



# TRAIN ORDERS

Volume 2002, Number 3

May 2002

The Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum

P.O. Box 264, Santa Maria, CA 93456-0264; (805) 714-4927

The Museum: Santa Maria Town Center Mall, Sat./Sun. 1-4:30pm

<http://www.smvrhm.org/>

## June elections

Elections for Board Officers of the Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum will occur in June. Watch for your ballot to arrive by regular mail. 🐞

## Track volunteer hours

Please remember to log your volunteer hours for all SMVRHM activities. This helps to document the contributions by all of you, and supports our requests for grants and other funding. 🐞

## Dates to track

**May 18** - Museum work party event at the Bitter Creek Western Railroad (BCWRR). This is to provide our support to the BCWRR's maintenance effort as a thank you to Karl for all of his support!! Please call Dan Alves and let him know that you will be there! Caboose work will be suspended this Saturday in favor of the BCWRR.

**June 8** - The Museum's Annual Bitter Creek Choo Chew Saturday with Barbecue and Train Rides. We will need lots of help on this one! This is our big event for the year! See page 2 article.

## Meetings

**General:** first Wednesday of the month, 6:30pm, at the Santa Maria Inn.

**Museum Development:** Wednesdays (except first Weds. of the month) at the Museum, 5:30pm

**HO Modelers:** Fridays at the Museum, 7:00pm.

**Caboose Crew:** Saturday mornings at the caboose.

## “Rail Bosses”

**Dan Alves**, President, [aiim@juno.com](mailto:aiim@juno.com)

**Ginnie Sterling**, Vice President, [dsterling@thegrid.net](mailto:dsterling@thegrid.net)

**Phil Goble**, Treasurer, “CaBoss”, [Phil.Pam@Prodigy.net](mailto:Phil.Pam@Prodigy.net)

**Jim Zemaitis**, Secretary, Museum Storekeeper, [Ezemaitis@aol.com](mailto:Ezemaitis@aol.com)

**Jamie Foster**, “Train Orders” Editor, Webmaster, [jamie@jf2.com](mailto:jamie@jf2.com)

## Second annual "Choo Chew" Saturday, June 8



Don't miss this opportunity to visit the Bitter Creek Western Live Steam Railroad, a 7.5-inch gauge private railroad on the Nipomo Mesa. And, support the Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum at the same time!

Enjoy unlimited train rides and BBQ!

Saturday, June 8, 2002 - 10:00am to 4:00pm. The BBQ will

be served from noon until 2:00pm.

Tickets: \$12/adult; \$6/child under 10.

Make checks payable to "SMVRHM" and mail to: SMVRHM, PO Box 264, Santa Maria, CA 93456-0264. Please allow time for tickets and a map to be returned to you via the USPS. Tickets may also be purchased at the Museum Gift Shop.

Proceeds benefit the Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum.

Many thanks to Karl Hovanitz at the Bitter Creek Western Railroad for making this event possible! 🐞

## Elks Rodeo Parade, June 1

Watch for the SMVRHM entry in June 1's Elks Rodeo Parade in Santa Maria. The parade starts at 9:00am and goes down Broadway.



You'll see a 1/8-scale Pacific Coast Railway train on a 30-foot trailer! Thanks to Grekka Energy for the trailer, the SMVRR for a dozen ties, and to the BCWRR for 30 feet of 7.5"-gauge rail and the train itself. 🐞

## Caboose update

Work continues on the restoration of caboose No. 180. In the process, we caught Dr. Marcus on film where he's been hiding out the last couple of Saturdays, in the old toolbox that he's been refurbishing. Looking good!

And speaking of



looking good, check out the interior of the caboose pictured at left! The newly repainted stove is now in place (lower right corner of the picture), and the blue fuel drum sits on a chair awaiting final placement. The crimson floor and the gray walls and roof just shine! Join the caboose team at the caboose on Saturday mornings. 🐞

## Guadalupe yard construction begins on the HO model

This past month saw preparations for the first track placement on the Guadalupe exchange/yard module of the HO layout. Pictured at right is a start on the south ladder track at Guadalupe. Work on



the downtown yard modules has also continued. Pictured at left is the the ice house (closest structure) and enginehouse on either side of Miller Street with the camera looking just north of west. 🐞

## Become a docent

It's easy, it's fun, you meet lots of people, and you get to run trains as much as you'd like! The Saturday or Sunday afternoon really does fly by. Contact Dan to express your excitement to serve in this capacity! 🐞

## The SMVRHM acquires a standard gauge 4-wheel cart

This was one of those lucky days!...

While picking up an old tool box for the caboose, an old 4-wheel standard gauge cart was noticed. A conversation ensued, and it was learned that the cart had been used at Betteravia to move ties as track was repaired. Some of that track is being refurbished today for some peat moss traffic, and this cart had been discovered and placed on the trash heap.



"Nay, nay!", said our SMVRHM guys, "May we have it for the museum?" The answer was "Sure!", and soon enough it was loaded on a trailer and headed for museum storage (along with two crossing signal poles and two ice buckets added to the collection this day). 🐞

## SMVRR No. 125



This picture of No. 125 was taken January 9, 1948 (from the collection of Jamie Foster, used by permission). The back of the picture (shown below) notes some information about this steam locomotive. It was scrapped not long after this photo was taken. 🐞

