



News Release

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Railtown 1897 Presents 3rd Annual “Working on the Railroad” Celebration on September 17

JAMESTOWN, Calif. – California State Parks and Railtown 1897 State Historic Park (SHP) are proud to present the 3rd Annual “Working on the Railroad – A Celebration of Sierra Railway Workers” on Saturday, September 17, 2016, to recognize and honor the hundreds of former Sierra Railway and Sierra Railroad workers, their descendants and family members. The celebration will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and will include special activities and elements, including: a “Memory Wall” with photographs and stories about former workers posted by Railtown staff or attendees who are descendants of the workers themselves; a “hands-on” interpretation table that highlights Sierra Railway’s Chinese cooks and the roles of the telegrapher featuring telegraph demonstrations; a world map that visually shows from which countries the workers came; a live forge and working blacksmith in the historic Roundhouse; children’s activities and more. In addition, a series of special presentations will take place as follows:

- **10:15 a.m.** – Historian Dave Connery will deliver a presentation about Chief Civil Engineer William H. Newell, father of Historian Dorothy Dean;
- **11:30 a.m.** – Park Curator Lisa DeLacy will deliver a presentation about the variety of occupations on the railroad;
- **Noon** – Thomas S. Bullock, grandson of the founder of the Sierra Railway, will speak about his grandfather as a businessman in the early 20th Century.

Designed to celebrate all the workers who built, maintained and operated the railroad, the interpretive event is focused on sharing information about the workers who practiced their trades, their job duties and who they were as individuals and community members. Interested visitors with a past connection to the Sierra Railway are encouraged to bring photos and documents to the Park so copies can be made and added to the collection.

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In addition, steam train rides behind Sierra No. 3™ will be available that day departing at 10:30 a.m., noon, 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. Tickets for the weekend excursion train rides cost \$15 for adults, \$10 for youths ages 6-17 and free for children five and under. All train ride tickets include Park admission and are available for advance purchase online as well as at the ticket window beginning at 10 a.m. on the day of the ride (based on availability). Railtown 1897 SHP admission only costs are as follows: \$5 for adults, \$3 for youths ages 6-17 and free for children five and under. For more information, call 209-984-3953 or visit www.railtown1897.org.

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To provide for the health, inspiration and education of the people of California by helping to preserve the state's extraordinary biological diversity, protecting its most valued natural and cultural resources, and creating opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation.

