

Volume XII, Number 2

Summer 2014

# **RAILROAD DAYS 2014 A HOT SUCCESS**



**AERIAL VIEW**, looking north toward Santa Fe Avenue, provides a panoramic perspective of Railroad Days 2014 at the Fullerton Train Station. The striped tent in the center was packed with a dozen model train layouts in the 13,000-square-foot space. Photo by Fred Ouweleen — taken from Cub 273MS, piloted by Jeff Sotzing

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

Railroad Days 2014 on May 3 & 4 at the Fullerton Train Station was another great success. About 22,000 people turned out over the two days to celebrate the region's historic rail connections and modern train developments, with record-setting heat on Saturday afternoon.

Among the most popular attractions were Disneyland Railroad's Ernest S. Marsh Locomotive #4; two BNSF locomotives, including a brand new "green" engine; and three private cabooses that were all open for free tours.

Throngs also packed the 13,000-square-foot tent where kids of all ages were captivated by a dozen model train lay-

outs in various scales, as well as the nearby scenic garden railroad.

And the Food Court on Santa Fe Avenue, including the "dining car" tent, proved a favorite stop for many hungry or thirsty guests, especially for the breakfasts served by Boy Scout Troop 292.

Southern California Railway Plaza Association sends a huge thank you to our sponsors and the more than 50 participants for helping make it possible for us to present our 14th free community festival.

For more event photos, please see Page 4 & 5. Also check out <u>www.facebook.com/RailroadDaysinFullerton</u>.

Climb aboard for a FALL EXCURSION to three train museums. Please see more info on flier insert.

## <u>President's message</u>

We have done it again, pulled off another Railroad Days community weekend! My personal thank you to all of our volunteers (see Page 4). Without your support this free community event would not be possible.

A special thank you to the Railroad Days Organizing Committee: Jeff Schulze ,Chairman; Stu Proctor, Site Chairman; Donna Johnson, Communications; and Allison Benash, Sponsorships; Bob Freeman and Karen Sibrel. Their tireless effort leading up to and including the event is greatly appreciated.

I also want to thank Lauri Schulze for coordinating the volunteers. Other committee members that helped Jeff and me in the planning are Dick Hopping and Terry Galvin.

During setup Friday through wrap-up Sunday, Dave Sibrel worked magic with the generators and electrical system. Thanks, Dave.

And planning for next year's Railroad Days is already underway for May 2 & 3. So get rested up -- as you will be called upon to participate in 2015.

Here are upcoming events to mark on your calendar:

The first will be the **Hobo Stew Cook-off** on **August 9**, getting started about 2 p.m. at the Cabooses at Fullerton Depot. Peggy Benash is coordinating the get-together and will have more information and sign-up sheets available during our Quarterly Dinner Meeting on July 16.

The second is an **all-day excursion** (by bus) on **October 11** to regional rail-fan destinations and the Mission Inn. A flier is inserted in this Hot Rail; check it for details and please submit your RSVP and payment by **September 1.** 

See you at the Quarterly Dinner at Sizzler's in Fullerton. -- Harold Benash

## Train stars in July 19 Movie Night

Our free members Retrospective Screening Series on Saturday, July 19 will focus on a very special train listed in the credits in a starring role – the **Burlington Zephyr** as the "Silver Streak."



We will begin at 6 p.m. with a wine-tasting, sponsored by Lee and Edith Culp, on the Fullerton Museum Center patio, 301 N. Pomona Ave..

Following the social hour, film-goers will move inside the auditorium to view a bonus of two cartoons:

**"Porky's Railroad"** - Leon Schlesinger Studios, 1937, with the voices of Mel Blanc and Billy Bletcher, originally black and white, colorized in 1968 and released in England

And "Pigs is Pigs" - Walt Disney Productions, 1954,

## 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.

with the voices of Gary Owens and Bill Thompson.

The feature, **"Silver Streak,"** is a *very rare* 1934 RKO Radio Pictures thriller which has a convoluted and improbable plot that is offset by the film being a comprehensive documentary of 1930s railroad action.

