



News Release

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RAILTOWN 1897
State Historic Park
Jamestown, California

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Railtown 1897 State Historic Park Hosts Volunteer Open House on February 21 *All Those Interested in Volunteer Opportunities are Invited*

JAMESTOWN, Calif. – Volunteer Training begins in March for new volunteers at Railtown 1897 State Historic Park (SHP). Prospective volunteers are invited to come take an inside peek on Saturday, February 21 at 10:00 a.m. Potential participants will be able to meet one-on-one with the Railtown 1897 SHP park staff, and talk to current volunteers to learn about the various positions that are available. Informal tours of the operation will be conducted and snacks will be served.

“We recognize that sometimes people want to know a little more about what they are getting into, and this is a no strings attached way to learn about our volunteer operation,” said Dave Rainwater, Railtown 1897 SHP volunteer coordinator.

Volunteers are being recruited for the positions of Car Hosts, Ticket Agents, Tour Guides, Public Greeters, Fire Chase Operators, and Brakemen (entry level engine crew). Many of the park’s volunteers began with little knowledge of railroads or history. The volunteer training program is presented over several weekends in March to provide a solid base of knowledge for new volunteers. Benefits to volunteering at Railtown 1897 SHP include: membership in the California State Railroad Museum Foundation, free entrance and train rides at Railtown 1897 SHP and the California State Railroad Museum, a variety of social activities, interesting training opportunities and guest speakers, discounts at the Depot Store, and participation in an annual volunteer recognition dinner.

Railtown 1897 State Historic Park is widely known for the century-old steam maintenance shops and train rides. In addition to the weekend excursion steam trains, Railtown 1897 SHP offers daily tours, roving interpreters, and many special events.

Volunteer applications are available online at www.railtown1897.org or by calling 209-984-4408.

About Railtown 1897 SHP: Operated by California State Parks with assistance from the nonprofit California State Railroad Museum Foundation, Railtown 1897 State Historic Park offers year-round tours plus train rides weekends April-October (selected dates only November-December). Known as “The Movie Railroad,” the Park and its trains have been featured in hundreds of feature films, TV shows, and commercials. The Park is located at the corner of Fifth and Reservoir in Jamestown, reached by highways 49/108. Open daily except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day, the Park’s operating hours vary by season: April-October, 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; November-March, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. For more information, call Railtown 1897 State Historic Park at (209) 984-3953, or visit our Web site at www.railtown1897.org.

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