

# HOT RAIL!

## NEWS & EVENTS



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Spring 2019

## The Eagle Has Landed!

By Donna Johnson

Local Boy Scout Austin Sollom is a fan of the Fullerton Train Museum, and he noticed deteriorating fencing around the museum -- then realized he could help fix it, and turn it into the focus of his required volunteer effort to attain the Boy Scout's highest honor, the Eagle Award. He notified the SCRPA of his plan and some members offered to help.

Austin evaluated the 500 feet of Wrought-iron perimeter fencing around the five historic rail cars that make up the Fullerton Train Museum at the depot. In his January 2019 Eagle Project Plan, Austin noted that in areas, the fencing was rusty and paint coming off.

To fix the deteriorating fences that provide security for the museum's rail cars, Austin lined up almost 50 volunteers to help clean, sand and paint the fencing over multiple weekends. The Scout joined the work sessions, and together with the SCRPA gathered the project's supplies, tools and materials, including sun protection for the workers.

Turned out they needed more protection from rain than sun.

Initially he had planned to finish the project in a couple days, but the recent rain storms pushed it to several weeks. Despite those delays, the fencing now stands guard, freshly coated and strong. The project could also not have been done without the generous discounts for the paint from Sherwin Williams of Buena Park.

The SCRPA and the Fullerton Train Museum are grateful for the opportunity to play a part in the growth and leadership training for Austin. The Eagle Scout award is a distinguished award only received by a few. Congratulations Austin and thank you for choosing the Fullerton Train Museum.



### Railroad Days 2019 Update

Railroad Days 2019 has been cancelled. Ongoing construction at the depot has limited our access to space and the ability to bring in large scale trains. Thank you for your understanding.

## President's message

The rainy season is over and we survived with only a few minor problems. The museum railcars sustained some water damage, and work is progressing on the repairs. I want to thank all of our volunteers that have spent hours on Saturday mornings, working on the many projects. We are making great progress as noted in the article on page 6.

On May 4<sup>th</sup> we are excited to showcase our community outreach program that highlights railroad safety and what it means to the local school children. The Railroad Safety Poster Contest draws more than 100 participants and we will be displaying **ALL** of the posters in the cars that day. Join us for an art exhibit like no other! Train Tickets and cash prizes will be presented to the six winners at 2 pm. Come join us for a day of fun.

Just a reminder that 2019 dues are due. If you have paid, thank you, if you have not sent in your dues, treat this as a reminder and please become a current member. Thank you again. You can join or renew on our website under the SCRPA tab across the top of the page

The SCRPA has filed a dba, with the County of Orange. This will allow us to do business as the Fullerton Train Museum. Notification to the public has been published in the newspaper as required by law.

Continue to visit our website for information about becoming a member, current events and happenings, our site is [www.fullertontrainmuseum.org](http://www.fullertontrainmuseum.org).

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Quarterly Dinner and upcoming Movie Night.

Harold Benash  
President, SCRPA

### Fullerton Train Museum Vision

To provide an educational atmosphere that vividly brings to life the cultural and historical importance of rail transportation through the preservation, conservation and display of historic railcars and memorabilia. Create a venue where people can visit and take "a walk through time" to experience traveling by train in the early 20th century.

### Mission

Founded by the SCRPA, the **Fullerton Train Museum** will be the region's destination attraction that serves as a center for gathering, preserving and interpreting significant railroad artifacts -- including railcars, photos, charts, plats, maps, books and such dioramas as depots and model trains.

## 2019 Goals:

For the upcoming year, our main goal is to focus on fundraising.

We have several Big projects that we would like to see happen in 2019.

1. The acquisition and transportation of a new railcar from Anaheim to the Fullerton Train Museum Site. We will use this to house displays.
2. The movement of our recently acquired Palm Leaf Sleeper Car to our Museum, by rail.
3. Monies will also be applied to improvements of the Museum Site, restoration of existing rail equipment and railroad-related equipment owned by the Museum, including signal equipment, a speeder and other related items.

## Museum Open Houses & Railroad Operations Work Party Dates 1st & 3rd Saturday of every month 9 am to noon

**April 6** — Open House and Work Party Day

**April 16** — Open House and Work Party Day

**May 4** — **SPECIAL EVENT:** Railroad Safety Poster Contest Art Exhibit from 9am to 3 pm. Awards ceremony at 2 pm

**May 18** — Open House and Work Party Day

**June 1** — Open House and Work Party Day

**June 15** — Open House and Work Party Day

Come on out and learn how you can volunteer. Use your skills to build and reconstruct. Or become a docent and educate our visitors.

