

## Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society, Inc.

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

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Santa Clara River Valley "Railfest 2009" "For The Love Of Trains"

Set for Weekend of March 28th and 29th

The Santa Clara River Valley Railroad Historical Society (SCRVRHS), in conjunction with the Fillmore & Western Railway Co. (F&W), will present its fourteenth annual Santa Clara River Valley "Railfest 2009" on March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. This year's Railfest theme is "For the Love of Trains". The Railfest has become a regional event. The center of activities will be held in Central Park in Fillmore, 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.

F&W will offer a \$25 Adult fare for round trip travel between Fillmore and Santa Paula. These vintage trains will consist mostly of traditional pre-1940 heavyweight passenger cars.

Following SCRVRHS' tradition of providing a family fun event, Railfest 2009 offers railroad-related venues such as 'Speeder' rides; "Be an Engineer" program and informational displays from various railroad-related organizations. There will be Arts and Crafts booths, Model RR Trains in various scales and some unique food vendors, including SCRVRHS' very own Tri-Tip BBQ sandwiches. Other attractions include performances by the famous Frontier Gunfighters and display of Antique Farm Equipment. SCRVRHS' 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 and demonstrations will be given through out the event. The RR Turntable is 96 feet in diameter and weighs in at 85 tons. It was purchased from the Canadian National Railroad and is now located in Fillmore on Main St. between Central Ave. and Mountain View just east of the historic Fillmore Depot. Metrolink will provide a consist consisting of a diesel-electric engine and Metrolink passenger railcars for walk on tours.

Vintage trains will depart from the restored Fillmore Depot to Santa Paula at 10:00 am and 1:30 pm.

Rancho Camulos, located just east of Piru on CA-126, will be celebrating Railfest 2009 with us also and will be giving guided tours.

In Fillmore, the Fillmore Historical Society and Museum will be giving guided tours of the Fillmore Depot, Bunk House and Dentist Home.

Most of the Railfest proceeds benefit the non-profit Railroad Historical Society and its railroad restoration efforts, which include 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 2009 is located in Fillmore's Central Park, corner of Central Ave. and Main St., 45 miles northwest of Los Angeles in Ventura County via 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.