



**The latest on efforts to build and maintain
a permanent railroad attraction in Southern California**

Volume IX, Number 3

Fall 2011

STUART PROCTOR WINS PRESTIGIOUS 2011 SCSRA RIDENOUR AWARD

By Dennis White, SCRPA Vice President

Representing the Southern California Scenic Railway Association (SCSRA), Sue Kientz presented the prestigious 2011 Ridenour Award to well-known "worker bee" Stuart Proctor during the Annual Dinner at the Depot ceremonies on June 25.

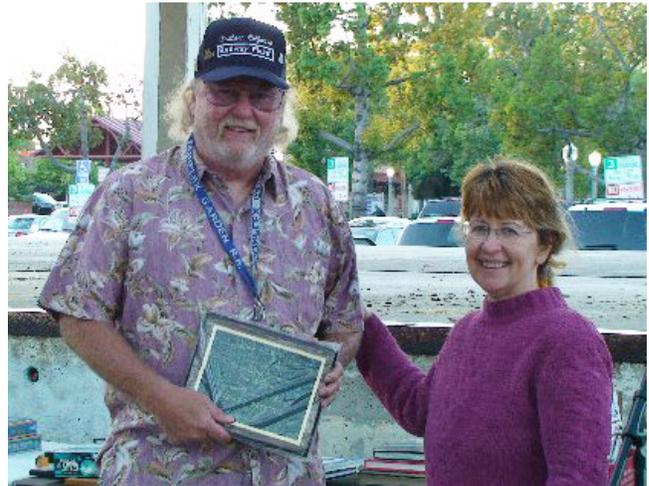
Proctor has been active in the Southern California Railway Plaza Association (SCRPA) since joining the original organization during Railroad Days 2001. He was a member of H&MC's predecessor committee, Fullerton Model Railroad Historical Society (FMRHS) and active in the creation of the History and Modeling Committee, has been a Director of SCRPA and, since January 2011, chairman of the Railroad Operations Committee (ROC).

His wife, daughter and son-in-law are all members of SCRPA and also active in the organization's activities.

Stu has put his heart and soul into the work of the ROC and has been an inspiration to those of us who, like him, dream of someday building a railroad museum here in North Orange County, anchored with ATSF 999110 and SP 4049.

Leading up to the presentation, Sue told the audience of Clarence Ridenour, a founding member of the Southern California Scenic Railway Association, and his devotion to the organization and its work.

Mr. Ridenour, she said, epitomized the dedication, inspiration, leadership and ideals needed to grow the organization. She also explained that the award, given in his



Above, Stu Proctor (left) with his Ridenour Award, just after it was presented to him by SCSRA Board Chairman Sue Kientz. Below center, the vanilla/chocolate sheet cake. Photos by Elliott Alper.

name, is presented annually by the SCSRA Board of Directors to the person voted most deserving of recognition for his work supporting the organization.

The first Clarence Ridenour Award was presented in June 1993 to Joe Barilari.

It must be said that in June, Stu sat quietly in the audience while Sue spoke of the award, its origin and the dedication of this year's recipient. He looked around the assembled group, wondering who she was talking about, never realizing that he was the target.

He later said that he could have been knocked over with a feather at the announcement of his name.

Congratulations, Stu. You deserve the recognition with thanks from everyone.



SIZZLIN' reviews for new Quarterly Dinner Meeting location

SCRPA members and guests at our summer General Meeting overwhelmingly agreed they wanted to return for our fall Dinner Meeting on October 12 to the new location at the Sizzler Restaurant at 1401 N. Harbor Blvd., north of Berkeley Avenue, Fullerton.

Please see more information on the meeting program & an RSVP form on page 11.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I wish to thank all those who joined us for the trip to Bakersfield/Tehachapi on August 20. The food and drink were good, lunch in particular at the Wool Growers Restaurant.

We toured Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum, where we talked with Doug Pickard, former president and member of the museum board (see photos on pages 5-10).