## 2019 Railroad Safety Poster Contest

It is that time of the year for the Fullerton School District Railroad Safety Poster contest sponsored by the Fullerton Train Museum. This is the 21st year that SCRPA has sponsored the Railroad Safety Contest. Information regarding the contest was sent to the K-6 graders the beginning of March.

The judging of the submitted posters will be at the SCRPA's Quarterly Dinner on April 10, 2019 at the Sizzler on Harbor Blvd., in Fullerton. There will be first, second and third place winners from grade levels K-3 and grade levels 4-6.

All the posters submitted will be displayed at Fullerton Train Museum on May 4th from 9AM-3PM. The prizes will be presented to the winners at 2PM on May 4, 2019 at the Fullerton Train Museum.

We hope to see all SCRPA members at the quarterly dinner to help with the judging of the posters. Last year, we had so many posters it was tough to judge which ones were the top winners. We also hope you and your family and friends come out to the Fullerton Train Museum on May 4th to see all the submitted posters.

**Quarterly Dinner Meeting —  
April 10 at 7:00 pm  
Sizzler Restaurant, Fullerton  
Poster Contest Judging**

**ALL are Invited to Attend!** These no-hosted meetings at the Sizzler Restaurant on Harbor Blvd. in Fullerton, give our members the opportunity to get together to learn about updates from the SCRPA and the Fullerton Train Museum, hear from train experts and historians, meet new members and learn about volunteer opportunities.

Our next Quarterly Meeting is Wednesday, April 10 at 7:00 pm. Come early, place your dinner order starting at 6 p.m. (no-host).

**When:** Wednesday, April 10

**Time:** 6:00 pm no-host dinner  
7:00 pm Program begins

**Where:** Sizzler Restaurant  
1401 N. Harbor Blvd., Fullerton

**Program:** Poster contest judging and updates from the Board of Directors about the SCRPA and the Museum.

### HO Gauge Model Railroad!

### SILENT AUCTION!

**Ready to run operation – Two trains –  
Full scenery**

**Professionally built for our Train Museum  
Fund Raiser**

- Quiet operation for use at home, business, or medical/dental waiting room.
- Outstanding Christmas Gift for children or any train fan.
- 4'-4" X 8'-4" fully landscaped with *two* trains ready to run.
- Two separate tracks: over/under and elevated.
- Fully landscaped with bridges, water effects, pine forest, and lake.
- 24" high with 24" plexiglass surround for a total 4' high display.
- Independent push-button controls – one for each train.

(See photos on Page 7)

#### **Auction Rules:**

Minimum bid \$750.00

Bids postmarked prior to May 3, 2019

Winner announced May 4, 2019 at Fullerton Train Museum

Visual/operational inspection call Harold Benash 714 - 336-1690

Send your bid to:  
P.O. Box 5195, SCRPA  
Fullerton, CA 92838-5195

## Movie Night — April 13

**“Under Siege 2: Dark Territory”** (Warner Brothers, 1995, 100 minutes, MPA Rating R) - Steven Segal’s Navy SEAL-turned-cook, Casey Ryback, has retired from the Navy and is a chef at the Mile High Café in Denver, Colorado. Ryback is taking his niece, Sarah Ryback (Katherine Heigl), on a vacation, hoping to reconcile with her after he failed to attend his brother’s funeral. They board a Denver to Los Angeles train traveling through the Rocky Mountains. A deranged scientist, Travis Dane (played to the hilt by Eric Bogosian), takes the train hostage and starts using it as a control center in his effort to take command of a top-secret government outer space super-weapon. We learn that Dane built the weapon but was fired by the government before it was deployed. He has since hooked up with shadowy Middle Eastern terrorists who have offered him \$1 billion to use the satellite to blow up the Eastern seaboard by targeting a nuclear reactor that is located underneath the Pentagon. Dane lets the Pentagon know that he’s got control of the weapon by using it to blow up a Chinese chemical plant. Officials can’t stop him because, as long as the train keeps moving through “dark territory,” his location can’t be fixed. Ryback enlists an unwilling porter, Bobby Zachs (Morris Chestnut), to help him go after Dane, and therein lies the bulk of the R rated action. Now, in real life “dark territory” means a portion of the railroad controlled by written Train Orders due to lack of block signals, but in the context of the movie it means out of radio contact – yet Ryback is able to use the cell phone on the train to send a fax to his partner at the café to alert the authorities, and the train does pass a block signal. Ah, the magic of Hollywood!

