



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

Volume VIII, Number 1

Spring 2010

RAILROAD DAYS 2010:

Rolling into Brea to celebrate trains

By Donna Johnson, Community
and Media Relations Chair

It's a real mix of old and new! Railroad Days 2010 on May 1 & 2 in Brea Downtown and the nearby U.P. train tracks will have most of the fan favorite scale-model layouts and rail-related exhibits. And there will be some inaugural displays too.

The hours will be the same as they have been for many years — 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday — and admission will still be free. But this year, there will also be a free shuttle connecting visitors to the two-part Railroad Days.

And for the first time ever, a Preview Center will be open ahead of the event in Brea Downtown, so people can get a glimpse of what Railroad Days has to offer. Beginning April 5, visitors may drop by from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily to check out parking information, study maps of exhibitor locations and ask questions of the volunteer members who are signing up for shifts as hosts through May 2.

Admission also will be free and the center, at 215 S. Brea Blvd., southwest corner of Birch St., will feature an extensive model-train layout created by members of the Southern California LEGO Train Club. Preschoolers and other youngsters are being invited to make reservations to visit.

The Preview Center space was donated by Manley Fanticola Holdings. Other in-kind donors include Tall Mouse, which has provided printing services, and Brea Chamber of Commerce.

The Brea Downtown Owners Association, which is hosting Railroad Days 2010, is also an Underwriting Sponsor and has waived all event fees, as has the city of Brea. The other sponsors to date are Amtrak, Brea Dis-

See "Rolling into Brea," continued on page 4

**FOR MORE RAILROAD DAYS 2010 NEWS,
please see pages 4 to 9**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BREA PUTS OUT KING-SIZE WELCOME MAT FOR RAILROAD DAYS

By Harold Benash, SCRPA
President

From civic leaders to business owners and folks around town, our Railroad Days 2010 is being welcomed with wide-open arms by the Brea community. And we appreciate their welcoming ways and support.

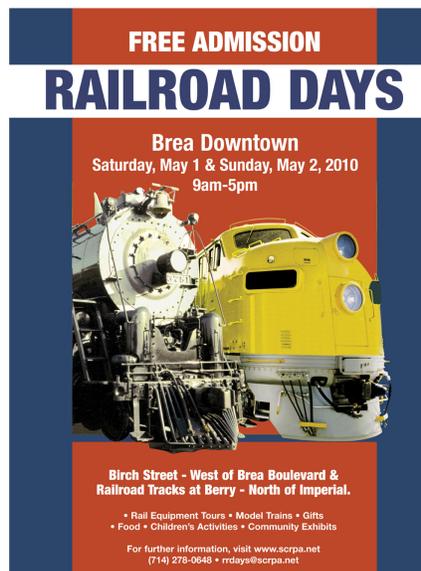
Changing our location after 10 years in one place to another city about four miles down the road was a challenge that concerned many SCRPA members. But Brea is stepping up to ease the transition by helping to spread the word throughout the city that "Railroad Days is Coming!" on May 1 and 2.

Online announcements have been posted on the City Focus report to the Brea City Council, on a couple of the Brea Downtown Owners Association web pages — including a series of videos promoting the Preview Center's LEGO Train Club model layout, and in the city's Brea Line e-newsletter to residents.

We're also doing our part to let everyone know about the free family weekend: Large SCRPA posters featuring a redesigned Railroad Days logo are being displayed in the kiosks lining Birch Street west of Brea Boulevard. Banners touting Railroad Days are being hung from light poles along Imperial Highway, Lambert Road and the boulevard.

You can also look for our listings in local newspaper calendar sections and such monthly publications as *Model Railroad News*, *Westways* and *Orange Coast Magazine*.

See "President's Message," continued on page 4



New Railroad Days 2010 Poster. Artwork by
All Media

MOVIE NIGHT WILL SCREEN SILVER STREAK, WITH A SMASHING HOLLYWOOD GRAND FINALE

By Gordon Bachlund, Movie Nights Chair

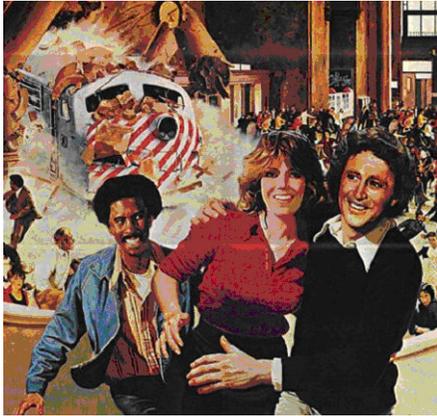
Silver Streak will streak across our silver screen at Hollywood Movie Night on Saturday, April 24 — in a 1976 color production by WB/Paramount, rated PG. And it promises to keep rail fans on the edge of their seats.

In the film we meet mild-mannered book editor George Caldwell, who stumbles into the murder of Federal Agent Bob Sweet arranged by villainous art dealer Roger Devereau, and then stumbles into romance on an L.A.-to-Chicago train.

Stars include Gene Wilder, Jill Clayburgh, Richard Pryor and Patrick McGoochan.

