



The TURNTABLE

April 2015

NEWSLETTER FOR THE PAID & VOLUNTEER STAFF OF RAILTOWN 1897 STATE HISTORIC PARK

Upcoming Events

April 11 & 18

Wildflower Trains @ 3:30pm

April 11 & 12

Home & Garden Show
Sonora Fairgrounds

April 25

Interpretive Improvement team
Meeting (Carriage Room)
8-10:30am

May 2 & 3

Special event. CSRMF mem-
bers will be here for Behind
the Scenes Tours all day
Saturday and Sunday

May 5

Railtown Ladies' Luncheon
At Cover's Apple Ranch
Call Dottie for info: 533-8483

May 14

School trains for two school
groups coming to Railtown.
Volunteers will be needed
(Contact Dave)

May 16

Amtrak Train Day
Special activities are planned

June 6

Annual Singing Rails Festival
and Competition celebrating
the lore of the railroad in song
Featured this year:



The Black Irish Band



The Sierra Mountain Band

Connecting, Engaging & Inspiring Visitors

The Theme for the 2015 operating season is "**Connecting, Engaging & Inspiring Visitors**". We are doing that in many ways, through improvements in our train schedule, more cab visits, "visit our caboose" display, expansion of the crew-for-a-day program, development of the "hands-on history" boxes, continuing development of the Interpretive Master Plan and School Program Development, introduction of the Junior Rangers Program, and our Railtown Improvement Team Meetings and Field Trips.

The Railtown Improvement Team Meeting is open to any volunteers, on a drop in basis. Our next meeting is April 25th, from 8-10:00 (we are trying to make this work so car hosts can duck out at 10 for the meeting, if necessary). On the Agenda: Amber Cantisano, District Interpretive Specialist from the Central Valley District, will be presenting a training on Junior Rangers at 8am, followed by our ongoing review of BILS (The Basic Interpretive Learning System Manual), and planning dates for our first Field Trip.

If you haven't seen the new Hands-on History Boxes Karen is developing, they are behind the bar in the Carriage Room. Anyone is welcome to bring out a box to share with visitors, but we hope to have greeters doing this every operating day. They are a work in progress, so please let Karen know if you would like more items added, or have ideas for different boxes.

We are also doing a summer volunteer recruitment and training for new volunteers. We are seeking interpretive volunteers, and work day volunteers. If you meet visitors who are interested, please collect their contact information and give it to Dave (rather than referring them). This is a more aggressive approach to ensure that Dave is able to contact them and give them notice when training and recruitment starts, and ensure better follow-through. Thanks for all you do to help **Connect, Engage and Inspire Visitors!**

(Kim Baker)



**Our photo club volunteers have been busy!
Here's a few photographs from the files they send. Enjoy!**



Scott Botfield working on the No. 28
Courtesy Photo/ Linda Hogue



Nancy Bull cleaning the #8 Model T
Courtesy Photo/ Steve Brooks



Fire Patrol Class with Anthony LaNotte
Courtesy Photo/ Kathy Syverson



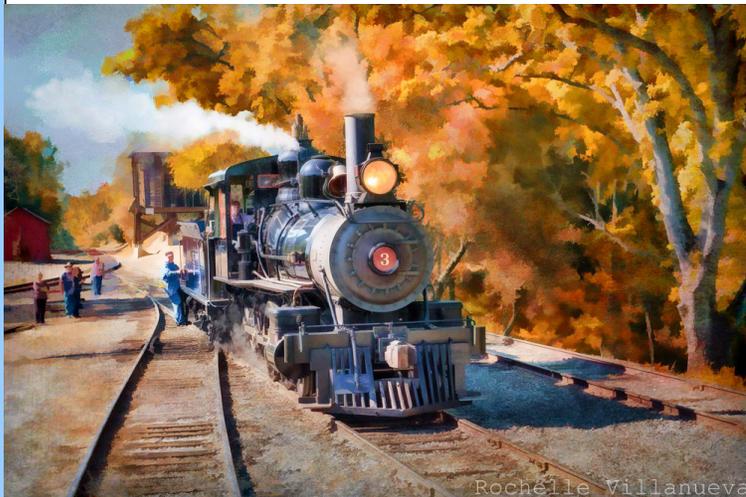
No. 3 Night Ride
Courtesy Photo/ Rochelle Villanueva



Phil Hard in the Roundhouse
Courtesy Photo/ Linda Hogue



Blacksmith Jerry Sterni
Courtesy Photo/ Kathy Syverson



The Sierra No. 3 in Autumn
Courtesy Photo/Rochelle Villanueva



Polar Express Dress Rehearsal
Courtesy Photo/ Dan Ryan

Railtown News

Jim Hatler & Rock Quarry Tour Re-Scheduled

For all those interested (especially Car Hosts, we have re-scheduled our meeting with Jim Hatler for 1pm on Thursday, April 9. This will not be a train ride, but rather we'll all caravan in cars to the quarry. He will be giving us a personal explanation of what our visitors see when the train arrives at the quarry.