Train sequences were filmed on location in the Rocky Mountains and locally in Chatsworth. The trainset was custom-built by Colorado Railcar Manufacturing in Fort Lupton, Colorado, and the movie train coordinator was Stan Garner of The Train Source, Inc. All trainset modifications were custom fabricated to Warner Brothers Studio specifications including stunt doors, stunt windows, stunt roof tracks, entry doors and dome windows. Colorado Railcar also produced the trainsets for the Royal Caribbean Cruise Line and for Celebrity Cruises.

**When:** Saturday, April 13

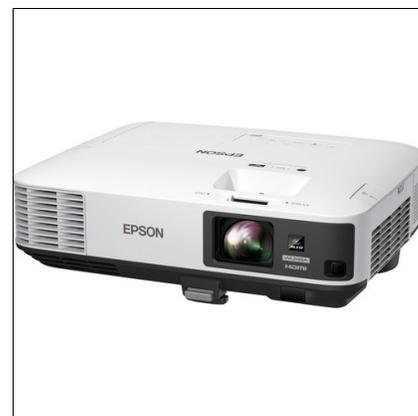
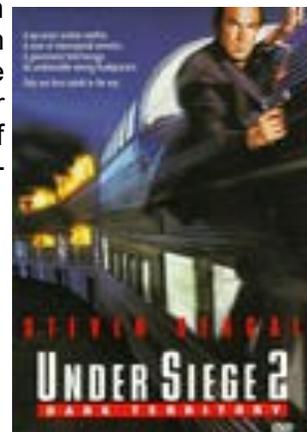
**Time:** Wine Time at 6 pm on patio, Movie Starts at 7 pm

**Where:** Fullerton Museum, 301 N. Pomona Ave., Fullerton

### New Movie Projector

If some of you don't know, Gordon Bachlund retired in December from providing the projector and movies for the SCRPA's quarterly movie nights. There was much discussion among the board members of whether we should continue the quarterly event. The majority of the board members decided on continuing the event and Jim Hoffman contact the Fullerton Museum to secure dates for 2019. The current movie schedule is April 13, July 13 and October 12. We are in need of wine sponsors for those dates.

Jim Hoffman, Stu Proctor and George Stiles did research on the type of projector and accessories needed that would satisfy our needs to show the movies and how much a projector would cost. We were able to purchase the projector because of a generous donation by Lauri Schulze in memory of her husband Jeff Schulze. This projector should fit our needs for many years to come.



## The Easter Bunny Visits the Museum

What a gorgeous day it was for the Easter Bunny to visit the Fullerton Train Museum on March 16.

It was the first warm and sunny day in quite a while. About 150 visitors came to see the lounge cars and cabooses dressed in their Easter best.

Our guests were treated to games and a coloring table, and of course treats.

A big THANKS to all the volunteers who came out to make the day a success and a really BIG THANKS to Lauri Schulze for being the Easter Bunny again this year!



## Excursions & Trips

Mark Your Calendars for some fun Excursions with the SCRPA:

**April 27 (Saturday)** — Steam Railfest 2019 at Fillmore and Western in Ventura County. Visit [www.steamrailfestival.com](http://www.steamrailfestival.com)

Please let us know if you want to go and we can car-pool or if we have over 35, we can rent a bus. Email us at [fullertontrainmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:fullertontrainmuseum@gmail.com) and let us know if you want to go and the number in your party. Cost of bus ride will be determined by number who go.

**June 29 (Saturday)** — MetroLink train trip from Fullerton to LA Union Station.

There is a new restaurant at the station. The restaurant is located in the former Harvey House inside the dpot and the original décor has been kept mostly intact. Join us as we leave Fullerton around 10 am (depending on train schedule) and enjoy the new restaurant. Visit [www.unionstationla.com](http://www.unionstationla.com) to learn more. More details to come.

Call the SCRPA at 714-278-0648 or send an email to [fullertontrainmuseum@gmail.com](mailto:fullertontrainmuseum@gmail.com) and let us know if you are interested in the above excursions.

## Amazon Smile Donation Update — Thank You!

Much appreciation to all of you who are shopping on Amazon Smile. In January, Amazon sent a donation check to the Fullerton Train Museum in the amount of \$19.95. That means you, our members, are telling your family and friends how they can help us raise money to continue in our restoration of the cars and cabooses.