Doug filled us in on how the community came together to restore the old depot and design display spaces, only to have it all be destroyed by a fire. Once again, the museum supporters and the city united to rebuild the impressive attraction.

We also learned about the museum's fundraising strategies and plans for the future.

There were 42 participants on the bus excursion, which made about \$300 that is earmarked for future outings. Suggestions for another destination are being accepted.

In other news, Railroad Days in Fullerton has been penciled in on the city's calendar for the first weekend in May 2012.

I am calling upon our members to participate, not only at the event but in the fundraising program for the required dollars to make the family event a reality. More on this later.

Also Jeff Schulze, Railroad Days 2012 chairman, will be asking for volunteers to assist with the planning and to serve on the related committees.

You will hear more about Railroad Days 2012 plans at the October 12 Quarterly Dinner.

In news from the Board of Directors, we've formed a nomination committee to develop recommendations for officer elections and directors whose terms are expiring.

Anyone interested in serving on the board may contact me.

See you all at the dinner, which returns to our new location at the Sizzler in Fullerton. More information is on page 11.

Harold Benash



Harold Benash and Curtis Raymond talk about what they've seen at the Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum. Photo by Dennis White

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.

ROC CREWS MAKE HEADWAY ON REFURBISHING CABOOSES

By Stu Proctor, ROC Chairman and Dennis White, SCRPA Vice President

Railroad Operations Committee monthly Saturday morning work crews continued through the summer at the Fullerton depot tracks, again augmented by impromptu sessions.

We met a week early in August, because of the SCRPA bus trip to Bakersfield and Tehachapi on August 20. We then met as usual on September 17.

Stu Proctor was vacationing out of state in August and, because we cannot obtain oil-based interior finishes in California, he investigated a source for a small amount of light green, high gloss touch-up paint matching the insides of both cabooses. Before he left, we carefully collected paint chips from each caboose (by chance, they turned out to be the same color when studied in bright sunlight).

Here's a recap of other accomplishments over the two work sessions, which included volunteers Jack Barich, Harold Benash, Lee Culp, Eric Edborg, Bryan Hunnell, Marty Kluck, Dave Norris, Stu Proctor, Jeff Schulze, Roger Van Oppens and Dennis White at one or both of the work parties.

Current Certificates of Insurance were posted in each caboose, as required in compliance with city code for public access. Previously, we installed proper fire extinguishers and approved brackets in the ATSF 999110 (extinguishers still need to be installed in the SP 4049).

Work in ATSF 999110

We've finished recovering of the bench seats. Bolt-ing the completed cushions to the frames must wait until painting of frames is completed, but the seats look GREAT! And they are very comfortable, too. Next job for upholsterer Stephanie White will be recovering the rigid conductor's seat and back, plus the bottom cushions of the two captain's chairs in the cupola. Foam must be ordered, cut and shaped for these projects, but the Naugahyde is already on hand. We have other jobs still needing completion before embarking on this next phase of re-upholstery, though.

Stu, Jeff and Jack worked on seat frames. This seems to be a never ending job, but progress has been steady and should be finished before the Christmas program in December.

Eric cleaned rust from the two plated windows on the "A" end of the car in preparation for painting.

Dennis painted insides of the two plated windows; they cleaned up well and took paint easily. (We are doing all touch up painting with oil based paints acquired outside of California.) The touch up paint looks like a close match, but we'll know better after it dries.

Harold completed assembly of the new radio antenna and installed it on the roof of the cupola. Looks great, and the radio receives loud and clear. Thanks to Bryan Hunnell for supplying the "rubber ducky" and the base. The faux cover for the rubber ducky looks just like the original antenna, and someone would have to climb onto the cupola to tell the difference. Harold's creation of the outer "antenna" is very convincing.

We unpacked the new office refrigerator, carried it up the stairs and placed it in its cubbyhole on the left side of the "B" end of the caboose. The new fridge fits nicely in the niche created at the time of the ATSF re-building.