Filmed mostly in Canada since Amtrak declined to cooperate for obvious reasons, the grand finale is a runaway locomotive crashing into Chicago's Union Station (in reality, a mock-up in a huge Lockheed facility in Burbank).

Although set in the U.S. on the fictional railroad "AMRoad"



Richard Pryor, Jill Clayburgh, and Gene Wilder star in *Silver Streak*. Photo from movie poster.

(loosely based on Amtrak trains), *Silver Streak* was shot primarily in Canada (with the exception of the Union Station in Los Angeles).

All exterior train shots were filmed on the Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) in Alberta and Toronto;

Amtrak reportedly backed out of the project due to disapproval

of the scenes in which Caldwell accidentally bursts into Burns' bedroom while she is dressing, and the film's ending with the out-of-control train crashing through the terminal wall in Chicago.

Scenes of Midwestern U.S. landscapes appear behind train layouts and many action shots (as the protagonist and allies battle the villains on and off the train, and get thrown off or jump on and off the moving train) to add narrative integrity to the fictional location.

Most of the interior station scenes set both in Kansas City and Chicago actually show Toronto's Union Station, except for a brief sequence immediately prior to the crash where the train is rapidly approaching a bumper at the end of the line. That sequence was filmed from a Hi-Rail truck, entering the Chicago and North Western Railway's downtown Chicago terminal.

The train set was so lightly disguised as the fictional "AMRoad" that the locomotives and cars still carried their original names and numbers, along with the easily-identifiable CPR red-striped paint scheme. At the start of the climactic shootout, a CPR GM switcher is seen calmly moving cars in the background. Most of the cars are still in revenue service on VIA Rail Canada.

In the cartoon preceding the feature movie, we'll see a classic Fritz Freling 1944 Bugs Bunny/Elmer Fudd opus.

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.

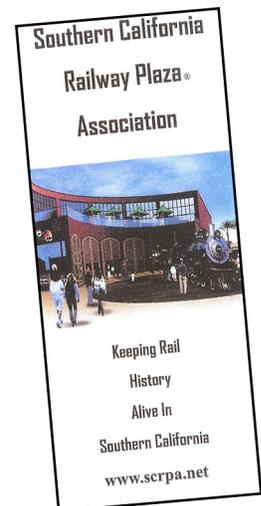
The members' free retrospective screening series' spring event will be at the Fullerton Museum Center Auditorium, 301 N. Pomona Ave. The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with a wine tasting led by Dennis White, corkmaster extraordinaire, and sponsored by Stan Swanson. The curtain goes up on the feature film at 6:30.

SCRPA'S 2010 MEMBERSHIPS CLIMB TO 137

**By George Barlow,
Membership Chair**

Building on the solid response to our requests in December, SCRPA now has a total of 137 paid-up members who have renewed for 2010 — just about 30 shy of our overall total for 2009.

Of those, seven are from out of the area and of those seven, three are from out-of-state — Connecticut, Georgia and North Carolina.



New SCRPA brochure

We have one new member since the winter issue of the *Hot Rail!*: Rose Cannataro from Covina. Welcome!

And we've created an updated, two-sided color membership brochure and application form that are more in tune with the goals of the "new" SCRPA, following our yearlong reorganization.

ALHAMBRA'S P.E. TROLLEY WAS "ON TRACK IN 2010" FOR ROSE PARADE

Story and Photos by Elliot Alper, SCSRA Photographer

Southern California is famous for many things: its Mediterranean climate, the movie industry, surfing, the heritage of the Pacific Electric Interurban rail system that once served the area, and of course, the annual Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade.

As the world tunes in to the spectacle each New Year's morning, TV viewers marvel at what they see while KTLA-Channel 5's Stephanie Edwards and Bob Eubanks tell the story behind each float's design.

This year, the city of Alhambra honored the memory of the Pacific Electric with its Rose Parade entry, "On Track in 2010." The float's main feature was a stylized version of Pacific Electric's famous Hollywood Car with its center doors and low-slung body. The car sat on a bricked street surrounded by flowers and an authentic PE wig-wag signal.



A floral P.E. "Hollywood Car" rumbles past a wig-wag signal on its way to Alhambra.

In Memoriam

Hank Andreoni Passes. The *OERM Gazette* reports that Hank Andreoni passed away. We have no further details, but we fondly remember Hank as one of the SCSRA's founding directors and an active member for many years. Hank remained active with OERM for many years also. *By G. Bachlund*

The trolley was created with trimmed whole chrysanthemums and crushed orange lentil seeds, topped with a silverleaf roof. It rode on ground onion-seed wheels over lettuce-seed tracks, with a bronze straw-flower brick road beneath. The signal was created with white everlasting and nori seaweed, mounted on a ground split-pea arm.

The palm trees were created with palm bark, topped by real palm fronds. The large floral displays alongside the car featured flax leaves, hyacinth, roses, phaleonopsis, carnations, starburst chrysanthemums and eucalyptus.

Rail themes are always popular with float designers and hardly a year goes without at least one railroad-themed display representing America's continuing love affair with trains.

Sources:

<http://www.ktla.com/entertainment/roseparade/ktla-roseparade2009-floats-019,04670553.photo>

Crump, Spencer, *Ride the Big Red Cars*, Trans-Anglo Books, Corona del Mar, CA, 1962



Alhambra was an active hub on the Pacific Electric during the trolley era in Southern California.