Just a reminder on how easy it to use AMAZON SMILE:



Step 1-Type in Smile.Amazon.com

Step 2-Type in Southern Calif. Railway Plaza Assoc. as the name of the group they will support

Step 3: Bookmark the Smile.Amazon page.

Step 4: Use that bookmark when going to AmazonSmile.

Remember, for each Amazon Smile purchase you make, Amazon will donate a percentage to our organization. Think of it as a sustaining membership.

Thank you and keep shopping Amazon Smile and supporting the Fullerton Train Museum.

## What's Happening With the ROC? Spring 2019 (Railroad Operations Committee)

With all the rain that we've gotten over the last couple of months, our hardworking volunteers have spent most of their work hours inside the lounge cars repairing the window blinds, as well as other interior projects. Wendell Hanks has done a great job of polishing all the stainless steel surfaces in the kitchen/diner/lounge car (UP 5001). While working on the blinds in one of the windows in the dorm/lounge car (UP 6101), Rocco Zito and Kos Smith discovered some water in the wall under the window. When they pulled away the interior wall they discovered a leak in the outer aluminum wall. We can always use another problem to solve. Working with the others on the blinds and windows have been Harold Benash and Eric Shishima.

We have also made progress on getting some of the lounge chairs and loveseats reupholstered. When a movie crew was here a couple of years ago to shoot a movie short, one of the crew put a small rip in the seat of a green love seat. Well, as luck would have it, the lounge car's former owners had given us a partial bolt of the same green material. We were going to just replace and re-stuff the seat cushion. We realized that the remaining material on that loveseat was faded and also needed some re-stuffing, so we decided to use the replacement material to recover the whole loveseat. What an improvement it made. When the loveseat was returned, we sent out two seat cushions just for re-stuffing, which have just been returned and they look great also. We appreciate the work done by Sergio Prado, owner of Henry's Upholstery in La Habra, ([henryupholstery@msn.com](mailto:henryupholstery@msn.com)).

What made all of this possible was a generous donation, in memory of Jeff Schulze, by his wife, Lauri. We are immensely grateful to Lauri for allowing us to use part of her donation for the window seats and the window blinds.

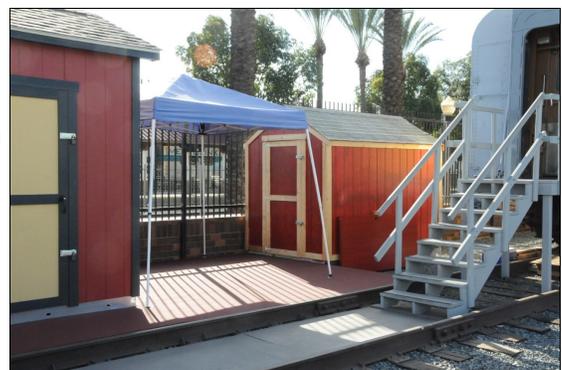
Work out-of-doors was occasionally possible on the few dry Saturdays that we had in the beginning of the year. When we could, we emptied and moved the old white wooden storage shed. We had inherited it when the Railroad Operations Committee took over responsibility for the ATSF and SP cabooses. We had mostly ignored the old shed for years. We moved it about twelve feet west of the new larger wooden storage that we had purchased to allow us to move out of the self storage facility that was continually jacking up its rates. With the new shed being painted red with black trim, it seemed a natural to replace the old shed's worn out door, put on some new trim and paint it all red and black to match the new shed.

Within the space between the two sheds, Marty Kluck and several others built a platform that ran from the rail platform half-wall to the first rail to the north, and from one shed to the other and was as high as the top of the rail on its north side. When it came time to paint the platform, we used the same reddish patio deck paint that we had used on the floors of the ATSF and the SP cabooses. With the new black paint on the wrought iron fencing around the compound, thanks to the effort of future Eagle Scout Austin Sollom and BSA troop 332 (see story elsewhere in this issue of Hot Rail), the museum is beginning to look much better. When the rainy season is over, the window crew will use the new deck to get back to work replacing the windows that need replacing.

What, you may be asking yourself by now, is happening with the restoration of the interior of the UP 3752 (25052) caboose. Well, Ted Johnson, with a little assistance from Stu Proctor, have finished the woodwork on the benches and the walls and are now going to cover them with white primer paint to protect them until the remaining walls get sanded down in preparation for the green final coats. With that done, all that's left is for us to repair the floor, which is in worse shape that we thought.

