

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 XIII, Number 3

Fall 2015

Quarterly Dinner Meeting program scheduled October 14

Railroad china and artifact collector will share tales and tips of his 50-year hobby

By Donna Johnson

Media & Community Relations Chair

The fall Quarterly Dinner Meeting on October 14 for SCRPA members and guests will present a program by Richard “Rick” Wright, a renowned, longtime collector of railroad china and artifacts.



Rick Wright

The Diamond Bar resident recalls that he got into the hobby of railroads at the age of 10 with a model train layout in the garage.

As he tells it, Rick became a proficient beginner, making buildings and cars. And his fascination grew:

“My mom's friend brought me a real cabooses lantern to decorate my room. I loved it and decided to collect more artifacts. My hobby gradually changed from models to artifacts, and the H-O layout was put away.

“I have been involved with the hobby of Railroadiana, or railroad artifact collecting, for 50 years now. I have participated at artifact shows where sellers and displayers meet every so often.

“At one time, I ran the Buena Park Railroadiana Show for many years and brought sellers from around the country for the public's benefit.

“I have belonged to an artifact organization called the

Railroadiana Collectors Association Inc, for more than 35 years. In that organization, I have been president for 15 years, written countless articles, made photo shoots of rare items, and developed a large group of fellow hobbyists. We span the country with members.

“My main focus is collecting items from the railroads that traversed California. I have a large display of Santa Fe Railway dishes and silverware in the San Bernardino Santa Fe Station Museum.”

He will include a display of select pieces from his collection, along with descriptions about how he found them and why he considers them important as Railroadiana.

Rick's presentation was arranged by our Program Chairmen, Kathy and Dave Norris.

So join us for a great evening on Wednesday, Oct. 14 at the Sizzler restaurant, 1401 N. Harbor Blvd. in Fullerton. We begin with dinner at 6 p.m., followed by a brief meeting update and the program.

You may again order and pay independently for your meals. No RSVPs are required.

www.railroadiana.org

features images of collectibles: a Western Pacific Railway demitasse cup and saucer and rare brass-top, bellbottom lantern.



SAVE THE DATE for our third annual Crockpot Cook-off on December 5. Details at Dinner Meeting.

President's message

Summer has come and gone and was very busy. Much has been accomplished by the Railroad Operations Committee (ROC) on the vintage cabooses on the Fullerton Depot's house tracks..

Preparation for painting is progressing on the Saturday work party days. Open house tours participation by the public has been drawing good numbers and many questions. (See the ROC report on page 5 for more info).

Also, there has been positive movement on the procurement of the Union Pacific rail equipment and its relocation to our site. More to come on that project...

A winter SCRPA potluck get-together will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 5, at the cabooses. A generator will be available for those who can create a delicious concoction to share via your crock-pot wizardry.

And as we become more dependent on electronic communication, please make sure we have your current e-mail addresses and contact info.

Kathy and Dave Norris have organized a terrific program for our Fall Quarterly Meeting & Dinner on October 14, as featured on Page 1.

See you there!

-- Harold Benash

'AROUND TOWN'



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.

(Photo at left) **During summertime hi-jinks at Fox Fullerton Theater's renovation fundraiser, SCRPA member Lee Culp tries to convince "officer" that he's well beyond the minimum drinking age, so he can escape the hoosegow and enjoy his beverage.**

-- Photo by Stu Proctor

Railroad History highlights

October 17 Night at the Movies

*By Gordon Bachlund and Dennis White
Movie Night Hosts*

“Union Pacific,” a full-length classic released in 1939 will be the feature of our fall Retrospective Film Series for Members and guests. Due to its length, we will not have a short subject.

The 1862 Pacific Railroad Act signed by President Lincoln authorizes pushing the Union Pacific Railroad westward across the wilderness toward California, but financial opportunist Asa Barrows hopes to profit from obstructing it. Chief troubleshooter Jeff Butler has his hands full fighting Barrows' agent, gambler Sid Campeau. Campeau's partner Dick Allen is Jeff's war buddy and rival suitor for the engineer's daughter Molly Monahan.

Who will survive the effort to push the railroad through at any cost?

“Union Pacific” was produced and directed by Cecil B. DeMille and recounts the story of the Transcontinental Railroad with some "artistic license."

It was released in 1939, two months after John Ford's “Stagecoach,” which film historians consider responsible for transforming the Hollywood Western from a mostly low-budget, B film genre. The world premiere of “Union Pacific” took place simultaneously at three theaters in

Omaha, Nebraska, on April 28, 1939, just three weeks shy of the 70th anniversary of the driving of the real Golden Spike which joined the rails of the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific Railroads on May 10, 1869.



The premiere was the centerpiece of a four-day event that drew 250,000 people to the city, thereby temporarily doubling its population and requiring the National Guard to help keep order.

