

Fullerton Railway Plaza Assn. &
So. Calif. Scenic Railway Assn.
present the

Hot Rail!

newsletter



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

Issue I, Number 1

Summer 2003

RAILROAD DAYS DRAWS RECORD CROWD DESPITE RAIN

By Fred Canfield, Railroad Days Coordinator

We have just completed a very successful Railroad Days even with wet weather on Saturday. Our total attendance and donations were near last year's and our Sunday attendance and donations exceeded any prior single day. The number of participants (railroads, model clubs, youth groups, non-profit groups, commercial exhibits, food vendors, and FRPA booths) increased from 80 to 90. The total revenue for Railroad Days and the resulting donation to FRPA are close to exceeding last year. The increase in new members was substantial for FRPA and SCSRA.

How did we do it? With a lot of help from the many volunteers we put on the Greatest Show In Fullerton. I would like to personally thank each and every one of you.

We now begin another year of planning for the sixth anniversary of Fullerton Railroad Days on May 1-2, 2004.

How can we beat it? With your help we are going to try. Committee members will start their jobs shortly but we still need a few more volunteers. We also need your help in obtaining sponsors for our model railroad tents and donors for our Opportunity drawings and Silent Auctions. If you can volunteer some time to Railroad days please contact me at (714) 871-8329 or fcanfield@cfcircus.com.

COMBINED NEWSLETTER IS MAJOR STEP FORWARD

By Richard L. Hopping, FRPA President

This new combined newsletter is a major step forward for both the Southern California Scenic Railway Association (SCSRA) and the Fullerton Railway Plaza Association (FRPA). Since their inceptions, the two nonprofit organizations have each been very successful in their own right. The SCSRA is the older of the two groups while the FRPA is the larger. Both groups are recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporations. The bylaws of each group are similar and appear to the leadership of both organizations to be compatible. Prior to the end of the last calendar year, the FRPA expanded its Board of Directors and unanimously elected Gordon Bachlund, SCSRA President, and SCSRA Director George Engelage IV, a Fullerton resident, to the FRPA Board of Directors.

Currently the leadership of the two groups desires to exist independently while cooperating fully as we continue to explore the logic and feasibility of merging the two organizations. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will notice the Vision and Mission Statements adopted by FRPA. You are urged to read these.

We are very pleased that SCSRA past president Sue Kientz has agreed to be editor of the new combined newsletter. Sue is a very talented and experienced editor who will lend her talents to taking the best of both worlds to provide a top quality quarterly publication for both memberships. We express our sincere appreciation to her as we launch this new publication. FRPA member James Bremer, owner of **Tall Mouse Arts & Crafts**, located at 17506 Yorba Linda Blvd., Yorba Linda, CA, has graciously offered to sponsor the new joint publication. We are very grateful to Jim, Mary Anne Geriak, and the rest of his staff for their generosity and wonderful assistance.

With the continued support and cosponsorship of the City of Fullerton, the FRPA successfully staged the fifth annual Railroad Days event on May 3-4, 2003. We have always wondered what would happen to the event if it ever rained. Well, now we know! On Saturday, May 3rd, it really poured down rain for a good half day and the balance of the two days it threatened to rain. The good news is that everyone still came, many standing in the rain to tour the trains and the exhibits. Our 2003 event, thanks to the outstanding leadership of Chairman Fred Canfield and his spouse Claudia, assisted by an expanded number of volunteers from FRPA and SCSRA, held the second largest event of the five annual Railroad Days held to date. An estimated 33,000 people attended and Sunday, May 4, turned out to be our largest single day attendance of any of the five annual events.

My thanks to the City of Fullerton, our major sponsors, the member volunteers and the largest number of exhibitors and vendors we have ever had for making this such a success (see acknowledgements on page 9). In spite of the rain we were again able to make Railroad Days free to the public, the largest single event held in the City of Fullerton. In a sample survey of 4 percent of the attendees, we had people from Canada, Mexico, four states and 81 California communities. Fullerton can be made a destination and the magic of trains will and does attract people even in the rain. Thank you all for your outstanding support.

HOT RAIL!

**Railroaders sing that out when they see something coming down the tracks.
The Hot Rail Newsletter plans to do just that:
Tell of all the **EXCITING** things that are coming!
Hope you enjoy this first issue**

SCSRA ENJOYS SECOND RAILROAD DAYS

By Gordon Bachlund, SCSRA President

The 2003 Fullerton Railroad Days event began on a rainy Saturday morning, which deterred all but the bravest rail fans, but by midmorning the rain slowed and stopped and, while the day remained mostly cloudy, attendance picked up nicely. Sunday, under a blue sky punctuated by scudding clouds, broke that day's past attendance records.

The SCSRA booth, under the guidance of Greg Smith and his committee (Dan Price, Jeff Barrow, Jim Hoffmann, Mike Vitale, Sue Kientz and others), was set up during the inclement weather and so was a little late getting arranged Saturday morning, but the results were well worth the wait, as the set-up was very visitor-friendly and attracted many people. On Sunday, the "minimalist" booth design afforded fairly fast demobilization and our folks were on their way by 6:30 p.m. Thanks, booth team! Dick Hopping estimates that total Railroad Days attendance was between 33,000 and 34,000, and I am proud that the SCSRA had a small part in its success.