MEET ELLIOT ALPER

By Dennis White

Elliott Alper, a free-lance photographer in Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley, was born and raised in Southern California and rode the "Big Red Cars" as a child. He is a dedicated aviation buff and enjoys attending air shows and exhibits.

Elliott mixes his aviation interests with train-watching, planning his trips to air shows with stops at local railroad hotspots. He is the official photographer for Southern California Scenic Railway Association and has been a member since 1998.

At left, Elliott Alper is busy editing pictures at his computer. Photo by Elliot Alper

"Rolling into Brea" continued from cover:

posal, Carol & Jim Chamberlain @ Preferred Home Brokers, Coast Rail Services, Orange County Register and United Sports Agency.

As of the *Hot Rail* deadline, SCRPA has already received \$16,000 in sponsorship pledges. Active solicitation continues for additional sponsors.

And this year for the first time, Union Pacific Railroad will participate in Railroad Days by displaying a low-emitting Genset switching locomotive on the train tracks off Berry Street, north of Imperial Highway.

Many people have been working long hours in an effort to make the event a huge success.

Following the SCRPA board's decision on February 1 to present Railroad Days in Brea, Fred Canfield was named chairman and he lined up members to handle specific responsibilities:

- Birch Street management — Dennis White
- U.P. trackside management — Harold Benash
- Rail equipment management — George Engelage
- Facility services — Al Johnson
- Sponsor solicitation — Terry Galvin, Jeff Schulze, George Barlow
- Advertising and media relations — Donna Johnson
- Entertainment lineup — Diane Rowe
- Donation boxes and merchandise sales — Stan Swanson, Gordon Bachlund
- Information and member recruitment — Beth & George Barlow/Barbara & Tom Eldredge
- Model display of SCRX and Brea Depot — Dennis White, H&MC members
- Railroad Safety Poster Contest — Stan Swanson

An Overview Committee began meeting on Wednesday mornings to gather information and make decisions on plans for staging Railroad Days in Brea. Members include: Harold Benash, Fred Canfield, George Engelage, Terry Galvin, Richard Hopping, Donna Johnson, Jeff Schulze and Dennis White.

With a month remaining till we welcome visitors to the 11th Railroad Days, there's still tons of work to do. And you can help.

To find out where you can lend a hand, please leave a message on the SCRPA office phone at 714-278-0648 or email rrdays@scrpa.net. Let us know when you're available prior to Railroad Days or during the event and give us your contact information.

For more news as time grows closer to Railroad Days 2010, check our website to see last-minute announcements at www.scrpa.net.

Then come on down to join the fun!

FOR MORE NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS ABOUT RAILROAD DAYS, please check the web at www.scrpa.net & click on the Railroad Days railcar
Additional exhibit information will be posted after April 10

"President's Message" continued from cover:

In addition, the movie theaters on Birch Street, and in La Habra, will present a short spot onscreen between April 16 and 29 that advertises Railroad Days. The video — created at no cost by Greg Faluszczak, with the edit courtesy of Modern Videofilm — features bright tunes and train whistles accompanying images of crowds enjoying events in years past.

As you can see, we're aiming to have tens of thousands turn out to tour exhibits and model-train layouts on Brea Blvd. and to visit railroad equipment displayed on the Union Pacific tracks off Berry Street.

This is also important to Brea City Councilman Don Schweitzer, who told the *Orange County Register*: "Bringing in an event of this category will bring people into Brea and benefit our downtown merchants."

Schweitzer was instrumental in clearing the way for SCRPA to set up in Brea Downtown, and he's excited about our vision and ultimate goal of creating the Southern California Railroad Experience (SCRX): "If we could someday bring a museum to Brea, that would be huge," the councilman told *The Register*. "My long-term goal is to have a station and a museum as close to downtown as we can get it."



Kathy White, left, and Lauri Schulze were busy working the reception and luggage-tag table during the Railroad Days Mixer held at Cha Cha's restaurant in Brea. Photo by Harold Benash

We kicked off our introduction to Brea with a "Railroad Days Reception/Mixer" held March 9 at Cha Cha's Restaurant and hosted by Schweitzer, along with Brea businessman and former Mayor Wayne Wedin. Guests — including all five council members and the school's superintendent — learned about plans for the free family weekend celebrating all things trains and the opportunities available for their participation as sponsors.

As we meet with city workers, police officers and firefighters in putting together the details for our event, we continue to be greeted with an enthusiastic response to Railroad Days.

So we invite all our members and their families to come on down, take part in the celebration — and let the folks in Brea know we are looking forward to a successful year for Railroad Days, leading to an even more promising future in their city.

WWW.TRAINWEB.COM

Rail Travel - Rail Industry - Model Railroading - Railfanning

Most extensive and visited railroad website in the world, including live rail video at www.RailCams.com !

APRIL GENERAL MEETING TO SPOTLIGHT MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES FOR RAILROAD DAYS

By Donna Johnson and Stan Swanson

Our spring quarterly membership dinner and General Meeting program will present a roundup of activities for members to get involved in as we lead up to Railroad Days on May 1 & 2 in Brea.

