

Volume VII, Number 2

Summer 2009

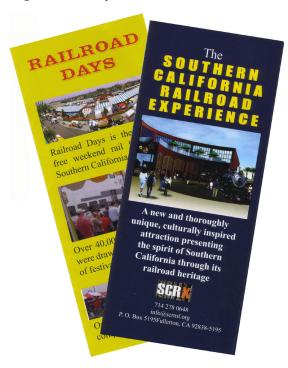
# SCRPA: NEW NAME — NEW FUTURE

### By Donna Johnson, Community and Media Relations Chair

The California Secretary of State recently approved our application for a name change to match our regional focus. We are now the SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAILWAY PLAZA ASSOCIATION, INC., or SCRPA.

This is a major step forward as we search for the just-right spot in the Southland to create the Southern California Railroad Experience (SCRX), an interactive attraction designed by Barry Howard Ltd. to be much more-than-a-museum.

And more good news! We are now in definitive talks with representatives of several cities excited about our SCRX concept – along with plans for continuing Railroad Days.



SCRPA's two new brochures promote the rail attraction and Railroad Days.

With the talents of Terry Galvin and Fred Canfield, we have produced two new brochures promoting the rail attraction and Railroad Days.

As chairman of the new SCRX Committee, Terry also has created a generic business plan for the SCRX to enhance our presentation package, which includes Barry Howard's fantastic schematic design and DVD detailing a visit to the future attraction.

"It is with great excitement that we await the outcome of our new location committee reports as to which city best offers the SCRPA a home to develop the SCRX and all our activities," said President George Engelage.

Also, a committee is in the process of building a brand new website to serve as a classy marketing tool and membership booster. Our targeted launch date is Sept. 1, so check the current site at www.scrmf.org. It will automatically point to the new site when it debuts.

"By the close of the year, the SCRPA should have a definitive city and location determined for where we can build on a bright future for Railroad Days and the SCRX," George added.

# H&MC and SCSRA Combined Annual Dinner

The History and Modeling Committee (H&MC) and Southern California Scenic RR Assn., Inc. (SCSRA) will again have

### **DINNER AT THE DEPOT**

Saturday, July 25, 2009

Fullerton Metrolink Station, 6 p.m.

Sub sandwiches, chips, salads, drink, and dessert Cost: \$12 per person

After dinner will be awards, door prizes, and more!

Make checks (due by July 20) payable to "SCRPA Dinner At Depot" and mail to SCRPA, P.O. Box 5195 Fullerton, CA 92838-5195

Hope to see you there!

# DERAILED SPEAKER IS BACK ON TRACK FOR JULY 15 MEETING

# By Stan Swanson, Dinner Meeting Coordinator

Guest speaker and author Ed Saalig has graciously agreed to reschedule his presentation after experiencing disappointing electronic problems at our April meeting.

He offered a sneak preview in April that was sure to entice a full house at the July 15 general meeting for his program on *The Amazing Journey of Santa Fe's RDC Cars*. The rail diesel cars are self-propelled, air-conditioned, stainless-steel cars that can be operated equally well in either direction, singly or in multiple units.

As described on Amazon.com, Saalig's book is "a definitive story of the last two RDC cars owned by the ATSF and the indelible memories they left. (It includes) hundreds of photos, many unpublished; the first comprehensive story of the Redondo Street wreck and disposition of the cars after the accident; their post-Santa Fe career on the B&O and PAT; personal anecdotes in over 230 black & white and color pages."

A longtime educator, Saalig has been a historian for the Fairplex Garden Railroad in Pomona for several years.

Plan to attend and bring along friends and acquaintances to the dinner meeting at the China Buffet, 104 W. Orangethorpe Ave., Fullerton. Mixer starts at 6 p.m. Dinner is \$15 per person, which includes all-you-caneat buffet, soft drink and gratuity.