The movie is loosely based on the record-setting "dawn-to-dusk" run of the Pioneer Zephyr in May 1934. The original Zephyr trainset was used for the exterior shots in the film, while interior scenes were filmed on a soundstage in Hollywood. For the film, the "Burlington Route" nameplate on the train's nose was replaced with one that read "Silver Streak."

# 2014 Ridenour Award honors Richard Hopping, marking the 21<sup>st</sup> year of presentations

#### By Dennis White, SCRPA Vice President / SCSRA Director

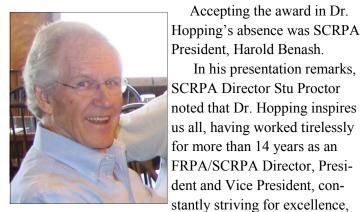
Richard L. Hopping, O.D. was honored with the 2014 Ridenour Award for "Leadership, Inspiration and Dedication" at the joint SCSRA/SCRPA annual Dinner at the Depot in Fullerton on June 21.

Accepting the award in Dr.

In his presentation remarks,

demanding the highest ethical

business practices and keeping



**Richard L. Hopping** Photo by Sue Kientz

our "train" on the tracks.

He possesses extraordinary organizational skills, management skills and an ability to get things done.

In addition to his efforts with the board of directors, he is a valued member of the SCRX Steering Committee, and recently completed a stint on the high-energy Railroad

Days 2014 Organizing Committee.

Dr. Hopping exemplifies the spirit of Clarence Ridenour and the award presented in his honor.

June 21, 2014 marked the 21<sup>st</sup> year of the prestigious Clarence Ridenour Award, presented to an individual who epitomizes the spirit of leadership, inspiration and dedication to the values and goals of the SCSRA and - beginning with the merger of SCSRA and SCRPA membership in January of 2009 - from the combined efforts of both organizations.

The Clarence Ridenour Award is presented each June by the Southern California Scenic Railway Association, to honor one outstanding member of the SCSRA/SCRPA team. The presentation takes place during the Dinner at the Depot, held on the east platform in the shadows of the SCSRA's two cabooses.

A perpetual plaque with each Ridenour Award winner's name is mounted in SCSRA's ATSF999110 way car at the Fullerton Depot.

The Railroad Operations Committee, a group of diehard members committed to the conservation and display of the SCSRA cabooses, invites all SCSRA/SCRPA members and their friends to stop by and take a moment to review the names of those who have received this most prestigious award since its inception in 1993.

# Summer Dinner Meeting serves up fall excursion speaker

Our Quarterly Members Dinner Meeting on July 16 will feature a presentation by David B. Housh, the curator for the Pacific Railroad Museum & Library in San Dimas.

He will speak about the Pacific Railway Society's museum in the San Dimas train depot and what we will see on our visit, as part of SCRPA's October 11 bus excursion schedule.

Please see the flier inserted in this Hot Rail for more details about the all-day trip to three train museums in the San Gabriel Valley and San Bernardino to tour their collections. Co-Membership Chair Peggy Benash has coordinated the outing, and can accept RSVPs at the dinner.

Peggy will also have more information at the July dinner meeting about our Hobo Stew Cook-off on August 9 at the cabooses in the Fullerton Depot - including sign-up sheets for you to show off your talents in crock-pot cooking.

So plan to join us for the Quarterly Meeting, beginning with dinner at 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 16 at the Sizzler restaurant, 1401 N. Harbor Boulevard in Fullerton. Members and guests will again order and pay independently for their meals. No RSVPs are required.

HOT RAIL NEWSLETTER

# **RAILROAD DAYS 2014 VOLUNTEERS**

## SCRPA thanks you all so much for your time, thought and energy devoted to making this a great event for the community:

Elliott Alper Donna Anderson **Doug Archer** Gordon Bachlund Jack Barich Allison Benash Harold Benash Peggy Benash Robert C. Bennett Edith Culp Lee Culp George Engelage IV Bob Freeman Marilyn Galvin Terry Galvin Pat Gibbons **Denis Hergenreter** Jim Hoffman

Dick Hopping Pat Hopping Jenna Huson Ruth Huson Al Johnson Donna Johnson Ted Johnson Sue Kientz Martv Kluck Carole Lawver Don Lawver Chris McCarthy **Denise Merrill** Laurie Moore **Dave Norris** Kathy Norris Anna Norris-Witter

