



# The TURNTABLE



*Happy Holidays!*

December-January 2012-13

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

### Upcoming Events

#### **December 5**

Ladies Annual Christmas Ornament Exchange and Pot luck at Wilma Bushart's

#### **December 15 , 16**

Daytime Santa trains  
Entertainer: 'Tater'

#### **December 16**



Show how much you care for your fellow volunteers by giving a gift of distinction! Actually, not. The wackier the better! 5:30 pm Potluck Christmas party for volunteers and staff at the Senior Center on Greenley Rd. in Sonora Bring that special gift and a dish, join the fun!

#### **January 8, 2013**

Railtown Ladies Luncheon At Applebee's on Sanguinetti Road 11:30am

#### **January 19**

Volunteer Recognition Dinner @Elks Lodge 5pm

#### **January 26**

Annual All Hands Meeting for staff and continuing volunteers at the Jamestown Community Hall

#### **February 2**

New Volunteer Open House and Work and Play Day (Carriage Room) 10am

#### **February 9**

New Volunteer Orientation (Carriage Room) 9am



Our volunteers showing off their 'Skeleton' tee shirts and getting into the Halloween spirit for our Harvest Haunt trains in October. Pictured from left to right: Dottie Bolander, Anna Lewis, Juanita Barron, Jeanette Foster, Warren Zimmerman, David Deutsch, Alexa Melville and John Stier



Sonora was host for the first time for the Annual Amgen Bicycle Tour . Our engine crew brought the No. 3 with a consist on display that day and Kevin Zimmerman snapped this photo. Pictured from the front center going clockwise: David Ethier, Tommy Johnson, Michael Bispo, George Sapp, Stephanie Tadlock, Kevin Zimmerman and David Tadlock



Our 3rd Annual Singing Rails Festival took place the first weekend in August. This year's line up featured Mary McCaslin, Faux Renwah and The Sierra Mountain Band



Another successful year for the Santa's Starlight Express trains. Here the No. 3 pulls up alongside our diesel No. 613



Robert Zimmerman and sons Kevin and Warren built and raffled this beautiful train layout to help Railtown. The winner was announced on our membership day celebration, October 6th. Also pictured is retired volunteer Mike Reynolds



Alexa Melville as the Easter Bunny arrives on the No. 3 and entertained the kids for our Easter Celebration in April



Our Junior Volunteer program continued in 2012. Here Sean Berry, Trevor Chung and Warren Zimmerman worked with our Fire Patrol team on the 'Great White'



Volunteer Michael Cowley worked as our Santa on the Starlight Express trains. Here he is joined by Keith Keenom who also entertained on board



David and Karen Ethier having fun being served by Sonora's Mayor Bill Canning at the Rotary Club's Celebrity Waiter Dinner fundraiser for Railtown held at Seven Sisters Restaurant in Tuolumne City.



Railtown acquired a new pop up gazebo for off site events. Dewey and Juanita Barron manned the membership booth at Jamestown's Heritage Days event in October. We'd also like to thank all our volunteers and Ticket Agents who were so instrumental in a dramatic increase in Foundation memberships!



Rich and Delfina Davila pose in front of the DeLorean sports car which was featured in the movie Back To The Future. Congratulations to them both as they were married this year!



Allan and Judy Nordstrom and Cliff Hughes kept Railtown in the spotlight with our parade float



Ron Delacy, Dave Rainwater and Keith Keenom performed for the Amgen Bicycle Tour Event



Volunteers assist George Sapp to correct a derail of the #19 Hetch Hetchy Car. It certainly provided extra entertainment for our guests at the Spotlight On Railtown Rotary Fundraiser



Bob Ide felt sure he was going to be the winner of the 2012 Corvette raffled at the Rotary's Spotlight On Railtown. Proceeds from the event exceeded \$40,000 !



Mike Ruggles, CEO for the Sierra Senior Providers and Meals on Wheels sponsors their annual fundraiser at Railtown. This years theme was Las Vegas complete with Elvis and a show girl



Dave Connery happy to share our RR history with any visitor, no matter who they are!