Sue provided new membership brochures that emphasized the Association's new focus on Fullerton and the new dues structure, and the General Superintendent's report will indicate new members who joined as a result of brochures distributed at the event. Gary Herod provided sign-up lists for our proposed future system-wide Metrolink tour at several FRPA booths as well as ours.

Mike reports that merchandise sales (T-shirts and Little Ranger pins) totaled \$362 and that six new members joined during the event. In addition, \$40 in cash donations were received.

Filling out the railroad equipment displays, George Engelage provided his beautifully restored Coast Rail Services caboose, resplendent in its white Imron finish, as well as a rare ex Chicago & North Western E-8 diesel-electric locomotive.

Our faithful docent crew, including Elliott Alper, Dan Price, Jeff Barrow, Doug Stephens, Jim Hoffmann and Darlene Sexton, provided caboose tours which led, across the platform, to Bill Hatrick's passenger car, Amber Trail, painted in SP Daylight colors, and Bill and his family and friends served as docents in the car.

Continuing delays in the construction of the Train Shed precluded our cabooses from being Railroad Days displays this year, but Doug Stephens reports that construction is moving along and may soon permit the cabooses to be moved. (Meanwhile, we are hard at work raising money for the move. Your contributions will help.)

The event security team, under the supervision of Safety Officer Tim Riley, included Dan, Jeff and Darlene, and performed up to its usual high standards, while booth staff during the day included new member Jim Egan and his wife Paula, Mike and Charity Vitale, Greg, Jim, Gary, the writer, Dan, Jeff, and Sue who made all the crew assignments and made special trips to keep the supply of brochures and other handouts topped off. Tim Dulin, armed with a 35mm movie camera, chronicled the weekend on film, while Elliott did his usual fine job with videotape and digital photos.

A tip of the president's hat to the Railroad Days SCSRA Team. Way to go!

Fullerton Railway Plaza Association

Our Vision Is

To create a large community-supported premier interactive railroad attraction that would include a Santa Fe heritage railroad museum and restoration facility for the purpose of bringing together businesses, government and the community to preserve our national rail heritage and provide an educational experience for our youth in a meaningful, exciting, and fulfilling manner.

Our Mission Is

To educate our youth and provide all people an historical insight into the numerous contributions the railroads have made to the creation and economic development of the City of Fullerton, the County of Orange, and Southern California from the 19th century to the present and into the future.

RAILWAY SAFETY POSTER CONTEST

By Richard L. Hopping

Thanks to the organizational efforts of chair Carole Wink and co-chair Sharon Frazier and the Fullerton Elementary School District, the 2003 Railroad Safety Poster Contest was another great success. Materials were circulated to over 13,000 children in grades K through 6. Each school selected their 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each of two divisions of Lower (K-3) and Upper (4-6) grades. All the school winning posters were displayed at the Safety Poster Contest Booth during Railroad Days. Certificates were awarded by FRPA to each of the school winners. City wide winners of both levels were then chosen by a committee composed of eight judges.

On June 3, 2003, the city wide winners were recognized by the Fullerton City Council and by Mayor Don Bankhead. The 1st place winner in each level received four round-trip AMTRAK tickets and admission to Legoland, the 2nd place winner in each level received four round trip AMTRAK tickets and admission to San Diego Zoo and the 3rd place winner received four round trip AMTRAK tickets to Santa Barbara.

MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM

Bob Root, founding president of the Fullerton Railway Plaza Association, through the Board of Directors, has offered a **challenge grant whereby he will match any donation of \$500 or greater up to an aggregate maximum of donations of \$10,000** made to FRPA during the 2003 calendar year.

All monies received through this challenge grant will be specifically restricted for the purpose of assisting FRPA to retain a qualified person or firm to develop a written concept and site plan for the proposed Southern California Railway Museum at Fullerton. The development of this plan is an integral part of the planning process necessary for FRPA to achieve the above Vision Statement.

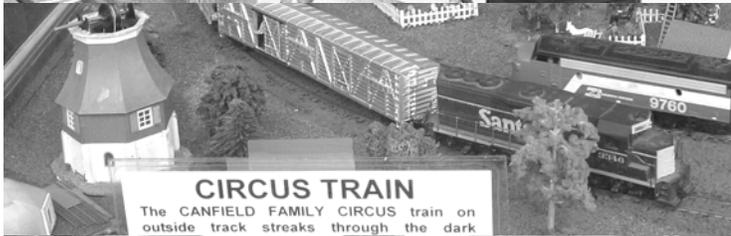
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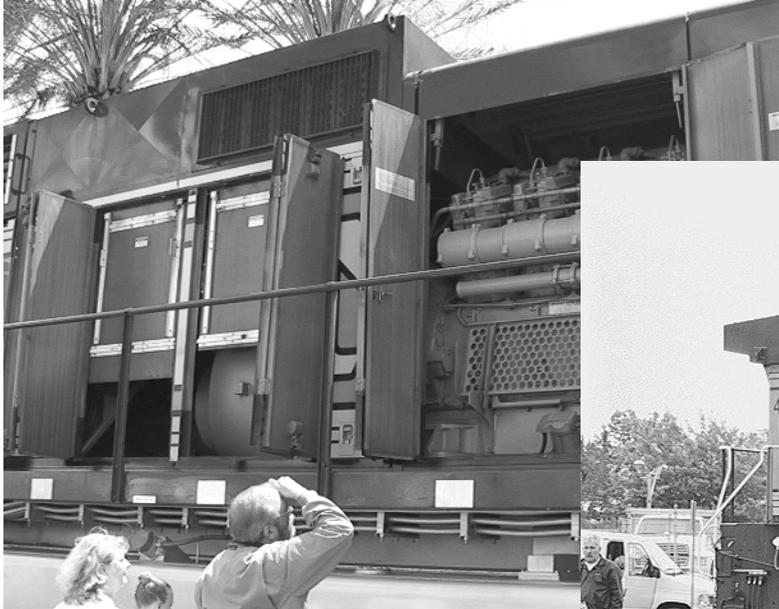
Most extensive and visited railroad website in the world
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RAILROAD DAYS 2003 PHOTO ALBUM

