



# TRAIN ORDERS

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

OCTOBER, 2004

EARLY EDITION

www.scrvrhs.com

## TURNTABLE APPROVED

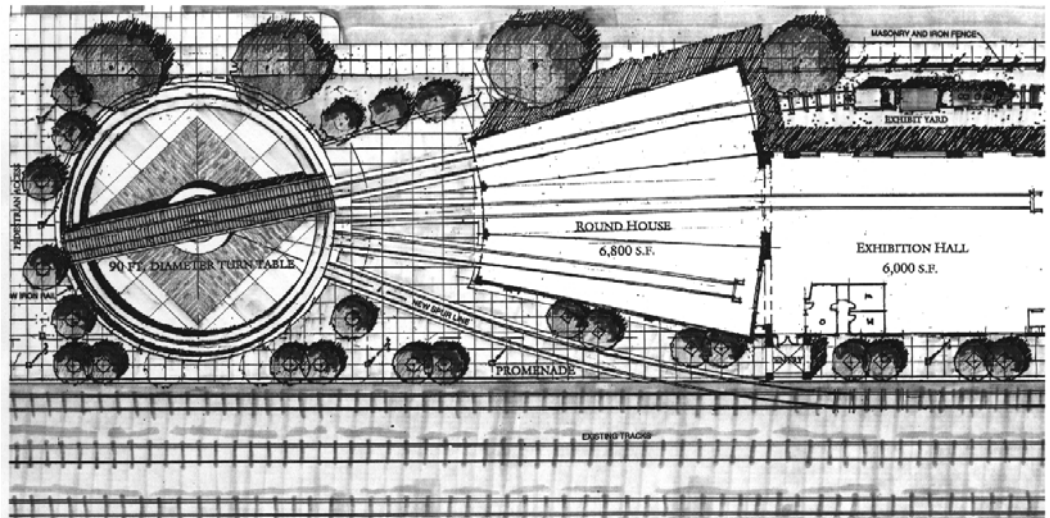
### Phase One Of Railroad Interpretive Center Begins

The California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) came through with a letter of authorization, dated August 16, 2004 to proceed with the construction of phase one of the SCRVRHS Railroad Interpretive Center Project — turntable installation. The letter made the effective date of the authorization July 23, 2004.

The letter also listed the City of Fillmore as the responsible public agency for project oversight. It authorized our grant monies to be released for construction. Estimated construction costs are \$227,354. The Society will provide its share of the construction funds totaling \$25,382, based on the grant requirements. This money is already appropriated. The majority of dollars will come from Federal transportation grant funds.

As our grant administrator, the City of Fillmore has chosen the firm of Willdan as the contract administrator. Willdan is an engineering, planning, and financial management firm dedicated to serving the individual needs of cities, towns, counties, special districts, as well as state and federal agencies. Established in 1964, Willdan has offices throughout California, Arizona, and Nevada that serve more than 400 public sector clients. Willdan has a local office in Ventura. Willdan will oversee the entire project including the project bidding, construction process, grant covenants, and Federal/State reporting requirements, not to mention all of the paperwork.

As part of the project, the City has formed a Project Oversight Committee. This committee will consist of representatives from the City, Willdan and SCRVRHS. Directors Roy Payton and Rick Swanson will serve as SCRVRHS representatives. Roy Payton, a civil engineer experienced in railroad bridges and turntables, did the design work and engineering for the turntable installation. Roy also was part of the team that oversaw the removal of the turntable from its original home in Capreal Canada. Rick Swanson is our Information Officer and experienced in commercial construction planning and project oversight.



Conceptual drawing of the SCRVRHS Railroad Interpretive Center. Phase one, and the centerpiece of the project, is our 96 foot, 1906 railroad turntable obtained from the Canadian National Railroad. Phase two consists of building a roundhouse to both display and perform maintenance on Society rolling stock. Phase three adds an Interpretive Center building to the rear of the roundhouse. Our Current Railroad Visitor Center will eventually be relocated to the Interpretive Center building to place all of our exhibits under one roof.

