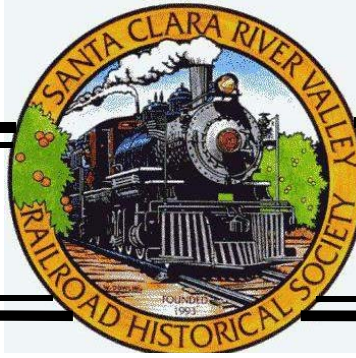


TRAIN



ORDERS

OCTOBER, 2005 •

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

• WWW.SCRVRHS.COM

What A Train Ride to San Diego!

by Jeff Trimble

On September 10, 2005, seven members of our Society enjoyed a truly memorable trip from Downtown Los Angeles to San Diego, and return behind an Amtrak train. The trip was aboard Stan Garners Pony Express, a unique horse car of Canadian Pacific heritage, that once lived in Fillmore. Beautifully decorated with ornate wood paneling and tasteful carpet, our seven members were truly enjoying a taste to train heaven. Those members were Rick and Debbie Swanson, Ron Lewis, Jeff Stein, Susan Morgan, and Mike and Joyce Morgan.

Out bound to San Diego, passengers enjoyed Champagne, fresh coffee, beer, wine, sodas, various snacks, a hand prepared deli sandwich lunch and more while listening to some old time jazz music! Arriving at the San Diego Amtrak station (formerly Santa Fe) they were greeted by member Jeff Trimble who now lives in San Diego. After a bit of rail car switching, the group was finally allowed to exit the car, and start their journey to the USS Midway aircraft carrier just a few blocks away. Mike and Joyce were able to enjoy the journey both ways in a Petticab!

The tour of the aircraft carrier proved to be both very interesting, and a test of leg strength, traversing the many stairs to exhibits both below the hanger deck, and up to the bridge area. There were also numerous aircraft and helicopters on display on the flight deck, some of which were open for tours. They brought back many memories for our seasoned members. One treat, which was docked just across the bay, was the aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan. The Reagan, which is the newest aircraft carrier in the US fleet, is still being outfitted and undergoing sea trials.



Member Jeff Stein (left) helps himself to a lasagna dinner aboard the 'Pony Express' during the return run from San Diego on September 10th. Note the sign above the bar which reads "Pole Creek Detective Agency and Brewing Company". It's a throw back to the days when the 'Pony' was based in Fillmore. The Surfliner train hit speeds of 92 mph *twice* on the return trip! Oh my!
— photo by Rick Swanson

As the group returned to the Pony Express, their tired bodies filled the Pony's comfortable chairs surrounded by such a beautiful private car atmosphere. The aroma of a mouthwatering lasagna, caused the weary travelers to look forward to a wonder dinner that included a cold shrimp appetizer platter, salad and fresh bread. All that and a relaxing glass of red wine did the trick! Sorry, but even Amtrak Business Class just couldn't compare!

One of the highlights of the return trip was watching a GPS navigational computer program. Using a laptop computer and a GPS antenna mounted on the car roof, the computer tracked every move the train made on a computerized map. With all four sliding doors wide open, the Amtrak Surfliner reached 92 miles per hour *twice* on the way home (who needs air conditioning). As one passenger said as we hit top speed "We're not on the Fillmore & Western anymore!"

Thank you Stan for providing our members with a memorable first class experience! I'm sure more members will now sign on for the next trip, whenever that might be!

TURNTABLE UPDATE

The turntable installation project continues in the right direction. Willdan, our grant administrator, has reviewed the Taft electrical plans submitted and deemed them acceptable for bid and construction purposes. They also gave SCRVRHS the OK to submit an application for service with Southern California Edison and it is being prepared at this time.

On another front, the initial turntable plans called for the inside of the pit to be lined with some 14,000 used brick. The City of Fillmore had some buried bricks salvaged from the 1994 Northridge earthquake and offered them to SCRVRHS at no charge. However, two factors presented problems. First, the recovery and prep costs of the bricks would exceed \$3,500. Second, the city doesn't believe that there are 14,000 bricks in usable condition buried. So buying the balance necessary to line the pit could cost \$1.00 per brick. So the SCRVRHS board of directors decided to substitute concrete for the bricks, a cheaper alternative but not as pretty. The city and Willdan favor such a change. So now our design engineer needs to modify the construction plans to make this accommodation. No additional regulatory plan approval will be necessary.

It looks like we will be under construction during the Rail Festival in March!

DISPATCH BOARD

OCTOBER 2005



Join us for an informal breakfast every Saturday morning at 8:00
The Fillmore Café! Santa Clara and Central Avenue, across from City Hall - Fillmore

5th 7:00 p.m. - **SCRVRHS Board of Directors Meeting**
 Railroad Visitor Center 455 Main Street, Fillmore
 Members are always welcome to attend

8th& 9th **F&W WEEKEND PUMPKINLINER TRAINS**
 Car Attendants needed 9:30 am — 4:00 pm
 Contact Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com

12th **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**
GHOST TRAINS AND HAUNTED HAPPENINGS
 7:00 pm SCRVRHS Railroad Visitor Center — Fillmore

15th& 16th **F&W WEEKEND PUMPKINLINER TRAINS**
 Car Attendants needed 9:30 am — 4:00 pm
 Contact Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com

22nd & 23rd **F&W WEEKEND PUMPKINLINER TRAINS**
 Car Attendants needed 9:30 am — 4:00 pm
 Contact Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com

29th& 30th **F&W WEEKEND PUMPKINLINER TRAINS**
 Car Attendants needed 9:30 am — 4:00 pm
 Contact Don at 805 484-8624 or email at dhatch@scrvrhs.com

WE NEED DOCENTS!

During the heavily visited F&W Pumpkinliner trains, our Visitor Center sees lots of people. To share our railroad heritage, we need members as docents to meet and greet these visitors. Contact Mike Morgan if you can share a few hours of service.

805 524-4467 or mmorgan@scrvrhs.com

AROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE . . .

EMERGENCY TRAINING AVAILABLE —
 Metrolink and Amtrak will be conducting a special 8 hour training class for railroad related personnel. Designed for first responders, the training will cover stopping the train, gaining access to trains, and how to rescue people from trains using emergency exits. The training is scheduled for Saturday, November 19th in Fillmore. The training is open to SCRVRHS members, Fillmore and Western employees, The Fillmore Fire Department, and Civil Air Patrol members. For time, location or more information and to *sign-up*, contact Pat Malone at usafrsq@earthlink.net.

QUIZ TIME — (submitted by Sherm Lewis)
 Where is the highest and longest steel railroad bridge in the world?



Lethbridge, Canada Built in 1905 by the Canadian Pacific Railroad (same railroad as the Pony Express) 5,328 ft. long and 314 ft. high!

Friendship is like a bank account. You can't continue to draw on it without making deposits.
 —Unknown

Editor/Publisher—Rick Swanson



TRAIN ORDERS

Santa Clara River Valley
 Railroad Historical Society, Inc.
 P.O. Box 492
 Fillmore, California 93016-0492