Dave Connery's 'Giving a Model Tour' is re-scheduled for Thursday, April 9, starting at 10am. Both training events, originally were scheduled on March 14th were postponed due to Virgil Lovingfoss's memorial. *NOTE: if you are joining us that day, and would like to take advantage of the ladies luncheon in the Kitchen Caboose, please let me know. Lunch is \$4.

New Excursion Train Ride Times Announced

Starting with this year's excursion train rides in April, the new departure times will be 10:30am, Noon, 1:30pm and 3pm. Guided tours will begin at 9:15am in the Waiting Room and afterwards take place at 10:45am, 11:30am, 1:00pm, 2:30pm and 4:00pm. *Note: Due to the extra tour at 4:00pm, on Saturdays The park will remain open until 6pm. Because of the long day, I would like to schedule a tour guide each day to specifically come in later and work the afternoon shift.

Interpretive Improvement Team

The next meeting of the new Railtown Interpretive Improvement Team is scheduled for Saturday, April 25 from 8-10:30am. If you'd like to participate, call or email Kim or Dave. Amber Cantisano, Intepretive Specialist from the Central Valley District (Columbia) will be speaking on the Junior Ranger program for children.

Volunteer Parking Reminder

Remember to not park in the upper or lower visitor parking lots when volunteering. These are strictly reserved for our visitors.

Westside Reunion & Sierra Railway Seminar

Will take place Saturday and Sunday, April 18 & 19 at the Elks Lodge in Sonora. Planned activities are from 9am to 3:30pm for the West Side Logging and Mining Reunion, including presentations, slide shows, contests and prizes. Then from 4pm to 8pm the Sierra Railway History & Modeling Seminar will take place Which also will include presentations, slides, videos, and a 'pizza meal' included in with admission. Contact Dave Connery (dgconnery@sbcglobal.net) or Glenn Sutherland, P.O. Box 124, Mariposa for more information



Welcome Aboard Party! at the close of a successful training series, plus congratulating and welcoming our new volunteers to a new excursion train season



Volunteers Gary Kerr, Bill Baum, Di Kerr and John Mizicko marching in the Murphy's Irish Days parade



PO Box 1250
Jamestown, CA 95327
Return Service Requested

TO:



Depot Store- (209) 984-3953
Volunteer Desk- (209) 984-4408
Volunteer Website- <http://railtown.team.parks.ca.gov/volunteers>
Railtown Blog- www.railtown1897.wordpress.com
Newsletter Editor— Dave.Rainwater@parks.ca.gov
Crew Caboose- (209) 984-0352



Railtown Paid and Volunteer Staff Contact Information

(all area codes are 209)

Kim Baker , Park Superintendent	984-4622	Kim.Baker@parks.ca.gov
George Sapp , Railroad Restoration Lead Worker (DSLE)	774-6368	George.Sapp@parks.ca.gov
Lisa DeLacy , State Park Curator I (DER)	984-3119	Lisa.DeLacy@parks.ca.gov
Karen Kling , Park Interpretive Specialist	984-8703	Karen.Kling@parks.ca.gov
Ryan Richelson , Maintenance Supervisor	984-3115	Ryan.Richelson@parks.ca.gov
Rob Buchanan , Park Maintenance Worker I	984-8702	Rob.Buchanan@parks.ca.gov
Danny Taylor , Park Maintenance Assistant	984-8702	Danny.Taylor@parks.ca.gov
Dave Rainwater , Senior Park Aide & Volunteer Coordinator	984-4408	Dave.Rainwater@parks.ca.gov
(TBA) Fire Patrol Coordinator		
Karen Ethier , Ticket Agent Coordinator	471-7525	kmethier@gmail.com
Ron White , Stationmaster Coordinator	551-7087	rbarryw@att.net