

Santa Clarita Valley Garden Railroad Club



NEWSLETTER

Santa Clarita, California

October, 2011

October Event

Saturday, October 29, 2011

METROLINK TRAIN TRIP & LUNCH

For Times: See Schedule Below

METROLINK TRAIN TRIP

Our railroad event this month is a trip on the Metrolink to Union Station. After assembling there we plan to walk a few blocks to Phillippe's Restaurant and have lunch. After that you are on your own to explore Olvera Street and the historical buildings around the Plaza including the Old Firehouse, Pico House Hotel and the old church.

The weekend Metrolink schedules are different from the Monday-Friday commutes so use those published here. Coming from the Santa Clarita area we have selected the train (**Service No. 262**) which leaves the **Newhall Station at 10:27** am. If you wish to get on at another location, check the schedule for the departure time for train service 262 at that station.

The times for departing **Union Station** are **2:25 pm, 4:05 pm and 5:40 pm**, so after lunch you may select the return time that works best for you.

The restaurant, Phillippe's is a unique Los Angeles experience that has changed little in the over 50 years that I have gone there, the last just a few months ago. They are famous for their French dip sandwiches, available in a choice of meats. Several side dishes are available and a variety of drinks including wine and beer. The clientele is eclectic ranging from business and Civic Center workers to people on the street.

Dodie Pilling has arranged for us to have our own table. **If you haven't done so already, please let us know you are coming.** If you have questions please call Dodie at 661-259-1018 at home or on her cell phone 805-660-1144.

ANTELOPE VALLEY LINE • 200 SERIES						
SATURDAY						
Metroink Service No.	260	262	264	266	268	270
Lancaster	6:30	9:13	11:25	12:55	3:15	6:30
Palmdale	6:39	9:23	11:34	1:04	3:24	6:39
Vincent Grade/Acton	6:50	9:34	11:45	1:14	3:35	6:50
Via Princesa	7:24	10:13	12:19	1:53	4:14	7:29
Santa Clarita	7:30	10:20	12:25	1:59	4:20	7:35
Newhall	7:37	10:27	12:32	2:06	4:27	7:42
Sylmar/San Fernando	7:51	10:41	12:50	2:20	4:41	7:56
Sun Valley	7:58	10:48	12:57	2:27	4:48	8:03
Downtown Burbank	8:05	10:55	1:04	2:34	4:55	8:10
Glendale ★	8:12	11:02	1:11	2:41	5:02	8:17
L.A. Union Station ★	8:30	11:20	1:30	3:00	5:20	8:35

SATURDAY						
Metroink Service No.	261	263	265	267	269	271
L.A. Union Station ★	8:55	11:55	2:25	4:05	5:40	8:55
Glendale ★	9:05	12:05	2:35	4:15	5:50	9:05
Downtown Burbank	9:12	12:12	2:42	4:22	5:57	9:12
Sun Valley	9:18	12:18	2:48	4:28	6:03	9:18
Sylmar/San Fernando	9:26	12:26	2:56	4:36	6:11	9:26
Newhall	9:40	12:40	3:10	4:50	6:25	9:40
Santa Clarita	9:48	12:48	3:18	4:58	6:33	9:48
Via Princesa	9:54	12:54	3:24	5:04	6:39	9:54
Vincent Grade/Acton	10:37	11:42	4:07	5:42	7:17	10:32
Palmdale	10:48	1:53	4:18	5:53	7:29	10:43
Lancaster	11:05	2:10	4:35	6:10	7:45	11:00

2011 CALENDAR

November 5—6 Southwest Garden Railroad Show returns to the Fairplex in Pomona. This will be an all G-Scale show and is the only large scale train show on the west Coast.

\$2.00 off admission tickets are available , as many as you need for yourself, family and friends. A large supply of the discount coupons was provided by Bob Toohey of the Fairplex "Garden Railroad Volunteers for our use. These also will be available at the next Club event and upon request to Alan Wright. If you call or email the coupons will be mailed to you. Please allow enough time.



November 28 Club Meeting at Restaurant (Details to be determined)
Monday 6:00 pm

December No meetings planned

SANTA CLARITA VALLEY GARDEN RAILROAD CLUB

24403 Zermatt Lane, Valencia, CA 91355

Web Site: www.scvgardenrr.com

President & Editor	Alan Wright	661/287-0026	wwright735@gmail.com	or adwright@ca.rr.com
Events & Social Chair:	Dodie Pilling	661/259-1018	ddppm55@sbcglobal.net	
Photographer	Carla Breitner	818/992-6377	carlabb@earthlink.net	
Internet Contact	Gary Woolard	818/992-6377	garish@earthlink.net	
Webmaster	Ben Curtis	661/212-4054	bwcurtis@pacbell.net	

AMTRAK TRIP AND ALBERNI PACIFIC RAILROAD

By Dodie Pilling

Don and I decided to ride the AMTRAK up to Vancouver, BC (although the train does not go to Vancouver, you have to take the bus from the Seattle leg of the trip). We started by taking the MetroLink to Los Angeles and left there at 10:30 am on Thursday. The AMTRAK has sleepers, which we reserved. Food is included and there is wine tasting each day.

The California coast was foggy and the train goes inland around Vandenburg Air Force Base at Lompoc. The northern part of California, which is all pine trees, etc. was during the night. Don did wake up early to see the trestle across Lake Shasta. In Oregon, the track runs along the eastern side of the mountains and it was beautiful scenery including lots of tunnels. Crossing the Columbia River was interesting and we had to wait for clearance.

There were many stops for passengers to get on and off. We arrived in Seattle at 9:30 pm on Friday and boarded a bus for Vancouver. At the border, you have to get off the bus and take your luggage off, show your passport and then get your luggage back on the bus. We arrived in Vancouver at 1:30 am Saturday. The bus/train station was closed, with scaffolding all around it and no taxis in sight. We finally found a taxi and got to our hotel.

We arrived on board the NCL Star at noon Saturday. It is a newer ship, with 2,400 passengers. We left Vancouver at 5:00 pm and headed for Nanaimo on Vancouver Island. On Sunday, we took a bus to Port Alberni on the western side of the island. It was raining.

We had reserved a trip on the steam train, a 1929 Baldwin 2-8-2T, with two closed cars, which we chose to ride in. There were also three open cars. Umbrellas were provided for everyone.

The train took us to the McLean Mill, the only steam-operated sawmill in Canada. This historic site and the railroad are part of the Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage celebrating the areas history. We walked to the museum where we had sandwiches. Our tour guide actually lived at the mill area as a child, so it was very interesting. The bus took us back to the ship. The cruise back to Los Angeles was in rain and rough seas, but worth the trip.

Alberni Valley Museum and Heritage on Vancouver Island.



1929 Baldwin 2-8-2T steam engine



The McLean Mill, the only steam-operated sawmill in Canada.



The blacksmith shop.