Photos by Elliot Alper and Sue Kientz



MORE ↓



More photos in the Third District Local pages



The Third District Local

Published by

Fullerton Railway Plaza Association
Historical and Modeling Committee

Vol II, Number 2

www.trainweb.com/frpa/fmrhs/

Spring 2003

Welcome Aboard!

FRPA's Historical & Modeling Committee Adds Depth to Museum Membership

With this issue, The Third District Local becomes part of the new and expanded joint FRPA and SCSRA newsletter. The combining of these three newsletters has increased circulation by a factor of two, and will expose many readers to the FRPA's Historical & Modeling Committee for the first time. So let's take a step back and look at who the H&MC is, how they got started and what they do.

The Historical & Modeling Committee came into being in the fall of 1999 when a small group of model railroaders, collectors of railroadiana, amateur historians and other assorted rail and history buffs met to discuss forming a common interest group for the benefit of all. A few of the organizers were members of the Fullerton Railway Plaza Associ-



Committee members and guests listen as BNSF Police Captain Alves answers questions after his presentation to H&MC members. Photo by L. Boerio



H&MC drew many visitors during Fullerton Railroad Days 2003. Photo by D. White

ation and wondered if working under the umbrella of that organization were possible. The leadership of this little group presented their concept to the FRPA Board of Directors, gaining approval to operate as a committee of, and fully answerable to the parent organization. As part of FRPA, committee members must maintain current membership within the Museum. They must also have a desire to actively promote and grow the FRPA and possess the ability to work together with other committee members for the common good of the Organization. The original name of this embryonic enthusiast group was "Fullerton Model Railroad Historical Society" or FMRHS for short. A recent name change to Historical & Modeling Committee more closely defines the position of the group within FRPA.

The H&MC meets at the Fullerton Chamber of Commerce on the fourth Tuesday of each month, with the exception of December when an alternate date is chosen to reduce potential conflict with the holiday season. Meetings concentrate on feeding common group interests—committeemen share past experiences, bring artifacts, models, and other treasures to share. Presentations of slide or video

shows are always popular. We have enjoyed listening to retired railroaders talk of their exploits and listened as BNSF Police Captain Alves explained the extra security required in light of 9-11, and how railfans can help be the eyes and ears of the overworked and understaffed RR police. A very short business meeting precedes these activities.

H&MC members are actively doing research on subjects that demonstrate the symbiotic relationship between the community and the railroads and are currently building an accurately scaled representation of Fullerton's Blue Goose citrus packinghouse.

Ongoing historical research continues to locate and file period photos and text for inclusion in our growing display of historically significant scenes from Orange County's past and to support future modeling projects. The committee actively promotes FRPA to the rail enthusiast community by participating in many rail related shows throughout the region, displaying fascinating picture boards and a very popular diorama of the Fullerton Depot area, circa 1950.

If membership in the Historical & Modeling Committee is of interest, please contact membership chairman Rick Bremer at 714-990-1394 or e-mail him at rcbfmrhs@yahoo.com.



H&MC members Rick Bremer (standing) and Bob Toohey enjoy a break during Railroad Days 2003. Photo by D. White

LA HABRA: The "Top" of Orange County

What is now La Habra was discovered by Spanish explorers in 1769. The region was called Cañada de la Habra, which some believe translates to "Pass Through The Canyon" because of a natural pass in the Puente Hills along the north side of the valley.

The area eventually became part of the Spanish land grant of Don Mariano Reyes Roldan. By 1860, Abel Stearns had purchased Rancho Cañada de la Habra from Don Mariano. Stearns sold parcels to settlers arriving from the east. Domingo Bastanchury purchased a large parcel of land from Stearns, followed a few years later by Jose Sansinena, a former employee of Bastanchury. The Milhouse family, grandparents of President Nixon, also purchased land and settled about this time. Discovery of oil on the Bastanchury property in 1903 brought Standard Oil.

The community of La Habra was founded in 1896 when Willets J. Hole and some partners purchased large tracts of land from Stearns and built a post office. Tracts of land were purchased by Robert Hiatt and John Launer, both of whom subdivided and began constructing houses.

The Pacific Electric Railroad arrived in 1908 creating opportunities to ship product from the valley. The Union Pacific Railroad arrived in 1923, adding competition for the Pacific Electric.

Incorporated on January 20, 1925, La Habra organized a police force a year later. In the 1920s, avocados were the number one crop followed by oil and citrus.

