

# HOT RAIL!

## NEWS & EVENTS



Published by Southern California Railway Plaza Association

Volume XV1, Number 3

Fall 2018

# Annual Membership Drive

*By Harold Benash*

Dear SCRPA Member,

Personally and on behalf of the entire Southern California Railway Plaza Association's Board of Directors, I wish to thank you for your continued support of the SCRPA and its activities. We continue to garner widespread support as our membership grows.

With your support, we can continue our pursuit of the development of the Fullerton Train Museum. We are proud to say that 2018 was a success for the museum. Here are a few of the goals and projects completed in 2018:

Tours: over 2,000 visitors and 10 private tour groups toured the railcars

Window Project: 15 of 29 windows have been repaired and replaced

Rail Safety Poster Contest: Over 200 children participated and submitted posters.

Volunteers: over 1,000 volunteer hours

As we kick off 2019, we are excited to say that the SCRPA has signed a new lease with the City of Fullerton that extends until 2037 for the spur track area at the depot. And we will continue to be open the first and third Saturday of every month for free tours.

Your membership is vital to the success of SCRPA and so are our volunteers. Please feel free to contact me if you would like to volunteer at the museum, to work on the rail cars, build models or help plan events – we always welcome new volunteers.

Enclosed is our membership application for renewals and new members, due by December 31, 2018.

You can also renew and join on our website and pay via credit card. Click on the "The SCRPA" tab, then click on "Membership" to pay by credit card.

Again, thank you for your support and we look forward to another successful year.



FULLERTON TRAIN MUSEUM SPECIAL EVENT

OCTOBER 20 from 9 am to noon

## HALLOWEEN SPOOKY TRAIN

Calling all ghosts and goblins! Come down to the Train Museum between 9 am to noon in your best Halloween costumes. That old, very old, rail conductor maybe lurking behind a door or closet just ready to hand out treats. There will be games, a coloring table, treats and photo opportunities, so bring your camera. Last year's event was a very big success, so lets make this year as big as last year.



## **President's message**

Fall has arrived, after a very successful summer at the Museum. Attendance is up on the open house days, work has progressed with the equipment and the site. My heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers that spend Saturday mornings at the Museum. We still have a long list of projects to be undertaken and can only be accomplished with your support.

Come on down and become involved with your fellow members.

Two board members have tendered their resignations, Dennis White and Vanessa Sanchez. They have served faithfully and dutifully as part of the SCRPA Board of Directors. Dennis has a long tenure on the board, serving as Historian, Vice President and my right hand.

Vanessa has served as Membership Chair, participating in special events and work parties. Their talents and determination will be missed. They will continue to support the organization. A big thank you for your years of service, from all of us on the Board of Directors. We look forward to your participation with the organization in the years to come.

Thank you from myself for all that you have done, your talents will be missed by all.

As we wind down the year, the membership drive will be started for 2019. We look forward to your continued support of the SCRPA and the Museum. When you receive the membership information, please respond as you have in the past.

We will be going totally green next year with our mailings and correspondence. Therefore, please provide a current or new email address so that you do not miss out on the Organization information and events. Those that do not use the email process, information will continued to be mailed to you. (For a \$25 handling fee.) We need everyone's support in this effort and look forward to a great year in 2019.

In closing, I want to remind you that we will be conducting Railroad Days on the first weekend of May, next year. So please mark your calendar, so that we can count on your support.

Harold Benash,  
President  
SCRPA

### **Southern California Railway Plaza Assn.**

#### **Mission**

To become the premier nonprofit group in Southern California that preserves the history, the present and the future of Class One railroads in Southern California.

#### **Vision**

Create a venue where people can visit and take "*a walk through time*" to experience traveling by train in the early 20th century.

### **Fullerton Train Museum**

#### **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.

#### **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.

## Retrospective Screening Series for Members

Saturday, October 13, 2018

Time: Cocktail Hour starts at 6:00 pm

Movies begin at 7:00 pm

Location: Fullerton Museum, 301 N. Pomona, Fullerton

### - BRITISH ANIMATION NIGHT -

**The Wrong Trousers** - DreamWorks Animation, 1993, 30 minutes, rated G -

Wallace and Gromit, Wallace's dog, are inventors of all manner of useful devices. Gromit finds himself being pushed out of his home by a new lodger who is actually a ruthless criminal, and the short ends with an exciting, if small, train chase. This cartoon won an Oscar for Best Short Animated Film in 1994.