For instance, we'll take member sign-ups to be hosts at our first-ever Preview Center, which opens April 5 at 215 S. Brea Blvd., with shifts still available between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily. Hours will be extended to 8 p.m. Tuesdays, when the Farmers Market sets up in Brea Downtown.

Admission will be free and the center will feature a large, multilevel model-train layout created by members of the Southern California LEGO Train Club. Our volunteers will greet visitors, who can get a glimpse of what the event will offer families and rail fans.

And you're invited to drop by an Open House on Saturday, April 17 to check out Railroad Days maps, parking information, shuttle service routes and details on the exhibits and entertainment lineup.

We'll also have news at the dinner about the track-side displays off Berry Street, including the Union Pacific low-emitting Genset switching locomotive. And we'll let you know the latest lists of exhibitors and entertainers lined up for Railroad Days.

Plan to come for dinner and learn more about the 11th Railroad Days!

Social hour starts at 6 p.m. April 14 at the China Buffet, 104 W. Orangethorpe Ave., Fullerton. Dinner is \$15 per person, which includes an all-you-can-eat buffet, soft drink and gratuity.

RAILROADS ARE KEY TO HISTORY OF BREA

By Dennis White, History and Modeling Committee

The eastern La Habra Valley that would one day become the city of Brea owes much of its early growth to the railroads that moved oil, agriculture and finished goods out of the valley, while bringing potential real

estate investors into the area. The story of the region's rail heritage provides an intriguing look into the early history of the city of Brea.

Oil demands an efficient transportation system

Edward Doheney brought in the first commercially successful oil well in Brea-Olinda in 1897, owned Union Oil Co. and also founded Brea Cañon Oil Co. He is generally acknowledged as the father of the oil industry in Brea.

The discovery of oil and the development of the Brea-Olinda oil fields created a logistical problem for nineteenth century wildcatters and roughnecks. While farmers and ranchers in the area used horse-drawn wagons to move their produce to the railhead in Fullerton, hauling oil in such a manner was very difficult, if not impossible. The answer lay in building a railroad to the Brea-Olinda oilfields.

The Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Co. (ATSF) began constructing a branch line from Richfield Junction on ATSF's Placentia Cutoff, to Brea-Olinda, arriving at the oil fields in 1899. Richfield Junction, which would later be renamed Atwater, is on the ATSF between Santa Ana Canyon and Fullerton. The volume of oil shipments soon required the building of a station at Richfield to house a full-time freight agent.

Oil production eventually overwhelmed the maximum tonnage that could be moved by rail. By 1940 ATSF was a general transportation company that went well beyond railroading. The company solved the problem of moving large volumes of oil by building a high-pressure, buried pipeline along the Olinda Branch right-of-way down the hill to where it joined another pipeline that parallels Orangethorpe Avenue in Anaheim. When the pipeline became operational, ATSF abandoned the Brea-Olinda branch and pulled up the rail.

Rural land becomes a township

The Township of Randolph was founded in 1903 and named for Epes Randolph, a well known railroad civil engineer employed by the Pacific Electric Railway Co. (PE). The choice of Randolph's name was a not too subtle hint to Henry Huntington to extend his Pacific Electric Railway to the little settlement. Huntington's PE rails arrived in Randolph in 1910, its Interurban

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Union Pacific low-emitting Genset switching locomotive, known as a "green goat." Picture taken at U.P. Colton Yard, 2007. Photo credit: www.ppw-aline.com

Continued from page 5

coaches making seven round trips a day from Los Angeles.

Competitive PE freight rates quickly convinced the farmers in the area to forego the trip to Fullerton, and both carload and less-than-carload (LTL) freight consignments were soon traveling under PE's trolley wire to places far and wide.

Randolph became the Township of Brea on January 19, 1911, and shortly thereafter, the Brea PE depot opened to serve both passengers and freight business from the area. PE's Interurban passenger service ended in 1938, but inbound and outbound freight movements continued to be important to the economy of the area and to the railroad. PE razed the old depot in 1939; its identical twin survives today as the Little Theater in neighboring La Habra.

Agriculture and real estate depended on rail

Agriculture — in the form of citrus, vegetables, walnuts, wheat, hay, oats, barley, livestock and wool — traveled predominantly by Pacific Electric. The area was well known for its sheep ranches (Bastanchury, Stearns, Yorba, etc., were all big sheep ranchers). In the mid-1920s, the sheep ranches and wheat fields were replanted with oranges and lemons, and much of the citrus crops also moved via the Pacific Electric Railway until after the end of World War II, when industrialization and urbanization made the land too expensive for agriculture.

The PE transported thousands of clients to Randolph/Brea in hopes of selling land. Henry Huntington sold many a land parcel, as did his major competitor, Albert C. Bradford, drawing lots of transplants to the La Habra Valley from Whittier and all the way out to Yorba Linda.

Railroading in Brea today

Southern Pacific Pipeline, a division of Southern Pacific Transportation (successor to PE), built a similar high-pressure oil line along the old PE tracks, effectively ending large-scale oil shipments from Brea by rail. Today, those pipelines continue to move "Brea Sweet" crude from the Brea oil fields to the refineries in El Segundo and Wilmington.