The Alpha Beta Co. established its headquarters in La Habra in 1952, adding inbound rail loads to the already busy outbound rail traffic.

Agriculture was displaced by new home construction in the 1960s and rail became less important to the city and most products now move by truck.

Sources:

www.orangecounty.net/cities/lahabra.html
www.ci.la-habra.ca.us/profile.htm
www.myoc.com/community/lahabra/history/

HIKING THE RAILROAD ROUTE

The Sierra Club sponsors weekly hikes along the Rails-to-Trails of Bastanchury Ranch

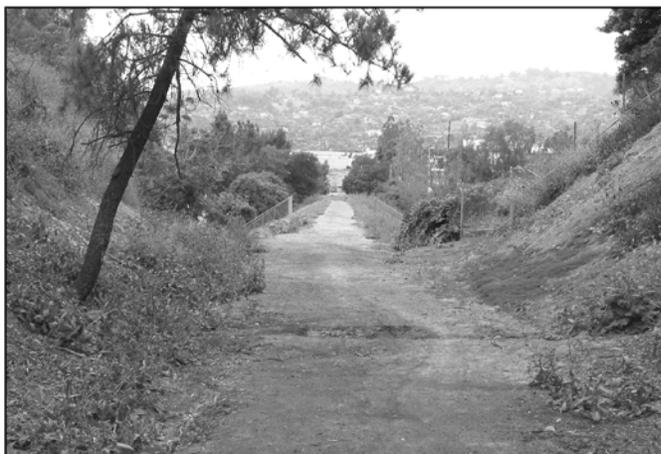
Story and Photos by Martin Kluck, FPRA - H&MC member

Fullerton - June 1, 2003. For ten years, I have been enjoying weekly hikes in the Laguna Lake area of Fullerton with a group called Orange County Sierra Singles (<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ocss>). Last Tuesday I participated in our end-of-the-month combination potluck/hike.

We had about 30 people, and this evening I led them on a city-designated "Future Trail" I have named the Railroad Route (there are now eight basic routes we rotate each week). Starting at 6:30 from the northeast end of Laguna Lake (originally the stock watering pond on the Bastanchury Ranch), we headed north on the old converted Pacific Electric (PE) "Red Car" right-of-way now known as the Juanita Cooke Trail (see photo at right).



I always stop to let the group re-gather at the transition from "cut" to "Fill." (See photo below, view north just south of the La Habra city limit.) This spot demonstrates the skill of railroad builders at balancing the tremendous amount of soil that was cut from the ridge of Las Palmas Drive to fill



in low ground to make a smooth, evenly graded quarter-mile ramp down to Imperial Hwy beside the La Habra Target store (at right).

This is the end of the current line from the north, serving a short spur to Contractor's Warehouse. With a group standing beside the road-bed (below), I reviewed the history of the PE.



Pacific Electric crews began construction of the line from Loan Junction (La Habra) to Fullerton in early 1916, with the first train arriving Fullerton on September 30, 1917.¹

Remarkably, a Union Pacific signal crew happened to be upgrading the crossing signal controls, and one of our group asked what would become of the old hardware. The railroad signal maintainer said that it would go back to the Beaumont office and be junked! Our hiker asked if he could have one of the cantaloupe-sized relays, and the worker whipped out his wire cutters, freed the relay, and handed it to him! This 12-volt relay had been in service right there since May 1952. Over 50 years of continuous use up to that very day and it was still working.

Next we walked east along Imperial Highway, past Harbor Boulevard to the Union Pacific Anaheim Branch, still in use in the morning. UP's Anaheim Branch (through Bastanchury Ranch and the Los Coyotes Hills) opened July 1, 1923.² This led us South past the Hermosa Drive crossing and I blew my four-tone wooden train whistle, startling everyone into thinking a train was coming! We stopped at tiny San Juan Park on the west side of the tracks where there is a small restroom.

I blew the whistle again and we resumed our hike, passing the golf course clubhouse, following the tracks as they turn to the West. I stopped under the Harbor Boulevard bridge (below) to point out the small rocks glued to the 30-foot height concrete piers that the rock climbers use for practice. Looking up under the six-lane span, we can see the smoke stains apparently left from endless steam locomotives that passed under the then four-lane bridge, and the clean belly of the two-lane widenings of Harbor Boulevard since the switch to diesel.

From there, we continued to the PE over-crossing, marveling at what it would have taken to build this bridge (below), since the Union Pacific line was built more than five years after the PE by digging a quarter-mile-long cut from the golf course, under Harbor Boulevard, and under the



PE. Construction of the UP Anaheim Branch started mid-January 1923.

We scrambled up the embankment to pause on top of this bridge, which is now a part of the Juanita Cooke Trail, to enjoy the view, just as the Pacific Electric's Red Car riders did, then headed north to complete our three-mile loop back to Laguna Lake where the picnic tables were waiting by the cars.

Once back to our starting point, out came the tablecloths, lanterns, and food of all kinds and we enjoyed our potluck in the fading light of sunset.

