



Only 2 weeks left until the Ardenwood Rail Fair!



Trains have taken over the farm! We are busy getting everything cleaned up and ready for visitors.

It's Going To Be Soooo Much Fun!

Leading the event will be train rides behind Cortez Mining Co. #1, the “Ann Marie, an 1890 Porter steam engine owned by Tom Gazsi and Gary Smith (see poster on page 3). The farmyard will be full of trains including the large BAGRS Live Steam 060 layout, the huge BAGRS Roving Garden Railroad, the Diablo Shortline Garden Railroad, the Central Coast On30 Modelers, and the Porter Playground Children’s Train Layout. The Early Day Gas Engines and Tractor Association will display their antique engines and tractors for everyone’s enjoyment. The Diasporta Swamp Boys will be playing on the Grainary porch, and J. Haskey’s Calliope will be playing in the Gazebo. New this year will be activities for the younger crowd: the “Build A Wooden Railroad” and Read Train Book Treasures will take place in the former Patterson pool area. Also new this year is a Rail Car Restoration and Display project at the end of track in the Ardenwood Yard...Brook Rother and volunteers will begin removing the roof on Carter Bros. box car 472; and there will be someone nearby to explain the process to the public. There is a new Hobo Game this year—Bill Wissel created new wooden signs marked with new symbols to keep the kids challenged and entertained (there will be popsicles for prizes). The Patterson House will be open for tours on all three days. And last, but not least, Dino’s Grill will be open for lunch at the café. Expect all of this, plus much more! There will be handouts distributed at the ticket window showing each day’s events (*some events vary by day*). There will be additional information posted on our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/SPCRRmuseum. If you would like more information, email publicity@spcrr.org.

Last Year’s Rail Fair Attendance

Kathy MacGregor, 2016 Rail Fair Committee

Photo: Mark Joseph Hanson

The following graph shows the attendance figures from last year’s Rail Fair:

	Adult	Senior	Child (17-4)	Under 4	TOTAL
Saturday	1,146	127	471	357	2,101
Sunday	1,131	174	435	406	2,146
Monday	968	132	368	362	1,830
TOTAL	3,245	433	1,274	1,125	6,077

You’ll notice that children ages 17 and under account for 40% of our total attendance. If we assume that the majority of these children are accompanied by at least one parent, we can conclude that children and their parents account for the largest percentage of our Rail Fair visitors.

With these attendance figures in mind, two activities for younger children have been added to Rail Fair this year: Build a Wooden Railroad, and Read Train Book Treasures. Both of these activities were very popular at Railroad Adventure Days in May and June. They will be set up in the area where the Patterson family’s swimming pool used to be. We hope everyone will have a chance to stop by and watch our youngest railroad enthusiasts having fun.



The Railroad Museum at Ardenwood's 16th annual
ARDENWOOD RAIL FAIR 2016
ALL activities are included with the price of admission!



ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ **Steam Train Rides** - Board the train at Ardenwood station or Deer Park station (it's only a **5 minute walk** to Deer Park station)
- ◆ **Rail Car Restoration and Display-NEW** (Ardenwood Yard near end of track)
- ◆ **Model Railroad Exhibitors** (Farmyard):
 - BAGRS: Roving Garden Railroad (Sat & Sun)
 - BAGRS: Live Steam (Sat & Sun)
 - Diablo Pacific Short Line
 - California Central Coast On30 Modelers
 - Porter Playground Children's Train Layout
- ◆ **Early Day Gas Engines and Tractor Association** (Farmyard)
- ◆ **Music:** The Soutbay Diaspora Swampboys (Sat) (*Granary*), and J. Haskey's Calliope (*Gazebo*)
- ◆ **Hobo Game-NEW:** Pickup a game sheet at the Greeter's Table (near the train station)
- ◆ **Children's Activities** (ages 7 and under) (former swimming pool site): Build a Wooden Railroad, Read Train Book Treasures
- ◆ **Explore the Farm** (Farmyard): Country Kitchen (11-2), Farmyard Chores in Corn Room (11-Noon), Meet the Goats (1-2), Old Fashioned Farmyard Games (2-3); Animal Feeding (3-3:30)
- ◆ **Patterson House Tours** are free with price of admission - Tours: 11:30 (families with children under 6), 12, 1, 2, & 3). **Get a tour ticket at front entrance**
- ◆ **Speeder rides** (Monday) (Ardenwood Yard near the end of track)

FOOD for sale by Dino's Grill (Farmyard), or enjoy your own picnic lunch at the Deer Park or E-I-O picnic areas.

RESTROOMS are located (1) at Ardenwood train station, (2) next to the Granary, and (3) between E-I-O picnic area & Deer Park train station, (4) Deer Park (*portable*).