Carl Pfetzinger Julia Proctor Mary Proctor Stu Proctor **Tommy Reminskey** Jeff Schulze Lauri Schulze Harold Schultz Todd Scott Eric Shishima Dave Sibrel Karen Sibrel Greg Smith Marty Smith Mike Vitale Dennis White Alan Wiles

#### **ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS:**

Our 2014 Railroad Days surveys represented 255 people who came to the Fullerton Train Station for the May 3 & 4 event. This sampling showed they live in 46 towns throughout California, including 19 Orange County cities, as well as a visitor from Finland. — Submitted by Donna Anderson, Peggy Benash, Donna Johnson and Karen Sibrel

| <ul> <li>BNSF Railway</li> <li>Foundation</li> <li>BridgeMasters</li> <li>Coast Rail Services</li> <li>Fullerton College</li> <li>Foundation</li> <li>McCoy Mills Ford,</li> <li>Fullerton</li> <li>McCoy Mills Ford,</li> <li>Fullerton</li> <li>McCoy Mills Ford,</li> <li>Fullerton</li> <li>Morningside of</li> <li>Fullerton</li> <li>The Big Train Show</li> <li>BridgeMasters</li> <li>Choose-a-</li> <li>Chaitstonad Natesum</li> <li>Choose-a-</li> <li< th=""><th>SCRPA would like to thank our sponsors,<br/>vendors, featured participants,<br/>modelers and volunteers for making<br/>RAILROAD DAYS 2014</th><th colspan="2">Thank you to our<br/>Vendors and Concessionaires.<br/><b>RAILROAD DAYS 2014</b></th></li<></ul> | SCRPA would like to thank our sponsors,<br>vendors, featured participants,<br>modelers and volunteers for making<br>RAILROAD DAYS 2014  | Thank you to our<br>Vendors and Concessionaires.<br><b>RAILROAD DAYS 2014</b>  |  |
|---|---|--|--|
| FEATURED PARTICIPANTS       • OCTA       • Fullerton's Transportation         • BNSF Locomotives       • Disneyland Resort       • Walt's Trains       Celebration         • Carolwood       • Southern California       • Music Emonade       • Fullerton's Transportation         • Foundation/       Scenic Railway       • Barrett's Lemonade/       • Fullerton FBS 4H Club         • Sausage King       • Kettle Masters       • Boy Scout Troop 222       • Muscle Beach Café         • Muscle Beach Restaurant       • Pacific Catering       • Muscle Beach Café   | a big success!<br>SPONSORS<br>• BNSF Railway<br>Foundation<br>• BridgeMasters<br>• Coast Rail Services<br>• Fullerton College<br>Foundation<br>• McCoy Mills Ford,<br>Fullerton<br>• Morningside of | American Legion Fullerton Post 142     Arts Colony of     La Mirada     The Auction     The Backyard     Railroad Co.     The Big Train Show     BridgeMasters     Choose-a     Choose-a     Choose-a     Choose-a     Daylight Sales     Society, So. Cal.     Imagination Depot     Leanne Howie     Point Southern Pacific Historical and |  |
| (714) 278-0648 * www.scrpa.net  | BNSF Locomotives     Carolwood     Carolwood     Coundation/     Scenic Railway     Walt's Barn     Association   | OCTA     Fullerton's Transportation     Walt's Trains     Celebration      POOD COURT     OURT     Ormado Tormado     Barrett's Lemonade/     Sausage King     King     Kettle Masters     Boy Scout Troop 292     Muscle Beach Café   |  |

#### TRANSPORTATION CELEBRATION SCORES A TRIO OF HITS

The first Transportation Celebration in Fullerton in May 2014 drew more than 30,000 families and avid fans of Trains, **Planes and Automobiles.** 

Thank you to all the supporters who helped make possible this new collaboration that presented three weekends of community events.

The winning Passport – stamped with all 3 events – at the Grand Prize drawing at the car show was Liz Garcia of Fullerton.

