

The Travel Town



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President's Message - Happy Holidays!

Happy 60th Birthday to the Travel Town Museum! That's right, in just a few days, Travel Town will mark the Sixtieth Anniversary of its founding. Pictured here in our cover photo is a promotional photograph taken as Travel Town's very first steam locomotive, Southern Pacific 3025, was unloaded and positioned at its new home alongside the L.A. River in Griffith Park. An official Dedication Ceremony was held on Sunday, December 14, 1952 and over the next sixty years, children of all ages have been enjoying this and the other historical locomotives - 364 days a year. And the best part: admission to Travel Town is still "free" after all those years! I am so glad that YOU - as a Foundation Patron Member or Travel Town Volunteer - are part of the great family of supporters that help keep the Museum going strong.

Of course, there have been a whole lot of changes and improvements at Travel Town over those past sixty years; so let's focus on just a few of the most recent goings-on. First of all, restoration work has really been moving along "behind closed doors" inside the Santa Fe M.177 motorcar and in the famous "Little Nugget." On these big restoration projects, the taking apart usually happens pretty quickly, but the putting stuff back together really requires meticulous attention to detail - and a lot of time. I am pleased to report that the M.177, under the great leadership of museum volunteer Bryan Reese, has recently seen some beautiful work done in its passenger section - new linoleum was put down, the walls were all sanded and painted, and the seats re-installed with new upholstery. The room looks great!

Over in "The Little Nugget" car, workers just laid a new linoleum floor in the dormitory hallway and they're now in the process of installing new thresholds for the doorways. I just want to let you know that your gift shop purchases and Patron donation dollars are hard at work! Oh, and did you see the Foundation's recently-restored 1945 Railway Express Agency delivery truck in the Hollywood Christmas Parade on Thanksgiving weekend? If not, drop on by Travel Town and take a look at it in person!



On the Foundation front, our staff is working hard to update the organization's formal agreements with the Department of Recreation & Parks and to bring the new Gift Shop and Volunteer Center project to fruition. Working with generous funding from **The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation**, the **Griffith Trust**, and the **Ahmanson Foundation**, along with donations from many of our loyal members and friends, we hope to be able to move ahead with the building project in the near future. Along with a new and improved Museum Store, our plans also include re-purposing the existing Gift Shop building to become a volunteer center and research library. The library area will do double duty as a training room for the Museum's docents and other volunteer team members. By the way - did you know those great volunteer docents have giving guided tours to over 96,000 Travel Town visitors over the past 16 years? Wow!

In closing, I want to thank all of you for your continued support and involvement in the Foundation and its work at the Museum. I especially want to give a shout-out to Los Angeles City Councilmember Tom LaBonge for his longtime encouragement and support for both Travel Town and our Foundation. We are all so excited to be able to share in the promising future of the Travel Town Museum!

Please come out to the Museum over the holidays and enjoy the annual Santa Train ride and the wonderful holiday decorations they have set up for your enjoyment. Remember, as a TTMF member you get discounts at the Gift Shop - and all the proceeds from the shop help us restore trains and educate the public about railroad history. So over the Holidays, I urge you to visit Travel Town (and shop a lot at the museum store). Happy Holidays!

Greg Gneier, President
November, 2012

Buy Groceries and Restore Trains ... at the Same Time!

With these challenging economic times, we are all looking for ways to save money, make money or use our money more wisely. If you shop at either Vons, Pavilions, or Ralphs in the local Los Angeles Area, we are hoping that you will take two minutes to really make a difference for the trains at Travel Town. If you shop at the above-mentioned stores, you probably use their "Club cards" in order to take advantage of their savings. Good for you! They already have all your information on file, so don't feel squeamish about registering your card again, only link your usage with our foundation! This really helps our foundation when everyone does it!

Ralphs

1. Go to www.ralphs.com
2. Sign in if you have a log in account
3. Click on Community Contributions
4. Our organization number is 81111 or you can search Travel Town. Then click on our button, and be sure to save your changes!!



Be sure to click on the little radio button when the Foundation comes up at the bottom, then be sure to "SAVE." When you make your purchases your receipt will say "Thank you for supporting the Travel Town Museum."

Vons/Pavilions

1. Go to www.escrip.com. If you are new to escrip, go to the "welcome" button.
2. Follow the simple directions there - the Travel Town Museum Foundation's Group Number is 1094834.

We earned over \$250 in donations last year from our Travel Town friends' support. Please register, and THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



All Aboard!

Travel Town Museum Foundation memberships are available in a range of levels, all of which include special benefits including gift shop discounts and invitations to members-only events! In addition, each issue of the *Travel Town Tender* lists new and returning Foundation members. If you're interested in membership, please call us at 323-668-0104 or visit the Gift Shop for more information. A warm welcome to our new and renewing supporters of the Travel Town Museum Foundation!