Alexa showing off our new Pop up display for off site promotion



CSRMF Membership Director Delta Pick-Mello with Cathy Taylor at the Spotlight On Railtown Rotary Club Fundraiser



Bob Ide who normally works as a Car Host also joined us as Santa and had to cool off between trains



Volunteers did a superb job decorating our Christmas trains. Pictured here are Alexa Melville, Nancy Johnson and Nancy Bull

## Railtown News

### Special Program to Be Presented At Railtown

Becky Hart and Kevin Palo of Ten Mile Restoration ([tenmilerestoration.com](http://tenmilerestoration.com), also on Facebook) will be visiting Railtown on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> and have graciously offered to present a program at 1 pm on the recently completed restoration of the "Messenger of Peace" (aka: Chapel Car #5), a 76-foot wooden rail car at the Northwest Railway Museum in King County, Washington. "Training future generations in the principles and practices of Historic Preservation are my passion. By forming collaborations we ensure a successful transfer of knowledge and methods." Whether you are interested in the how-to's of restoration, or you are someone who talks to our visitors about restoration, this is a valuable opportunity to learn more about the processes involved, without having to leave your own park! This is a unique opportunity, and we hope everyone can make it.

*Kimberly M. Baker*

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### From Michael Bispo, Great Gift Items Available

"I have about a half dozen full sized switch stands I want to sell. All are complete and in good shape. They are great for driveway markers, holding up mail boxes, or just neat train themed decorations. Pricing is flexible and reasonable. I will entertain offers. Call me if interested at (559-903-6900)."

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### Annual Christmas Party & Wacky Gift Exchange

All volunteers and staff are invited to our annual Christmas pot luck and wacky gift exchange held at the Senior Center on Greenley Road in Sonora, at 5:30pm on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Funny gifts in the \$10 to \$20 range are suggested. I believe ham and turkey are being provided, but call Laverne if you'd like some suggestions for what food items to bring. (209) 533-4080

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### Looking Ahead For Volunteer Training Events

If you missed last year's training sessions held in February and March, we'd like to urge all new and returning volunteers to attend as many sessions as possible. Our new volunteer open house will be held February 2<sup>nd</sup>, followed by orientation day on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Other dates for GCOR training and 'Telling the Railtown Story' sessions are to be announced.

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### Movie Exhibit Planning

Our Curator Lisa Smithson is doing some long-and short-range planning on improving our movie exhibit area. Unfortunately, the weather and location is taking its toll on much of our artifacts. *Volunteers with special skills* are being sought for much of the restoration that may be needed. If you'd like to be involved please contact Lisa. A few of the tasks being considered are: Designs and graphics, reproduction work on the movie depot signage, movie posters and sign posts, repair of wooden rails, printing new interpretive panels, painting, better protection for the smokestacks, roof repair and new gravel spread.

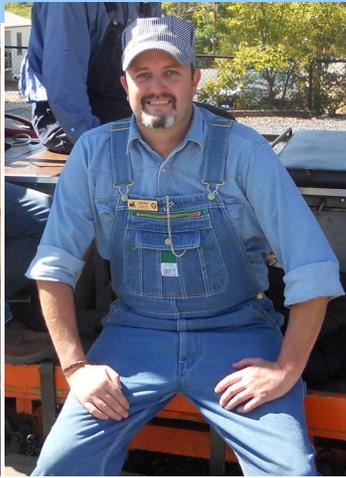
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### Annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner

Volunteers with at least 84 hours of service in 2012 will be getting their invites (shortly after Christmas) in the mail for what is one of our premier volunteer events of the year. It's always fun and the food is scrumptious. Our entertainment this time is still to be announced. It's a good time to check to see if your hours are there or close. It's not too late to get those last remaining hours in, in December. Word has it that Hal and Janet Montano are planning on wearing their finest vintage costume. Although this event is not a black tie affair, how about if we all dress up in our finest vintage costume to give them some competition? It's ok if you don't have any costume, but wouldn't it be fun and different this year if we tried?



