Loose Caboose Garden Center and Gift Emporium.

On Sundays, the first stop is the Loose Caboose Garden Center and Gift Emporium, after a brief stay, the train will travel east of Fillmore to Bennett's Honey Farm where you can browse and shop for everything bees and honey.

At Loose Caboose you will find garden art, fountains, koi ponds and supplies, local honey and produce and a wide variety of one-of-a-kind gift items, year-round Christmas decorations and plants.

ALL ABOARD FOR FUN!

### RATES Train Ride Only

Adults:	\$24.00
Seniors (60+)	\$22.00
Youth 4-12	\$14.00
Child 2-3	\$10.00



Enjoy a moving lunch experience in the 1928 Powhatan Parlor Car. (Reserve your table at ticket purchase or see dining steward upon boarding.) A snack bar and gift shop, "The Company Store", is located in a 1940's baggage car. Beer, wine and soft drinks are also available. Meal prices are separate from train ride. On Sundays, when a meal is purchased in the Powhatan, wine tasting (3 different wines) is complimentary (adults only). Come ride with the Fillmore & Western and step back in time onboard the Movie Trains!

### Information/Reservations

800-773-8724 or 805-524-2546  
www.fwry.com

*Come Ride the Movie Trains!*

Please Note: No outside food or drink is allowed onboard. Our trains consist of vintage and antique pieces of rolling stock, most of which were built before the modern amenities. We suggest "weather-friendly" clothing as the warm summer days can be anchored by cool evenings and make more comfortable with a light coat or sweater. State law prohibits smoking on the train. Strollers and ice chests cannot be allowed onboard, as the aisles must be kept clear. Children must be accompanied by an adult when walking through the train. No alcohol may be brought onboard. We reserve the right to substitute equipment or destinations.

## AROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE . . .

### "Did You Know"

**The Rio Grande, Southern Pacific & the Union Pacific:**  
"In 1988, [Rio Grande Industries](#), the company that controlled the Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad, under the direction of [Philip Anschutz](#), purchased the [Southern Pacific Railroad](#). The combined company took the Southern Pacific name because of its name recognition among shippers. On September 11, 1996 Anschutz sold the combined company to the [Union Pacific Railroad](#) in a response to the earlier merger of the [Burlington Northern](#) and the [Santa Fe](#) which formed the [Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway](#). The Union Pacific Railroad still uses Moffat Tunnel today. Although its primary purpose today is as a rail route for coal and freight and as a water tunnel from the Pacific watershed to Colorado's Front Range population centers. Tourists and cross-country passengers can enjoy part of the route on [Amtrak's California Zephyr](#) route. In 2007 the [Union Pacific Railroad](#) did run a ballast train onto the disused section of the line near [Avon, Colorado](#) but apart from the odd [hi-rail](#) inspection of parts of the line there is no sign of a re-opening of the Tennessee Pass line..." Courtesy of: Wikipedia

**Editor's Note:** My sincere apologies for the delay in getting this issue of Train Orders out. I have been ill for over five weeks with a severe bronchial infection.. I appreciate your patience and especially your good wishes. Ron Lewis

## 2010 VENTURA COUNTY FAIR TRAINS SPECIAL METROLINK TRAIN SERVICE - WEEKENDS ONLY

Service to the Ventura County Fair and San  
Buenaventura Beach  
AUGUST 7th and 8th  
AUGUST 14th and 15th  
KIDS UNDER FIVE YEARS & METROLINK MONTHLY  
PASS HOLDERS RIDE FREE!

### TICKET PRICES:

	One Way	Round Trip
Chatsworth.....	\$7.00	\$14.00
Simi Valley.....	\$6.00	\$12.00
Moorpark.....	\$6.00	\$12.00
Camarillo.....	\$5.00	\$10.00
Oxnard.....	\$5.00	\$10.00

Complete Schedule is on the Metrolink Web Site:  
<http://www.metrolinktrains.com/spevents/?id=6>

**CAR ATTENDANTS; PLEASE VOLUNTEER**

Contact Jim Mendrala at:  
[j.mendrala@sbcglobal.net](mailto:j.mendrala@sbcglobal.net)