# WHAT'S NEW WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS REORGANIZATION?

By Donna Johnson, Community and Media Relations Chair; and Terry Galvin, SCRX Chair

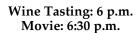
The last six months have been a busy time for the association and, with the major changes now in place, we're moving ahead with a renewed energy.

In January, our Board of Directors launched a reorganization effort following the Fullerton City Council vote that failed to encompass our proposed rail attraction in the city's Transportation Center redevelopment.

We recently announced the process has been completed for the name change to convey our wider re-

Movie Night: Saturday, July 18 Go West (1940), with

The Marx Brothers



Fullerton Museum Center Auditorium 301 N. Pomona Ave., Fullerton

Wine Tasting generously sponsored by an anonymous donor

Free for SCRPA/SCSRA members and guests
FREE PARKING ACROSS THE STREET
See the 2009 Calendar on page 4



Here are the revised vision, mission and goals for SCRPA, and the brand-new vision, mission and goals for the SCRX, to be built in the Orange County area.

### Our Vision Is

Promotion of educational programs, activities and venues for people of all ages, dedicated to the preservation of the rail heritage of Southern California.

#### Our Mission Is

Education of our community providing a historical insight into the numerous contributions that railroads have made to the development and growth of Southern California from the 19th century forward.

### Our Goals Are To Continue

- Creation of the Southern California Railroad Experience (SCRX) attraction
- · Presentation of Railroad Days
- Presentation of general membership dinners and speakers
- Publication of the Hot Rail! newsletter
- Sponsorship of Railroad Safety Poster Contest
- Affiliation with History and Modeling Committee

### The SCRX Vision Is

To be the premier destination for presenting the spirit of Southern California through its railroad heritage.

### The SCRX Mission Is

To provide, through our ideas, exhibitions and programs, engaging educational and entertaining experiences to Southern California residents and visitors from across the country and around the world.

### The SCRX Goals Are

To fulfill the Vision and Mission by developing and presenting programs that capture the spirit of Southern California through its railroad heritage and by participating with governmental and private entities to create an experiential destination.

gional focus: Southern California Railway Plaza Association, Inc.

We also have completed the tasks of revising the association's vision, mission and goals, as well as developing the vision, mission and goals for the Southern California Railroad Experience (SCRX) interactive attraction. In addition, our original goals of railroad education, preservation and safety are still a priority.

Thanks to our Organization Structure Transition Committee – headed by Gordon Bachlund with members Harold Benash, Barbara Eldredge, Terry Galvin and Jeff Schulze – for leading us through the many changes.

Our restructuring has included an in-depth survey of the Southland to determine the prime sites to create the SCRX and continue Railroad Days. A number of cities have contacted us about Railroad Days and the SCRX.

To investigate these locations and make recommendations to the board, an SCRX Committee has been established. Currently chaired by Terry Galvin, with board members George Engelage, Richard Hopping, and Dennis White, the committee is reviewing possible locations and meeting with candidate city representatives.

As part of this effort, Community and Media Relations Chair Donna Johnson is working with a committee that includes George Barlow, Fred Canfield, Terry

Galvin and Dennis White to design an expanded SCR-PA website. It is scheduled to debut in September with an aim to boost membership and serve as a top-notch marketing tool.

Also, in order to achieve more efficiency in the financial affairs of the SCRPA, Barbara Eldredge has agreed to become Secretary/Treasurer, a new board position. Her experience in law and accounting will be valuable in our future endeavors.

The board wants to thank Mike Vitale for previously taking on the treasurer duties. Mike stepped up in a time of need and his efforts have been appreciated.

With your continued support and assistance in expanding our membership, we can succeed in the development of a comprehensive railroad experience for Southern California.

### **H&MC SUMMER REPORT**

### By Dennis White, H&MC Secretary and Editor

SCRPA and H&MC lost one of our longtime members and ardent supporters, April 20, 2009, when our good friend, Don Cole, passed away in Green Valley, California. He was 71 years old. Don had the "gift of gab" and always loved working Railroad Days and the many railroad shows, talking up the Association and presenting our dream of building a world class rail attraction in Southern California. Don never knew a

stranger and his special talent will be sorely missed by everyone.

