



# TRAIN ORDERS



Yearend 2013

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## 2013 SCRVRHS HOLIDAY PARTY



### SCRVRHS in 2014 and beyond... Reflections from the 2013 Christmas Party by Ron Lewis, SCRVRHS President

I really enjoyed seeing the 26 members who came to our Christmas Dinner on the 14th... Yanni's provided an ample and delicious home cooked turkey and ham dinner, complete with soft drinks and the best cheese cake pie I have ever enjoyed. Renewing old friendships was enjoyed by all, including seeing Stan and Bev Hurst and Mike and Joyce Morgan. This festive evening gave me cause to reflect on our past year and what our future may hold.

The Fillmore and Western will have a "Show Cause" hearing in Superior Court in Ventura on the 7th of January. Dave Wilkinson, F&W CEO, is optimistic as to the out come, however, feels the process could be quite lengthy. He said that the railroad has had a very good Christmas Season, with all of the Polar Express Trains being sold out, including the newly added 5 trains. Our thoughts and prayers go with Dave and Tresa Wilkinson and their staff into the New Year. A great deal of the future of our organization is closely tied to the Fillmore and Western's. Specifically, the use of our turntable and the continuation of our Car Attendant Program depend on the railroad. They need our extra support during this challenging time.

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# DISPATCH BOARD

**January 8th**

**7:00pm Board of Directors Annual Meeting  
Election of Officers**  
Railroad Visitors Center, Fillmore

**January 15th**

**7:00pm General Membership Meeting  
Refreshments**  
Railroad Visitors Center, Fillmore

**February 12th**

**7:00pm General Membership Meeting  
Refreshments**  
Railroad Visitors Center, Fillmore

**From Ron Lewis, SCRVRHS President** (continued)

Many of our members are avid photographers. I would like to see our Society take advantage of this and undertake the first year of an annual "Calendar Program". We would invite members to submit photos for the board to judge for inclusion into our calendar. We can sell these calendars as another way of raising money for the society. During our next board meeting, we will discuss this possible project and its implementation.

SCRVRHS is in a strong financial position as we move into 2014. Yes, there are some uncertainties about how we will exist in the future, but, fortunately finances is not one of them. At this time, no decision has been made about Railfest 2014 as that is dependent on operation of the railroad. We hope to have some guidance on the Railfest after the January hearing.

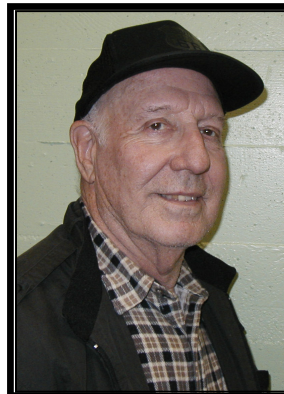
*SCRVRHS has another far more serious problem; that of the participation of the membership as Board Members and Officers. Our current slate of officers has served many years and we desperately need new blood on the board. It takes time to familiarize ones self with the opportunities and responsibilities of being a Board Member or Officer. Without new men or women on the board, the Society cannot survive long into the future! If you want your Society to move successfully into the forthcoming years, then some of you must step up and participate in the management and operations of the Society! Without new people on the board, we cannot long continue. I challenge you to think about a one year commitment to six or seven meetings along with participation in our Railfest and Fireworks Programs in 2014. I can answer any questions you may have and get you started on your path into SCRVRHS's future. All you need do is show up at the January 8th Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Visitor Center.*



We had a wonderful turnout at the Christmas Party. Those members in attendance enjoyed celebrating this festive season. On behalf of the Board of Directors, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous 2014.

## AROUND THE ROUNDHOUSE . . .

**In October** — SCRVRHS was sorry to learn of the passing of long time Life Member and superb car attendant Larry Stermolle. Larry and his wife Jeanne moved out of state several years ago.



"Larry was a fun car attendant to work with. He was very professional and took his job very seriously. He also was so proud of his personal mile marker sign near Dudley. As the train approached it, he would always call the

attention of those passengers on the open air car to it. He would then salute the mile marker as we rolled by. One day, prior to our daytime run, I stapled a pair of rubber toy glasses with a big nose and mustache to his mile marker. As we rolled by and he saluted, he saw his defaced marker. He dropped his salute, and uttered, 'what the hell'. Then he laughed. But of course then he wanted to know who 'ruined' his mile marker sign. I'll miss him. For an 'old telephone guy', he was alright. I'm sorry to see him go". — Rick Swanson

### The 'Constitution' at Sespe Creek



Recently, the Disney Studios gave the locomotive used in the feature film 'The Lone Ranger' to the Fillmore & Western. True to Hollywood magic, The Constitution is a fake. Its body is made entirely of fiberglass! It does have steam generators inside to make it appear real. You may have seen it in a very recent Aleve pain reliever TV commercial.