

So. California Railway Plaza Assn. &
So. California Scenic Railway Assn.

present the

Hot Rail!

newsletter



*The latest on efforts to build and maintain
a permanent railroad attraction in Southern California*

Volume X, Number 2

Summer 2012

RAILROAD DAYS DRAWS 30,000 TO FULLERTON STATION



See
Railroad
Days 2012
stories
and
photo
gallery
on
Pages
4, 5,
6 & 7

SCRPA's May 2012 event was packed with rail fans and families who lined up for tours and modular layouts. (Photo by Karen Sibrel)

Two summer excursions will visit museums featuring train exhibits

SCRPA is offering a delightful duo of bus excursions for our members and the community — to The Huntington Library & Botanical Gardens in San Marino on July 21 and The Nethercutt Museum & Collection in Sylmar on September 29.

Membership Co-Chair Peggy Benash has organized the trips, beginning with the very special Huntington exhibit: "Visions of Empire: The Quest for a Railroad Across America, 1840–1880," which coincides with the 150th anniversary of the 1862 Pacific Railroad Act. It features some 200 items including maps, photo-

graphs, illustrations, letters, and diaries, most of which have never before been on public display. For more information, see <http://www.huntington.org/default.aspx>.

The Nethercutt Museum showcases more than 130 of the world's greatest antique, vintage, classic and special-interest automobiles, plus a 1937 Canadian Pacific Royal Hudson locomotive and 1912 Pullman private car. The collection may be viewed only by guided tour. For more information, see <http://www.nethercuttcollection.org/Home.aspx>.

SEE FLIERS ON PAGES 8 & 9 FOR DETAILS ON EXCURSIONS AND RSVP FORMS

Summer Dinner Meeting will feature a speaker on railroads and building of the West

John E. Collins will speak about “Railroads vs. American Indians and the Building of the West” at our summer Quarterly Dinner.

His topic nicely ties in with the celebrations of the 150th anniversary of the 1862 beginning of the transcontinental railway and the creation of the Union Pacific Railroad.

Jeff Schulze, chairman of Railroad Days 2012 in Fullerton, will also present a wrap-up report on SCRPA’s very successful event.

We will meet on Wednesday, July 11 at the Sizzler restaurant in Fullerton. The evening will start with a mixer at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 and then the program and a brief meeting.

Members and guests will again order and pay independently for their meals. Prices range from \$7 to \$23, plus beverages – with daily specials and a senior discount available. No RSVPs are required.

The Sizzler, at 1401 N. Harbor Boulevard (north of Berkeley Avenue), also serves beer and wine. Menu nutrition and allergy information is listed by item at www.sizzler.com. The Fullerton Sizzler phone is: 714-738-5018.

RIDENOUR AWARD PRESENTED TO HAROLD BENASH

The annual Dinner at the Depot get-together was held June 23 at the Fullerton Train Station, with 32 members in attendance. Of course, passing trains were the focus of attention, stopping all activities throughout dinner and the evening’s program and door-prize drawings.

A highlight was the presentation of the Southern California Scenic Railway Association’s long-standing Clarence Ridenour Award to Harold Benash, SCRPA president and an SCRSA board member.

Gordon Bachlund presented the award that is given in recognition of outstanding leadership, inspiration and dedication.

“It was a pleasure to recognize Harold for always ‘being there,’ both with respect to the conservation of the cabooses and with respect to keeping the SCRPA squarely on track in spite of the inevitable perturbations of a growing and dynamic organization,” Gordon said.

Gordon noted Harold’s contributions over the years, “whereupon Harold thanked everyone else -- appropriately so, as we are, after all, a team.”

Southern California Railway Plaza Assn.

