Join us Spring of 2019!

We invite you to attend the 2019 Spring HeritageRail Conference in Sacramento, CA, hosted by the California State Railroad Museum and Foundation from April 25-27, 2019. This will be an opportunity to ………………………more words

About the Hosts

California State Railroad Museum

First opened to the public in 1976, the California State Railroad Museum complex is one of Sacramento’s largest and most popular visitor destinations. Over 500,000 visit the Museum annually, with guests traveling from throughout the world to experience this world-renowned facility.

With over 225,000 square feet of total exhibit space, the buildings within the California State Railroad Museum complex use stimulating exhibits, enthusiastic and knowledgeable docents, and beautifully restored railroad cars and locomotives to illustrate railroad history in California and the West.

Throughout the main Railroad History Museum building, 21 meticulously restored locomotives and cars and numerous exhibits illustrate how railroads have shaped people’s lives, the economy, and the unique culture of California and the West. Included are a Pullman-style sleeping car and a dining car filled with railroad china.

Railtown 1897 State Historic Park

At Railtown 1897 State Historic Park in Jamestown, California, history comes to life with vintage steam trains, a working roundhouse, and the timeless Sierra Railway Shops, a designated California Historical Landmark. The California State Railroad Museum and Foundation manages and oversees Railtown 1897 SHP.
A two-hour drive from Sacramento, Jamestown is home to the original Sierra Railway Company with a trove of preserved railroad buildings, equipment, locomotives and railroad cars.

Railtown features include an excursion steam or diesel train in the warmer months, historic roundhouse containing locomotives both active and dormant, machine shop still used to maintain engines, and movie prop area chronicling the various movies filmed on site. Railtown is home to five steam locomotives including the No. 2 ‘Shay’ and the Sierra No. 3. Appearing in over 100 Hollywood productions, the Sierra No. 3 is known as the “most photographed locomotive in Hollywood history”.

California State Railroad Museum Foundation

The California State Railroad Museum Foundation (CSRMF) is an official cooperating association with California State Parks and a 501 (3) c organization. CSRMF provides funding for ongoing support of numerous programs at the California State Railroad Museum in Old Sacramento and Railtown 1897 State Historic Park in Jamestown. The mission of the CSRMF is to generate revenue and awareness on behalf of its destinations, while supporting the preservation, interpretation and promotion of our railroad heritage.

A Snippet of Sacramento’s History

Sacramento has been the star on the map of California since it was first established through the efforts of the Swiss immigrant John Sutter, Sr. The city grew quickly thanks to the protection of Sutter’s Fort, established by Sutter in 1839. Land was swiftly cultivated for orchards, crops, and cattle, and Fort Sutter became a regular stop for the increasing number of immigrants coming through the valley. Thanks to its central position on the divergence of the American and Sacramento rivers, during the California Gold Rush in 1849, Sacramento was a major distribution point, a commercial and agricultural center, and a station for wagon trains, stagecoaches, riverboats, the telegraph, the Pony Express, and the First Transcontinental Railroad. The Central Pacific Railroad broke ground at “K” and Front Street in what is now known as Old Sacramento on January 8, 1863 and the Big 4 became legendary. History has been preserved throughout the city in museums, California State Parks, and with the help of a community dedicated to keeping Sacramento rooted in its heritage, most notably in Old Sacramento where the Central Pacific Freight Depot still loads its passengers at “K” and Front Street for excursion train rides on what is now the Sacramento Southern Railroad.

It was the discovery of gold that first put Sacramento on the map in the 1840’s, and the railroad that kept it there in the 1860’s. Since then, the city has proudly become the Farm-to-Fork Capitol of America, a leader in green energy, America’s most diverse city, and home to the Sacramento Kings NBA team at the new Golden 1 Center. No other city boasts the unique mix of agricultural abundance,
diversified industry, cultural richness, and hometown loyalty that make Sacramento so well-loved. The Midtown and downtown districts are bustling with locally sourced restaurants, homegrown bars, and a trove of businesses. Scattered throughout the city are family-friendly activities and attractions including the Sacramento Zoo and Fairytale Town, the California State Railroad Museum, the Crocker Art Museum, Hornblower Cruises, 30+ mile American River bicycle trail, the California State Capitol and Museum, and a variety of local theatre companies. Getting around in Sacramento has come a long way since its horse-drawn carriage beginnings. Downtown, Midtown, and Old Sacramento are easy enough to navigate on foot, but Amtrak, Capitol Corridor, Regional Transit, Uber, Lyft, and traditional taxis provide abundant transportation to navigate the Greater Sacramento Area.

**Tentative Conference Schedule at a Glance**

**Tuesday, April 23, 2019**
Optional Pre-Conference Excursion - Railtown 1897 State Historic Park

**Wednesday, April 24, 2019**
Strategic Planning Meeting
Optional Pre-Conference Excursion - Niles Canyon Railway
Optional Pre-Conference Excursion - Western Railway Museum

**Thursday, April 25, 2019**
Board Meeting
Southern Pacific Shops Tours
Seminar Sessions at Hotel
Welcome Reception at hotel

**Friday April 26, 2019**
Breakfast at Hotel
Seminar Sessions at Hotel
Lunch Buffet
Optional Walking Tour of Old Sacramento

**Saturday, April 27, 2019**
Breakfast at Hotel
Sacramento River Train Excursion and Lunch
Seminar Sessions at California State Railroad Museum
CSRM Tran Excursion with Wine & Appetizers Reception
Dinner at California State Railroad Museum
Seminars

* Subject to change
Storytelling
FRA
Collections
Student Engagement
“Skookum” Locomotive Restoration
Southern Pacific Shops Mechanical Clinic & Shops Tours
History of Women in Railroading
Transcontinental Railroad/150th Anniversary
Beebe & Clegg
Ticketing Solutions for Heritage Railroads
Stakeholder Engagement and Community Coalitions
History Relevance
PGAV

Travel Information

Airport:
Sacramento International Airport (SMF)
6900 Airport Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95837

Conference Hotel:
Holiday Inn Sacramento Downtown – Arena
300 J St, Sacramento, CA 95814

Sacramento International Airport is about a 15 minute drive (11 miles) from the Holiday Inn and the California State Railroad Museum. With 12 airlines servicing flights from all over the United States and Mexico, attendees will easily arrive in Sacramento for the conference. While Uber, Lyft and taxi are convenient modes of transportation, car rentals are available at the airport if desired.
Parking Options

Hotel Parking: Guests can use Self Parking and Valet Parking available at Holiday Inn for a fee. A small number of **limited-term, metered parking spaces** are available on the streets of Old Sacramento. Street parking is metered from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. However, these spaces are not suitable for guests visiting longer than 90 minutes. **All-day parking** is available at two parking garages located at both ends of Old Sacramento: Old Sacramento Garage – Entrance at I Street between 3rd and 2nd Street Tower Bridge Garage – Entrance on Capitol Blvd and Neasham Circle near the Tower Bridge.

Weather

The average temperature range in Sacramento during the month of April is generally low 60s to low 80s, with occasional rainfall.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be received in writing prior to March 25, 2019. We will refund your Conference Registration less a $50.00 administration fee per person.