While work parties are usually the first and third Saturday's of the month, there is someone working virtually every Saturday. Want to get out of the house for a few hours (nine to noon, each Saturday), come on down and see what we're doing and what you might be able to help with. We'll welcome you with open arms. We'll even provide the tools.

We hope to see you soon.



# Train Lovers.....Self-Contained Model Railroad Now Available for Auction

Here's the chance to have your kids, grandchildren, or yourself, enjoy your own train running over mountains, trestles, and through the pines in your den, office, or garage. Or supplementing cell phones and those dated magazines entertaining waiting customers in a business or medical/dentist waiting room. Movement attracts people of all ages and this is maintenance free motion compared to maintaining an aquarium.

As a fund raiser, the auction is for awarding the highest bidder with a 4 x 8 foot fully landscaped HO gauge model railroad featuring two push-button controlled trains rolling their way through tunnels, mountain trestles, pine forests, by a lakeside town. Professionally built as a fund raiser for the train museum, opening bids start at \$ 750.00. To see the contained layout – 24" high with a 24" high plexiglass surround – contact Harold Benash, 562-525-6266. Silent bids start at \$750 and are made by sending them to the Museum mail address no later than May 3, 2019. See the ad in this issue for further information.



Keep up-to-date at [www.fullertontrainmuseum.org](http://www.fullertontrainmuseum.org) or visit us on Facebook—Fullerton Train Museum

## DID YOU KNOW.... Here is a little information about the Santa Fe Depot

We had a little space, so I thought we'd share some insight into the Santa Fe Depot. Excerpts courtesy of [www.cityoffullerton.com](http://www.cityoffullerton.com). To read the whole story visit the City of Fullerton website.

The present Santa Fe Depot, completed in 1930, replaced the original Victorian depot that was constructed in 1888, a year after the arrival of the railroad in Fullerton. Built slightly east of the old depot, this poured-in-place concrete structure is about 256 feet long (plus a 150-long covered platform), designed in a Spanish Colonial style.

The Santa Fe Depot, along with the railroad, is directly linked to the city's historical development. The Amerige Brothers founded the city only after they were assured that the Santa Fe Railroad Company would build its new line through the land they wanted to buy. The first depot was constructed in 1888, as the town was being laid out, and the railroad tracts reached Fullerton the following year. The Amerige Brothers named their 490-acre platted townsite after George Fullerton, the manager of the real estate subsidiary of the railroad, the Santa Fe Land Company.



Much larger than the original Victorian station, the 1930-vintage depot was symbolic of the growth of Fullerton during the first 30 years of the 20th century. Upon its completion, the Fullerton Daily New Tribune wrote, "Modern in keeping with the aspect of the city which it serves, the new depot marks another milestone in the progress of the fastest growing city in Orange County. Its construction marks the recognition of Santa Fe officials of the size to which Fullerton has attained." The Fullerton Station continues to function both as a freight and passenger depot, retaining a legacy of the city's historic beginnings as well as serving as a reminder that it was the basis for the city's growth in the early part of the twentieth century.

### HOT RAIL!

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Send your letters to the editor to the address above

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### SCRPA Board of Directors and Committee Chairs

Harold Benash : President & History/Modeling Chair

Wendell Hanks: Vice President

Donna Johnson: Secretary/Media/Community Relations

Mary Proctor: Treasurer

Allison Benash : Fullerton Train Museum/Grants

Stuart Proctor: Railroad Operations

Jim Hoffman: FTM Docents

Dave Norris: Quarterly Dinners

George Engelage IV

Denis Hergenreter

Mike Vitale

Martin Kluck

Beth Barlow

Eric Shishima

### SCRPA Appointed Chairpersons

**(these are not members of the board)**

Karen Sibrel: Social Media TBD: Membership

Kathy Norris: Poster Contest Peggy Benash: Activities

TBD: Railroad Days

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Board of Directors Meetings at 7:00 p.m.**  
Second Monday of every Month

#### Quarterly Membership Dinners

Sizzler Restaurant in Fullerton

1401 N. Harbor Blvd.

No-Host Dinner at 6 p.m.

Program starts at 7 p.m.

Second Wednesday of  
January, April, July, October

#### Railroad Operations Committee Work Days and Fullerton Train Museum Hours

##### Free Tours

9 a.m. – noon at the rail cars

1st and 3rd Saturday of every month

#### Movie Night — TBD

#### History & Modeling Committee

Come join the committee to work on HO layouts

Contact Harold Benash for location

Fullerton Train Museum  
presents the

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