

# News Release



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Railtown 1897 Presents Popular “Singing Rails” Railroad Music Festival on August 3**

***Special Evening Event Includes Music Contest and Live Performances by Red Dog Ash and Headliner Sourdough Slim***

**JAMESTOWN, Calif.** – Railtown 1897 State Historic Park (SHP) is proud to present an entertaining, upbeat and festive “Singing Rails” musical event on Saturday, August 3, 2013, that reflects America’s longstanding love affair with trains and the railroad through the magic of music. New this year, “Singing Rails” will include an amateur music contest leading up to special live music performances by Northern California Bluegrass Red Dog Ash and award-winning musician and headliner Sourdough Slim.

The family-friendly music festival will take place outdoors on the sprawling Roundhouse lawn starting with the entertaining music contest that starts at noon. Contestants will be judged in six primary categories that include the following: Vocal, Guitar, Banjo, Fiddle, Mandolin and Miscellaneous. In addition, a special “Boxcar Willy Award” will be given to the best vocally-generated train sound. Each contestant will perform two songs, one of which must be train-related. Awards will be announced at 5 p.m. when cash prizes of \$50 will be awarded to the top contestant in each category. The contest entry fee is \$15 – and includes a ticket to the evening event and a train ride. Interested contestants are encouraged to register online in advance.

After the spirited contest, the live music really kicks into high gear when Red Dog Ash performs at 5:30 p.m. followed by headliner Sourdough Slim -- the last of the cowboy Vaudevillians -- on stage at 7 p.m. Tickets to the music festival are free to same-day train ride ticket holders, \$10 in advance, \$12 at the gate (if still available) and children 12 and under are free. While refreshments and food will be available for purchase at the “Singing Rails” event, guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs, blankets and picnic items. Advance train ride and “Singing Rails” tickets are available online at [www.railtown1897.org](http://www.railtown1897.org) and more information about the event or Railtown 1897 SHP is available by calling 209-984-3953.

**About Railtown 1897 State Historic Park**

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 on weekends April-October and on Wednesdays July 10 through August 28, 2013 (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 Avenue and Reservoir Road in Jamestown, reached by highways 49/108. Railtown 1897 State Historic Park is open daily (except for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year’s Day) and 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](http://www.railtown1897.org)

**For More, Visit [www.parks.ca.gov/CapitalDistrict](http://www.parks.ca.gov/CapitalDistrict)**