Continued urbanization and a changing client profile have transformed rail service in Brea. However, the PE/SP successor Union Pacific (UP) continues to serve the industrial needs of Brea, utilizing "tier two" hybrid locomotives ("Green Goats") while protecting the community from pollution and noise.

Rails arrived 12 years before the founding of Brea and continue to provide an important service to the city and her industrial residents to this day.

Who knows what the future will bring?

Sources:

50 years of Railroading in Southern California, Edited by Tom A. Nelson, Pacific Rail Society, San Marino, CA, 2001

A Timeline Of Southern California Railroading, David Norris, Fullerton Railway Plaza® Association, Fullerton, CA, 2001

Brea: Celebrating 75 Years, Teresa Hampson, Brea Historical Society, Brea, CA, 1993

Rails Through The Orange Groves, Vols. 1 & 2, Stephan E. Donaldson and William A. Myers, Trans-Anglo Books, San Marino, CA, 1990

Ride the Big Red Cars, Spencer Crump, Trans-Anglo Books, Corona del Mar, CA, 1970

"Santa Fe's Olinda Spur," R. Dennis White, *Hot Rail!* Fall 2004, Fullerton Railway Plaza® Association, Fullerton, CA

The Pacific Electric, A Pictorial Album Of Electric Railroading, Donald Duke, Golden West Books, San Marino, CA, 1958

RAILROAD SAFETY POSTER CONTEST IS UNDERWAY IN FULLERTON SCHOOLS

By Donna Johnson

More than 13,000 Fullerton School District students in kindergarten through the sixth grade have been invited to participate in the 2010 Railroad Safety Poster Contest.

April 15 is the deadline for students' entries to be submitted to their elementary schools, with campus judging to be completed by April 21.

Winning posters from each school will be entered into a citywide competition with first-, second- and third-place winners chosen in each of two categories: kindergartners through third-graders and fourth-through sixth-graders.

Those six citywide winners will each receive four round-trip Amtrak® tickets to Santa Barbara or San Diego for their families. In addition, they will be awarded cash prizes of \$100, \$75 and \$50, respectively by placement, by the Southern California Railway Plaza Association.

Contest Chairman Stan Swanson announced that the prizes will be presented to the six top winners at the June 8 school board meeting.

Those six top winners and all the schools' winning posters will be displayed in the Fullerton Main Library's Children's Room throughout the month of May. The citywide winning posters also will be on display at Railroad Days 2010 on May 1 and 2 in Brea Downtown.

The 12th annual poster contest is sponsored by SCRPA, Amtrak and Coast Rail Services to promote railroad safety awareness.

Plans are in the works for SCRPA to also present the poster contest in Brea elementary schools in 2011.



The Brea Trolley will provide free rides to connect the two parts of Railroad Days 2010, with stops on Birch Street in Brea Downtown and off Berry Street, near the U.P. tracks north of Imperial Highway.

HISTORY AND MODELING COMMITTEE MEMBERS LINE UP PROJECTS FOR RAILROAD DAYS

By Dennis White, H&MC Vice Chair

As the first weekend in May approaches, members of the History and Modeling Committee are feeling the anticipation and excitement of busily preparing for Railroad Days in Brea Downtown. Members are collecting new photos and data for captions, assembling new 4 x 4 picture boards; cleaning, repairing and tuning up our HO historic display modules, and signing up for specific jobs necessary to make our first event in Brea a huge success.

H&MC committee members are also excited about something new prior to RR Days this year.

A business owner graciously donated the use of a vacant store in the downtown complex for SCRPA's use in promoting Railroad Days. Located at 215 S. Brea Blvd., the store — dubbed the Railroad Days Preview Center — will have an operating LEGO train layout, photo boards and other items that offer a peek at Railroad Days 2010, the SCRPA organization and our SCRAX destination attraction.

The center will be open daily from April 5 through May 2. Committee members are helping set-up and man the venue during April. Please come in and visit with us to see what's in store for the 11th Railroad Days.

Besides digging for historic facts, looking for artifacts, building dioramas and models, the folks of the History and Modeling Committee are active "worker bees" for SCRPA. We are involved in all the events and functions of the parent organization. If you would like to get involved, the H&MC is a great place to start.

Won't you join us?

We need the participation of SCRPA and SCSRA members who share our dreams. Whatever your railroad interest, we have a place for you.

Meetings are held 7 p.m., the fourth Tuesday of each month (except June and December) at St. Paul's

Lutheran Church, corner of Las Palmas Drive and Harbor Boulevard in Fullerton. Please contact Dennis White at 714-871-4341 or Harold Benash at 714-525-6266 for directions or any questions regarding H&MC.

RAILROAD DAYS PARTICIPANTS

Railroad Equipment

Union Pacific equipment on the train tracks, off Berry Street north of Imperial Highway.

Tents And Booths

In Brea Downtown, Birch Street west of Brea Boulevard.

