



The TURNTABLE

February 2011

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

Upcoming Events

February 3rd @ Noon

All Railtown ladies are invited to the Ladies Luncheon's the first Thursday of each month. Call Marge Lovingfoss for info @ 533-4595. This month it will be at the Standard Pour Restaurant in Standard

February 9th @ 1pm

A memorial service will be held for Pat Youngborg at the Sonora Opera Hall (see inside for more Details)

February 12th 9-1pm

New volunteer open house. Also engine crew field training from 12-6pm

February 20th 12-5pm

GCOR study hall in the crew caboose with Tommy Johnson & Kevin Zimmerman

February 26 9am-3pm

New volunteer orientation day (Carriage Rm)

March 2nd 10am-3pm

'Telling The Railtown Story' training series

March 5th 10am-Noon

History of Sierra RR w/ Joe Sparagna and Dave Connery

March 9th 10am-3pm

'Telling The Railtown Story' training series

Superintendent's Message

As I write, I am still basking in the glow of last night's amazing Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. I feel lucky to be surrounded by so many dedicated and passionate people who choose to give their time, skills and enthusiasm. We had a fabulous year. Over 130 volunteers contributed almost 29,000 hours. That's AMAZING! (as our friend Huell would say). But it's more than just the hours, it's the focus of those hours that were used for the maximum impact—providing tours every single day, full staffing on our trains, major maintenance and restoration work on the No. 3, but also on 5 cars, two diesels and Caboose No. 7, not to mention the many site projects including fencing, cleaning pits,



and the list goes on and on. It was an amazing year. So, where do we go from here? The Sierra No. 3 project was a once-in-a-lifetime project that bound us together toward the common goal of making Railtown shine. We need to remember that like a pebble dropped in a pool, the glow from 2010 is just starting to penetrate the consciousness of many potential visitors who are just now making their summer travel plans. They may have heard of us last year, but have been unable to visit until 2011, and we need to be ready to knock their socks off! 2010 was an amazing year, but 2011 has the potential to be even better. Our primary goal in 2011 is to ensure that every single visitor who comes to Railtown is touched by this special place. Dave Rainwater and several key volunteers have been working to improve our interpretive message in everything we do. Our first Tuesday shop tour was offered in January and we were overwhelmed by the response! Sharing what we do every day—keeping the trades and the operations alive in these old buildings, with this old equipment—is what makes us special. In 2011, let's make sure everyone knows it!

Railtown 1897 Volunteers Honored With State Awards

This year's Volunteer Recognition Dinner and awards event was held at the Elks Lodge on Saturday, January 22. We honored 136 volunteers who contributed a combined 28,700 hours in 2010! All sorts of work was accomplished, from every position on the train crew, maintenance volunteers, ticket agents, restoration of the No. 3, maintenance on our diesel locomotives, restoration of Caboose No. 7, and refurbishment of five of our Pullman cars. It was an amazing year. This park truly could not operate without its volunteers. REALLY! The highlights of the evening were State Parks poppy awards and one volunteer medallion. The poppy awards are given department wide to volunteers who contribute significantly to the betterment of California State Parks. This year, Bill Gillaspie, John Stier and Gary Hosman each were honorees for this (continued)



(pictured from left to right) Kathy Daigle, Kim Baker, Paul Hammond and Laverne Coon

(continued) prestigious award. The volunteer medallion for superior achievement is the department's highest volunteer award and specifically recognizes outstanding volunteer service, and is signed by Ruth Coleman, Director California State Parks. This was awarded to Laverne Coon who has been an active volunteer since 1995. Laverne has contributed many hours to our park, faithfully year after year. She has worked as a ticket agent, greeter, coordinator for many special events and as an office assistant (helping our Park Superintendent and Volunteer Coordinator). Her late husband Tom Coon also worked as a dedicated car host, interpreter and maintenance/ restoration worker. Laverne is always without fail, cheerful, helpful and ready to be there for whatever is needed.



(pictured from left to right)
Gary Hosman, John Stier, Bill Gillaspie,
Kim Baker and Kathy Daigle



Our annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner was held at the Sonora Elks Lodge and we were treated to a sumptuous meal catered by Stephanie Smith and lovely music by 'Sequoia' (Pam and Norm Ivie)

Paul Hammond (Director of the California State Railroad Museum), Kathy Daigle (Executive Director of the California State Railroad Museum Foundation) and Kim Baker (Railtown 1897 Park Superintendent) were on hand to give the awards. Special awards were given to David Deutsch and all the volunteers who worked with him on the "Great Car Refurbishment Project 2010". Joe Siemons was this years honoree for the 'Legends of The Roundhouse Award' and Jeanette Foster for 'Rookie of The Year Award' honoring her service as a

The Tuolumne City Memorial History Museum

Will be presenting a historical program honoring the Tuolumne City pioneering Sullivan Family on February 26 at 2pm. Their family has historical ties to the area's gold mining and lumbering business (The West Side Lumber Company). For more information call the museum at (209) 928-3516.