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 the public, providing an 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

- Successful development of the Southern California Railroad Experience
- Production of the annual Railroad Days and Children’s Rail Safety Poster Contest community events
- Sponsorship of historical research and modeling of significant sites and structures, publication of the Hot Rail! newsletter, and presentation of quarterly dinners and speakers on topics of member interest

The SCRX Vision Is

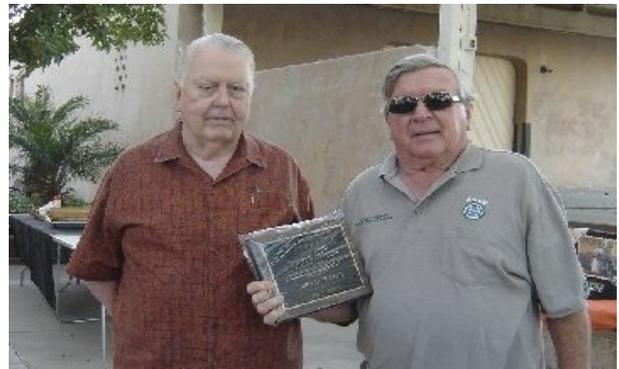
To be the premier destination for presenting the spirit of Southern California through its railroad heritage.

The SCRX Mission Is

To provide, through our ideas, exhibitions, and programs, engaging educational and entertaining experiences to Southern California residents and visitors.

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 partnering with governmental and private entities to create an experiential destination



Gordon Bachlund, left, Harold Benash with 2012 Ridenour Award. (Photo by Elliott Alper)

Movie Night focuses on rare vintage film that was shot from Pacific Coast Railway

By Gordon Bachlund, Movie Night Chair

The SCRPA free Retrospective Screening Series for members will present a classic double-bill when the curtain rises on Saturday, July 28, 2012. We'll begin at 6 p.m. with a wine-tasting on the Fullerton Museum Center patio, 301 N. Pomona Avenue.

Moving inside to the auditorium, we'll begin with "The Railroad Stowaways," a black-and-white 1920s silent Andy Clyde-Billy Bevan one-reeler comedy.

In the Castle Films release, Andy and Billy are trying for a free ride on the Overland Special, getting caught and put to work in the diner kitchen with hilarious results.

Our own Greg Smith will accompany this short film on the keyboard.

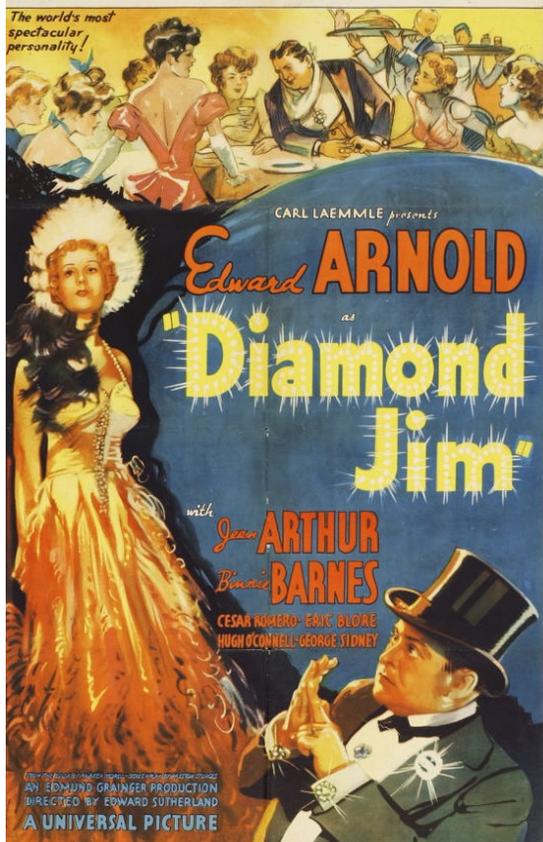
The evening's feature is

"Diamond Jim" – about legendary millionaire "Diamond" Jim Brady (portrayed by Edward Arnold), who loved both good food and famed actress Lillian Russell (Binnie Barnes).