MODEL TRAIN DISPLAYS

- Home Depot Garden Railway Display — Outdoor G Scale landscaped layout
- Del Oro Pacific — G Scale Model Railroad — www.deloropacific.org
- N-Trak Express — N Scale Model Railroad — www.NTrakExpress.com
- Orange County Module Railroaders — HO scale Model Railroad — www.trainweb.org/ocmr
- Pacific Coast Modular Club — HO Scale Model Railroad — www.pctrainclub.org
- Southern California LEGO Train Club — LEGO Model Train Layout — www.scltc.org

RAILROAD GIFTS AND COLLECTIBLES

- A Bird Flying at Night Productions — Railroad videos — www.abfnvideos.com
- Express Yourself Images — Camp shirts, train items, LEGO — www.campshirts101.com
- Fred Farias — Kid's trains, Thomas trains, Die Cast, Model Trains

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2010 Calendar

April 14	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting , 6 p.m., China Buffet, 104 W. Orangethorpe Ave.	July 27	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.
April 24*	Hollywood Movie Night: <i>Silver Streak</i> (1976) ,* 6:30 p.m. with Wine Tasting at 6 p.m. Fullerton Museum Center Auditorium.	Aug 24	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.
April 27	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.	Sept 28	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.
May 1-2	Railroad Days , Brea CA, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. See schedule and address info above.	Oct 13	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting , 6 p.m., China Buffet, 104 W. Orangethorpe Ave.
May 25	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.	Oct 30*	Western Movie Night: <i>Home In Oklahoma</i> (1946) ,* 6:30 p.m. with Wine Tasting at 6 p.m. Fullerton Museum Center Auditorium
June 26	H&MC/SCSRA Annual Dinner at the Depot , 6 p.m., Cabooes at Amtrak Depot, Fullerton	Oct 26	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.
July 14	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting , 6 p.m., China Buffet, 104 W. Orangethorpe Ave.	Nov 23	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.
July 24*	Screwball Movie Night: <i>Some Like it Hot</i> (1959) ,* 6:30 p.m. with Wine Tasting at 6 p.m. Fullerton Museum Center Auditorium	Dec 4*	SCSRA Christmas Train-Watching Party , Cabooes, Amtrak Depot, Fullerton, 2-5 p.m.

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

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAILWAY PLAZA® ASSOCIATION INC.
presents

RAILROAD DAYS 2010

PREVIEW CENTER

Featuring a Southern California Lego Train Club
large, multilevel model-train layout

215 South Brea Blvd., Southwest corner of Birch Street,
Brea Downtown

April 5 to May 2, 2010 – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily
Extended hours until 8 p.m. Tuesdays



(Photos by Susan & Thomas Michon) – www.scltc.org

LEGO® Trains offer endless possibilities. Unlike standard railroad models, they can be built and taken apart as many times as you like -- reconfigured into ANYTHING IMAGINABLE. See LEGO® Trains depart miniature rail yards, travel through urban centers and lush farmland, cross bridges over water, coasting into the station.

RAILROAD DAYS is coming to Brea Downtown on May 1 & 2
Information: www.scrpa.net or 714-278-0648

Continued from page 7

- Imagination Depot — Train gifts, toys, fabric — www.imaginationdepotonline.com
- Toltec Images — Railroad photos and clothing
- TrainWeb.com — Railroad web site & Morse Telegraph — www.TrainWeb.com

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS

- Fullerton Radio Club (W6ULI) — radio demonstration — www.fullertonradioclub.org
- La Habra Business Connection — information on area businesses — www.lahabrabc.org
- Railway & Locomotive Historical Society — info and new members www.trainweb.org/rlhs
- The Business Connection Brea — info on Brea business — www.thebusinessconnectionbrea.com
- Orange County Transportation Authority — www.octa.net
- Walt Disney's Carolwood Society — Disney Railroad History — www.carolwood.com

NOTE: See www.scrpa.net for additional exhibitors confirmed after *Hot Rail!* publication

ENTERTAINMENT STAGE

SATURDAY

- 9 a.m. — Orange Coast Musical Arts — www.ocm-arts.org
- 10 a.m. — OPENING CEREMONY
- 11 a.m. — 5 Star Band — www.5starband.info
- 2 p.m. — Show Down Band
- 3:30 p.m. — Brad Lewis Band — www.lazybradlewis.com

SUNDAY

- 9:30 a.m. — The Serenaders Band
- 11 a.m. — Cross Road Gospel Quartet — www.crossroadquartet.com
- Noon — BP Maxx Band — www.bpmaxx.com
- 2 p.m. — Alder Eagle Blues Band — www.aldereagle.com
- 4 p.m. — Cowboy & Indian Band — www.myspace.com/cowboyandindiansongs

TEHACHAPI LOOP

One of the Seven Railroading Wonders of the World

Story and Photos by Dennis White

California rail fans have many great places to watch high-powered mainline railroading, in places called Cajon, Donner, Altamont, Shasta Summit, Banning/Beaumont, to name a few. In each, horsepower is king, felt by vibrations underfoot and ear splitting exhaust as 100 car trains charge past.

One of my personal favorite "happy places" is the Tehachapi Loop in the mountains dividing the San Joaquin and Antelope Valleys. Several times a day, freight trains cross over themselves as they traverse the famous landmark. Multiple unit locomotives, sometimes helped by mid-train or end-of-train DPU's, keep the trains moving at a respectable clip for mountain railroading, so as not to tie up traffic on this mostly single track main line.