Please mark your calendars for next vear's dates:

- Railroad Days 2015 on May 2 & 3 at the Fullerton Train Station
- Airport Day on May 9 at Fullerton **Municipal Airport**
- Muckenthaler Motor Car Festival on May 16 & 17 at the Cultural Center

And you can check for announcements at www.transportationcelebration.com

# IMAGES and MEMORIES





Railroad Days 2014 photos by Bob Jensen, Julia Proctor, Karen Sibrel and Mike Vitale



Clockwise from top right: Crowds pack entrance gate on Saturday morning, 12 model layouts in huge tent stayed on the move, folks loved to ring the bell on BNSF locomotive tour, kid-size Buddy Young model train delighted moms and dads too, and George Engelage provided a special handcart ride for a young visitor.





HOT RAIL NEWSLETTER

## Summer committee reports — By Dennis White and Stu Proctor

#### **HISTORY & MODELING COMMITTEE**

At Railroad Days 2014, our H&MC Dioramas spliced into the HO scale Orange County Modular Railroaders layout drew much interest. We also displayed the interactive Sunny Hills Ranch picture board in the Welcome Center.

The committee has began a rejuvenation of the eight picture boards. They are 14 years old and have been viewed and touched by many, many people at 13 Railroad Days and more than 200 Train Shows in the Southland. So they are definitely showing the wear and tear such exposure and movement can bring.

#### **RAILROAD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Projects completed at the ROC June Work Party included:

• ATSF 999110 & SP 4049: Cleaned storage cabinets and

began organizing the storage areas.

• ATSF 999110 & SP4049: Extensively photographed exteriors to document location of stenciling, lube plates, etc. in preparation for stripping and repainting.

#### Work Orders on SP 4049 for July include:

- Install CO detector
- Fabricate and install new drip rails over bay windows
- Inspect for source of leak in B end and repair (Exterior).
- Repair window screen rails on bay window
- Replace Lexan and rubber seals in windows.
- Fabricate and install new brown canvas roll-up shades for each window
- Replace clad wood doors for A and B ends of car. Consider installing deadbolt locks in new all-metal doors.

## 2014 CALENDAR

| July 14 | <b>SCRPA Board Meeting</b> , 7 p.m., at<br>St. Paul Lutheran Church, 111 W.<br>Las Palmas Drive, Fullerton            | Sept. 8  | <b>SCRPA Board Meeting</b> , 7 p.m., at<br>St. Paul Lutheran Church, 111 W.<br>Las Palmas Drive, Fullerton                                       |
|---------|---|----------|--|
| July 16 | SCRPA Quarterly Dinner & Members<br>Meeting, 6 p.m., Sizzler, 1401 N.<br>Harbor Blvd., Fullerton                      | Sept. 20 | <b>ROC Work Party</b> , 9 a.m.<br>Cabooses, Fullerton Train Station  |
| July 19 | <b>ROC Work Party</b> , 9 a.m.<br>Cabooses, Fullerton Train Station   | Sept. 23 | H&MC / ROC Meeting, 7 p.m., at<br>St. Paul Lutheran Church, 111 W.<br>Las Palmas Drive, Fullerton  |
| July 19 | <b>Movie Night *</b> The Silver Streak" (1934)<br>6 p.m., Wine Tasting, Fullerton<br>Museum Center, 301 N. Pomona Ave | Oct. 11  | SCRPA Fall Excursion to Train Museums<br>9 a.m. Depart Fullerton Train Station,<br>by bus, return about 5 p.m.<br>RSVP & \$65/person due Sept. 1 |
| July 22 | H&MC / ROC Meeting, 7 p.m., at<br>St. Paul Lutheran Church, 111 W.<br>Las Palmas Drive, Fullerton                     | Oct. 13  | SCRPA Board Meeting, 7 p.m., at<br>St. Paul Lutheran Church, 111 W.<br>Las Palmas Drive, Fullerton   |
| Aug. 9  | SCRPA Hobo Stew Cook-off,<br>2 p.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Train<br>Station   | Oct. 15  | SCRPA Quarterly Dinner & Members<br>Meeting, 6 p.m., Sizzler, 1401 N.<br>Harbor Blvd., Fullerton   |
| Aug. 11 | <b>SCRPA Board Meeting</b> , 7 p.m., at<br>St. Paul Lutheran Church, 111 W.<br>Las Palmas Drive, Fullerton            | Oct. 18  | <b>ROC Work Party</b> , 9 a.m.<br>Cabooses, Fullerton Train Station  |
| Aug. 16 | <b>ROC Work Party</b> , 9 a.m.<br>Cabooses, Fullerton Train Station   | Oct. 18  | <b>Movie Night *</b><br>6 p.m., Wine Tasting, Fullerton<br>Museum Center, 301 N. Pomona Ave.   |
| Aug. 26 | <b>H&amp;MC / ROC Meeting</b> , 7 p.m., at<br>St. Paul Lutheran Church, 111 W.<br>Las Palmas Drive, Fullerton         | Oct. 28  | H&MC / ROC Meeting, 7 p.m., at<br>St. Paul Lutheran Church, 111 W.<br>Las Palmas Drive, Fullerton  |

