



Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society, Inc.

A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

www.scrvrhs.com

P.O. Box 492
Fillmore, California 93016-0492

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contacts

Ron Lewis
SCRVRHS
Phone: (818) 991-8722
Cell: (818) 523-8198
Email: rlewis@scrvrhs.com
Website: www.scrvrhs.com

Jim Mendrala
SCRVRHS
Phone (661) 294-1049
Cell: (661) 904-8478
Email: jmendrala@scrvrhs.com

Kathleen McCreary
Fillmore & Western Railway
Phone: (805) 524-2546
Email: Kathleen@fwry.com
Website: www.fwry.com

Santa Clara River Valley “*Railfest 2008*”

“Turning into the Future”

Set for Weekend of March 29th and 30th

The Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society (SCRVRHS), in conjunction with the Fillmore & Western Railway Co. (F&W), will present the thirteenth annual Santa Clara River Valley “Railfest 2008” on March 29th and 30th. This year’s Railfest theme is “Turning into the Future”, in honor of our soon to be operational turntable. The Railfest has now become a regional event and includes Santa Paula, Fillmore and Piru. The center of activities will be held in Central Park in Fillmore, California.

Other activities will be held in Piru and Santa Paula, California. Hours are 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day. Admission and parking are free; however, there is a charge for the railway excursions.

Fillmore & Western will offer a \$25 Adult one-day or a \$35 Adult two-day “Rail Pass” for travel from Fillmore to Santa Paula and Piru, where additional railroad activities are being planned. These vintage trains will consist mostly of traditional pre-1940 heavyweight passenger cars.

Following SCRVRHS’s tradition of providing Southern California with a family fun event, Railfest 2008 offers railroad-related venues such as ‘Speeder’ rides; and informational displays from various railroad-related organizations. There will be Arts and Crafts booths, Model Trains and unique food vendors, including SCRVRHS’s very own Tri-Tip BBQ sandwiches, to ease any hunger. Other attractions include performances by the famous Frontier Gunfighters and Antique Farm Equipment.

SCRVRHS's 1956 Union Pacific Pullman Sleeping Car, the "National Embassy", a Santa Fe caboose, the "Vicky Vee", and a Pacific Fruit Exchange boxcar will be on display in Fillmore adjacent to the new SCRVRHS Turntable.

The first RR Turntable to be constructed in California, in over 50 years, will be available for observation prior to its dedication. Metrolink may provide a diesel engine for demonstration on the function of the RR Turntable. The RR Turntable is 96 feet in diameter and weighs in at 85 tons. It is located on Main St. in Fillmore between Central Ave. and Mountain View just east of the historic Fillmore Depot.

Trains will depart from the restored Fillmore Depot to Santa Paula at 10:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 3:00 p.m., and will return from Santa Paula at 11:20 a.m., 1:50 p.m., and 4:20 p.m. Departures to Piru will be at 10:00 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. and will return from Piru at 11:20 a.m., 1:50 p.m., and 4:50 p.m.

In Santa Paula, Limoneira Tours, will provide:

- "Back Country Jeep Tours"
- Tethered Hot Air Balloon Rides
- The California Oil Museum will be available for touring at \$4/adult and \$3/senior.
- Also in Santa Paula is a self guided walking tour of the historic "Santa Paula Murals" – n/c
- A Metrolink train consist will be open for public tours at the Santa Paula Depot – n/c

In Piru, Rancho Camulos will provide:

- Bus trip to Rancho Camulos and tours of the ranch house adobe made famous by the author Helen Hunt Jackson and her book "Ramona" for those arriving at 11:20 a.m., 1:20 p.m. and 2:50 p.m.
- A "RR Spike Driving Contest" will be held Saturday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. – n/c.

In Fillmore, the Fillmore Historical Society will have a historic tour of the Fillmore Depot

Most of the Railfest proceeds benefit the non-profit Railroad Historical Society and its railroad restoration efforts, which includes the ongoing restoration of our RR Turntable, a future Roundhouse/Railroad Interpretive Center/Exhibit Hall. Donations to the Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, are tax deductible. The SCRVRHS Railroad Visitor Center, located across from Fillmore's Central Park at 455 Main Street, contains many historical railroad artifacts, a Lionel .027 model-train layout, a gift shop, and a 20-seat digital theater with surround sound.

Railfest 2008 located in Fillmore on Central Ave. and Main St., 40 miles as the crow flies, Northwest of Los Angeles in Ventura County on CA-126, nineteen miles west of I-5 and twenty one miles east of US-101 in Ventura County.

For more information, visit www.scrvrhs.com or www.fwry.com.