NEW VOLUNTEERS

Michael Atienza
 Robert Atienza
 Luiza Baloyan
 Samantha Benedicto
 Kate Charette
 Thomas Cisneros
 Will & Bill & Letty Cosso
 Jacqueline & Pamela
 Esquivel
 Lillian Farrow
 Chris Flores
 Dante Flores
 Natalie Kalbakian
 Georgina Molina
 Lauren Padilla
 Sean & Kaelen Porter
 Itzhel Santiago
 Owen Solis
 Brenda Tello

LITTLE NUGGET CLUB

Mark Kaplan
 Rhea Lamia
 John and Darlene Ruh

STREAMLINERS

Daniel Cole
 Michael Novean

TRACK GANG

Anriyet Abelyan
 Christine Albert
 Merritt Almanzan-Fox
 Heather Anthony
 Collen Austin
 April Bellotti
 Ian Campbell
 Stewart Chalmers
 Amy Chiang
 Meliana Chow
 Horacio Colmenares
 Holly Exler
 Samantha Garelick
 China Gerstner
 Cindy Gracia
 Sellas Habtesllassie
 Heidi Halsey
 Tara Hayes
 Pete Hayward
 Gisele Hoffer
 Eileen Ilic
 Michael & Renee
 Johnson
 Julie Keehner
 Cherie Ko
 Monica Kubina

May Liu
 Kristen Lonner
 Luis Lopez
 Cheryl Lorenzo
 David Mandel
 Nash Marquez
 Gracia Martinez
 Beth Moore
 Susan Morris
 Suzanne Nakama
 Meredith Nishida
 Maria Ooh-Hwang
 Brenda Perez
 Luke Powers
 Alice Reeb
 America Saisho
 Christine Sarkissian
 Dr. & Mrs. Sell
 Vicki Slotnick
 Karla Sustaita
 Rebecca Teichman
 Amanda Tracey
 Benjamin VanWyck
 Benjamin Vega
 Mariana Vega
 Nichola Walker
 Maria Zarian

ADULT ENGINEERS

Matthew Brown
 Elliot Hutkin
 Shannon Pero
 Margaret Platis
 Jude Stacey

JUNIOR ENGINEERS

Don Beck
 Rio Cros
 Arturo Cuadrado-Guerra
 Wyatt Cymbala
 James Enney
 Marcie Hurrell
 Andrew S. Warner

**Want to become
a member?**

**Call us at
323-668-0104**

**or visit the Gift Shop
for more information!**

October 21, 2012



Do your holiday shopping at the Travel Town Museum Foundation GIFT SHOP!

15% OFF
for members
December
1 thru 16!



Brio, Chuggington & Thomas wooden railway sets!
All these wooden sets are compatible with each other

**Mention
this ad!**

**"Step into Reading"
& other children's
books!**



Christmas ornaments!



**Railway & regional
historical books**

All proceeds help pay for train restoration and educational outreach programs at the Museum.
Members receive a 10% discount on all merchandise all year long!

What's Next for M.177?

The Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Motorcar M.177, built in 1929, combined three functions of railroading into one vehicle: motive power, passenger seating, and baggage compartment. This functional consolidation efficiently served branch lines by saving the railroads the costly operation of an entire train with locomotive and half-filled cars. The M.177 that we have at Travel Town is being restored by Mr. Bryan Reese, the Restoration Project Manager. At right please see his "progress chart" prepared this summer. You will note that the Non-Smoking Room is 100% Complete! Woohoo!

You may also note there is still plenty of other work to be done in the M.177, and Bryan is hunting around for some great support to get the exterior of the car painted - one check for \$5,000 would really make a huge difference! A donation toward this would also get you or your loved one recognized on the plaque in the Arcadia Depot, as well as making an incredible difference in the appearance of one of the historic artifacts at the Museum.



In this picture, Docent Andrea is giving tours through the car on Depot Day!

Project Area	Percent Complete	Remarks	Estimated Completion Time	Estimated Cost
Mechanical (Primarily Winton Engine)	95	The Winton engine is running, but not reliably. The current working theory is that the ignition is inadequate. A new electronic ignition system may be the best solution and is being researched.	30 hrs	\$500
Electrical	50	The Main and Exciter generators need brushes and the Exciter needs brush holders fabricated. Final wiring in the main panel should enable the car to move under its own power.	40hrs	\$750
Non-Smoking Room	100	Complete	N/A	N/A
Smoking Room	90	Prep for painting is 99% complete. Upholstery and installation of the seats and doors will complete this room.	24hrs.	\$400 paint \$500 uph.
Baggage Area	N/A	To be left unrestored	N/A	N/A
Exterior Paint	10	Entire carbody must be sanded (good Boy Scout/High School project), followed by etching primer, epoxy primer and top coat. Four colors are required; Warbonnet Yellow, Warbonnet Red, Pullman Green and Black. Reverse stencils must be cut for lettering.	160hrs sanding 80hrs painting	\$500 materials \$3500 paint