Bring Union Sugar No. 1
Back to the Santa Maria Valley

You or Your Business Can Help!

___ Brakeman - $100
___ Fireman - $500
___ Engineer - $1,000
___ Other - $__________

Send your contribution to:
Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum
PO Box 264
Santa Maria, CA 93456-0264

All financial supporters at $100 and above will be memorialized on a plaque at the point of display, initially envisioned to be in the historic district in downtown Santa Maria along McClelland Street.

Significant locomotives from the Valley’s past have slipped from our grasp over the years, such as the Santa Maria Valley Railroad (SMVRR) No. 205 that used to be on display at the Fairgrounds, and No. 21, the SMVRR’s most well-known locomotive. Together, we can get U.S. No. 1 back for good!

Union Sugar Company No. 1 was a plant switcher at the Betteravia sugar refinery. Union Sugar, named to represent the union of interests of San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties, was conceived in the late 1800s and began operations in September of 1899. Originally serviced by the Southern Pacific Railroad and the Pacific Coast Railway, the Santa Maria Valley Railroad became involved after its inception in 1911 and continued hauling beet gondolas for the refinery until the refinery closed in 1993.

Currently in storage at the California State Railroad Museum in Jamestown, CA, this 0-4-0T steam locomotive was originally built as the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific No. 84 (CRI&P) in 1884.

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

Rail Bosses

(Reverse emails to use - sorry, it’s a spambot thing.)
Dan Alves, President, juno.com@aiim
Dick Mininger, Vice President, aol.com@boothr8
Phil Goble, Treasurer, “CaBoss”, verizon.net@p.goble2
Jamie Foster, Secretary, “Train Orders” Editor, Webman, jf2.com@pajr
9th Choo Chew Saturday a blast

April 21, 2007 was a great day for about 200 rail lovers who came out to the Bitter Creek Western Railroad for a day of riding trains and enjoying Santa Maria-style BBQ.

These munchkins went home with a piece of real railroad coal, thanks to Engineer Doug.

The two Choo Chew Saturdays each year (the next one is September 22nd) are major fundraisers for the SMVRHM.

Museum moves to new Mall space

The last four days of June saw the Museum moving to a new space in the Mall, just a couple doors down from the “old” space (second level, Sears’ wing).

The people were enjoying the Museum in the new space even before we were quite ready! 🌟

Canadian National Speeder recently donated to SMVRHM

The Museum recently received a Fairmont speeder from Sal Jacobs, originally of Lompoc, but now in Sausalito. Model # MT19A, it’s a dual-chain drive speeder (which gave the crew members half a chance of getting back from the middle of nowhere should a chain break).