Roger continued scrubbing years of grime from various walls, corners and hard-to-get-at areas missed in previous cleaning sessions.

Marty continued the final fitting of the window sills for the cupola, and they should be ready to paint and install before the October meeting. We will also get out the hose and check for leaks and caulk with clear silicon, assuring that all cupola windows are waterproof.

After the ATSF caboose is stabilized, we will concentrate on the SP 4049.

Looking Ahead

We hosted two visitors to the cabooses in August. Both were given applications and invited back.

ROC's next scheduled work party is October 15, and SCRPA members are welcome to join the committee at no charge. You can also check the "What's New" page calendar at www.scrpa.net for future session dates and times.

LA HABRA MUSEUM PROVIDES 'MUSIC TO OUR EARS'

By Dennis White, SCRPA Vice President

Several times in the past few weeks I've heard what sounded very much like a Union Pacific "steamboat" whistle similar to UP's famous excursion Northern, 844 (nee 8444). Was I going crazy? (No need to answer that one.)

Turns out my ears were not deceiving me, as a La Habra resident had donated a five-chime steam whistle to the Children's Museum at La Habra, located in the old Union Pacific Depot 301 South Euclid Street in the central part of the city.

The whistle was given in memory of Anthony and Arlene Villelli, longtime La Habrans, on the condition that it be made operational and sounded regularly by the museum. The La Habra Chamber of Commerce, working with the Children's Museum, a local plumbing company, an electrician and the Villelli family, headed the project to bring the whistle to life.

The railroad steam whistle is mounted on the roof of the Children's Museum and plumbed to an air compressor set at 70 psi, making it quite a bit quieter than the 300 psi that blasted through it while riding atop a 4-8-4 passenger locomotive. Still it's creating those deep, melodious sounds from the days of steam.

The whistle and compressor are connected to an electronic timer and set to go off at noon, Monday through Saturday and programmed to blow the standard railroad signal of two long blasts, a short toot, and a final long blast, but with the space limited tank of the compressor combined with the huge volume needed to sound the whistle, we only hear two longs, and a short before the tank is completely drained.

Oh, well. The sound is pleasing to hear, in any event.

If you should be within a mile of the Children's Museum any Monday through Saturday at noon, open your window and lend an ear to real, genuine railroad "music" emanating from the La Habra Friendship Whistle.

You will not be disappointed.

My thanks to Donna Renee Brooks, Development Director for the Children's Museum at La Habra, for background information on the whistle.

The museum phone is 562-905-9793, or check www.lhcm.org for more information.



A local photographer contacted SCRPA asking to use caboose AT&SF 999110 as the backdrop for a bridal photo for a donation. Above, the couple and attendants prepare for the photo. Photo by Harold Benash

HISTORY & MODELING COMMITTEE FALL REPORT

Summer projects change pace for History and Modeling Committee

By Dennis White, H&MC Secretary and Editor

Summer is always a slow time for H&MC because of family commitments, vacations and the need to unwind after a busy year of show participation, rail fairs, etc.

This year, however, many of the H&MC members are participating along with the Railroad Operations Committee volunteers in preservation projects on the two cabooses at the Fullerton depot. After several years of neglect, there is a lot to do inside the two artifacts and the H&MC guys have worked alongside ROC members, enjoying hands-on experience with real rail equipment.



Annual Dinner at Depot attendee Rose Marie Cannataro (center) happily picks up her door prize, as (far right) Sue Kientz announces the next lucky ticket number, assisted by Julia Proctor. Photo by Elliott Alper

H&MC combined with ROC and SCSRA board members to present the always popular Dinner at the Depot annual get-together on the platform of the Fullerton Depot on June 25. As always, lots of door prizes awaited attendees, plus great fellowship, multiple train watching opportunities and consumption of great food prepared by the Santa Fe Cafe. The dinner was topped off with a traditional sheet cake donated by SCSRA and provided by Sue Kientz.

