



The TURNTABLE

February 2015

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

Upcoming Events

February 3

Railtown Ladies luncheon at the Wok & Sushi near the Orchard Supply store call Marge at 209-533-4595

March 3: Garden Café

April 7: Papa's Roost

February 7

Fire Patrol Meeting/9-Noon
Brakeman's Academy/ 8-5pm

*NOTE: More details about meeting times and places on page 3 !

February 8

Brakeman's Academy/ 8-5pm
Interpretive Team Meeting
9-11:30am

February 14

Roundhouse Day/10-2
New Volunteer Orientation
9am-2pm/ Carriage Room

February 21

Interpretive Training/ 9-3pm

February 28

Interpretive Training/ 9-3pm
Train Handling/ 8am-5pm

March 1

GCOR & Exam/ 8am-4pm

March 14

Interpretive Training/ 9-3pm
Brakeman's Academy/8-5pm

March 15

Brakeman's Academy/8-5pm

March 21

Fire Patrol Class/ 9am-4pm

*Murphy's Irish Days

March 28

Car Host Training & pre-season practice trains 9-3pm

April 4 & 5

Excursion season begins!

April 11 & 18

Wildflower Trains

April 11 & 12

Home & Garden Show
Sonora Fairgrounds

May 2

CSRMF members
Behind Scenes Tour/all day

May 9

National Train Day

Figuring the Speed of Railtown Locomotives

(from David Tadlock)

Currently due to track conditions all Railtown locomotives are limited to 15 mph. However, all of them with the exception of Sierra Railway Shay No.2 are capable of much greater speeds. Larger diameter drivers usually equate to faster speeds, which is the reason most passenger locomotives have large diameter driving wheels. Smaller diameter drivers usually mean more tractive effort, hence better pulling power at lower speeds. The Sierra, like most mountain short lines, elected to go with smaller driver type locomotives. The one exception being the Sierra No.3, which after all was and still is a passenger locomotive.

To estimate the maximum speed of a given locomotive, measure the diameter of the driving wheel tire. The tire is the band of metal around the outside of the wheel. Both the wheel and the tire are made of iron, but the tires are designed to wear down and be replaced. Once you determine the wheel's diameter, add 10. For example, the Sierra Railway No. 3's drivers are 56" in diameter. Add 10 to that and the result is the No. 3 can run an estimated 66mph. There are other factors to consider. This isn't a hard and fast rule, but a general rule of thumb in determining the speed of a given locomotive.

(*Note: David & Stephanie Tadlock, both locomotive engineers will be giving a very informative detailed session on 'How Steam Locomotives Work', Saturday, March 14 from 10:30am to Noon).



No 3 Rogers 4-6-0

Highlights from this year's Volunteer Recognition Dinner



Each year in January, we hold our annual volunteer recognition dinner. It's our chance to serve you the volunteers and tell you thanks for all you do for Railtown. The dinner was a gala event, held on Saturday, January 24 at the Black Oak Casino Resort. The theme was Hollywood and it was a treat to see everyone dress up! (Well, almost everyone!) The Volunteer of The Year award was given to Dieter Teschke (photo above left) for his outstanding service in multiple areas. Our annual 'Rookie' of The Year award was given to Barbara Roehrick for outstanding service as a first year volunteer. Barbara was not able to make it to the dinner. For the Outstanding Service Award, we honored (above right photo from left to right), Mike McReynolds, Ron Sloan, Dan Maher, Ken Vogel, Jeanette Foster, Ann Pierson, Walt Pierson and Trevor Chung. Also receiving the award, but not present were Dave Connery and Belva Bristol. All volunteers receive a Certificate of Appreciation for their service to our State Park. In addition, those with between 84 to 200 hours receive an invitation to the dinner, an automatic membership in the California State Railroad Museum Foundation and a Capital District Park Pass. Those with 200 or more hours receive the dinner invitation, membership, plus a State Park Pass, which is good for admission to all of California's State Parks, but does not include the Hearst Castle or camping fees. All volunteers with 84 or more hours received a gift, which this year was a hand shopping bag with our Railtown logo.



Volunteer Emeritus

This year we initiated a new award called the Volunteer Emeritus award. There comes a time when long time volunteers who have given exceptional service to our park need to retire. It's just time to slow down and appreciate all they've done! Our honorees this year were (left to right), John Rand, Marge Lovingfoss, Virgil Lovingfoss and Laverne Coon (not present). A Volunteer Emeritus is welcome to join us anytime they wish, kept on our rolls, and continue to receive the monthly newsletter. They still have to sign in on the hours sheet! (lol)

Railtown News

Schedule of Training Dates:

Saturday, February 7: Fire Patrol Meeting/ 9am-Noon/Carriage Room
Saturday, February 7: Brakeman's Academy/ 8am-5pm/ Tri-Dam
Sunday, February 8: Brakeman's Academy/ 8am-5pm/ Tri-Dam
Sunday, February 8: Railtown Interpretive Improvement Team/ 9-11:30am/Carriage Room
Saturday, February 14: New Volunteer Orientation/ 9am-2pm/ Carriage Room
Saturday, February 21: Interpretive Training Sessions/ 9am-3pm/ Carriage Room
Saturday, February 28: Train Handling/ 8am-5pm/ Tri-Dam
Saturday, February 28: Interpretive Training Sessions/ 9am-3pm/ Carriage Room
Sunday, March 1: GCOR & Exam/ 8am-5pm/ Tri-Dam
Saturday, March 14: Brakeman's Academy/ 8am-5pm/ Crew Center & main Yard
Saturday, March 14: Interpretive Training Sessions/ 9am-3pm/ Carriage Room
Sunday, March 15: Brakeman's Academy/ 8am-5pm/ Crew Center & main yard
Saturday, March 21: Fire Patrol Class/ 9am-4pm/ Carriage Room & Speeder Shed
Saturday, March 28: Car Host Training/ 9am-3pm/ Carriage Room & Train Rides

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

Railtown Interpretive Improvement Team

Park Superintendent Kim Baker is inviting any interested volunteers to join a team dedicated to providing advanced level interpretive training for Railtown. The team will have its first meeting Sunday, February 8 from 9-11:30am in the Carriage Room. Members will have the opportunity to participate in outside training conferences and field trips. The ultimate goal is to develop a group of 'para-professional' level interpreters who can assist in implementing the Interpretive Master Plan which is still in its final stages of being completed. Team members can ultimately serve as mentors and leads for new volunteers, ultimately helping Railtown to provide fabulous programs that engage and inspire park visitors. All current and new volunteers are invited to participate!

Telling The Railtown Story Series/ Schedule of Presenters

Saturday, February 21: Kim Baker/ Interpretive Goals; Kyle Wyatt/ Essential Locomotives, Rolling Stock & Buildings of the Sierra Railway;
Karen Kling & Kyle Wyatt/ Colorful Stories, Lore and Legends of the Sierra Railway
Saturday, February 28: Phil Sexton/ Mastering Interpretive Techniques; Stephen Mikesell/ The National Historic Landmark & why Railtown Matters; Phil Sexton/ Applied Interpretive Techniques
Saturday, March 14: Dave Connery/ History of the Sierra Railway; David & Stephanie Tadlock/ How Steam Locomotives Work; Dave Connery/ Giving a Model Tour
Saturday, March 28: Dave Connery & Dieter Teschke/ Car Host Training Day w/ pre-season train rides



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)

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