**John Lloyd**



**John Mizicko**



**Don Slifert**



**Anna Pierson**

# New Volunteers Making A Difference In 2012



**Hunter Lohse**



**Walt Pierson**



**Rose Agerter**



**JoAnne Stewart**



**Leslie Minium**



**Lance Estes**



**Tom Cahoon**



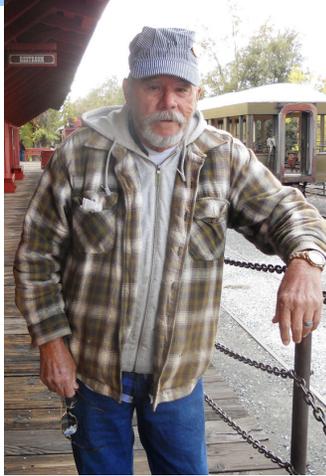
**Candis Hull**



**Matt Starman**



**Wayne Weilburg**



**Bill Bossard**



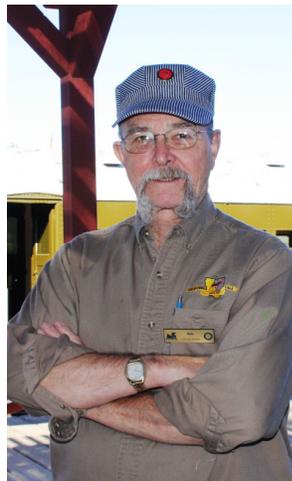
**Ken Steele**



**Linda Emerson**



**Lisa Matson**



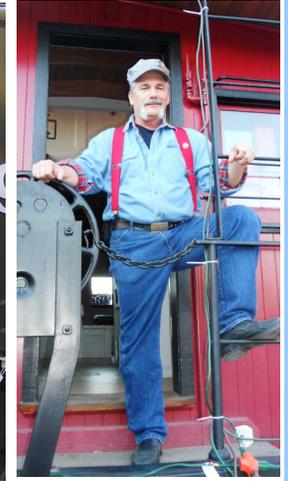
**Bob Burns**



**Nancy Johnson**



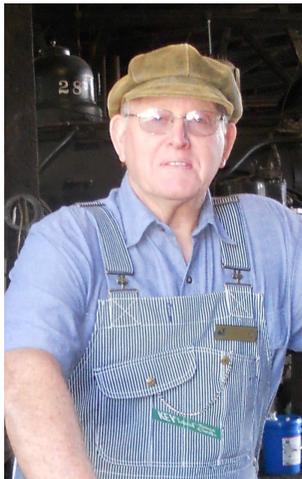
**Matt Segaser**



**Paul Olkowski**



**Evan Gerdes**



**David Stewart**



**Bob Rhoades**



**Lew Barnard**



**Mike Tindall**

**Thank you to all our new volunteers who pitched in and kept us going! Also thank you to the following new volunteers who joined us this year, but are not pictured (no photo's yet): Michelle Aartman, Alisa Baca, Heather Blythe, Mark Catlin, James Preston, Richard Raines, Jennifer Brinkman, Joshua Shutles and Mark Stevens**



**RAILTOWN 1897**  
State Historic Park

**PO Box 1250**

**Jamestown, CA 95327**

**Return Service Requested**

**TO:**



**Depot Store-** (209) 984-3953

**Volunteer Desk-** (209) 984-4408

**Docent Site-** <http://railtown.team.parks.ca.gov/volunteers>

**Railtown Blog-** [www.railtown1897.wordpress.com](http://www.railtown1897.wordpress.com)

**Crew Caboose-** (209) 984-0352



**Railtown Paid and Volunteer Staff Contact Information**

*Newsletter submissions: [RailtownNews@parks.ca.gov](mailto:RailtownNews@parks.ca.gov) or [darainwater@parks.ca.gov](mailto:darainwater@parks.ca.gov)  
(all area codes are 209)*

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<b>George Sapp</b> , Railroad Restoration Lead Worker (DSLE)	774-6368	<a href="mailto:gsapp@parks.ca.gov">gsapp@parks.ca.gov</a>
<b>Lisa Smithson</b> , State Park Curator I (DER)	984-3119	<a href="mailto:lsmithson@parks.ca.gov">lsmithson@parks.ca.gov</a>
<b>Ryan Richelson</b> , Maintenance Supervisor	984-3115	<a href="mailto:rrichelson@parks.ca.gov">rrichelson@parks.ca.gov</a>
<b>Rob Buchanan</b> , Park Maintenance Worker I	984-3115	<a href="mailto:rbuchanan@parks.ca.gov">rbuchanan@parks.ca.gov</a>
<b>Danny Taylor</b> , Park Maintenance Assistant	984-3115	<a href="mailto:dtaylor@parks.ca.gov">dtaylor@parks.ca.gov</a>
<b>Dave Rainwater</b> , Park Aid & Volunteer Coordinator	984-4408	<a href="mailto:darainwater@parks.ca.gov">darainwater@parks.ca.gov</a>
<b>Ron White</b> , Stationmaster and Asst. Crew Caller for Car Hosts	551-7087	<a href="mailto:rbarryw@att.net">rbarryw@att.net</a>
<b>Carl Rudolph</b> , Crew Caller Fire Patrol	586-9905	<a href="mailto:cakr@sonnet.com">cakr@sonnet.com</a>
<b>Karen Ethier</b> , Ticket Agent Coordinator	471-2525	<a href="mailto:kmethier@gmail.com">kmethier@gmail.com</a>