This great and very rare railroad film was directed by the legendary A. Edward Sutherland, who also directed some of W. C. Fields' funniest features.

It was shot on the long-gone narrow-gauge Pacific Coast Railway.

The Pacific Coast Railway company's precursor was founded in 1873 as a horse railroad from San Luis Obispo to Avila Bay. In 1875 it added a steamship operation, and a year later evolved into a full-fledged 36-inch gauge steam railroad.



By 1915 it had become a regional carrier with trackage connecting Avila Bay and San Luis Obispo to Santa Maria and Los Olivos to the south, with branches to Guadalupe and Betteravia to the west, and Sisquoc and Palmer to the east.

In the early to mid 1930s the inevitable abandonments began, and, when "Diamond Jim" was filmed in 1935, the road was nearly on its last legs. Its 68-year career ended in 1941, and the rails were taken up for scrap in 1942.

ROC & H&MC report

Working committees join in Railroad Days cleanup and storage

By Stu Proctor, ROC Chair

For May, a joint session was put together for the Railroad Operations Committee and History & Modeling Committee, with the goal of cleaning the SCRPA storage unit and packing away the items used during Railroad Days.

Several items were deemed not necessary to keep and were disposed of. Most of it was taken to the county disposal site. The remaining items were reorganized to make room for easier maneuverability inside the unit.

The Buddy Young model layout was moved from Harold Benash's garage and placed in its rack in the storage unit. It was decided that a new, sturdier rack should be built in the not-too-distant future.

The donation boxes were moved from Stu Proctor's garage and placed in the storage unit.

ROC received a total of \$261.11 in donations over Saturday and Sunday at Railroad Days. Current total of the ROC petty cash fund is \$403.29.

In June, ROC had a small, but mighty army for our monthly work party.

We had determined there was a need for a second storage unit for the modules and the Buddy Young layout, while using the current unit for Railroad Road Days paraphernalia and other miscellanea. The request was presented to the Board of Directors, which approved the rental of a second, larger unit.

We met on June 16 and went over to the A-1 Storage facility in Fullerton to clean out SCRPA's old and decidedly overcrowded upstairs storage locker and move into a larger, more accessible locker downstairs. Future loads and unloads will undoubtedly be easier with this new location with driveway access.

As each item was placed into the new storage locker, its location was noted in a plot plan so that next year (or whenever we need something), we can just go right to it, and not have to search high and low.

-- Dennis White contributed to this report

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Railroad Days 2012 at the Fullerton Train Station was a huge success! Congratulations to all of you that participated in the two-day event.

Without your help and presence it would not have happened.

A special thanks goes to Jeff Schulze and his Railroad Days steering committee -- Stu Proctor, Terry Galvin, Dick Hopping, Donna Johnson, Dave Norris and myself. The time and effort required for meetings and contacts with the city and business community, the SCRPA membership, vendors and exhibitors were outstanding.

Note the list on this page of the more than 50 volunteers who took part in presenting our 13th Railroad Days.

Thanks to you all for a job well done!