Construction is estimated to take at least two months. The tentative installation timetable is as follows:

- 10-1 Contract with Willdan signed
- 10-20 Request for construction bids released
- 11-20 Deadline for submission of bids
- 12-1 Construction bids opened
- 12-15 Construction bid awarded
- 1-3 Construction to begin
- 3-15 Construction completed (tentative)

The Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society purchased the turntable from the Canadian National Railroad in 1997. The 96 foot long, 80 ton rotating 'bridge' was built in 1906 and underwent a complete mechanical overhaul two years prior to its purchase. A team of Society volunteers traveled to Capreal Canada where the CN railroad disassembled and loaded the turntable and its components onto two CN flatcars at no additional charge. The Union Pacific Railroad moved the load across country to Santa Paula where the Fillmore & Western Railway brought it home to its SCRVRHS location

at 312 Main Street. Donated OST cranes unloaded the turntable and sat it upside down onto our property so that it could be repaired. The underside was welded then painted with 110 gallons of black paint donated by Rust-Oleum. The motor was rewired locally to meet U.S. electrical standards. Once installed, the top side of the table will be further repaired if necessary and painted black.

SCRVRHS obtained Federal/State transportation grants of some \$250k for the turntable installation. Deadline for final review and approval to begin construction was October 2004 or the monies would be lost. CalTrans, the final approval point, had the plans for nearly two years. After losing the original submission, requiring resubmission on new forms, soil and hazardous material studies, and numerous requests for further information, CalTrans approval finally came.

Each year on the third weekend of March, SCRVRHS sponsors its annual Rail Festival in conjunction with the F&W. Maybe this year we can celebrate something special — a fully functional working TURNTABLE!!

# DISPATCH BOARD



## OCTOBER 2004



Join us for an informal breakfast every Saturday morning at 8:00 am.

**NEW LOCATION:** Yanni's Charbroil Restaurant.

736 Ventura St., (Hwy 126) Fillmore between IHOP & Carl's Jr.

- 2nd & 3rd** Fillmore & Western — **PUMPKIN PATCH TRAINS**  
Car Attendant Volunteers Needed 9:30—3:00 pm  
call Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com
- 6th** 7:00 pm - **SCRVRHS Board of Directors Meeting**  
Railroad Visitor Center 455 Main Street, Fillmore
- 9th & 10th** Fillmore & Western — **PUMPKIN PATCH TRAINS**  
Car Attendant Volunteers Needed 9:30—3:00 pm  
call Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com
- 13th** **General Membership Meeting**  
Railroad Visitor Center - Central & Main, Fillmore  
See [www.members.scrvrhs.com](http://www.members.scrvrhs.com) for a map and directions  
7:00 pm - Refreshments
- 16th & 17th** Fillmore & Western — **PUMPKIN PATCH TRAINS**  
Car Attendant Volunteers Needed 9:30—3:00 pm  
call Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com
- 16th** **LOCOMOTIVE WORKSHOP**  
9 AM. Meet at Yanni's Come early at 8 AM for breakfast!
- 23rd & 24th** Fillmore & Western — **PUMPKIN PATCH TRAINS**  
Car Attendant Volunteers Needed 9:30—3:00 pm  
call Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com
- 30th & 31st** Fillmore & Western — **PUMPKIN PATCH TRAINS**  
Car Attendant Volunteers Needed 9:30—3:00 pm  
call Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com

## AROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE . . .

**TROY HELTON Jr.** — 'The Furnace Doctor' and long time SCRVRHS Director has left the Board of Directors to concentrate on his busy heating and air conditioning business and renovating his daughters house in Bakersfield. Troy has been the Chairperson for the fireworks booth for many years and has performed numerous feats for the benefit of the Society. We thank him for his service and look forward to seeing him at Membership Meetings. 'Fireball' Fred Ervast, a former Director who is relocating back to the area, requested and received Board approval to fill Troy's term.

**A GRANT PROPOSAL** — requesting \$67,000 was submitted by SCRVRHS to the Union Pacific Foundation. The proposal seeks funds to 1) finish the Railroad Visitor Center digital theatre; 2) make the #1205 Pullman sleeping car more presentable for public inspection and; 3) create an audio/visual public presentation to bring the Railroad Visitor Center experience to schools and community organizations. The proposal was accepted by the UP Foundation. We will hear in February 2005 if our organization was selected for funding.

**A NEW LAW** — will allow volunteers (such as SCRVRHS) to work on public works projects (such as the turntable installation) without being penalized under the State's prevailing wage laws. The law was sponsored by Assemblywoman Loni Hancock (D-Berkeley) and signed by the Governor. It went into effect retroactive to January 2001.

**The greater the obstacle, the more glory in overcoming it.**

-- Moliere (Jean-Baptiste Poquelin),  
French dramatist (1622-1673)

Editor/Publisher — Rick Swanson



## TRAIN ORDERS

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