WATER FOUNTAINS are available (1) across from Ardenwood train station, (2) the Farmyard, (3) Deer Park, and (4) the E-I-O Picnic Area.

Photo Credits:

Top: Bruce MacGregor
 Bottom: Mark Joseph Hanson



Photo: Provided by BAGRS



Photo: Mark Joseph Hanson

Below is a sneak peek of the poster created by Bruce MacGregor that will be posted up front at Rail Fair. Some text is not readable because this version is reduced down from such a large size. Stop by to see the actual poster!

The Ann Marie

an 1890 Porter Company original

Famous for building lightweight steam locomotives for narrow gauge and industrial uses, the H.K. Porter Company manufactured this 8-ton engine in July, 1890 for Cortez Mines, Ltd., operating a gold and silver mine in Central Nevada. Named the *Cortez*, the engine was powerful enough to haul four loaded ore cars up a steep grade (below) to the Cortez Mines stamp mill. With rails gauged to an unusual 30", the small Cortez Mines operation connected with no other railroad and was completely isolated.

After the mine closed, just before World War I, the locomotive passed through several owners and several incarnations, including life as a display at the Last Frontier Motel in Las Vegas (below, center). The engine finally underwent extensive restoration by Tom Giasi and Gary Smith in 2005. The original Porter boiler was inspected (bottom) and carefully repaired. The locomotive's gauge was widened to 36", a change that allowed the engine to operate at Ardenwood for the first time in 2009 (right).

Tom and Gary renamed the historic locomotive the *Ann Marie*, a combination of the names of their wives and daughters, and generously loaned the locomotive- and their skills to operate it- to Rail Fair. A testimonial to the patience and craft of modern day steam preservationists, the engine brings to life steam railroading of 130 years ago.



A community of steam preservationists deserves credit for helping to save *Ann Marie*, including Richard May and Brad Minto who purchased in the original acquisition of the locomotive; John and Gloria Green of the Bay City Boiler Works for restoration of the original boiler; George Thagard for the loan of original drawings from the H.K. Porter Company; and Jim Walsh for loaning original parts, from which replicas were made.

Photo credits: top left, Nevada Historical Society; top middle, Nevada State Railroad Museum; bottom left, Tom Giasi; others and below, Bruce MacGregor



YOU ARE INVITED

What: The Annual Rail Fair Dinner
Who: All SPCRR Members and Volunteers
When: Sunday, September 4
FOTT: Food On The Table at 6pm
Where: The Wissel Car Barn



Ride the Train to Dinner!

Train departs from Ardenwood Station at 5:15pm
Train departs from Car Barn at 7:30pm

Menu: Pizza, Salad, Soda, Water, and Wine

What to Bring:

- A beverage of your choice, only if you would prefer something other than soda, water or wine (Chardonnay or Rosé)
- An appetizer and/or a dessert to share
- A chair if you want a comfy place to sit

RSVP: E-mail Ken Underhill at: kcunderhill@yahoo.com

Come join your friends in celebrating the past, present
and future of a unique institution:
The Railroad Museum at Ardenwood

**We are grateful to Ken Underhill and Lorrie Dotson
for coordinating dinner for us again this year**

For First Time Rail Fair Visitors

Kathy MacGregor

“The Map is Not the Territory”-Alfred Korzybski

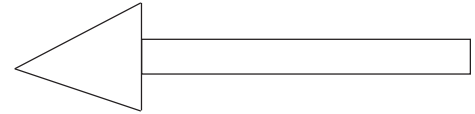
We’re making a special effort at this year’s Rail Fair to help visitors find their way around the park. Even though visitors are given a map and a Rail Fair hand-out when they pay for their ticket, most people would prefer the help of a volunteer who can direct them and answer questions. People coming to the park for the first time don’t know where anything is—finding your way around a very large park can be daunting and exhausting, especially on a hot day with young children in tow.

Many Station Agents on have seen the look of surprise on the faces of passengers when they arrive at Deer Park and are asked to get off the train in the middle of nowhere. That’s one reason why some passengers jump right back on the train to return to Ardenwood station. This year the Station Agents will have some written guidelines to help them direct visitors.

We’ll also have a Visitor Guide volunteer position this year. This volunteer will be located where the path divides as you walk toward the farm yard at the front of the Park. The Visitor Guide will not only help direct people to Deer Park to catch the train, but will also be prepared to answer questions and direct visitors to other Rail Fair activities.

Large pinwheels will also be used as landmarks (and decorations) this year to help guide people to where they want to go.