— Harold Benash

RAILROAD DAYS 2012 IN FULLERTON — VOLUNTEER TREE

<u>GATES</u>	<u>POSTER CONTEST</u>	<u>SILENT AUCTION</u>	<u>WELCOME BOOTH</u>
Peter Godfrey	Kathy Norris	Jeanne Schultz	Donna Johnson
Todd Scott	Dennis White	Jeff Schulze	Lauri Schulze
Lee Culp	Kathy White	Mary Proctor	Jeanne Schultz
Edith Culp	Terry Galvin	Peggy Benash	Kathy White
Don Lawver	Peggy Benash		Anika White
Carol Lawver			Peggy Benash
Eric Shishima			Kathy Norris
Al Johnson			Theresa Mccant
Pat Gibbons			Edith Culp
			Dick Hopping
			Fred Canfield
<u>ELECTRICAL</u>	<u>RR EQUIPMENT</u>	<u>SECURITY</u>	<u>SURVEY</u>
Al Johnson	George Engelage	Dave Norris	Barbara Eldredge
Terry Galvin	Dennis Hergnreter	Brian Hunnel	Tom Eldredge
Dave Sibrel		Dave Sibrel	Atalie Linzinger
		Anastasia Norris-Witter	
		Tim Witter	
<u>KIDS ACTIVITY TABLE</u>	<u>KIDS TRAIN</u>	<u>BUDDY YOUNG LAYOUT</u>	<u>GARDEN RAILROAD</u>
Julie Proctor	Mary Proctor	Doug Archer	Al Swerdfeger
Karen Sibrel	Ruth Huson	Rodney Archer	Jim Krueger
Thomas Inlow	Jennah Huson	Marty Kluck	
Atalie Linzinger		Chris Mccarthy	
<u>CABOOSE TOURS</u>	<u>DINING CAR</u>	<u>FINANCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY</u>	
Dennis White	Dave Sibrel	Lauri Schulze	Barbara Eldrege
Elliott Alper	Bill Lewis	Donna Johnson	Tom Eldrege
Sue Kientz	Greg Smith	Al Johnson	Dick Hopping
Gordon Bachlund	Marty Smith	Peggy Benash	Pat Hopping
Jack Barich	Eric Edborg	Deborah Yip	Don Lawver
Tommy Reminski	Rose Canataro		Carol Lawver
Jim Hoffman	Roger Van Oppens		Edith Culp
Wendal Hanks	Harold Schultz		
Mike Vitale	Bob Bennett		

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including live rail video at www.RailCams.com !

Railroad Days 2012 scores a hit in return to Fullerton



Choose-a-Choo-Choo delighted kids with free rides on the trackless train along Santa Fe Avenue. (Photo by Terry Galvin)

By Donna Johnson, Media & Community Relations Chair

An army of strollers, throngs of rail fans and thousands of curious sightseers crowded into the Fullerton Train Station parking lot all decked out for the bright, sunny return of Railroad Days – with lots of new elements and familiar favorites too.

For the first time, Disneyland Railroad's Lilly Belle Presidential Coach -- an elegant Victorian-decor observation car – was on display outside the park and open for tours, along with a former Disneyland combine coach for passengers and luggage that's now part of Carolwood Pacific Railway in Griffith Park.

Late additions to the event lineup included Metrolink commuter line, which featured a locomotive, push-pull cab and passenger coach, in conjunction with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA); and a first-timer this year, Fillmore & Western Railway's Porter steam locomotive.

Model-train layouts had grown to more than 9,000 square feet, featuring all gauges -- from Z to G – displayed by 15 modular groups. Armstrong Garden Center, La Habra donated extensive plantings for the scenic garden railroad.

The new “dining car” tent with shaded tables and chairs also proved very popular with folks enjoying snacks and meals from the expanded food court on Santa Fe Avenue.

And a total of visitors who toured our freshly refurbished cabooses for both days, measured by clicker, was a whopping 7,779 (4,304 Saturday, 3,475 Sunday).

Survey results

Barbara and Tom Eldredge coordinated a survey of visitors to the free community event. They tallied responses from 531 groups, representing 1,887 people who came from an amazing 107 different cities.

The survey covered 10 topics and took about 30 seconds to complete. Results show that most people learned about Railroad Days by word-of-mouth or newspaper stories and ads. Internet browsing and the AAA's Westways publication also were sources of event information.

More than 600 people surveyed were from Anaheim, Buena Park or Fullerton. In all, there were 30 Orange County cities represented, along with many cities in Los Angeles and Riverside counties. Those coming to Railroad Days from farther away included folks from Palm Springs, San Diego and San Francisco, plus seven states: Colorado, Florida, Indiana, Montana, Nevada, Oklahoma and Oregon.

