Acquisition opportunities

A number of acquisition opportunities have recently presented themselves to the Santa Maria Valley Railway Historical Museum (SMVRHM). Here is a brief run down.

**Caboose chairs**
This donation has already taken place and the SMVRHM is now in possession of about 70 caboose chairs. These will be refurbished a bit and sold as a fundraiser for the Museum.

**Sugar beet gondola**
The Portola Railroad Museum has 3 wooden sugar beet gondolas, one of which they might be willing to swap for our Sacramento Northern boxcar. In the works.

**300 boxcars**
Concord NWD will be scrapping about 300 40-foot boxcars soon. We are talking with them.

**Speeder, caboose, baggage wagon**
E. C. Loomis has a collection of miscellaneous railroad items at Tar Springs Ranch, including a speeder, caboose, baggage wagon, etc.). Contacts are being pursued.

**Kalmbach railroad picture albums**
The George Ono estate has already donated to the SMVRHM 16 picture albums from the 1940s and 1950s.

**SMVRR No. 10 hood**
The refinished hood of SMVRR engine No. 10 is about to be delivered back to the Museum, ultimately for display.

Caboose No. 180 is taking shape

"CaBoss" Phil Goble, at left, smiles like a new father as Caboose No. 180 begins to come together! Today we find Phil, Kevin, and Dr. Marcus plugging away at the myriad of details that remain.

At right, Kevin gets some dirty work done as he cleans up the base for the conductor's chair. First some degreaser, then some Simple Green, and then a good rinsing. Painting and installing will begin next week.

At left, Dr. Marcus is studying caboose restoration plans while sitting at the conductor's desk just recently installed. Behind him is the fuel barrel which is now hooked up to the stove (which sits just out of the picture in front of the conductor's desk, see below). Rumor has it that breakfast was cooked on that stove on a previous Saturday!

Note in all the pictures that fresh paint is now on just about every detail such as the stepping rails to the cupola and the rails and window frames on the outside. Even some of the stenciling has been reapplied such as "Glazing Waiver Part 223.13" and "Do not flush toilets upon city streets or while standing in yards". Good idea!

Do not miss your chance to say you helped. Join the caboose team Saturday mornings from 8-11am (baring other SMVRHM activities)!

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
**Dick Minninger**, Vice President
**Phil Goble**, Treasurer, "CaBoss", Phil.Pam@Prodigy.net
**Jamie Foster**, Secretary, "Train Orders" Editor, Webmaster, jamie@jf2.com
Upcoming events

September 21-22, 2002 - starting 11:00am
BBQ at War Bird Fly-in
Santa Maria Airport
Stop by our tri-tip sandwich booth and support both the air museum and our railroad museum!

Grapes & Grains  Choo Chew Saturday

October 5, 2002 - 10:00am to 4:00pm
BBQ at Grapes and Grains Festival
Cook and S. McClelland Streets
"Chew Choo" Burgers will be the bill of fare!

October 5-6, 2002 - 10:00am to 4:00pm
San Luis Obispo Model Railroad Club
14th Annual Model Train Show
Veterans Memorial Hall
Grand Ave. at Monterey
San Luis Obispo
The SMVRHM will have a booth/display handled by our HO team.

And for those who really plan ahead...

May 17, 2003
Third Annual "Choo Chew Saturday"
Bitter Creek Western Railroad
Do not miss this!

New storekeeper!

Please welcome Rob Himoto as the SMVRHM’s new storekeeper. He is taking on the tasks of inventorying and ordering for our retail sales department. Thank you, Rob!

Pacific Coast Railway marker on West Main Street

Your SMVRHM Board is working to include a small section of Pacific Coast Railway rail and an historical marker as part of the CalTrans work on West Main Street.

This will involve lining up donations of materials and manpower to place the rail, mount the marker, and install a protective barrier around the area. If you can picture yourself helping in this regard, please contact Dan Alves.

Museum welcomes school field trips

Please encourage your school contacts to take advantage of school group presentations at the Museum. Leave a message for Wayne Peterson at the Museum, (805) 714-4927.

More caboose pics

Please track your 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.

An Excel spreadsheet is available on the web site for those of you who would like to do this electronically. Visit the Museum page: http://www.smvrhm.org/museum.html

Paper forms are also available at the Museum.

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!