



# TRAIN ORDERS

Volume 2002, Number 6

November 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/>

## SMVRHM exhibited at SLO train show on October 5-6, 2002

The Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum exhibited at the San Luis Obispo Model Railroad Club's 14th Annual Model Train Show at the Vet's Hall in San Luis Obispo, CA on October 5-6, 2002. One of the younger visitors (note



the stroller in front of the man at left) that day had the full attention of the three SMVRHM representatives (l-to-r:

Dick, Don, and Kevin) in the picture at right.



At left is a table-level view of the display which included the double-headed HO 70-ton SMVRR diesels pulling a Pacific Fruit Express boxcar, a photo board of work to date

on the HO model of the Santa Maria Valley railroads, the SMVRHM brochure with membership application, a recent newsletter (Train Orders), and copies of Hal Madson's book, Railroads of the Santa Maria Valley, for sale. 🐞

## Meetings

**General:** first Thursday of the month, 6:00pm, at the Santa Maria Inn.

**Museum Development:** Thursdays (except first Thursday of the month) at the Museum, 6:00pm

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

**Caboose Crew:** Saturdays at the caboose, 8-11am.

## Rail Bosses

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

**Dick Minninger**, Vice President

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

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

## Members' "Yuletide Tour" Dec 22!

Come see probably the finest collection of Lionel Standard and O-gauge trains for miles around! Member \_\_\_\_\_ is our host to view his magnificent layouts (4!) and extensive collection of vintage rolling stock. See the first Lionels from the turn of the twentieth century! See Lionels from the great war! See the golden age O-gauge layout! And see the standard-gauge layout to end all standard-gauge layouts! Also, \_\_\_\_\_ has an extensive collection of railroadiana. The date is Sunday, December 22nd between 2:00pm and 4:00pm at \_\_\_\_\_'s home, \_\_\_\_\_. Please call President Dan Alves at 937-5438, or email him at [aiim@juno.com](mailto:aiim@juno.com) for more information, and so that we can tell our host how many to expect.

Get it on your calendar now! 🐞

## School visits being scheduled now for 2002/2003 year

Teachers! Offer your students an opportunity to learn the rich railroad heritage of the Santa Maria Valley. The Museum is standing by for your field trip here. Tours geared to your grade level. Displays, operating model railroads, and gift shop! Call the Museum at 805-714-4927.



Please pass this on to teachers you may know 🐞

## Enclosed "Cross Training" puzzle

The enclosed crossword puzzle includes a variety of railroad terms, including many that are specific or unique to the Santa Maria Valley. Hal Madson's book might come in handy as a reference. The answers will be included in the next issue of Train Orders. 🐞

**SMVRR... It may not be as long as other railroads, but it's just as wide!**

# A collision at Guadalupe Yard, 1952

According to Hal Madson in his book, *Railroads of the Santa Maria Valley* (copyright 2001, available at the museum bookstore), the Santa



Maria Valley's worst train accident occurred in the Guadalupe yard on October 21, 1952. A Southern Pacific (SPRR) cab-forward (4-8-8-2) steam locomotive was not clear of the switch when sideswiped by an SPRR diesel locomotive. Seventeen people were injured, thirteen railroad cars were derailed, the diesel was destroyed, and the cab-forward suffered significant damage. That, plus damage to parked cars and nearby houses brought the total accident loss to about \$1 million.

These photos were taken by Leon Hale who was a Pacific Fruit Express shipping clerk. Used by permission of his son, Jim Hale.



# Museum Christmas Open House December 14, 1-4:30pm

Plan to drop in at the SMVRHM Museum in the Santa Maria Town Center Mall (upstairs across from Robinson-May) on December 14th starting at 1:00pm until 4:30pm. We're having a Christmas Open House! The Gift Shop is stocked with great railroad-theme Christmas gifts. Enjoy some cookies and punch, and see what's new at the Museum!...

During the Open House, you may **enter a drawing** for a free Gift Shop item! One drawing will be held at 2:00pm, 3:00pm, and 4:00pm with the bowl being emptied and started afresh after each drawing. Must be present to win. One entry per person for each drawing; entry is free.



# SMVRR files to abandon 4.87 miles east from the downtown yard

On October 25, 2002, the Santa Maria Valley Railroad Company filed for the abandonment of approximately 4.87 miles of rail line located between College Drive and Gates Station in Santa Maria, CA. This opens up some interesting possibilities for the SMVRHM. Your Board of Directors is staying on top of the situation and exploring options along with other organizations.

## 2003 Dues

Renewing members are encouraged to send in their 2003 dues as early as is convenient. Dues are: \$30 Member, \$50 Family, or \$20 Associate (no vote).

## Caboose chairs, \$15

A small supply of "caboose chairs" was recently donated to the SMVRHM, and these are being sold as a fundraiser for \$15 each. Stop by the Museum to get yours!



## SMVRR No. 100

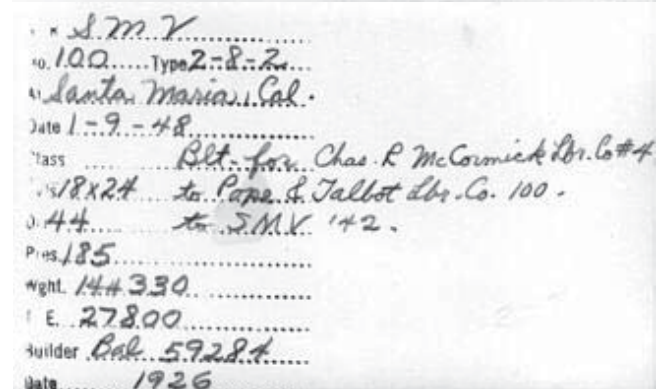


Image and reverse of No. 100 photo used by permission of Jamie Foster.