HOT RAIL! NEWSLETTER

The Union Pacific track is kept in top condition so it and its tenant, BNSF, (through trackage rights), face minimal delays during the arduous climb.

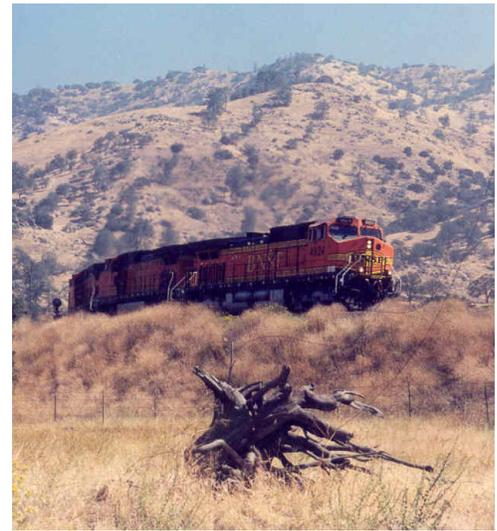
History

The Central Pacific and Southern Pacific (SP) had a stranglehold on California railroading after completion of the first transcontinental railroad and they wanted to keep it that way. SP countered threats from the Atlantic & Pacific RR; Texas & Pacific RR and Santa Fe (AT&SF), succeeding in keeping everyone but AT&SF out of the state for many years.

To do this, SP built aggressively anywhere it looked like a competitor might get a toe-hold.

SP had built south through the San Joaquin Valley as far as Sumner (now part of Bakersfield), arriving October 26, 1874. A Southern Pacific Civil Engineer, William Hood, surveyed the route from Sumner, climbing the Tehachapi Mountains and down into Mojave, where the track would continue south through Lancaster and Antelope Valley, under Newhall Pass and into the San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles County.

The plan was to build from Los Angeles north and Sumner south. For this article, we'll concentrate on the



An Eastbound BNSF Freight approaches Tunnel 9 from Bakersfield and will shortly cross over itself as it climbs Tehachapi.

Continued on page 10

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Continued from page 9

area between Woodford (passing siding north of the loop and Marcel, first passing siding south of the loop).

Track gangs pushed southeast from Sumner toward Tehachapi Pass, reaching Caliente, at the head of a box canyon, in April of 1875. It would take another 15 months of arduous labor to climb out of Caliente, requiring a horseshoe curve at the end of a box canyon, followed by 28 miles of winding mountain railroading punctuated by many tunnels and topped with a perfect 360 degree loop at Fox siding.

Rails reached Tehachapi July 10, 1876. The true summit is 1.8 miles east of Tehachapi (4,028 feet msl) and known on RR timetables as Summit Switch.

Fox siding would be renamed W.A. Long in 1909, honoring William A. Long, a Southern Pacific Trainmaster at Bakersfield. In standard RR practice, it didn't take long for the periods and spaces to be dropped and the station soon became known as Walong (pronounced WAY-long).

Name-changing seemed common in those days. Tehachapi Summit (which isn't really the summit at all), was changed to Tehachapi in 1883 after the town of Greenwich, three miles west of the SP's Tehachapi Summit station, pulled up stakes, (including most of its buildings) and moved to the railhead.

The town leaders dropped the word "Summit" from the RR station name and from then on, the town was known as Tehachapi. A few die-hards refused to leave the old location and the original settlement at Greenwich became known as "Old Town."

Southern Pacific and Santa Fe both became fallen flags in 1996 when SP merged into Union Pacific and Santa Fe into BNSF. Where "Yellow Jackets" and "Bloody Noses" used to roam, the dress of the day is now Armour Yellow, Harbor Mist Gray and red stripes or a mixture of BNSF's three heritage "pumpkins."

Tehachapi is truly mountain railroading at its toughest. The average grade is 1.37% with many miles well above 2%. Curves are continuous and as sharp as 10°.

Between Belen and Tehachapi, the line is single tracked with several passing sidings along the way. Traffic on the loop is about equally divided between owner Union Pacific and BNSF with each railroad moving approximately 25 trains each 24 hours.



Westbound BNSF freight approaches tunnel 10. The rear of this train is still in the Marcel siding.

Railfanning the loop

For the hearty railfan equipped with four-wheel-drive and a stout heart, the fire roads between Caliente

and Woodford offer exciting opportunities, but for most railfans, the area from Woodford (on the north, or downhill side) up to just above the loop offer good train watching spots using vehicle turn-outs along Woodford Road.

The loop itself is on a cattle ranch and not open to the public, but short term parking is available just outside the ranch gate (don't cross the tracks), for a close look at the top of the loop and the Walong passing siding.

Just south of the loop on Woodford Road (top of the hill) there is a stone historical monument commemorating the loop and a turn-out where one can park. A hiking trail leads about ¼ mile east from the monument along the ridge of the hill, ending in an outcropping of rock protected by a couple of California Oaks.

Sitting on the rocks in the shade of the oak trees affords a great view from tunnel 10, through the passing siding at Walong, the loop, the southern portal to tunnel 9 and the winding track down to the village of Woodford.

