



**National Train Day**

May 12, 2012

Friends of the Santa Maria Valley Railroad in conjunction with the Santa Maria Valley Railroad, Amtrak, Union Pacific Railroad, Guadalupe Historical Society, Guadalupe Chamber of Commerce, and the City of Guadalupe celebrated National Train Day at the Guadalupe Amtrak Station. There were also activities and live music in downtown Guadalupe.

The former Santa Maria Valley Railroad Caboose No. 210 was open to the public from 11:00am to 3:00pm. There were exhibits and displays presented by Santa Maria Valley Railroad, Friends of the Santa Maria Valley Railroad, Amtrak, and Union Pacific Railroad along with live music at the Amtrak Station. Also across the street from the Amtrak Station an RPO Mail Car, one of only two left in existence in the Western United States, was on display.

A shuttle bus service (Guadalupe Flyer) provided in-town transportation for participants to attend activities throughout town including historical walks, visiting the historical museum, live music, and restaurants.



**Thanks to our Facilities Sponsors**



San Luis Obispo

**Friends of the**



**Santa Maria Valley Railroad**

**Coming Right Up**

We've got several activities coming up in just the next few weeks. Please join us for any or all!...

**September 26, 2012**

**Friends meeting** at the Santa Maria Library (same place as last time). Rob and Jamie will present "What's in the Works for the Railroad over the next 12 Months". Admission is \$5 unless you buy your dinner from the cafe right there in the Library, in which case admission is free. Doors open at 5:30pm, program starts at 6pm.

**October 7, 2012**

**Wine/Rail Excursion** held by the Friends and the SMVRR as part of the Central Coast Railroad Festival. Ride the Amtrak Surfliner from SLO to Guadalupe, visit Cottonwood Canyon Winery (by private bus), have dinner at Flatbread Pizza in Los Alamos, and return to SLO by train in the evening from Guadalupe. We'll point out some Right-Of-Way points of interest along the bus route. You may contact the Friends of the SMVRR at 805-614-7093 or Info@Friends-SMVRR.org. \$149/person. Make checks payable to the Friends of the SMVRR and send to PO Box 1031, Santa Maria, CA 93456-1031.

**October 13, 2012**

**Salad Bowl Festival in Guadalupe:** 11am to 3pm. Celebrate the production of all the ingredients of a fine salad! Several bands, a Greens & Grease Car Show, a Salad Dressing Contest and more are included along a couple blocks of Guadalupe Street in the downtown.

**October 20, 2012**

**Friends Field Trip to White Hills Branch in Lompoc:** 10:00am, location to be announced. We will explore the Union Pacific White Hills Branch in Lompoc. This interesting line starts at Surf next to the beach, travels through agricultural land, rare street running in Lompoc, and the climb up Miguelito Canyon to the Celite mine.





### Roadamite Field Trip

July 14, 2012

A small but courageous group headed into the hinterlands south and east of Santa Maria to visit remaining right-of-way fragments from the Pacific Coast Railway and the Santa Maria Valley Railroad.

Many thanks to the Purpers for taking them in for a delicious lunch and timely respite from their travels.



The group was also treated to the latest additions to their layout of the Pacific Coast Railway in On30.



### Friends Meeting

June 27, 2012

The Friends of the Santa Maria Valley Railroad met this evening for the first time in its new quarterly format. The meeting was held in Shepard Hall at the Santa Maria Public Library (McClelland Street). Our speaker this evening was Tom Murray, a career railroader who most recently writes his own railroad newsletter: Rail StockWatch. He worked for four major railroads from 1970 to 1996, and has published several railroad books. He told us tonight that he is writing an article for Trains Magazine about the Santa Maria Valley Railroad that will appear in the July 2013 issue.

A copy of Tom's presentation, "From Poverty to Prosperity, How the Rail Industry Turned" is available on the website (Friends-SMVRR.org).