The cast features Barbara Stanwyck as Mollie Monahan and Joe McCrea as Jeff Butler; and includes: Akim Tamiroff, Robert Preston, Lynne Overman, Brian Donlevy and Anthony Quinn.

Join us for our free Movie Night on Saturday, October 17 at the Fullerton Museum Center, 301 N. Pomona Ave.

Wine tasting, courtesy of Mary and Stu Proctor, will start the evening at 6 p.m. on the patio. Then we will move into the auditorium for our program.

Donna Johnson honored with 2015 Clarence Ridenour Award

By Dennis White, Vice President

The 2015 Clarence Ridenour Award was presented to Donna Johnson, SCRPA Director, Community & Media Relations Chair and editor of the Hot Rail quarterly newsletter.

The surprise announcement was made during festivities at our annual Dinner at the Depot on July 25.

SCRPA Director Stu Proctor made the presentation, remarking that Donna, “inspires us all, having worked tirelessly for more than six years as a Southern California Railway Plaza Association director, committee chair, member of the Railroad Days in Fullerton organizing committee and other major projects so important to the growth of the Association.”



The Ridenour Award is the highest honor bestowed each year to an outstanding member of the SCRPA and acknowledges the hard work and dedication given unselfishly to the organization. The award is named in honor of Clarence Ridenour, an inspirational founding member of the Southern California Scenic Railway Association.

Clarence inspired everyone who knew him with his dedication to the association, strong work ethic and vision for preserving our collection of railroad equipment and preserving history for future generations; SCSRA and SCRPA merged their memberships in 2010 to strengthen the goals and aspirations of both organizations.

Perpetual plaques mounted in our ATSF caboose commemorate each honoree and I recommend each of you take a moment to peruse them when next visiting the caboose collection at Fullerton Depot.

Replacing bay-window caboose doors is a joint effort of SCRPA and Fullerton business

Photos and text by Dennis White, Vice President



SCRPA's Railroad Operations Committee -- better known as ROC -- recently completed the last major project in its repair and conservation of SP caboose 4940. The committee procrastinated for over four years, but it was finally time to get serious about those rusted-out portals.

Those doors -- originally built by Pacific Car and Foundry in 1960 -- consisted of a wooden inner member clad on both sides by cold-rolled steel sheeting; the sheeting peppered with rusted pin holes and serious body cancer along the bottom rail.

A local sheet metal shop's staff visited the caboose, took measurements and retired to their shop. Two weeks later, Will-Mann Sheet Metal Products delivered new two-piece stainless steel shells for each entrance allowing the new wooden doors to be completely encapsulated and sealed from the ill effects of weather.

With receipt of the shells, the project was underway .



The ROC team is blessed with a couple of expert millwrights who designed and built the new wooden assembly to fit inside the shells. The team constructed the inner door structure using hard wood clear poplar for the stiles and rails and utilized marine plywood for the lower panel.

The team dry fit and checked clearances then disassembled the pieces so slots could be cut for the biscuits that would join the pieces permanently.

Gluing of the joints came next with the exception of the biscuits used to support the lower door panel, which the guys left dry so the panel could float, providing for expansion and contraction of the plywood. The job was completed with clamping until all was dry.



ROC Fall Report:

Cabooses nearly ready for new paint

The Railroad Operations Committee has spent most of the last couple of months working on the Southern Pacific 4049 caboose.

The doors on both ends of this unit had a lot of rust on them, and it was decided that they needed to be replaced. We went across the street to Will-Mann Manufacturing Co. to inquire about the fabrication of new doors.

They were very amenable to the idea and even offered to make aluminum door skins for both doors for just the cost of the material. We provide them with the dimensions and they delivered two pairs of clamshell skins. All we had to do was buy and cut the interior wood to fill them, screw the skins onto the wood and seal the skins where the edges met.

New deadbolts will be installed at the next work party. The old weather-stripping appears to be reusable, but we are looking for new stripping to go along

with the newly painted door and caboose.

No, the cabooses have not been painted yet, but we still hope that it will happen soon. The latest prepping for the painting consisted of scraping the underside of the vestibule roofs on both the SP caboose and the ATSF way car (caboose).

Hand rails, hand brake wheels and end walls are all currently under assault by the scrapers.

The visitor count for our twice-monthly open houses/tours has been steady. We had 31 visitors during our October 3 session.

Come out to help us on the first and third Saturday of each month. We're always looking for new talent and new insights on the work we do.

Our History & Modeling Committee members assisted ROC work sessions over the summer.

(Dennis White contributed to this report.)

-- Stu Proctor, Chairman

What 's the difference between a 'Railroad' and a 'Railway' ?

By Dennis White, Vice President

Ever wonder the difference between a "railroad" and a "railway"?

The American Association of Railroads (AAR) and the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) seem to prefer "railroad" to "railway" when discussing American Class-1 railroads, but their reasoning is unclear.