Deer Park train station: 5 minute walk



Rail Fair - A Cooperative Effort between EBRPD and The Railroad Museum at Ardenwood

Thanks to the EBRP staff—Nancy, Lynne, Bernadette, and Erick—for helping us plan and execute our Rail Fair event this year. We have been impressed with their positive attitude, creative problem solving, and eagerness to share resources with us. At times, they actually seemed to be more excited about our event than we are!

Check Out Our New Steam Engines!



This is one of three Brio steam engines purchased to run on the “Build a Wooden Railroad” children’s activity at Rail Fair 2016.

Photo: Bruce MacGregor

Where does the money for restoration come from?

Kathy MacGregor

The largest fund raiser for our museum is the Haunted Railroad. Yet the Haunted Railroad has the least number of volunteers that participate. You can help to change that!

Everyone can help with the Haunted Railroad, no matter what your abilities.

Positions needed:

- ◆ Simple construction help to put together the western town, wood cottage, and other elements that together make up the scenes in the woods.
- ◆ Lay out the extension cords to the scenes in the woods (there are a lot!)
- ◆ Each operating night (dates shown in flyer below) we need people to show up around 4:30 to help unpack the props—they have to be put away again after the last train rolls through.
- ◆ Check the generators, plug in the extension cords, and refill them during the evening.
- ◆ Train crew members (1 engineer, 3 brakemen) for each of the 6 nights.
- ◆ Live actors to play ghosts (anyone can wear a sheet and be a ghost!), pirates, grave robbers, cowboys, etc. We have some costumes you can use, or bring your own.
- ◆ People to help with crowd control near the station.
- ◆ People to sell glow sticks.
- ◆ It isn't glamorous, but someone has to cleanup the front area too (pickup trash, empty garbage cans)

The Railroad Museum at Ardenwood Presents the 2016

HAUNTED RAILROAD



Friday, Saturday and Sunday Nights

October 21, 22, 23* & October 28, 29, 30*

7 pm - 9:30 pm (*9 pm on Sunday)

Buy your tickets at www.spcrr.org beginning October 1

Can you help out for just one evening each year to help raise funds for restoration... **JUST 1 EVENING!**

As mentioned in the article about where our restoration budget comes from, **the Haunted Railroad contributes the largest amount to our restoration budget.** It is important—no, it is **CRUCIAL**—that we get enough volunteers to help with this fund raising event. Yet in past years very few people have shown up. We promise you... volunteering at the Haunted Railroad is much easier than other projects!

Pull a sheet over your head and walk around in the woods pretending you're a ghost as the train rolls by. Or would you rather be a stick figure (just attach glow sticks in a line on your legs, arms, etc.) and walk around moving your arms and legs. Or be a pirate for a night—everyone can say “ARRRRR Matey” and swing a plastic sword around, right? Or you can be a cowboy or a grave robber...

We usually end up with volunteers on Friday and Saturday nights. However Sunday nights often run short with only a few people trying to provide all of the entertainment for the people on the train.

Can you give up one evening on either a Friday, Saturday, or Sunday on the two weekends we operate the train? We are only asking for 1 night during the two weekends that the Haunted Railroad operates? Everything we earn from this event goes toward the restoration of our collection. Without helpers to make this a success, there's no money for lumber, castings, wheel sets, etc. The dates we are operating this year are October 21, 22, 23; and 28, 29, 30.

If you have any questions, email us at haunted-train@spcrr.org. We would be happy to answer your questions, show you how we do it, talk about costumes (we have a few), or anything else you want to ask. We promise, it's a lot of fun! **Can you help out for just one evening?**

Coming in October Hotbox: A look at Caboose 6101's Preliminary Restoration Analysis

Bruce MacGregor

After more than a year of preparation, research, and writing (closely paralleling restoration work on the car itself) Curator Kevin Bunker is ready to give the Board a Preliminary Restoration Analysis of caboose 6101. In the October Hotbox, Kevin will provide highlights of the 80+ page illustrated report, including some exciting new photographs of the car that have (for the first time) narrowed down the car's construction date.

For those of you following this fascinating restoration project, you'll recall that almost two years ago the Board of Directors called a temporary halt to restoration work due to a significant number of historical and structural unknowns about the car, and due to the need for comprehensive documentation of the project. The result was first, a new program of two dimensional working drawings, created concurrently with new work on the car. And second, the result included better answers to the unknowns that had been dogging the project for several years. This document is a response to that Board action.

In finishing a draft of the analysis, Kevin establishes an important standard for our group: that our work on rolling stock be based on detailed, ongoing historical research and analysis, and on comprehensive documentation.

In the October *Hotbox*, Kevin will provide highlights of the 80+ page illustrated report, including some exciting new photographs of the car that we all hope will (for the first time) narrow down the car's construction date and actual “birthplace.” One of those photos is currently being digitally scanned at highest possible resolution by its owning institution, and we anxiously await the results.