The
History
and Modeling Committee has
kept busy
with modeling
projects
and digging up
historical in-



up Don Cole. Photo courtesy of the Cole Family.

formation while the Association's board diligently works on reorganizing and reinvigorating the Association, finding a new partner city, deciding on a new name etc.

History and Modeling Committee member participation at meetings and project nights remains high, indicating a strong sense of pride in the work we've done over the past ten years, and our belief that bigger and better dreams await our faithful membership in the future.

H&MC participated in The Orange Show and National Train Days at the restored San Bernardino Amtrak (ATSF) Depot, displaying our historical diorama modules at both venues. A contingent of H&M committeemen also traveled to Indio, California, to visit the Indio Model Railroad Club, located at the Imperial County Fairgrounds.

The Fifth Annual Dinner At The Depot is coming up July 25, 2009, at Fullerton Amtrak Station's house tracks. Once again, festivities will be co-hosted by the History & Modeling Committee and Southern California Scenic Railway Association folks. The ATSF and SP cabooses

will be open for inspection, and a fun evening of food, entertainment and valuable RR oriented door prizes, and the best train watching Southern California has to offer, await us. All SCRPA and SCSRA members, their families and friends are welcome. Please order your food tickets in advance from Jeff Schulze (brgmstrs@pacbell.net, 714-985-9007) or Sue Kientz (suekientz@earthlink.net, 626-296-2969). Please make checks (\$12/person) payable to Southern California Railway Plaza Association. Payment is due July 20. More details are on the cover.

The History & Modeling Committee is always looking for members. If local history, rail history, railfanning or model railroading (any scale), interest you and you would enjoy fellowship with others who share these interests, we invite you to become a part of our growing committee. It is a great way to become an active member of the SCRPA. Meetings are held 7 p.m., the fourth Tuesday of each month (except July and December) at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (corner of Las Palmas and Harbor Boulevard), Fullerton. Please contact Dennis White (714-871-4341) or Harold Benash (714-525-6266) for directions or any questions regarding H&MC.

### **SCRPA MEMBERSHIP AT 141**

### By Norma R. Goble, Membership Chair

Thank you for your response to my call for membership dues for 2009. As of this publication date, we have received 141. We have 7 new members and 2 returning from 2007. Please keep them coming. Soon a new reminder will go out to those of you who have my

last request buried under papers on your desk. I look forward to each day's mail for your response. Please note our new members at right, and join me in making them feel welcome when you meet them.

I am in the process of redesigning the membership card with our new name. Members

Welcome Aboard to:

New

Carole Lawver Ida Mae MacMurray

Please be patient; you will eventually get yours.

# The printing of this newsletter was generously donated by:



HOT RAIL! NEWSLETTER 3

# SIX STUDENTS HONORED IN RAIL SAFETY POSTER CONTEST

### By Donna Johnson

An awards presentation ceremony honored six Fullerton students chosen as the citywide winners in this year's Railroad Safety Poster Contest during the May 12 Fullerton School District board meeting.

The 11th annual contest was sponsored by the Southern California Railway Plaza Association and Amtrak in an effort to familiarize children in Fullerton with the need to be aware of the hazards associated with moving trains and the potential for serious injury in being around rail crossings and train tracks.

Nearly 12,000 Fullerton elementary students were offered an opportunity to participate. Poster themes included: Don't Mess with Trains! Never Stop on the Tracks! and Don't Try to Race a Train Across – You'll Lose!

Our judges selected six citywide winners from nearly 80 school-level winners submitted by 15 elementary campuses. The students' posters were judged in two categories: kindergartners through third-graders and fourth- through sixth-graders.

