



News Release

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Railroad Museum to Debut New *Without Words* Exhibit that Explores Time-Tested Railroad Communication Tools

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – California State Parks and the California State Railroad Museum are proud to present a new exhibit titled *Without Words* on Friday, April 8, 2016. This interactive new exhibit will focus on the various non-verbal communication tools used by the railroad -- and the science behind them -- that allowed for railroad technicians to communicate at night, across distances and during challenging weather conditions such as heavy rain, dense fog and snow. The new *Without Words* exhibit will help Museum visitors gain an appreciation for the bells, whistles, flags, lanterns and lights effectively used by the railroad for decades prior to modern electronic communication methods.

As an exhibit highlight, an impressive collection of 24 lanterns will be on display that showcase hand-held lanterns dating from the 1800s and that span over 100 years of railroading. Museum visitors will be able to identify and illuminate the lanterns by pressing corresponding buttons to see the vividly colored glass lenses light up (using LED lights). In addition, steam whistles in a variety of shapes and sizes will be on display as will a “Colors That Speak” electronic matching game for young visitors to match the color of a lantern with the word that describes what the color means to a railroad crew member (i.e. red means stop; green means go; yellow means caution and blue means repair in progress).

This special interactive exhibit will remain on display in the Lobby Gallery at the California State Railroad Museum through October 12, 2016. More information about the *Without Words* exhibit or the California State Railroad Museum in general is available at www.csrnmf.org or by calling 916-323-9280.

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