Sources

- ¹ Donaldson & Meyers, *Rails Through The Orange Groves*, Vol. 1, © 1989 Trans-Anglo Books, ISBN 0-87046-088-99
- ² Dave Norris, *Timeline of Fullerton*, FRPA/H&MC publication, rev 3-24-2003.
- ³ Donaldson & Meyers, *Rails Through The Orange Groves*, Vol. 2, © 1990 Trans-Anglo Books, ISBN 0-87046-094-3

NOTE: Those interested in participating with the Orange County Sierra Singles may contact the group directly at their website <http://angeles.sierraclub.org/ocss/> or may contact Martin Kluck, c/o FRPA Historical and Modeling Committee, P.O. Box 3987, Fullerton, CA 92834.



RENTING OF RAILROAD SPURS

The FRPA Board has pledged its full support to aggressively make every effort to contact rail car owners to assist the City of Fullerton in securing additional individuals to lease car space from the City on the rail spurs at the Fullerton Train Depot. Each member is requested to spread the word regarding the availability of the space and the opportunity to lease same at this choice location. FRPA has assisted in the leasing of the space for the Amber Trail car presently located at the Depot. We need to expand our efforts and your assistance is crucial.

SCSRA'S FULLERTON UPDATE

By Gordon Bachlund

This issue of the newsletter is the first of the new combined newsletter that folds in the FRPA, the FRPA Historical and Modeling Committee and the SCSRA into a single informational publication under the editorship of Sue Kientz, wordsmith extraordinaire. Thus, this single publication will keep you abreast of the latest news of the FRPA, the FRPA Historical and Modeling Committee and the SCSRA, as well as news of general rail fan interest.

With Bill Hatrick's passenger car, Amber Trail, now in residence at Fullerton, we are closer than ever to seeing the new protective fence installed and permission granted for the new track construction. If you'd like to help with this important project, contact Jeff Barrow (jeff@scsra.org).

FRPA/SCSRA 2003 Calendar

NOTE: Movie Nights are held at Brea 5 Theatres, 453 S. Associated Rd., Brea CA, 7:15 p.m. The event is free for members and their guests. **Dates subject to change;** always check for updates at <http://www.scsra.org/2003.html>

Bring your SCSRA Associate's Pass, FRPA membership card, or this newsletter for free entry. Parking is also free.

- July 16** FRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting, 6 p.m., China Inn Buffet, Fullerton.
- July 24** H&MC Meeting, Fullerton Chamber of Commerce, 7 p.m.
- Aug 20** Action Movie Night: *Under Siege II: Dark Territory* [NOTE: R-rated]
- Aug 26** H&MC Meeting, Fullerton Chamber of Commerce, 7 p.m.
- Sept 17** Western Movie Night: *Dodge City* (1939)
- Sept 23** H&MC Meeting, Fullerton Chamber of Commerce, 7 p.m.
- Oct 15** FRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting, 6 p.m., China Inn Buffet, Fullerton
- Nov 19** Fantasy Movie Night: *Who Framed Roger Rabbit?*
- Dec 14** SCSRA Christmas Party with the movie *Meet Me In St. Louis*

CHRIS BECKER TO BE GUEST SPEAKER AT JULY 16 MEETING

By Stan Swanson, FRPA Dinner Meeting Chair

Chris Becker, Executive Director of OnTrac, Orange North-American Trade Rail Access Corridor Authority, will be guest speaker for our July 16th general meeting.

Ontrac is administering the construction of the Orange County Grade Separation and Trade Corridor Project. This \$400 million effort is part of California's Alameda Corridor East Project. This leg of the corridor project will grade separate 15 arterial streets from the Burlington Santa Fe Railroad mainline, through five miles of Northern Orange County. It will protect public interests and enable expansion (in the next 10 years) from the current 70 to the projected 135 trains daily, to and from the Alameda Corridor, as well as accommodate the anticipated increases from Metrolink and Amtrak passenger services. The project is widely supported at the local, regional, state and federal level and offers many transportation, quality of life and economic benefits to the region. The project is an integral component of California's key "Global Gateways, linking the San Pedro Bay ports and the trans-continental mainline railroad.

Thanks to a suggestion by our own Barry Christensen, Chris accepted our invitation to speak. He will make a very interesting presentation. Barry's comment was, "It's the best PowerPoint presentation I have ever attended."

We are expecting to set an attendance record at this meeting, which is presently at 92. Come and bring a friend, Wednesday, July 16, 6 p.m. at the China Buffet, Harbor at Orangethorpe, Fullerton. Watch for that mailing.

WORTHY OF NOTE . . .

. . . Paul Simon, FRPA board member, was appointed to the Orange County Historical Commission in April.

. . . Don Bankhead, Fullerton's current mayor and active and honorary FRPA member, was appointed to the Orange County Harbors, Beaches, and Parks Commission in April.

. . . Alan Weeks, SCSRA member, was seen on NBC Channel 4 getting a preview ride of the new Pasadena Gold Line. Alan tells us that he was also interviewed by KNX Radio's Diane Thompson.

ED VANDEVENTER PASSES

Ed Vandeventer, longtime member and officer of Orange Empire Railway Museum (OERM), who led the Rail Operations of the Southern California Rapid Transit District from 1985 through the mid-1990s—including the early days of Metro Rail subway and light rail planning—passed away June 5 from a heart attack following hospitalization.

Ed was a personal friend to a number of SCSRA associates. SCSRA President Gordon Bachlund recalls, "When I joined OERM, Ed was Operating Superintendent. When I became Operating Superintendent, Ed became Mechanical Superintendent, so I have fond memories of him at the museum. He was on the OERM board for many years and was a highly knowledgeable and respected transit guru, having worked for many years for the LAMTA."