**The Curse of the Were-Rabbit** -

DreamWorks Animation, 2005, 85 minutes, rated G - Wallace operates "Anti Pesto - Safe & Humane Rabbit Removal." When Wallace and Gromit get an urgent call from Lady Tottington to clean up her rabbit infestation, they rush to her estate and Wallace uses his new Bron Vac 6000 to suck up and contain all the rabbits which he will then take to his home...a safe house. She is ever so grateful since the annual Vegetable Competition is the following day, and sparks fly between them. This animated feature won an Oscar for Best Animated Feature of the Year in 2006.

The voices:

Peter Sallis	Wallace
Ralph Fiennes	Victor Quartermaine
Helena Bonham Carter	Lady Tottington
Peter Kay	Constable Mackintosh
Nicholas Smith	Reverend Clement Hedges



## Quarterly Dinner Meeting — October 10 at 7:00 pm 3751 Steam Engine Program

This month's guest speaker is Beth Barlow. She will be sharing her experience on what it was like to travel on a train being pulled by one of the greatest engines of all time — the **1927 ATSF Steam Engine 3751**. The 3-day roundtrip went from Los Angeles to Bakersfield. After being retired in 1953, 3751 was restored to operating condition in 1986 and is owned and operated by the San Bernardino Railroad Historical Society. If



you are fascinated by steam engines and want to know about the trip and the restoration it went through in the '80s, then this is the meeting for you.

We all remember that 3751 has made a few appearances at Fullerton Railroad Days in recent past. Currently, 3751 is undergoing another restoration and maintenance. We will have an update to share.

Join us at **Sizzler Restaurant** on 1401 N. Harbor Blvd in Fullerton. The quarterly dinner is open for members and guests to get together for a fun-filled dinner and educational opportunity. Come early at 6:00 pm and enjoy a **no-host** dinner with the Board members and other train and museum enthusiasts and the meeting and program start at 7pm.

# Phase I of Window Restoration Project Completed

*By Dennis White*

The large picture windows of Dormitory-Lounge UP6101 are no longer clouded by rain water trapped between the thermal panes of safety glass and the etching of the substrate brought on by caustic soda laced wash water leaking into the window assemblies, all due to the deterioration of the rubber window seals which have, to the best of our knowledge never been replaced since the car was built sixty-nine years ago.

The leakage caused considerable deterioration inside the walls of the cars and the leaks had to be abated before the damage became terminal. When SCRPA received the two ACF lounge cars in 2016 it was immediately clear that the window replacement had to be a top priority, but the cost of renewal was of great concern. A generous gift from Edith and Lee Culp underwrote the rebuilding program and the first window assembly was removed in April 2017, just prior to Railroad Days.

All fifteen window assemblies in the lounge section were systematically removed and disassembled one at a time. The aluminum framing pieces were carefully cleaned removing sixty-nine years' of grime, dried and cracked rubber molding and the remnants of cork liner material. They were polished and set aside while the significant corrosion and rust damage inside the car's walls was repaired and repainted with rust inhibiting paint. Ten of the two-piece glazing sets had to be replaced with new tinted safety glass as the etching was too deep to buff away. The original rubber molding and spacers were no longer manufactured, necessitating the purchase of two custom made dies which were used to extrude enough neoprene seals to restore all the windows in the two ACF lounge cars. Small Bakelite spacers also had to be custom manufactured to stabilize the glass and the new neoprene seals. After all interior mountings were restored and new holes drilled and tapped, the now pristine window assemblies were reinstalled in the cars and fastened with stainless-steel screws to preclude future corrosion problems. The disassembly, restoration and reinstallation of the fifteen picture windows in UP6101's lounge compartment took fourteen months, completing the work September 1, 2018. The lounge windows are now better than new, having received upgraded stainless-steel mounting hardware and updated neoprene seals. The smaller windows in the dormitory section of the car just need to be resealed with new neoprene molding. We won't know the extent of corrosion inside the walls until those windows come out, but they will be dealt with as needed.