This viewing spot is the best place I've found to watch loop action.

Railroad police show up regularly down at track level and can be downright inhospitable when a foamer is thought to be too close to the track or, (gasp), trespassing. The railroad police don't care about the rocks and trees on top of the hill.

Another good rail fanning opportunity awaits near the bottom of the hill at Caliente. The inside center of the horseshoe curve is a dandy place to watch trains.

Park just off the highway about 200 feet from the grade crossing and enjoy a ring-side seat as the trains approach from behind, rattle through the grade crossing, across a deck bridge and disappear behind on the opposite side of the canyon with flanges squealing all the way. Sitting in the middle of that curve is like watching Cinerama! Unless you have four-wheel-drive, stay off the innocent looking dirt road. Being rather stubborn at times, I've had to have my two-wheel drive vehicle pulled out of the sand twice. Stuck in sand up to the axles is not fun.

With spring weather upon us, pack a picnic lunch, grab the camera and head to Tehachapi. It's about two hours from north Orange County. Have fun.

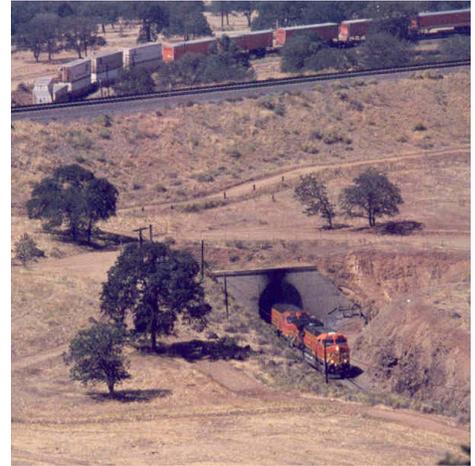
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Railroading Through the Antelope Valley, Phil Serpico, Omni Publications, Palmdale, CA, 2000

"SP's Milepost 352," Donald Sims, *Model Trains Magazine*, June 1956, Kalmbach Publishing, Milwaukee, WI

The Central Pacific & the Southern Pacific Railroads, Lucius Beebe, Howell-North Books, Berkeley, CA 1963

Over the Tehachapi, David P. Morgan, *Trains Magazine*, December 1946, Kalmbach Publishing, Milwaukee, WI



Eastbound BNSF freight exits tunnel 9 at Walong.

H&MC and SCSRA Annual Dinner at Depot

2010 Dinner RSVP

Use the top half of this form to RSVP to the Annual Dinner at Depot. Join us for a delicious meal of sandwiches, chips, salads, dessert, and drinks, catered by Santa Fe Cafe, for \$12/per person, monies due June 15, 2009.

After dinner we'll have the usual door prizes, awards, and trains trains trains! If you wish to donate some door prizes (and we hope you do), contact Jeff at 714-985-9007 (home) or 714-875-3019 (cell).

ANNUAL DINNER AT DEPOT RSVP

NAME: _____

will attend/will not attend (circle one) the 2010 Annual Dinner@Depot, to be held at

SCSRA Cabooses at the Amtrak Depot, Fullerton

on Saturday, JUNE 26, 2010

Food at 6 PM, Fun at 7 PM, Trains at All Times!

Price per person \$12; bring money to April dinner, or send form with check or money order (**by June 15, made out to "SCRPA"**) to Jeff Schulze, 1077 Promenade Ave., Placentia, CA 92870

Total No. Attending: _____

SCSRA ONLY: 2010 RIDENOUR NOMINATION

The 18th Clarence Ridenour award will be awarded at the 2010 H&MC/SCSRA Annual Dinner at Depot. This award is given to a current SCSRA associate who displays leadership, inspiration, and dedication to the organization. Candidates are nominated by the association at large and a winner is selected by the SCSRA president. **Mail this Ridenour nomination by May 30 to:**

Gordon Bachlund, SCSRA President

312 S. Mountain Ave.

Monrovia, CA 91016-3039

[you can e-mail your nomination to gbachlund@covad.net]

I, _____, hereby nominate _____ to receive the 2010 Clarence Ridenour Award. I believe that he/she should receive it because _____

Past Winners: Joe Barilari, Gordon Bachlund, Chell Hurdle, Sue Kientz, Dan Price, Brian Moore, Jim Vicars, Jeff Barrow, Doug Stephens, Gary Herod, Michael Vitale, Greg Smith, George Engelage, Jim Hoffmann, Elliot Alper, Charles Forsher, and Dennis White.

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IN THIS ISSUE

- **Railroad Days Rolling into Brea!** See cover, and special Railroad Days section on pages 4-9
- **Upcoming Movie Event:** Saturday, April 24, *Silver Streak*, starring Richard Pryor and Gene Wilder, preceded by a Bugs Bunny cartoon; see page 2.
- **H&MC and SCSRA Annual Dinner at the Depot, Saturday, June 26,** RSVP needed, and SCSRA members asked for Ridenour nominations; see page 11.
- **Alhambra trolley and Tehachapi Loop articles** with photos, see pages 3 and 9.

Postmaster: Please Deliver between April. 1-14, 2010

○ HOT RAIL! ○

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

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