Among other fond memories, Alan Weeks shares the following: "Ed saw the late Louie Maspero and I walking around [OERM] one Saturday. Ed grabbed Louie and me and said, 'I need you to operate rail cars.' So Louie and I went into training and I operated with Ed for 20 years. Ed was a great contributor and will be missed.

"To end on a light note, Ed and I always talked about the movies we had seen. Just a few days before he died I asked him what he recommended. He said *The Italian Job*. I asked why. He said, 'It is a good plot and has lots of MTA

subway scenes.' Then I asked him, did he see *Bruce Almighty*? He said yes. I said, was it funny? He said 'Well, lots of people around me were laughing.' I said, but were you laughing? He said, 'You know I never laugh at movies, but I smiled.' I will always remember that."

RAIL TRIP TO SANTA BARBARA WITH BUS TO SOLVANG, OCT 18

By Gary Herod, SCSRA Public Relations Manager

The SCSRA is sponsoring an AMTRAK rail trip to Santa Barbara this fall, with chartered bus transfer to Solvang for the afternoon, on Saturday, October 18. Boarding is arranged from two pickup points for our group, Fullerton and Glendale. The total price for this wonderful rail and bus shopping trip is only \$50 roundtrip (adults) for those boarding at Fullerton, and \$45 for those boarding at Glendale. Seniors and children are even less (see table below).

The train departs Fullerton at 8:15 a.m. and stops at Glendale 9:16 a.m. for more passengers. Arrival in Santa Barbara is at 11:33 a.m., where we switch to chartered buses to Solvang, arriving there at 12:30 p.m. The day is then spent in wonderful Solvang, the Danish Capital of America. Your entire afternoon is free to walk through this quaint village with its many little shops, flower-lined streets, bakeries, restaurants, and more. See the Solvang Visitor's Bureau website at <http://www.solvangusa.com/> for more details on all there is to do in Solvang.

The return schedule is to depart Solvang at 5:35 p.m., arriving in Santa Barbara at 6:50 p.m. for the train ride back home. The train leaves Santa Barbara at 7:05 p.m., arriving Glendale 9:25 p.m. and Fullerton at 10:42 p.m. A full day of fun with a relaxing trip home.

| R/trip Fare | Lv. Fullerton | Lv. Glendale |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|
| Adult | \$50 | \$45 |
| Senior | \$45 | \$40 |
| Child | \$35 | \$30 |

Full payment is due July 31, 2003. At that time, remaining seats will go on public sale. You won't want to miss this! Send in the order coupon on page 9 today with your check or money order to reserve your spot on this very special rail trip. If you need more information, contact Gary Herod at gary@scsra.org or call (818) 949-4108.

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Rail/Bus Trip to Santa Barbara and Solvang

RESERVATION FORM -- FULL PAYMENT DUE BY JULY 31, 2003

(see roundtrip ticket price schedule on page 8)

Name _____ **Boarding from:** Fullerton Glendale

Day Phone () _____ **Eve Phone** () _____ **E-mail** _____

No. Adults _____ **No. Seniors** _____ **No. Child** _____ (max 2 child per adult)

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

**Send this Coupon with your Check or Money Order, payable to SCSRA, to
Lee Hansen Travel Agency, 712 Foothill Blvd., La Cañada, CA 91011
Attention: Gary**

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Christian Science Reading Rm.
Citrus Empire Model RR Club
City of Fullerton
City Council
Redevelopment Agency
Administration
Maintenance
Police Dept.
Fire Dept.
Coast Packing Company
Coast Rail Services
Daylight Sales
Del Oro Pacific
Democratic Party of OC
DeMolay of Yorba Linda
Faces of Fullerton
First United Methodist
Friends of Coyote Hills
Fullerton Chamber of Commerce
Fullerton Community Bank
Fullerton Elementary Schools
Fullerton Firefighters Assoc. Local
3421
Fullerton Fire Dept. Explorers
Fullerton Historic Theatre Fndn.
Fullerton Lions Clubs
Fullerton Kiwanis Clubs
Fullerton News Tribune
Fullerton Observer
Fullerton Public Library
Fullerton Radio Club
Girl Scouts of Fullerton
Grand Canyon Railway
Heroes' Restaurant
Hobbytown USA
Isaac Walton League
Kettlemasters
Knotts Berry Farm
LGB of America
Lionel Trains
Lowe's
Metrolink
McCoy & Mills Ford

Morningside Villas
MTH Electric Trains
N Track Express
N Orange County YMCA
Operation Lifesaver, Metrolink
Orange County "N"giners
Orange County Model Engineers
Orange County Module
Railroaders
Orange County Railroad Historical
Society
Orange County Fire Ant Authority
Orange County Register
Orange County Tinplate Trackers
Orange County Transportation
Authority
Orange Empire Railway Museum
Papa Dan's Products
Polly's Bakery Café
Mega Portrait
Railway & Locomotive Historical
Society of So. Cal.
Rainbow Girls #139
Republican Party of OC
SBRHS
Soroptimist
So. Cal. LEGO Train Club
So. Cal. Scenic Railway Assoc.
So. Cal. Transit Advocates
Spaghetti Factory
Sparkletts Water
SPEBQSA
State Farm Insurance
Terry's Automotive
Toltec Images
Toy Train Operating Soc.
Toy Train Shop
Trainweb.com
Transit Advocates of Or. Cty.
USA Trains
Usborne Books at Home
Yosemite Waters
Yorba Linda Masonic Lodge
Whistlestop Train Shop
Women in Railroadng
**Thank you all! If we missed
your name or the name of your
organization, we are sorry.
Please contact us and we will
include it in our next newsletter.
Ed.**