Monthly Calendar: August-September-October

Aug 20 & 23- RAIL FAIR PREP: John Stutz will be on site approx. 10 am - 6 pm, taking care of whatever needs to be done.

WEEK BEFORE RAIL FAIR - Aug 29-Sept 2 - FINAL RAIL FAIR PREP: John Stutz will be on site approx. 10 am - 6 pm, taking care of whatever needs to be done.

Sat, Sun, Mon, Sept 3, 4, 5 – SPECIAL EVENT: RAIL FAIR (Train Rides). All volunteer positions filled.

Mon-Fri, Oct 3-7: See Haunted Railroad setup list below

Sat, Oct 8 – MONTHLY RESTORATION WORKDAY led by Brook Rother. Meet at 10 a.m. at the Car Barn.

Sat, Oct 8 – SPECIAL EVENT: HARVEST FESTIVAL (Train Rides). Need Volunteers: **1 Engineer, 2 Brakemen (could use 3), & 2 Station Agents.** Brakemen meet at 9 am at Ardenwood station; Station Agents meet at 9:30 am.

SUN, Oct 9 – SPECIAL EVENT: HARVEST FESTIVAL (Train Rides). NOTE: Paid Employees on train, but could use a 3rd brakeman. Need 2 Station Agents. Meet at 9:30 am at Ardenwood station.

HAUNTED RAILROAD SETUP - Details TBA in the Oct Hotbox

Mon-Fri, **Oct 3-7:** Put up large fence signs; test generators; check inflatables

Mon-Sun, **Oct 10-16:** Place picnic benches & tables in locations; put up village

Mon&Tues, **Oct 17-18:** Put up cottage, put up signage, and more

Fri, Sat, Sun; Oct 21-23 and 28-30 - HAUNTED RAILROAD restoration fund raiser. Meet at 5pm in woods. Some costumes available. Watch for details in Oct Hotbox

Mon, Oct 31 - Sat, Nov 5: HAUNTED RR TAKE-DOWN. Meet at 10 am at Car Barn. Details TBA in Oct Hotbox

Directions For All Workdays (unless specified otherwise in the Calendar above)

Volunteers cannot drive beyond the regular entrance parking lot when the Park is open to the public (between the hours of 10 am-4 pm, every day except Monday). When the Park is open, we must use the gate at the end of Siward Dr. at Ridgewood Dr. (near the Car Barn).

From I-880:

Take I-880 to the Dumbarton Freeway/Route 84 West toward the Dumbarton Bridge. Exit at Newark Blvd/Ardenwood Blvd and turn right onto Ardenwood Blvd. Continue 1 mile (past the Ardenwood entrance) and turn right onto Paseo Padre Pkwy at the traffic signal. Continue 1 mile on Paseo Padre Pkwy and turn right at the traffic signal onto Siward Dr (just before the I-880 overpass). The gate into the Park is at the end of Siward Dr at Ridgewood Dr. Once you enter the gate, close and relock the gate, then proceed on the gravel road toward the left and park your vehicle at the Car Barn.

From Highway 101 on the Peninsula:

Take Highway 101 to Route 84 East over the Dumbarton Bridge. Exit at Newark Boulevard/Ardenwood Blvd and turn left onto Ardenwood Blvd. Continue 1 mile (past the Ardenwood entrance) and turn right onto Paseo Padre Pkwy at the traffic signal. Continue 1 mile on Paseo Padre Pkwy and turn right at the traffic signal onto Siward Dr (just before the I-880 overpass). The gate into the Park is at the end of Siward Dr at Ridgewood Dr. Once you enter the gate, close and relock the gate, then proceed on the gravel road toward the left and park your vehicle at the Car Barn.

Report on the Board of Director's Meeting - August 2016

Brook Rother volunteered to take on the responsibility of Safety Manager. Considering Brook's many years of experience in all aspects of railroading and his training as a firefighter, the Board unanimously accepted his offer. The Board approved requiring all volunteers to sign a Liability Release—all employees and half of the active volunteers have already done so. (Forms will be available in the Car Barn and at the Rail Fair sign-in table.) The Board approved the new policy regarding private equipment and property as it relates to the SPCRR and its facilities—the policy will appear in the October edition of the Hotbox. John Stutz received Board authorization to hire workers from the Hayward Day Labor Center to help with right-of-way preparation for Rail Fair and the Haunted Railroad, not to exceed \$500. The Board asked Brook to bring his 2 roofed Westside flat cars to Ardenwood. They will arrive soon depending on transportation and how much time Brook has to spend on his job on the fire line. SPCRR will lease the cars and use them in revenue service, and the Board voted to cover the cost for transportation not to exceed \$2,000.