



TRAIN ORDERS

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

AUGUST, 2003

CELEBRATING
OUR 10th Anniversary

www.scrvrhs.org
www.scrvrhs.com

PART TWO

ATSF Caboose 474 A Preserved Jewel

Society History by Jeff Trimble

As we left the story of SCRVRHS's very own caboose in the June issue, we learned that this Ce-2 class caboose was numbered #999474 by ATSF — The "999" differentiated it from other cars with similar numbers for computerized reporting. The full number was painted on its sides, and in 1974 "474" without "999" was painted in



white on the cupola ends and inside the car. Assigned to Santa Fe's Coast Lines, it may have served in other areas as well.

About 1977, new Gould-Barber-Bettendorf roller-bearing trucks and a 12-volt electrical system (with alternator mounted on the rear truck frame) were installed. The then 28-year-old way car was equipped with an electric refrigerator, interior lights, and red lights on the bottom of the roof at each end. In August 1981, ATSF #999474 was repainted Indian red including its roof at the San Bernardino shops. The under frame remained black, the lettering and railings white. A yellow stripe and a huge Santa Fe emblem were added on each side, along with four small white reflector strips.

In 1989, ATSF #999474 was retired by the



Jeff Trimble

Santa Fe. Later, that year in March, the caboose was purchased by the Chandler Wheel Museum of Oxnard, California, where the caboose was restored. In July 1995, the #999474 was sold to the Ventura County Railway in Oxnard. It was never used. In 2002, the caboose was donated to the Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society of Fillmore, California, after the death of Mr. Smith, owner of the Ventura County Railway. With the cooperation of Ventura County Railway, Union Pacific Railroad, and the Fillmore & Western Railway, SCRVRHS's caboose arrived in Fillmore in

October 2002. It currently resides on the turntable approach track, just behind our Union Pacific sleeping car. Our caboose, nicknamed "Vickie V" by Mr. Smith, was open for its first public exhibition during our annual Rail Festival in March of 2003.

Exclusive Special Outing

SCRVRHS MEMBERS GO FIRST CLASS ON RAILCAR

On July 12, 2003, a number of SCRVRHS members got to ride the Colorado Railcar DMU. As the beautiful red car (not Pacific Electric red) rolled out of the Santa Paula depot. The host said, 'Gee, the historical society is in the first class section, and the Ventura County Transportation Commission members are in coach class'. None of the SCRVRHS members complained!

The Society was invited on this trip, as a result of our participation on the Ventura County Fair Metrolink trains. As we rolled down the line, we were treated to sandwiches and beverages. The trip went to the little Red School House, and returned in reverse to the Santa Paula depot. The ride was compared to the most comfortable of Euro-

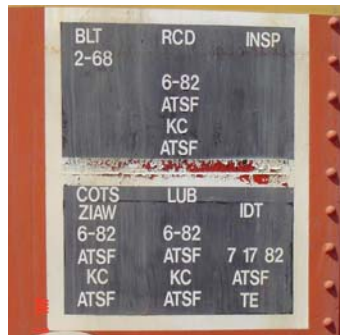
pean trains. Future plans for this very fuel efficient railcar are to run the car through the Santa Clara River Valley eventually connecting Santa Clarita to Ventura. The plans, expected to be




implemented in as little as four years, also call for the creation of a brand new train station in the town of Saticoy.

Among the Society members on board were **Larry** and **Jean Stermolle**, **William** (of Moorpark), **John Gartman**, **Troy Helton**, **George Roberts**, and **Jeff Trimble**. **Ken Zimmet**, unofficial DMU Car Attendant, was in his element greeting people at the door!

— Jeff Trimble





CAR ATTENDANTS

MEET AT THE MOORPARK METROLINK STATION AT LEAST 90 MINUTES BEFORE THE LISTED CHATSWORTH DEPARTURE TIME FOR YOUR TRAIN. CALL LARRY STERMOLLE FOR SIGN-UP & COMPLETE DETAILS. (805) 497-6373

	TRAIN #1	TRAIN #2	
Chatsworth	9:00am	1:05pm	11:00am
Simi Valley	9:15	1:20	11:17
Moorpark	9:29	1:34	11:33
Camarillo	9:41	1:48	11:50
Oxnard	9:53	2:06	12:05
Arrives Fairgrounds	10:20	2:35	12:25
Departs Fairgrounds	10:30am**	6:10pm	3:30pm

** Deadhead back to Chatsworth

DISPATCH BOARD

AUGUST 2003

Join us for an informal breakfast every Saturday morning at 8:00 am at the Fillmore Cafe on Santa Clara Street across from City Hall.

2nd & 3rd **CAR ATTENDANT OPPORTUNITIES!**
METROLINK FAIR TRAINS call Larry: 805 497-6373
FILLMORE & WESTERN call Don: 805 484-8624

6th 7:00 pm - **SCRVRHS Board of Directors Meeting**
Railroad Visitor Center 455 Main Street, Fillmore

9th & 10th **CAR ATTENDANT OPPORTUNITIES!**
METROLINK FAIR TRAINS call Larry: 805 497-6373
FILLMORE & WESTERN call Don: 805 484-8624

13th **General Membership Meeting**
Railroad Visitor Center - Central & Main, Fillmore
See www.members.scrvrhs.com for a map and directions
7:00 pm - Refreshments

16th & 17th 1:00 - 5:00 PM Fillmore & Western Daytime Trains
Car Attendants - Call Don Hatch at 805 484-8624

22nd, 23rd, & 24th ["Two Big Weekends"](#)
29th, 30th & September 1st

Another Day Out With Thomas

(Thomas The Tank Engine that is!)

Hosted by the Fillmore & Western Railway

Train rides from 8:30 AM to 6:15 PM

We need one Car Attendant per car.

Car Attendants volunteer by calling **Don Hatch** at:

805 484-8624

Help us raise money for the turntable project.



AROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE . . .

MEET YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS — per Troy Helton 'The Furnace Doctor': "I'm unprofessional with three contractors licenses, an Airline Transport Pilots license, and Aircraft Mechanics license, expired fishing license, no money, live in Santa Paula not by choice, dislike trains but got started with Jim Clark (F&W) on ram-roding 'Trains, Planes & Automobiles' activities for passengers when they reached the Santa Paula Depot; like to hang out with some of the people in the Society, and look forward to an unscheduled, unorganized future with the turntable and roundhouse. It's the only way someone from Santa Paula can "hang out" in Fillmore, besides that, I keep thinking Stan Hurst is going to buy my breakfast on Saturday mornings."

CONGRATULATIONS — to Car Attendant **Sherman Lewis**. Although he recently moved back to the Tucson Arizona area, he chose to become a **Lifetime Member** of SCRVRHS. Thank you Sherm. You're welcome on board anytime!



APPOLOGIES TO MR. STERMOLLE — for mis-reporting his sponsored milepost marker in the July issue as #421. In fact, it is **#420**. To be honest, we didn't recognize it without the phony (no pun intended) glasses and fake nose! Sorry about that!

THE MEMBER PAGE — on the web has been updated. For one, **TRAIN ORDERS** is back on line and is in living **COLOR**. Log on and sign up to receive your monthly Society newsletter via e-mail!

Editor/Publisher — Rick Swanson



TRAIN ORDERS

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