TRAINS, TRAINS AND MORE TRAINS

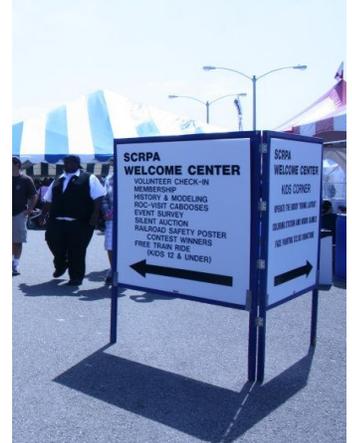


Greeters, top left, welcome visitors of all ages to Railroad Days – including tot having his face painted with train image and Garden Railroad fans. Disneyland Railroad and Carolwood vintage cars (below) and dog on steam fire engine were favorites.



Photos on Pages 6 & 7 by Elliott Alper, Terry Galvin, Don Lawver and Karen Sibrel and courtesy of Carolwood Foundation.

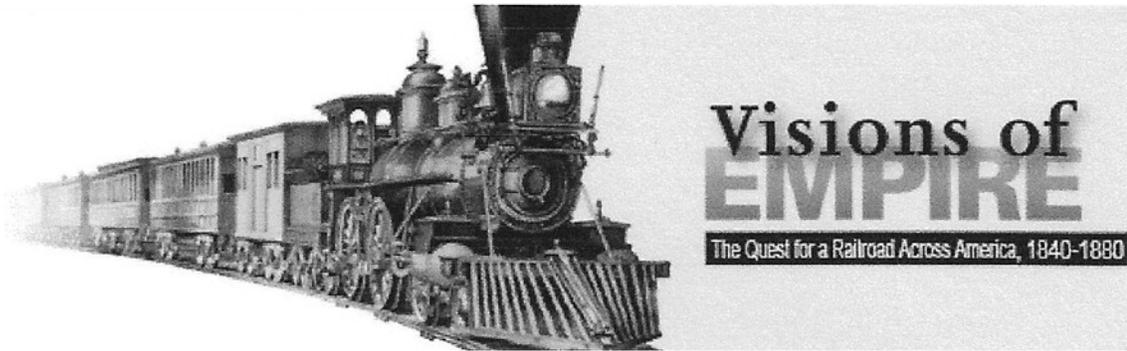
IMAGES OF 2012 ROLL INTO MEMORIES



Kids cool off with treat by the tracks, while modular layouts draw crowds for closer looks — including details of Rio Grande car, and SCRPA’s new Welcome Center (right) proved a great addition for people looking for information or connections.



These photos are in COLOR on the web. Read the Hot Rail! in PDF at www.scrpa.net.



**A DAY EXCURSION BY BUS TO
THE HUNTINGTON LIBRARY AND BOTANICAL GARDENS in San Marino
Saturday, July 21, 2012**

Meet at the Fullerton Train Station parking lot at 8:15 a.m., depart at 9 a.m.
120 E. Santa Fe Ave., north of 91 Freeway off Harbor Boulevard
Doughnuts & juice will be served; coffee can be purchased at Santa Fe Café

We will tour this major exhibition that illuminates the remarkable changes wrought in the United State by the planning, construction and completion of the transcontinental railroad. "Visions of Empire" coincides with the 150th anniversary of the 1862 Pacific Railroad Act, which led to the rail connection between the Missouri River and the Pacific Ocean. It also documents the creation of the Union Pacific Railroad. The exhibit closes July 23.

Lunch on your own, with these suggestions:

- Cafeteria --\$8 to \$12, eating outdoors under shade trees
- English Tea -- about \$30. Please make reservations at 626-683-8131 (two weeks in advance)
- Chinese dining by the lake -- about \$20

The gardens can accommodate wheelchairs and scooters and has special assistance vehicles.

We will return to Fullerton about 5 p.m.