Here are the top winners:

Place	Student's Name	School/Grade	Teacher
1st	Andrea Chapero	Valencia Park/ Third	Haiker
2nd	Emily Ong	Beechwood/ Third	Lee
3rd	Connor Nash	Acacia/Third	Jue
1st	Andrew Kim	Fisler/Fourth	Rose
2nd	Joon Woo	Fisler/Sixth	Lee
3rd	William Chwa	Fisler/Sixth	Lee



SCRPA Poster Contest winners, left to right, back: Andrew Kim, Joon Woo, William Chwa; and front: Andrea Chapero, Connor Nash, Emily Ong. Photo by Terry Galvin.

The SCRPA awarded cash prizes of \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place and \$50 for third place. Amtrak again presented four round-trip tickets for the winners' families to their choice destination of San Diego or Santa Barbara. And the Fullerton Rotary Club donated \$500 to support the contest.

Posters created by all winners from the 15 schools were on display for the month of May in the Fullerton Main Library's Children's Room.

Railway association poster co-chairmen Stan Swanson and Sharon Frazier organized this year's competition, working with Lauralyn Eschner, Visual and Performing Arts coordinator for the Fullerton School District.

# **2009** Calendar

July 15	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting, 6 p.m., China Buffet, 104 W. Orangethorpe Ave.	Oct 14	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting, 6 p.m., China Buffet, 104 W. Orangethorpe Ave.	
July 18*	<b>Movie Night:</b> <i>Go West</i> (1940),* 6:30 p.m. with Wine Tasting at 6 p.m. Fullerton Museum Center Auditorium	Oct 24*	Movie Night: Denver and Rio Grande (1951),* at Wilshire Screening Room, Beverly Hills. Matinee movie, lunch, and roundtrip bus transportation included for \$75/person; see reservation form, page 7.	
July 25	H&MC/SCSRA Annual Dinner at the Depot, Cabooses, Fullerton Metrolink Station, 6 p.m.			
Aug 25	<b>H&amp;MC Meeting</b> , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.	Oct 27	<b>H&amp;MC Meeting</b> , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.	
Sept 19*	SCSRA Caboose Open House/Pot Luck, Cabooses, Fullerton Metrolink Station,	Nov 24	<b>H&amp;MC Meeting,</b> St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.	
	1-4 p.m. No RSVP necessary. Bring food or drink, something to sit on, and watch the trains!	Dec 5*	SCSRA Christmas Train-Watching Party, Cabooses, Fullerton Metrolink Station,	
Sept 22	<b>H&amp;MC Meeting,</b> St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.		2-5 p.m. No RSVP necessary. Bring food or drink, something to sit on, and watch the trains!	

<sup>\*</sup> Dates and movie titles subject to change. Check www.scrmf.org for updates



SCRPA Rail Safety Posters on exhibit during May at Fullerton Main Library's Children's Room. Photos by Terry Galvin.

### Thank You from a Winner

Dear Railway Plaza Association:

Thank you for providing this wonderful program for kids like me to help people with train safety. Also for the great prizes you gave the winners, including me! It was very generous of you. I really appreciate it!

(P.S. My family wants to go to San Diego)

to go to San Diego)

Sincerely, Emily Ong Beechwood School



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HOT RAIL! NEWSLETTER 5

### **GETTING THE WORD OUT**

By Donna Johnson, Community and Media Relations Chair

Here are the SCRPA media communications, April to June 2009:

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR April 6, 2009

# Sent to Fullerton News Tribune, Orange County Register and Fullerton Observer

Printed by *Fullerton News Tribune* Viewpoints Section – April 20, 2009, and *Fullerton Observer* Community Opinions (partial) – Early May 2009 edition

To the editor:

Since December, when the Fullerton City Council failed to encompass the proposed rail attraction within the Transportation Center redevelopment project, there have been several articles written about that decision, the Fullerton Railway Plaza Association's reaction and the fate of Railroad Days. None of the articles has been completely accurate, so I would like to set the record straight.