The committee nears completion of the Hermosa Tunnel corner module (prototype located on UP's fa-



The ever-talented Greg Smith brought his electric keyboard and audio system, and regaled us with both train songs and other old favorites during dinner. A wonderful surprise and real treat! Missed it? He will also accompany a short silent film at the next Movie Night in October. Photo by Elliott Alper

mous Sherman Hill in Wyoming), after which, we will suspend module building for a while, due to storage limitations.

Future projects, both modeling and historical, await our attention, so won't you join us? Whatever your railroad interest, there is a place for you in H&MC.

Meetings are held at 7 p.m., the fourth Tuesday of each month (except June and December) at St. Paul's Lutheran Church (corner of Las Palmas Drive and Harbor Boulevard) in Fullerton. Please contact Dennis White (714-400-4939) or Harold Benash (714-525-6266) for directions or any questions regarding H&MC.

CURTAIN RISES ON BRITISH COMEDY MOVIE NIGHT, OCT. 15

By Gordon Bachlund, Movie Nights Chair

We'll meet on Saturday, October 15, for a British Comedy program in our Retrospective Screening Series at the Fullerton Museum Center Auditorium. The free members' Movie Night will begin with a wine-tasting at 6 p.m. on the museum patio, 301 N. Pomona Ave., at Wilshire Avenue.

An 11-minute black-and-white, silent film *The Train Wreckers* will open the show, to the musical accompaniment of our own Greg Smith.

This is a copy of a historic 1905 Edison film made by Edwin S. Porter, who also made the first silent photoplay, *The Great Train Robbery*, in 1903. In this one-reeler, a romance between a railroad engineer and the switchman's daughter is nearly ruined by train wreckers who knock out the girl and leave her on the tracks to be run over. The engineer perches on the engine's cow catcher and rescues the girl.

Carry on Nurse is the feature, a black-and-white film produced by Beaconsfield Productions in 1959. It runs 86 minutes and is MPAA-Rated PG.

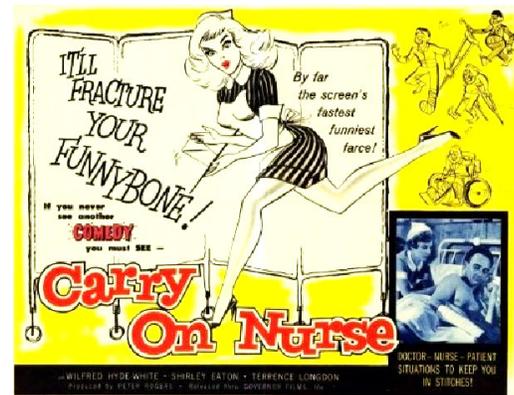
With her daily walk-through, Matron is a formidable character and all the nurses jump when she's making her rounds,

but they also have their hands full with a bunch of male patients. From Jack Bell, the lady's man, through to the well-educated Oliver Reckitt, the nurses are kept on their toes, especially for the Colonel in a private room being a constant nuisance with his bell ringing.

This was the top grossing film of 1959 in the UK and — with an audience of 10.4 million — had the highest cinema viewing of any of the "Carry On" films. Perhaps surprisingly, it was also highly successful in the U.S., where it was reported that it played at some cinemas for three years.

Directed by Gerald Thomas, it stars Kenneth Williams, Hattie Jacques and Kenneth Connor with Wilfrid Hyde-White as the colonel.

We are grateful to Don and Carol Lawver for sponsoring this evening's wine-tasting.



Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum Trip



A happy group of fellow travelers prior to boarding at Fullerton Depot.
Photo by Todd Scott

These photos are in color on
the web!