PRESENTED BY THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAILWAY PLAZA ASSOCIATION

Information: 714-525-6266 (Harold Benash) or e-mail: info@scrpa.net

PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR RESERVATION FOR THE HUNTINGTON LIBRARY EXCURSION **BY JULY 13**

Send to SCRPA, P.O. Box 5195, Fullerton, CA 92838

_____ Number of persons @ \$45 = _____ check payable to SCRPA

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

(Please remember a gratuity for the bus driver)



A day excursion by bus to

The Nethercutt Museum & Collection

Saturday, September 29, 2012

Meet at Fullerton Train Station parking lot at 7:45 a.m.,

120 E. Santa Fe Ave., north of 91 Freeway off Harbor Boulevard

Doughnuts & juice will be served; coffee can be purchased at Santa Fe Café

Depart by bus at 8:30 a.m. to the museum in Sylmar.

The Nethercutt Collection features rare collectibles ranging from mechanical musical instruments and antique furniture to the true heart of the collection: more than 250 American and European automobiles dating from 1898 to 1997. Just steps outside the Museum are a perfectly restored steam locomotive (photo above) and a private rail car, which was owned by the eldest daughter of Santa Anita Race Track founder, E.J. "Lucky" Baldwin.

We'll have a special guided tour of museum's collection between 10 a.m. and noon
Buffet lunch is included at Caruso's Italian Kitchen. We will then return to the Nethercutt.
Owned by Merle Norman cosmetics family, the complex includes a shop for purchases.

The facilities and bus can accommodate wheelchairs and motorized scooters

We will return to Fullerton about 6 p.m.

PRESENTED BY THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAILWAY PLAZA ASSOCIATION

Information: 714-525-6266 (Harold Benash) or e-mail: info@scrpa.net

PLEASE SUBMIT RESERVATION FOR THE NETHERCUTT MUSEUM EXCURSION **BY SEPTEMBER 15**

Send to SCRPA, P.O. Box 5195, Fullerton, CA 92838

_____ Number of persons @ \$55 = _____ Check payable to SCRPA

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

(Please remember a gratuity for the bus driver)

Top prizes awarded in 2012 Railroad Safety Poster Contest

The 14th annual Railroad Safety Poster Contest offered nearly 11,000 Fullerton School District students in kindergarten through the sixth grade an opportunity to participate and choose a theme to depict in their entries. This year's contest was coordinated by Chairman Kathy Norris.

The competition was sponsored by the Southern California Railway Plaza Association, Amtrak®, and Fullerton Rotary Club in an effort to make children in the area aware of the hazards associated near trains and tracks.

We extend our congratulations to the top winners in two divisions by grade level:

Lower-grade division:

- 1st - Yunji Kim, Acacia Elementary, third grade
- 2nd - Leanna Suh, Fisler Elementary, first grade
- 3rd - Emily Won, Fisler Elementary, second grade

Upper-grade division

- 1st - Emily Ong, Beechwood Elementary, sixth grade
- 2nd - Yuna Kim, Laguna Road, Elementary, sixth grade
- 3rd - Anna Lee, Fern Drive Elementary, fifth grade

These six citywide winners' posters were on display in the Railroad Days 2012 Welcome Center.

During the June 5 Fullerton School District board meet-



Six citywide winners at school board awards, from left, are Emily Ong, Anna Lee, Yuna Kim (behind Anna), Yunji Kim, Leanna Suh, Emily Won with Harold Benash and trustee Hilda Sugarman.

ing, the top winners received four round-trip Amtrak tickets to their choice destination of San Diego or Santa Barbara. In addition, they received cash prizes of \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place and \$50 for third place.

Posters created by winners from all participating schools were displayed in the Fullerton Main Library.

