COMING EVENTS

Workdays
Meet At Ardenwood Station / Yards between 9:30-10:00 AM
October 9
November 13

Train and Hand Car Rides
Need volunteers to give train rides and interpret railroading for the visitors. Meet At Ardenwood Station / Yards between 9:30-10:00 AM
August 28

Washington Township Railroad Fair
Aug 30 - Sept 3 – Setup
September 4, 5 & 6 - Railfair

Haunted Train
Workdays start at 9:30AM, trains run from 7:00-10:00 PM, volunteers should plan on arriving between 5:00-6:00 PM operating nights.
October 9 - Planning
October 11 -16 - Setup
October 16-17 (Sat/Sun), Train
October 22-24 (Fri,Sat,Sun), Train
October 29-30 (Fri/Sat), Train
November 1 - Tear down

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

It has been months since the last newsletter, and the SPCRR has not been idle during this time. As a group we have been focused on two things: getting ready for and operating the 2010 season and getting the Car Barn built.

And we did actually managed to get some car restoration in on SPC 472 and NWP 5591.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the Car Barn Fund. We have satisfied the terms of the Wissel match and the Narrow Gauge Preservation Fund challenge grant, and received a $5,000 grant from the Niles Rotary Club (Fremont). Together this added $75,000 to the Car Barn Fund.

WHAT IS GOING ON WITH THE CAR BARN?

The SPCRR started construction on the first building of the new museum complex in January of this year, the site was graded and compacted, the footings were dug and the foundation formed up,

THE FINE PRINT

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Car Barn Foundation: Jan 2010

-AJL Cary
then … nothing ….

We were given permission by City of Fremont and EBRPD to start construction before the permitting process was complete. After we started work, the EBRPD Building Department issued a 'Stop Work' order when they established that an additional 'encroachment' permit (easement) was needed and had not been issued. This order stopped all work on the building and site until it is lifted.

**WHAT IS BEING DONE ABOUT IT?**

After months of negotiation, meetings, trips to vendors, and copy centers, we have satisfied most of EBRPD's requirements to resume construction of the Car Barn. The City of Fremont and EBRPD have entered into a new long-term agreement for operation of Ardenwood, and the negotiations are nearly complete for our own contract with EBRPD.

The remaining issue is financial. Two problems have arisen: First, EBRPD is requiring us to have all funds needed for all aspects of the project lined up before resuming construction. Second: the project as approved by the City of Fremont had just modest improvements to the access road, but the Fire Department is now requiring a major widening with a paved surface.

We are attacking this problem from both directions: raising more funds and reducing costs. We are nearly there on the funding, with a gap of just $30,000 to complete funding for the utility work (the building itself is fully funded and mostly paid for already). If the requirements for the access road can be eased to meet state rules which only require an all-weather road), then there will only be a gap of about $10,000 at the end of the year to complete that work. EBRPD and the City of Fremont are supporting the effort to eliminate the paving requirement, as it affects them as well.

Hopefully we will have ended this frustrating delay and restarted construction by September – keep your fingers crossed! Thank you for your continued faith and support.

Ken Underhill, Director

If you know anyone who can help us with the utility trenching and road building, please contact Ken Underhill. (925) 373-6884.

**WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO GIVE TRAIN RIDES AUGUST 28TH.**

On Saturday August 28th the SPCRR and EBRPD will operate train rides on a fee for service basis.

This is the second of two 'test' days that are being advertised and run entirely by volunteers on a pay-to-ride basis to see if Saturday operation can be an additional revenue source for the SPCRR. If you can volunteer on either of those days, Please call me at (510)794-8536 or e-mail at trainmaster@spcrr.org.

**RAILFAIR 2010 IS COMING SEPTEMBER 4-6**

It is that time of year again. The annual Washington Township Railroad Fair is coming to Ardenwood over Labor Day, September 4-6th.

This year we will again be blessed with two engines. **Two Porter steam locomotives**; the Wilmunder Family's 1889 0-4-0 T *Antelope* &
Western #1 and Tom Gazsi and Gary Smith's 1890 Porter 0-4-0T Ann-Marie will be in the Park and pulling carloads of passengers. We are expecting a covey of narrow gauge speeders as well.

The Diablo Pacific Shortline Garden Railroad, BAGRR live steamers, and the California Central Coast O30 Modellers are coming. The Early Day Gas Engine & Tractor Association will bring their engines.

There will be live music from the Diasporta Swamp Boys, the East Bay Stompers, the Apple Butter Brothers, and J. Haskey's steam Calliope. There will of course be train and handcar rides, and the usual shenanigans.

There is a General Meeting and Pizza feed Sunday night, and there is a rumor of a night photoshoot on Saturday night.

As always, we need members and other volunteers to make this a success. Please contact Barbara Culp at (510)785-1343 if you can lend a hand.

**TRACK LAYING PARTY**

**August 28-29**

People who like to work on track should plan on coming out on August 28th and 29th to work with John Stutz and Bruce MacGregor as they lead a work party to realign and re-ballast track leading into the new yard area.

**HALLOWEEN TRAIN 2010**

The SPCRR Haunted Train is scheduled for three weekends in 2010 on October 16th and 17th (Sat-Sun), October 22nd -24th (Fri-Sun), and October 29th and 30th (Fri-Sat) . This event is a lot of fun and is our annual fund raising event.

As always we need volunteers. Volunteers to operate the train; to sell tickets; to setup and take down, the sets and of course lots of volunteers to be witches and ghouls (and their victims) in
the woods.

The Chance Brothers are also recruiting team members who like an active outdoors lifestyle running from the law after robbing trains and banks.

New Managers and New Board Members Needed

We have several immediate openings, and will have others at the end of the year. Some of these jobs can be done from the comfort of your own home!

Fund Raising Coordinator  
Membership Secretary  
Newsletter Editor  
Safety Manager  
Webmaster

Board members must be voting members.

Contact Andrew Cary at (520)794-8536 or by email at president@spcerr.org.

Membership News

Please welcome Charles Barnett of Woodside, David Costalupes of Riverside, Doug Debs and Laura Bajuk of Palo Alto, Donald Hodge of Concord, and Richard Mostow of Bethesda, Maryland to the SPCRR.

Please contact Barbara Culp at (510)785-1343 or Andrew Cary at (510)794-8536.