Read the *Hot Rail!* in PDF at
www.scrpa.net

Photos organized and
captions written by
Dennis White



Lee and Edith Culp look forward to a delicious Basque luncheon at the famous Wool Growers Basque Restaurant in Old-Town Bakersfield.
Photo by Jack Barich



Curtis Raymond, Rose Marie Cannataro and Doug Archer (front to back) look happy as they cruise along the streets of Bakersfield. Photo by Jack Barich



Doug Archer and his son Rodney enjoy the sights of Old-Town Bakersfield, CA. Photo by Jack Barich



The bus driver stopped at the overlook to the eastbound tunnel portal number 10 east of Walong Loop. Photo by Jack Barich



Kathy and Dave Norris enjoying the scenery of old town Bakersfield. Photo by Jack Barich



A serious looking group waiting for their Basque feast. Photo by Todd Scott



SCRPA group awaiting their food at the Wool Growers Restaurant. Photo by Todd Scott



Lunch arrives. Photo by Todd Scott



Happy rail buffs departing The Wool Growers Restaurant in Bakersfield, CA. Photo by Todd Scott



Old Southern Pacific Railroad water tower in downtown Tehachapi now used as a welcome sign for the revitalized downtown Tehachapi, CA, shopping and museum district, was used until the end of steam by Southern Pacific and Santa Fe to slake the thirst of hard working steam locomotives. Photo by Elliott Alper



Signal "farm" at Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum. Photo by Dennis White



Clockwise from left: (1) Caliente and Bealville station signs inside Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum; (2) lighted railroad lantern display at Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum; and (3) old Southern Pacific Railroad water tower. First photo by Todd Scott; other two photos by Dennis White.



Display of miscellaneous railroadiana at Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum. Photo by Dennis White



1-1/2" Scale (7" gauge) live steam 2-6-0 "Mogul" type steam locomotive. The Mogul appears to have been constructed from either a Harper Locomotive Works or Little Engines mogul kit. Photo by Elliott Alper



Above, a fascinating date-line stretches along the north wall of the freight room with notable events marked with photos and informative placards. One can spend considerable time staring at this wall. Photo by Elliott Alper



At right, Station Agent's desk at Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum, Tehachapi, CA. Photo by Dennis White



The freight room portion of the Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum is full of interesting railroadiana for anyone who has ever loved trains. A Railway Express Agency cart, telegraph pole with a collection of antique glass insulators, an REA scale, switch stand and lantern and various railroad signage from days gone by are beautifully displayed. Photo by Elliott Alper



Above, eastbound BNSF manifest freight exits tunnel 10 east of Walong loop; below, the tour group watching rail action at east portal, tunnel 10. Photos by Todd Scott





Above, UP Piggy-back train eastbound at tunnel 10; below, eastbound UP manifest freight blasts past Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum observation platform in Tehachapi, CA. Photos by Todd Scott





Eastbound BNSF container train passing Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum on its way to Mojave, CA. Photo by Todd Scott

Late 2011-Early 2012 Calendar

Oct 12	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting , 6 p.m., Sizzler, 1401 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton	Jan 21	ROC Meeting & Work Party , 9 a.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station
Oct 15	ROC Meeting & Work Party , 9 a.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station	Jan 21*	Movie Night: <i>Home in Oklahoma (1946)</i> ,* 6:30 p.m. with Wine Tasting at 6 p.m., FMCA
Oct 15*	Movie Night: <i>Carry On Nurse (1959)</i> ,* 6:30 p.m. with Wine Tasting at 6 p.m., Fullerton Museum Center Auditorium (FMCA), 301 N. Pomona Ave., Fullerton	Jan 24	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.
Oct 25	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.	Feb 18	ROC Meeting & Work Party , 9 a.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station
Nov 19	ROC Meeting & Work Party , 9 a.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station	Feb 28	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.
Nov 22	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.	Mar 17	ROC Meeting & Work Party , 9 a.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station
Dec 3*	SCSRA Christmas Train-Watching Party , Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station, 2-4 p.m. Come see ROC's progress! Bring a chair and snacks for about 3 people. No RSVP needed.	Mar 27	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.
Dec 10*	15th Annual Metrolink Holiday Toy Express , Fullerton Amtrak Station. Details at the Oct. 12 dinner; see dinner article, page 11	Apr 11	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting , 6 p.m., Sizzler, 1401 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton
Jan 11, 2012	SCRPA Quarterly Dinner Meeting , 6 p.m., Sizzler, 1401 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton	Apr 14	ROC Meeting & Work Party , 9 a.m., Cabooses, Fullerton Amtrak Station
		Apr 21*	Movie Night: <i>The Pink Panther (1963)</i> ,* 6:30 p.m. with Wine Tasting at 6 p.m., FMCA
		Apr 24	H&MC Meeting , St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 111 W. Las Palmas Dr., Fullerton, 7 p.m.

