

Roadamite Field Trip - Nov. 14, 2015

Back by popular demand, this was a reprise journey led by the inimitable Kevin O'Roark. The group met up at the ex-headquarters of the Santa Maria Valley Railroad at the corner of McClelland and Jones in downtown. The first stop right there was the downtown freight depot (now a dance studio) and the radio building which still houses some Hancock-related enterprises. A plaque is mounted in a rock at the entrance to the ex-offices of the railroad.

From there we headed east and south following the Santa Maria Valley Railroad (SMVRR) right-of-way to Rosemary Farms, past Cottonwood Canyon Winery, and all the way to the end of the line at Roadamite.

The highlight of the trip was standing at the eastern most point of the SMVRR. Kevin got permission (and the gate code) from the private property owner where the Roadamite oil loading racks were located. Rare mileage!

Then we worked our way back along the Pacific Coast Railway (PCRY) right-of-way from Palmer to Suey Junction (at Battles and Depot streets).



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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...

January 27, 2016

"We Built This City"

Enjoy Rob Himoto's new 40-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 will be held at the Santa Maria Library's Shepard Hall (421 S. McClelland Street). Doors open at 5pm. Admission is \$5, or free if you grab dinner from the Cafe right next to the Hall. The program will start at 6pm.

March 5, 2016

Phillips 66 Refinery Tour

Saturday, March 5, will be a special Friends tour of the Phillips 66 Refinery starting mid-morning. Space is limited. RSVP and Friends membership required. RSVPers will receive details.

In Memoriam

Bill Foster, Jamie Foster's father, passed away this past September. Bill was a lifetime and charter member and a big fan of Friends. Whenever Bill was visiting from his hometown of Kansas City, Bill participated in Friends events through the years. In fact, Bill was a volunteer on some of our excursions and together with Jamie put together the Chapel Car Excursions a few years ago.

Dave Jennings passed away in November after a brief illness. Dave worked for the Santa Maria Valley Railroad for over 30 years and retired as General Manager in 2011. Dave started in the shops in 1974 and worked his way up, becoming General Manager of the railroad in 2000. Dave was a charter member and volunteered with excursions and speeder events. Dave also made his chili beans for many of the Friends events.

Donation in Memory

Nancy Nungesser donated \$1,000 to Friends in memory of her husband Gordy Nungesser, a lifetime and charter member of Friends who passed away last April.

Central Coast Railroad Festival, Oct 1-4

Jamie Foster, COO of the Santa Maria Valley Railroad, gave a talk about the railroad Saturday morning at the SLO Railroad Museum. Lots of photos from the week-end of events are available on the website: CCRRF.com.



Guadalupe Walk-n-Talk - Sept. 19, 2015

At 10:00am, we joined Shirley Boydston, Guadalupe Historical Society Member, for a fascinating walking tour of this historic small town. It was an enthralling hour with this long-time Guadalupe resident. We met at the Dunes Center Visitor's Center, 1055 Guadalupe Street and headed out on to the main drag from there. We also got to enjoy the History Museum and the Dunes Center.

Thanks to Kevin O'Roark for these photos.



Roadamite Field Trip - Nov. 4, 2015

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And lunch, of course, at the Garey Store and Deli.