2012 Calendar

July 11	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting , 6 p.m., Sizzler, 1401 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton	Sep 25	H&MC Meeting , 7 p.m., St. Paul 's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton
July 21	ROC Meeting & Work Party , 9 a.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station	Oct. 10	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting , 6 p.m., Sizzler, , 1401 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
July 24	H&MC Meeting , 7 p.m., St. Paul 's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton,	Oct. 23	H&MC Meeting , 7 p.m., St. Paul 's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton
July 28*	Movie Night: "Diamond Jim " (1935) ,* 6:30 p.m. with Wine Tasting at 6 p.m., Fullerton Museum Center	Oct. 27*	Movie Night: " A Shot In The Dark " (1964) ,* 6:30 p.m. with Wine Tasting at 6 p.m., Fullerton Museum Center
Aug. 18	ROC Meeting & Work Party , 9 a.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station	Nov. 17	ROC Meeting & Work Party , 9 a.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station
Aug 28	H&MC Meeting , 7 p.m., St. Paul 's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton	Nov. 27	H&MC Meeting , 7 p.m., St. Paul 's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton
Sep 15	ROC Meeting & Work Party , 9 a.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station	Dec. 1*	Holiday Train-Watching Party , 2-5 p.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station,

** Dates and movie titles subject to change. Check www.scrpa.net for updates*

All aboard for SCRPA membership rolls!

By Peggy Benash, Membership Co-chairman

Railroad Days 2012 in Fullerton has come and gone. Notice how it's taking a little longer to recover from a wonderfully exciting event? It was a well-managed and fun event. Give yourselves a "pat on the back" and accept a profound "thank you" from the SCRPA Board of Directors.

Below is the membership application for new enrollments and renewals. If you were a member long ago, and let the dues lapse for a few years, (even though we think of you as part of the "crew" or "rail fan club"), we need to have you submit the paperwork. Legally, you must be on the rolls as an official member to participate in any of our activities, as required by our liability insurance.

Please complete, attach a check for whichever category of membership you consider and mail to the SCRPA.

We will be happy to process your info, make sure you are on the Hot Rail newsletter distribution list and then send you a membership card. Welcome home to the old-timers and welcome you newbies -- or "All Aboard." Let's go on the SCRPA Express for the rest of 2012.

Check out more membership information at www.scrpa.net.

SCRPA MERCHANDISE IS AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

If you do not own a gray shirt like those worn by our members during Railroad Days 2012, we do have some available for purchase. They sport the BNSF logo and our association name & logo.

Sizes are Medium (one available), Large (three available) and Extra Large (two available). The cost is \$25 each.

Also available are the gray hats (five available). And while cleaning out closets, we found blue and white engineer hats (seven available). They do not have embroidered SCRPA lettering, but this can be done at a small cost, if desired.

Give Harold Benash a call at 714-336-1690 if you want us to hold one for you.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAILWAY PLAZA ASSN. INC.



Membership Levels

Please check appropriate level

BRAKEMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$25
CONDUCTOR	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$50
ENGINEER	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$100
YARDMASTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$250
TRAINMASTER	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$500
BENEFACTOR	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$600+

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Please send this application with the appropriate check or money order payable to:

SCRPA, P.O. Box 5195, Fullerton, CA 92838-5195

Dues are based upon a calendar year

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Fullerton, CA 92831

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- Railroad Days 2012 celebrated, many volunteers thanked; Pages 4-7

Postmaster: Please deliver between July 5 to 8

O HOT RAIL! O

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Editor: Donna Johnson

Send your letters to the editor to the address above or e-mail info@scrpa.net

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Membership,	Margaret Benash, Lauri Schulze, Kathy White (Acting)
Community & Media Relations	Donna Johnson
Railroad Days 2012,	Jeff Schulze

SCSRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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	Harold Benash	(Dec 2013)	Michael Vitale (Sept 2013)
	Jim Hoffmann	(Sept 2013)	Dennis White (Dec 2013)
	Ted McConville	(Jan 2014)	

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Secretary,	Jim Hoffmann	(June 2012)

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