The term "railroad" is exclusive to the United States, while the rest of the world prefers "railway" -- probably because the British are generally acknowledged with constructing the first practical system and called it "railway," because it traveled on rails and followed a right-of-way -- especially in the British Empire.

Even in the United States -- as we shall see -- the term "railroad" is not universally used.

Historically in America, the term "railroad," especially when used in a company name, implies a conventional rail system while "railway" implies an interurban heavy rail, streetcar or light rail line. There are, however, quite a number of exceptions. In fact, many companies change from one term to the other when they re-incorporate, possibly to distinguish between the old and new companies.

The term "railroad" was used almost exclusively in the U.S. to describe conventional rail transport systems that are part of the national rail network, which until the mid-20th century were often described as *steam railroads*.

These systems now operate diesel/electric or electric

locomotives hauling freight or passenger traffic. Examples: Union Pacific *Railroad*; Southern Pacific *Railroad*; Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific *Railroad*; Pennsylvania *Railroad*; Reading *Railroad*; New York Central *Railroad*; Western Pacific *Railroad*, Maine Central *Railroad*, etc.

There were exceptions: Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe *Railway*; Chicago and North Western *Railway*; Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific *Railway*, Southern *Railway*, etc.

Mergers at the end of the 20th century created the four major freight railroads in the U.S. today, muddying the water even further. The four: Burlington Northern Santa Fe *Railway*; Union Pacific *Railroad*; Norfolk Southern *Railway*; and CSX *Corporation*.

Then, of course, there is the National *Railroad* Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK).

Still confused?

Sources:

Chicago Northwestern Railway Historical Society, <http://www.cnwhs.org/nwldb.pl?command=issuedetails&issue=1&year=2013>

Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chicago,_Rock_Island_and_Pacific_Railroad

Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad

CSX Corp. <http://csx.com/>

Norfolk Southern Corp. <http://www.nscorp.com/content/nscorp/en.html>

Southern Pacific Historical Society, <http://www.sphts.org/>

Union Pacific Railroad, <http://www.up.com/>

SCRPA CALENDAR 2015

Oct. 3	ROC Work Party & free Caboose Tours , 9 a.m. to noon, Fullerton Train Station	Oct. 17	ROC Work Party & free Caboose Tours , 9 a.m., Fullerton Train Station
Oct. 12	SCRPA Board Meeting , 7 p.m., at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Drive, Fullerton	Oct. 17	Movie Night * "Union Pacific" 6 p.m. Wine Tasting, Fullerton Museum Center, 301 N. Pomona Ave.
Oct. 14	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner & Members Meeting , 6 p.m., Sizzler, 1401 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton	Oct. 27	H&MC / ROC Meeting , 7 p.m., St. Paul Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Drive, Fullerton

See "Calendar" Page 7

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

Read the Hot Rail! in a color PDF and check out SCRPA announcements at www.scrpa.net.

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LOOKING AHEAD

- Nov. 7** **ROC Work Party & free Caboose Tours,**
9 a.m., Fullerton Train Station
- Nov. 9** **SCRPA Board Meeting,** 7 p.m., at St. Paul
Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas
Drive, Fullerton
- Nov. 21** **ROC Work Party & free Caboose Tours,**
9 a.m., Fullerton Train Station
- Nov. 24** **H&MC / ROC Meeting,** 7 p.m., St. Paul
Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas
Drive, Fullerton
- Dec. 5** **ROC Work Party & free Caboose Tours,**
9 a.m., Fullerton Train Station
- Dec. 5** **SCRPA third annual CROCKPOT COOK-**
OFF, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Caboose at the
Fullerton Depot

- Plans are in the works for **Railroad Days 2016** on the weekend of April 30 & May 1 at the Fullerton Train Station. Anyone interested in sponsoring the event or being a participant may email: info@scrpa.net or leave a message at 714-278-0648.
- **Transportation Celebration 2016** in Fullerton will again include three community events on successive weekends:
April 30-May 1 – Railroad Days at the Train Station
May 7 – Airport Day at the Fullerton Municipal Airport
May 14-15 – Motor Car Festival at the Muckenthaler Cultural Center

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAILWAY PLAZA ASSN., INC.



Membership Levels		
<i>Please check appropriate level</i>		
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Name: _____

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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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IN THIS ISSUE



○ Southern Railway creamer (left) is sample of collectibles to be featured at Dinner Program on Oct. 14, **Cover**

○ Movie Night: "Union Pacific" and wine tasting on Oct. 17, **Page 3**

○ Caboose doors replaced by ROC members, with help from local business, **Pages 4-5**

Postmaster: Please deliver between Oct. 7 & 10, 2015

○ HOT RAIL! ○

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Editor: Donna Johnson

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Poster Contest	Kathy Norris, Mary Proctor
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