* Dates and movie titles subject to change. Check www.scrpa.net for updates

LEARN THE LATEST ON SCRPA ACTIVITIES AT OCTOBER 12 QUARTERLY DINNER MEETING

**By Donna Johnson, Community & Media
Relations Chair**

The fall dinner program will focus on upcoming SCRPA activities and opportunities for members to take part in the fun.

Guest speaker W. Peter Godfrey, a former member of the SCRPA Board of Directors and former Fullerton City Councilman, will join Railroad Days Chairman Jeff Schulze in an update regarding plans for Railroad Days 2012.

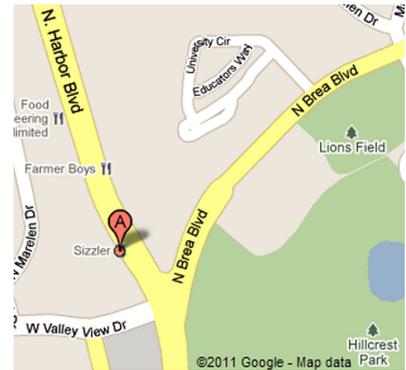
Peter will explain where we stand in talks with the city of Fullerton, fundraising efforts and related information. He will respond to questions at the conclusion of his presentation.

We'll also learn the latest information from Claudia Ziebell of Metrolink about working with the transit

agency to promote its 15th annual Holiday Toy Express, tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 10 in Fullerton.

As planned, SCRPA would host the special train's stop at the Fullerton Santa Fe Station. The free community celebration would include a Rail Festival, with an open house and tours of the cabooses plus SCRPA information and activity booths.

Our fall general membership meeting at the Sizzler restaurant in Fullerton (map at right) will start as usual with a mixer at 6 p.m., followed by dinner at 6:30 and then the program and a brief meeting.



At left, Sizzler sign in front of the Fullerton location. At right, salad bar inside the restaurant. Photos by Elliott Alper



RSVP for SCRPA Fall Dinner Meeting

**New Location: Sizzler Restaurant,
1401 N. Harbor Blvd. (north of Berkeley Ave.), Fullerton**

Members and guests will order and pay independently.
Menu prices range from \$7 to \$23, plus beverages;
Endless Salad Bar, \$9. Senior discount available.

Menu nutrition and allergy information is listed by item at www.sizzler.com

Fullerton Sizzler's phone is 714-738-5018

**Please reserve for a party of _____ for the Quarterly Dinner Meeting on
Wednesday, October 12, 2011, at 6 p.m.**

Name _____

Address _____

Email / Phone: _____

Please return your reservation by October 8, 2011, to:

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

or you can e-mail your RSVP to info@scrpa.net

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- **Upcoming Movie Night: Saturday, Oct. 15, Carry On Nurse;** see page 4
- **Caboose Restoration progress update;** see ROC report on page 2
- **SCSRA Train-Watching Party, Dec. 3.** Come see the progress on the caboose! Bring a snack to share, or just bring a chair; see Calendar on page 10
- **Tehachapi Depot Railroad Museum Trip a success;** photos on pages 5-10
- **2011 and early 2012 Calendar of activities now available;** see page 10

Postmaster: Please Deliver between October 1-8, 2011

○ HOT RAIL! ○

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