The job could not have been completed without the dedicated work of our Railway Operating Committee members, many of whom worked just about every weekend for fourteen months. Whether fighting the biting cold of winter or sweltering in 2018's record breaking summer heatwave, the gentlemen were at the Fullerton Train Museum and kept working, rain or shine.

Special recognition to the following "worker bees" is appropriate: Harold Benash, George Engelage IV, Bob Gordon, Wendell Hanks, Bill Hatrick, Denis Hergenreter, Fidel Ibarra, Martin Kluck, Eric Shishima, Gregory Smith, Khos Smith, Roger Van Oppens, Alan Wiles, and Rocco Zita.

## Window Restoration phase II

Next up for the window crew will be the 13 large windows in Café-Diner-Lounge UP5101. A few of those will need to be reglazed including one that at one time in the car's past was replaced with Plexiglas. As with the 6101, the smaller windows in the diner just need new neoprene window moldings.

## 2019 SCRPA and Fullerton Train Museum Goals

2019 has plans to be a big year for the Fullerton Train Museum and the SCRPA. Read our goals for the year below:

1. Increase membership and volunteer hours by 35%.
2. Increase major donor funding for projects by \$50,000.
3. Acquire and take delivery of a new passenger car for the museum to be used as a display car for artifacts and a library.
4. Source and install HVAC units in the existing lounge and dining cars, including electricity upgrades.
5. Plan and execute a successful Railroad Days event on May 4 & 5.
6. Open the Museum on the first and third Saturdays of every month and conduct quarterly special events.
7. Install the remaining windows and complete other ROC projects as planned.

## Volunteer Corner

Would you like to work on the railcars? Do you want to learn how to?

Would you like to help plan events? Or give tours?

Do you have website skills and social media skills?

Do you want to become more involved and help?

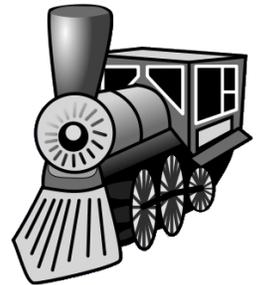
Every Saturday from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, volunteers are needed to repair and preserve our rail cars.

Also, on every first and third Saturday our docent crew sets up the registration table, place the visitor signs, and leads tours through the cars.

If your interest is in sharing our story, there is plenty of information available for you to choose from as you lead families through a short tour.

Please contact Harold on the SCRPA Hotline at 714-278-0648 and we'll find you a spot!

Or visit our website at [www.fullertontrainmuseum.org](http://www.fullertontrainmuseum.org) to learn more.



## Upcoming Events

### DECEMBER 15—**Santa Claus is coming to the Museum**

Santa and Mrs. Claus are making a special visit to the Train Museum between 9am & noon.

All the rails cars will be decked out in their Holiday finery. There will be a coloring table, treats, games and photo opportunities, so bring your camera.

Everyone who attended last year had a good time and we hope this year will be as successful.

Want to volunteer? Contact the SCRPA Hotline at 714-278-0648.



# Railroad Operations Committee (ROC) Update

## What's happening with the Railway Operations Committee?

By Stu Proctor, ROC Chairman

If you have been down by the Fullerton Train Museum any time over the last few months you might get the impression that nothing has been happening. But looks are often deceiving. The window replacement crew has been doing an incredible job of replacing, one at a time, all the larger windows in the UP6101 lounge/dorm car.

Once the large windows were all replaced it was time for the crew to take a break from windows and move on to another project. That new project is the moving of the old white wooden storage shed to about twelve feet west of the new red wooden shed. Over the last several Saturday mornings the crew has had to empty the old shed of all the rail equipment stored in it as well as a lot of scrap metal that would be gotten rid of. Once empty, the shed was slid to its new position. It was raised to be the same floor height as the red shed. Once in the proper position, the rail equipment that we wanted to keep was put back into the shed. It is amazing how much junk we got rid of. The crew then started building a raised platform between the two sheds. Part of the crew used their time to remove the weather-beaten corner and roof fascia pieces from the old shed and replace them with new wood. The door and the fascia around it still have to be removed and replaced, as well as a piece of flashing for over the door; just in case it rains some day.

