

Phillips 66 Refinery - March 5, 2016

Jim Anderson, Manager of the Phillips 66 Santa Maria Refinery on the Nipomo Mesa, gave a special Friends tour of the refinery on Saturday March 5. Meeting that morning under threatening skies, Jim gave a presentation on the history of the refinery, the role the refinery plays today, and the need to bring in crude oil by rail as local production continues to decrease.

Jim talked about the type of crude oil that the plant processes is the heavy sour crude, not the light sweet crude which is very volatile. After the presentation the sun came out and Jim gave the Friends a very informative tour of the refinery. After the tour the Friends met at El Tapitio in Guadalupe for a delicious lunch.



KSBY: "Business is Booming..."

KSBY ran a great story about the Santa Maria Valley Railroad (SMVRR) on March 31, 2016. Along with video from several railroad and railroad-customer locations, the story included upbeat interviews from Rudi Lokkart of Hayward Lumber, Tony Caetano of Lineage Logistics, and, of course, Rob Himoto, president of the SMVRR. As of this writing, the video is still available at KSBY's website: <http://KSBY.com/>.



Thanks to our Sponsors

AgLand Properties
Ed Sutti



Murphy Bank
895 Aerovista #100
San Luis Obispo
805-250-2300

Sponsor Support

The Santa Maria Valley Railroad is a sponsor of our newsletter and our quarterly programs. Murphy Bank is a sponsor of our meeting room for Friends Board meetings. AgLand has supported Friends BBQs at the railroad's headquarters in Betteravia. We are always looking for sponsors to expand our programs and tours and fund educational activities.

Friends of the



Santa Maria Valley Railroad

Coming Up...

May 21, 2016

Pacific Coast Railway Field Trip

Kevin O'Roark will lead this exploration of the less-celebrated portion of the PCRY right of way from the Santa Maria River crossing south to Los Alamos. The old right of way is clearly visible in many areas with a few other unexpected treats along the way! We'll meet at 10am at the Santa Maria River Levee Trail access, at the end of Preisker Lane. From the North or South on 101 take the Broadway exit and turn right on Preisker lane, it's the first traffic signal. Follow Preisker Lane to the end, there's a small parking lot on the right where we'll leave our cars and car pool from there. We'll stop for lunch at the Historic 1880 Union Hotel Saloon in Los Alamos (if open, or some other place in town) and visit the only remaining Depot of the Pacific Coast Railway. We should be back at the parking lot at 2:30pm. RSVP and membership required. ONLY TWO SEATS LEFT.

June 18, 2016

Annual Fundraising Dinner

Saturday June 18, 2016 at 6:00 pm in the Fountain Pavillion at the Santa Maria Fairpark, 937 S. Thornburg Street, Santa Maria will be our annual Friends Fundraising Dinner. Tri-tip, chicken and rib dinner will be catered by Cool Hand Luke's. Program includes History of the Friends Presentation, Railroad Public Safety Award presented by the Santa Maria Valley Railroad, G. Allan Hancock Historical Preservation Award presented by the Friends of the Santa Maria Valley Railroad, and a silent auction. Fundraising proceeds will go towards new storage containers as we are moving historical railroad artifacts to the new Santa Maria Valley Railroad's transload yard and to acquire other historical artifacts and equipment. Cost is \$65.00 per person, \$520.00 for a reserved table of 8. Checks can be made to Friends of the Santa Maria Valley Railroad.

August 27, 2016

Friends BBQ at the Railroad

Saturday August 27 from 11:00 to 3:00 will be the annual Friends BBQ at the Santa Maria Valley Railroad. This will be your opportunity to tour Santa Maria Valley Railroad's new transload yard located at the corner of A Street and La Brea Street. Our customary Santa Maria style tri-tip BBQ with tours of Santa Maria Valley Railroad's newest facility. This is a secured facility, please RSVP and bring a photo ID to check in. Our BBQ lunch is a \$10.00 donation for the Friends preservation and acquisition fund.

“We Built This City” - Jan. 27, 2016



After some introductory remarks and a brief update on the railroad, Rob Himoto presented his new 45-minute slideshow spanning the existence of the Santa Maria Valley Railroad and its impact on the development of the City of Santa Maria. This program was held at the Santa Maria Library's Shepard Hall (421 S. McClelland Street).

<http://friends-smvrr.org/160127.html>



A KSBY reporter interviewed Rob.



Seeking Auction Items

The Friends of the Santa Maria Valley Railroad will be holding their Annual Fundraising Dinner and Silent Auction on June 18, 2016 in the Fountain Pavilion at the Santa Maria Fairpark. We are seeking the donation of merchandise, gift certificates, services etc. that can be used as auction items. The mission of the Friends of the Santa Maria Valley Railroad is to preserve, improve, and interpret historical and contemporary aspects of the SMVRR. We provide our members and the public with educational programs such as history, current business practices, and trends related to railroading in general and the SMVRR in particular. Friends also conducts various activities such as field trips and tours. Friends is a 501(c)(3) tax-deductible organization. Tax ID # 26-0147466. Thank you for your consideration.

By sheer happenstance...

The Friends has come into possession of some interesting photographic slides of the SMVRR. A call to the railroad some time ago resulted in a large box containing several hundred slides being retrieved from a dumpster! After sorting through hundreds of slides we have saved about 100 that have the SMVRR as the subject matter. They have been scanned and copied to disc and are now part of the Friends archives. We'd like to thank **Arrow Camera, 700 E. Main St. Suite 103 in Santa Maria**, for great work and a discounted rate!



One of these scanned photos is shown above. This is a piece of switching equipment that could run on road or rail. In this configuration it ran on the rails and was ready to switch (note the coupler between the two large rubber tires).