After devoting more than a decade toward our goal of establishing a major rail attraction at the Train Station, there was a great deal of disappointment associated with the city's decision. That made our volunteer base tenuous for being able to guarantee the number of people willing to invest the hundreds of hours necessary to stage a successful Railroad Days weekend this year for more than 40,000 people.

We decided our time would be better spent reorganizing ourselves to enable us to come back with a solid purpose and a new plan that would move us forward.

Our members plan to bring back Railroad Days as soon as possible, but Fullerton's Transportation Center project is proposed to be under construction in two years and that means there could be only two more rail events in Fullerton. Therefore, another location must be found that offers rail access and a site that will be available into the future.

In the last three months, FRPA has begun to restructure itself and re-examine its mission. Other cities have contacted us about possible railway-themed opportunities, and we are reviewing the various options.

The FRPA will become a new organization with a more regional base and name. The original goals of



Fred Canfield's family surprised him with an "All Aboard" 70th birthday celebration on the weekend that would have been Railroad Days 2009, apropos for SCRPA's Railroad Days chairman. Held May 2 at the Goathill Junction Train Station in Fairview Park, Costa Mesa, the festivities included rides on assorted trains for the guests, including many SCRPA members. Photo by Terry Galvin.

railroad education, preservation and safety will be retained and expanded. The rail attraction will remain a priority. The new location for Railroad Days will be determined, in part, by the potential to include the rail attraction.

We would like to thank the community for its support of the 10 highly successful Railroad Days events that the FRPA produced in Fullerton.

Sincerely,

George H. Engelage IV, FRPA President

### **PRESS RELEASES**

• April 6, 2009 – "2009 Railroad Safety Poster Contest is on track for April 15 deadline."

Distributed to Fullerton News Tribune and Fullerton Observer

Printed in Fullerton News Tribune, April 16; and Orange County Register Local section, April 14.

 May 11, 2009 – "Six students are top winners in 2009 Railroad Safety Poster Contest" Distributed to Fullerton News Tribune and Fullerton Observer

Printed by *Fullerton Observer* with photo of winners, Mid-May edition



At SCSRA's June Board Meeting, members had the pleasure of seeing long-time SCSRA associate and board member Ted McConville, who usually listens in via SKYPE or conference phone, since he resides in Seattle, Washington, where he works for MS-NBC. Ted decided to cash in some frequent flyer miles and join us for our "lunch-meeting" at Fullerton's Rutabegorz Restaurant. Since he's from the Great Northwest, Ted is the one wearing the lumberjack shirt.

Attendees at this quarter's board meeting, left to right, were Gordon Bachlund, Harold Benash, Mike Vitale, Sue Kientz, Dennis White, Ted McConville, and Jim Hoffmann. Photo by The Waiter.

# **Denver & Rio Grande matinee** with lunch at Cantor's Deli

# Includes round-trip transportation from Fullerton to Beverly Hills, CA

Join SCRPA members for a day trip to Beverly Hills for a delicious lunch at world-famous Cantor's Deli, followed by a movie matinee of the 1951 Paramount feature, Denver & *Rio Grand*e. The cost is \$75 per person, which includes round-trip transportation from Fullerton, refreshments on the bus, lunch, and the matinee. You must RSVP by August 12, 2009, so we can determine if we meet the number of people needed to hold the trip.

# **Itinerary**

Our charter bus will leave the Fullerton Transportation Center promptly at 10:15 a.m., and liquid refreshments will be served during the short ride to Los Angeles.

We will enjoy lunch from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. at Canter's Deli on Fairfax Ave., in the historic West Hollywood

Fairfax District.

The photo above right is Canter's fourth location since its founding in 1924. As the building's façade suggests, it was built as the Esquire Theatre in 1937, and then remodeled as the deli in 1953. Canter's is a Los Angeles landmark.

After lunch our bus will take us to the Wilshire Screening Room in Beverly Hills, a 43-

seat premier film venue used by studios and industry professionals. It is equipped with

the latest projection and sound equipment.