Over the next couple of Saturdays the platform was leveled to the correct height and the first plywood layer of platform was laid on it. The first layer of plywood was only 3/8ths inch thick and was donated to us. To make the platform ply 3/4 inch thick, for strength, we will have to buy some more 3/8ths inch thick plywood. It took six pieces of plywood to fill the area between the two sheds and the small brick wall and the nearest rail. A seventh piece of plywood was fitted between the front of the door of the red shed and the nearest rail and was attached to the main platform. When finished, one will be able to step out of one shed, walk over a few steps and step right into the other shed.

After the second layer of plywood is installed, the whole platform will be painted with the same decking paint that we used on the ATSF and the SP floors a few years ago. Then a donated 10' X 10' canopy will be secured to the deck for shade for the window crew to use when they get back to the smaller windows in UP6101 and the windows in UP5001.

There is also work being done on the UP3752 caboose. All of the bench tops have been replaced; we are now attempting to remove an interior wall on the south side of the caboose. Once the wall is replaced we will be attaching a wall mounted water container, with a water bottle and a section for ice, which we believe is typical for that era.

Our work party crew consists of about 12 men when everyone comes out at the same time. Everyone must enjoy it; they all come back for more. If anyone wants to join us, Please come down to the museum on the first and/or third Saturday of each month between the hours of 9am and Noon. We can use anyone with any kind of skills, or come down to learn new skills. Or just come down to see what we're doing. Hope to see some new faces!



# History & Modeling Committee Update

The History & Modeling Committee has had a busy 2018. Meeting almost every Tuesday evening to build this beautiful HO Gauge model.

**Now it needs a home!** The SCRPA would like to donate this model to a deserving home where kids can learn to play with model trains and operate them around the mini-city. With hopes that future generations will also want to build models and play with trains.

The model is 8'-4" L x 4'-4" W and stands 4' tall. There are two sets of tracks that travel around homes, an old mill, and a lake. The model comes with all the trains and the power. Just plug it in and go.

A special thank you goes to all the volunteers who worked on the project: George Stiles, Wendell Hanks, Eric Shishima, Ted Johnson, Harold Benash, Dennis White, Marty Kluck, Dave Norris, Stu Proctor, and to Peggy Benash for opening up their garage to the team every Tuesday.



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

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**Postmaster: Please deliver between Oct. 8-10, 2018**

## HOT RAIL!

is published quarterly at Fullerton, California, and is the official publication of  
**The Southern California Railway Plaza Association, Inc.**

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

Visit us on the web at [www.fullertontrainmuseum.org](http://www.fullertontrainmuseum.org)

SCRPA is a California Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

IRS Tax Exemption No. 33-0776081 (SCRPA)

Editor: Allison Benash Asst. Editor: Donna Johnson

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### SCRPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS and COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Harold Benash: President & History & Modeling Chairman  
Allison Benash  
George Engelage IV  
Wendell Hanks  
Denis Hergenreter  
Jim Hoffmann  
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Stuart Proctor: Railroad Operations Chairman  
Jeff Schulze: Vice President & Railroad Days Chairman  
Vanessa Sanchez: Membership Chairman  
Karen Sibrel, Social Media Director  
Mike Vitale  
Dennis White: Vice President, History & Modeling Secretary, Movie Night Chrmn

### SCRPA APPOINTED CHAIRPERSONS

Secretary	Donna Johnson
Poster Contest	Kathy Norris
Activities	Peggy Benash

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

**Quarterly Membership Dinners**  
Sizzler Restaurant in Fullerton on Harbor Blvd.  
at 6 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 — Saturday, October 13, 2018**

**History & Modeling Committee**  
Come join the committee to work on HO layouts  
Contact Harold Benash for location  
Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

Fullerton Train Museum  
presents the

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