SCSRA ANNUAL DINNER MAKES GOOD ON FIREWORKS CLAIM

By Gordon Bachlund

The 2003 SCSRA Annual Dinner was held on Saturday, June 21, at the Spaghetti Station, an old west themed restaurant in Anaheim just north of Disneyland. About 35 members and friends gathered for cocktails, dinner and the Annual Awards Ceremony. Sue Kientz served as master of ceremonies and made all the arrangements.

Special guests included FRPA's Fred Canfield, who thanked the SCSRA Security Team for its work during Railroad Days, FRPA board member George Barlow, and Third District Local editor Dennis White. Another treat was to see Brian Moore, who brought his girlfriend Betty (see below). New members Eric Edborg, Greg Lester, and James and Paula Egan were also on hand. Finally, another special guest, Sue's boyfriend Ron Baalke, assisted Sue with the door prize drawings and took



photographs for posterity (aka this newsletter).

SCSRA President Gordon Bachlund presented the 2003 Clarence Ridenour Award to Doug Stephens (who unfortunately was out of town and not present) and made two special awards (right) for meritorious

service to the SCSRA to founding member Greg Smith, who spearheaded the booth committee, and to Mike Vitale, who has kept SCSRA finances in order the past three years.

Sue Kientz, SCSRA Vice President, presented special awards to a number of associates for their contributions in 2002-03. The "award" was in fact a coffee mug, decorated with the person's name and what they had contributed this year. Tim Dulin was recognized for his extraordinary efforts in support of Movie Nites, Gary Herod for truly being our "Rookie of the Year," Dan Price and Jeff Barrow for being there whenever and wherever needed



(their work on the stairs in preparation for Railroad Days comes to mind), Elliot Alper for his willingness to photograph and video nearly every event and providing

the results in digital format for the newsletter, George Engelage for his consistently perceptive counsel and support not only this year but for a number of years now, and finally Gordon Bachlund for God knows what. ("For Everything," the mug very appropriately said. Ed.)

Door prize drawings followed. Sue first reminded the assembly that we are all about preservation and restoration, and that many times includes *rescue* — many of her contributions to the door prizes were rescued from local swap

meets). But there was no need for a disclaimer; the prizes were wonderful, plentiful, and even fascinating at times. The framed vintage steam engine photo given out near the end almost caused a serious rift in Greg Smith's family, as



his brother Marty and cousin Nelson both still held tickets, and both were hoping to win. When Marty won, Nelson blurted out, "I hate you, Marty!" But when Nelson subsequently scored a \$30 AMTRAK gift certificate, family accord returned.

Thanks to Sue Kientz, Pentrex, Fillmore and Western, James Egan, Charles Forsher, Bob and Kimberly Bennett, and the Price Family for their generous donations. Also a big thank you to Gordon Bachlund for arranging the Ridenour plaque and the update of our Ridenour Honor Roll plaque, and to Sue Kientz for creatively decorating the recognition mugs.



After the program, the group gathered in the restaurant parking lot and enjoyed the Disneyland evening fireworks show.

| Door Prize | Donated by | Winner |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|
| Toy Train | Sue Kientz | Mikey Sexton |
| Book: <i>Steam Locomotives</i> | Sue Kientz | Sharon Price |
| Stamps: Railroad Days 2000 | Sue Kientz | Brian Moore |
| Train belt buckle | Sue Kientz | Eric Edborg |
| Train-design tie | James Egan | Gary Herod |
| Video: <i>Above So. Cal Rails</i> | Pentrex | Dan Price |
| San Francisco Trolley tin | Sue Kientz | Betty (Brian Moore's girl) |
| Locomotive Engineer fruit label | Sue Kientz | Dennis White |
| Book: <i>Hear that Lonesome Whistle Blow</i> | Sue Kientz | Sue Kientz (<i>one for next yr!</i>) |
| <i>Annual Report for 1902, N. Central Railway Co. & pin</i> | Sue Kientz | Carol Bennett |
| Book: <i>Steam</i> | Bob Bennett | Charles Forsher |
| 3751 Pin | Sue Kientz | George Barlow |
| Train Clock | James Egan | Darlene Sexton |
| Limoges-style Streetcar box | Sue Kientz | Joyce Barrow |
| Book: <i>The Men Who Built the Transcont. RR</i> | Sue Kientz | Mystery Person ?? |
| <i>Book: Steam</i> | Bob Bennett | Jeff Barrow |
| Original Drawing, framed | Charles Forsher | James Egan |
| Video: <i>AMTRAK, The Surfliner</i> | Pentrex | Greg Smith |
| <i>Penna. RR Annual Report 1962 plus shares of Lehigh Valley RR Stock</i> | Sue Kientz | Elliot Alper |
| Book: <i>Western Railroads</i> | Sue Kientz | George Engelage |
| Train belt buckle | Sue Kientz | Paula Egan |
| Magnet and pin | Bob and Kimberly Bennett | Jim Vicars |
| Train picture frame | Price Family | Greg Lester |
| Book: <i>Railways of the 20th Century</i> | Sue Kientz | Fred Canfield |
| Vintage photo of AT&SF 0151 from 1905 with documentation | Sue Kientz with help from Ron Baalke | Marty Smith (<i>fireworks began here</i>) |
| Book: <i>History of American Railroads</i> | Sue Kientz | Ron Baalke (<i>you'll see this next yr, too</i>) |
| Chocolate Train cars | Sue Kientz | Kim Bennett |
| Video: <i>Awesome Trains</i> | Bob Bennett | Steve Barrow |
| Chocolate Train cars; spicy olives (<i>why olives? ask Bob</i>) | Sue Kientz; Bob Bennett | Gordon Bachlund |