Pat Youngborg's Memorial

Our deepest sympathies to Monty Youngborg whose wife Pat passed away on January 8th. A memorial service honoring Pat will be held at the Sonora Opera Hall & Community Center, February 9th beginning at 1pm, followed by a festive Celebration of Life reception at Banny's Café at the Mountain Springs Golf Course. The family requests bright colors be worn (instead of traditional black) to pay tribute to Pat's zeal for life, iron will and positive caring attitude. In lieu of flowers, Pat's wishes were that donations be sent to the following organizations she actively supported: Tuolumne County Historical Society (158 W. Bradford Ave., Sonora, Ca. 95370), Sierra Repertory Theater (P.O. Box 3030, Sonora, Ca. 95370), Stage 3 Theater (208 S. Green St., Sonora, Ca. 95370), and Hospice of The Sierra (20100 Cedar Road North, Sonora, Ca. 95370). Please RSVP for the reception at Banny's Café to: monty@goyoungborg.com or call (209) 588-9632.

*SPECIAL NOTE: Monty requests if you have any special digital photos of Pat and would like to share them in the display at the reception, please email Pat's daughter, Erica-Ann at: ealosness@gmail.com

Volunteers of the Month

..... All Our Faithful Tour Guides!

We want to thank them for being there on a regular basis, sharing our Railtown story with all our visitors.

Dewey Barron: A retired Orange County Fire Captain, Dewey is our steady *Monday* guide. He's been a volunteer since 1999.

Leroy Bushart: Comes every *Tuesday*, gives an outstanding tour, reads novels when it's slow and is an expert on the 2901.

Jack Allen: A black powder enthusiast, Jack comes every *Wednesday* from La Grange and gives a great tour.

Ron Jeske: Through rain, sleet or fog, Ron is our *Thursday* guide from Modesto. Be careful though, he's a tough political opponent.

Bill Gillaspie: From Douglas Flat, Bill has been our *Friday* guide for a very long time and also works on our Tuesday work days.

Bob Davis: Bob joined us last year, and has jumped in with both feet, willing to help anywhere needed. He is currently our *Saturday* guide and is learning to be a Stationmaster.

Jim Mullin: Jim is from Pinecrest and is our guide every *Sunday*, during our operating season. He's one of our very best guides.

Ken Vogel: Ken travels the windy Highway 49 road from Mariposa most *Sundays* during our operating season. Thanks Ken!

Jeanette Foster: From Valley Springs, Jeanette has been car hosting this last year and is our winter time guide on *Sundays*.

Darryl Bramlette: One of our excellent car costs and tour guides. Darryl is always on call for the many special groups that come throughout the year. He too, is an expert on the 2901.

David Deutsch: David does everything from restorations, station-mastering, car hosting and is always available to give special tours when the buses roll in.

John Rand: John has been one of our very best tour guides over the years. Due to an accident he's been away, but now he says 'I'LL BE BACK'. Thanks John, see you soon!

We want to also thank Joe Sparagna, John Stier, Janet Hart, Joyce Presley, Bill Baum, Al Lehr, Curt Gunderson, Michael Rainwater, Warren Smith, Eugene Merritt, James Stark, Bill Ulrey, Ron White, Monty Youngborg, Allan Nordstrom, Jerry Lewis, Bob Ide, Cliff Hughes, Bob Gibson, Dave Connery, Larry Miller and Robert Staggs. They step in on many occasions when needed !



Dewey Barron



Leroy Bushart



Jack Allen



Ron Jeske



Bill Gillaspie



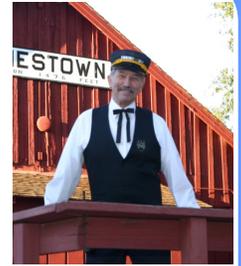
Bob Davis



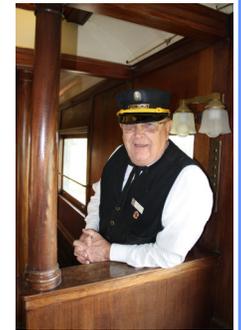
Jim Mullin



Ken Vogel



David Deutsch



Darryl Bramlette



John Rand



Jeanette Foster



RAILTOWN 1897
State Historic Park

PO Box 1250

Jamestown, CA 95327

Return Service Requested

TO:



Depot Store- (209) 984-3953

Docent Hotline- (209) 984-4408

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

Railtown Blog- www.railtown1897.wordpress.com



Railtown Paid and Volunteer Staff Contact Information

Newsletter submissions: RailtownNews@parks.ca.gov

(all area codes are 209)

Kim Baker , Park Superintendent	984-4622	kbaker@parks.ca.gov
George Sapp , Railroad Restoration Lead Worker (DSLE)	774-6368	gsapp@parks.ca.gov
Kevin Zimmerman , Asst. Railroad Operations Manager	557-0294	kzimmerman@parks.ca.gov
Ryan Richelson , Maintenance Supervisor	984-3115	rrichelson@parks.ca.gov
Rob Buchanan , Park Maintenance Worker I	984-3115	rbuchanan@parks.ca.gov
Danny Taylor , Park Maintenance Assistant	984-3115	dtaylor@parks.ca.gov
Dave Rainwater , Park Aid & Volunteer Coordinator	984-4408	darainwater@parks.ca.gov
Lisa Smithson , State Park Curator I (DER)	984-8719	lsmithson@parks.ca.gov
Kevin Zimmerman , Engine Crew Caller	557-0294	kzimmerman@parks.ca.gov
Ron White , Asst. Crew Caller for Car Hosts	551-7087	rbarryw@att.net

Newsletter Available in Alternative Format on Request