\* Dates and movie titles subject to change. Check <u>www.scrpa.net</u> for full calendar and updates .

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



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

## **2014 Railroad Safety Poster Contest winners honored**

Fullerton School District trustees at their May board meeting acknowledged the students who created this year's top six Railroad Safety Poster Contest entries.

For the 16th year, the Southern California Railway Plaza Association presented the competition that focused on awareness of the need for safe behaviors around trains and the tracks cutting across Fullerton. The contest was open to more that 12,000 local students in kindergarten through the sixth grade.

Each elementary school was invited to submit its top six entries by grade division, and six citywide winners were chosen from those submissions. All of those winning posters were displayed at the Fullerton Public Library Children's Room in May.

The top six citywide winners were displayed at Railroad Days 2014. Those students each received Amtrak® passes for four for round-trip tickets to San Diego or Santa Barbara and cash prizes of \$100, \$75 or \$50, respectively, based on placement.

A special thank you goes to our 2014 sponsors, Amtrak

and Fullerton Rotary Club.

Here are the top six citywide winning students, by grade divisions, with their school and poster theme:

#### LOWER GRADES:

**First place** - Chris Song - Fern Drive School - "Danger! Do Not Cross"

Second place - William Gim - Fisler School - "Wait a Little Before Crossing"

Third place - Ryan Novajoski- Golden Hill School - "Stop, Look, Listen"

**Honorable Mention** - Alex Morales-Maple School -"Do Not throw Things at a Train"

#### **UPPER GRADES:**

First place - Madeline Sigur- Golden Hill School - "Stay Alive--Stay Off Tracks"

Second place - Phoebe Park- Fisler School - "Obey the Signals--Look, Listen & Live"

Third place - Yunji Kim - Acacia School - "Look Each Way--Get Safe Each Day"

See www.scrpa.net Poster Contest for poster images

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Membership Levels Please check appropriate level

\$25 \$50

\$100

\$250 \$500

\$600+

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\_\_\_\_\_

# SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA RAILWAY PLAZA ASSN., INC.



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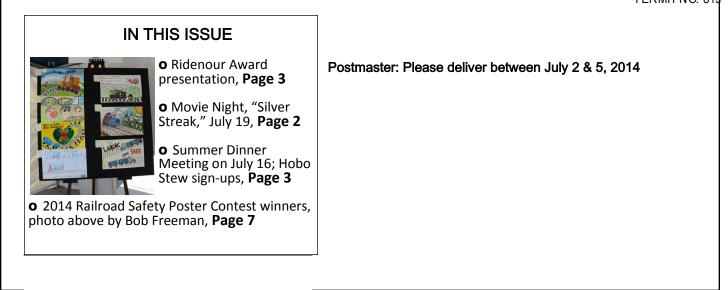
SCRPA, P.O. Box 5195, Fullerton, CA 92838-5195

HOT RAIL NEWSLETTER

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

Address Correction Requested

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### O HOT RAIL! O

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Editor: Donna Johnson

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2016) Stuart Proctor (Jan 2015) Michael Vitale (Dec. 2016) Dennis White (Dec 2016)

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|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Treasurer, | Michael Vitale  | (June 2015) |
| Secretary, | Jim Hoffmann    | (June 2015) |

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