| Door Prize | Donated by | Winner |
|---|-------------------------|--|
| Chocolate Train cars; spicy mustard (<i>again, Bob</i>) | Sue Kientz; Bob Bennett | Sarah Vicars |
| \$30 Gift Certificate for AMTRAK | Price Family | Jerry! (<i>Dan said he wanted it!</i>) |
| \$30 Gift Certificate for AMTRAK | Price Family | Nelson Kruger |
| Surprise Grand Prize: 2 Daytime Ride tickets | Fillmore and Western | Bob Bennett |

HISTORY OF SCSRA'S CLARENCE RIDENOUR AWARD

By Gordon Bachlund

Clarence Ridenour, along with the other founders of the SCSRA, was a member of another museum that, back in the 1980s, was having difficulties maintaining a harmonious volunteer base. Clarence was the sort of person who loved a challenge and, his attempts to remediate the situation failing, he contacted Greg Smith, who had just lost a bid for a board seat at that museum, and several other members of a committee that had been working on public relations for that museum. Thus it came to pass that Clarence, Greg, Gordon Bachlund, Hank Andreoni, Hal Hoadley, and Randy Matus began to meet regularly to explore the possibility of founding a new more volunteer-friendly group. These six were joined by Hal's wife Deborah, and they explored several options in the early 1980s. On December 16, 1983, the group decided to incorporate as the Southern California Scenic Railway Association. Clarence was not present at the signing of the incorporation papers, but was granted membership number 1 in grateful recognition of his significant efforts in the group's formation.

Further meetings devoted to finding a viable demonstration railway and/or museum location followed our incorporation. Finally, following a meeting with the management of Travel Town, we submitted a proposal to restore an ex AT&SF gas-electric motorcar, the M.177, and received a permit for that effort on January 31, 1986. Thus began our 16-year tenure at Travel Town.

In our early days, limited by our small size and lack of major funding, we labored with what we had, and Clarence, who carpooled with Greg to Travel Town, worked with us. He had been both a machinist and pipe fitter during his working career, so he undertook to rebuild the eight starting air check valves for the motorcar's Winton engine. His health was failing, however, and he and his wife moved from Garden Grove, CA, to Grant's Pass, Oregon.

Within a few years, Clarence passed away, but his memory lived on in our hearts, and in early 1993, our then President, Chell Hurdle, proposed a volunteer service award named after Clarence, since without Clarence's motivation we might not ever have become organized. The award plaque reads as follows: "Clarence Ridenour Award, SCSRA, presented to [name] for Leadership, Inspiration and Dedication." The first ever Award was made in June 1993 to Joe Barilari. Each awardee receives a plaque, and his/her name is recorded on a perpetual plaque which we proudly display at our Annual Award Dinners.

This year's Clarence Ridenour Award winner is Doug Stephens. Doug went the extra mile during the past year in looking after our equipment and material at Travel Town, helping us move our track materials to Fullerton, and keeping a positive attitude all the while. Congratulations, Doug!

○ HOT RAIL! ○

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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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| | |
|--|------------------------|
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| <i>Safety Officer,</i> | Tim Riley |
| <i>General Superintendent,</i> | Jerry Price |
| <i>Chief Mechanical Officer,</i> | Gordon Bachlund |
| <i>Asst. Supt., Rolling Stock,</i> | Doug Stephens |
| <i>Asst. Supt., Electrical/Communications,</i> | Jim Vicars |
| <i>Operating Superintendent,</i> | Jim Hoffmann |
| <i>Maintenance of Way Superintendents,</i> | Jeff Barrow, Dan Price |
| <i>Public Relations Manager,</i> | Gary Herod |
| <i>Film/Digital Presentation Manager,</i> | Tim Dulin |
| <i>Motion Picture Film Archivist,</i> | Gordon Bachlund |

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| | |
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| <i>Membership,</i> | Norma R. Goble |
| <i>RR Days 2004,</i> | Fred Canfield |

**Fullerton Railway Plaza Association, Inc.
124 E. Santa Fe Ave.
Fullerton, CA 92832**

Address Correction Requested

IN THIS ISSUE

- Fullerton Railroad Days recap
- **Chris Becker of OnTrac** to speak at July 16 FRPA Dinner Meeting (see page 8)
- **Reserve Now for Amtrak trip** to Santa Barbara with Solvang, **Sat., October 18** (see page 8)
- ***Under Siege II*** stars Steven Segal, next Movie Night, August 20
- And much more!