Here we will view a 35mm print of the 1951 Paramount feature Denver & Rio Grande based on the construction of the railroad of the same name and filmed on the Durango & Silverton Railroad. This film is not available on DVD. A color cartoon will round out



the program.

After the screening, our bus will return us to the Fullerton Transportation Center, arriving around 3:30 p.m.

# **Trip Cost**

Tickets are \$75 per person which includes bus transportation and refreshments, lunch, the rental of the screen-

ing room, and all gratuities.

Ticket sales will commence on July 15th and continue through August 12th. The trip will be limited to 40, and we need 35 to cover the costs. Please send your check (\$75/person) and the attached form to the address on the form. Your check will be held until August 14th. If by that time we have 35 paid, your checks will be cashed and your tickets will be mailed to you. Alternatively, if we do not have 35 paid by August 14th, your check will be returned to you by mail.

ctions a mail abachlund@aarthlink not ar phone Cordon Bachlund at (626) 258 2576

ii you have questions, e-man goac	mund@earthmik.net or phone	Gordon Dacmund	i at (626) 336-3376.	
	Ticket Order Forn			
Tickets per person cost \$75. Make	checks payable to SCRPA. Dea	dline is August 12	2th, 2009.	
Name				
Address	City	State	ZIP	
PhoneF	E-mail			
Enclosed is my check for \$	trip is cancelled my check will link Parking Lot at the Fuller	be returned, and l ton Transportation be no refund if I n	I understand that if the tr on Center no later than 1	ip is
The undersigned acknowledges ares, and the interim activities while pa and its affiliates in the event of accide acceptance of the terms and condition the undersigned and the Southern Caers, directors, and other assigns.	nd assumes the risk of travel, in rticipating in this event. The u ent or injury to the undersigne ns of this waiver of liability ar	ncluding the consundersigned furthed. The undersigned release from no	er ĥolds harmless the SCF ed acknowledges review ormal civil recourse betw	RPA and veen
Signed		Dated		
Send completed for	orm (with check payable to SCI Gordon Bachlund, Event Coo		2, 2009, to	

312 S. Mountain Ave., Monrovia, CA 91016

HOT RAIL! NEWSLETTER

Southern California Railway Plaza Association, Inc. 1661 E. Chapman Ave., #1G Fullerton, CA 92831

Address Correction Requested

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### IN THIS ISSUE

- We're now the SCRPA! See cover.
- Amazing Journey of Santa Fe's RDC Cars author rescheduled to July 15, see page 2.
- Time for the H&MC/SCSRA Dinner At The Depot, July 25. You must RSVP and prepay \$12 by July 20; see cover.
- **Upcoming Movie Event:** Saturday, July 18, The Marx Bros. *Go West*, see page 2.
- Rail Safety Poster Contest Winners and Posters, see pages 4-5.
- Movie Matinee and Lunch, Oct 24. Bus trip to Beverly Hills, see page 7 for details and RSVP, due Aug. 12.

Postmaster: Please Deliver between July 6-15, 2009

### O HOT RAIL! O

is published quarterly at Fullerton, California, and is the official publication of

# THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAILWAY PLAZA ASSOCIATION, INC., & THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SCENIC RAILWAY ASSOCIATION, INC.

1661 E. Chapman Ave., Unit 1G, Fullerton, CA 92831 Visit us on the web at http://www.scrmf.org/ & http://www.scsra.org/



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Editor: Sue Kientz

Send your letters to the editor to the address above or e-mail sue@scsra.org

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#### SCRPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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George J. Barlow (Jan 2011) Donna Johnson (Jan 2012)

Harold Benash (Jan 2010) Jeff Schulze (Jan 2012)

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General Meetings, Membership, Community and Media Relations, Railroad Days 2010, Movie Nights, IS Stan Swanson Norma R. Goble Donna Johnson Fred Canfield Gordon Bachlund, Jim Hoffmann

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