

NOTICE OF NEXT MEETING AND TOUR

SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 2011, 11:00 AM

We will meet at 11:00 AM sharp in Petaluma, RAIN OR SHINE, to evaluate and tour one of our 2011 proposed awards - The Petaluma Trolley Living History Railroad Museum, and the Northwestern Pacific Railroad Historical Society. This award is proposed by CHC member Richard Torney.

The address is: 110 Baylis St., Petaluma (½ block north of Washington St.)

DIRECTIONS: From the Hwy 101 freeway take E. Washington west, toward downtown Petaluma, cross the railroad tracks, and Baylis is the second street to the right. Look for a red caboose under restoration, rail cars under tarps, a little yellow locomotive, and a large pale yellow barn set back from Washington St.

A CHC meeting follows our tour and orientation. We plan to finish by 1:00 PM. Historic downtown Petaluma is within walking distance for lunch on your own and browsing its many unique stores, such as antiques, books, heirloom seeds, boutiques, etc.

History of the Proposed Award:

The Petaluma Trolley is an organization of volunteers who are, for many different and personal reasons, working to ensure that trolley service be restored to the Petaluma waterfront, and that these antique treasures are protected, restored and exhibited in a Living Museum.

The Petaluma Trolley was the Petaluma & Santa Rosa Railroad (P&SR). Few people today remember what an important piece of history the P&SR is to Petaluma. Built in 1904, it provided interurban passenger transportation and, using two railroad owned stern-wheel steamers, created a direct link between the booming agricultural and commercial interests of Sonoma County and the San Francisco Bay Area. The P&SR was the only electric interurban passenger and freight railroad in Sonoma County.

The Petaluma Trolley will not only be a heritage preservation tribute to the City of Petaluma, but a beautiful visual attraction for its National Historic Downtown District.

The proposed connections of the Trolley, from the Waterfront Warehouse District, through the Historic Downtown and North Water Street developments, past numerous retirement facilities, to the Petaluma Premium Factory Outlets Mall, and to SMART's two regional passenger railway stations, will enhance the utility of the trolley and make SMART more accessible to Petaluma residents, particularly the economically disadvantaged and the elderly. On October 21, 2010, the Coastal Conservancy approved a grant for \$475,000 to implement the plans for reconstruction of the trestle along the Petaluma riverfront - the trestle upon which the Petaluma Trolley will ride once more. For more detailed information, visit their website at <http://www.petalumatrolley.org>.

The Northwestern Pacific Railroad Historical Society (NWPRRHS) was founded over twenty years ago. It is dedicated to preserving the rich and colorful heritage of Redwood Empire railroading. They accomplish this through acquisition, preservation and display efforts as well as through gathering oral histories of people who have contributed to our regional history.

Their long-established William R. Hogarty Memorial Library has a priceless collection of photos, maps, drawings and other related memorabilia, associated with the NWP RR. The archived materials are being kept in a climate controlled storage facility; while work space is limited, they do allow access for research.

The NWPRRHS conducts quarterly railroad history programs in Marin and Sonoma counties. The NWPRRHS is continuing to restore vintage railroad rolling stock. They started with NWP Caboose #13, now on display and in service at Roots of Motive Power in Willits. The P&SR Caboose #1 project is almost finished; final work will be done this year. They have taken on two new project cars, they are CP Coach #29 (NWP #123) and SF&NP Baggage #5 (NWP #605). Visit their website for more detailed information on their restorations at:

<http://www.nwprrhs.org>.

CALENDAR OF FUTURE MEETINGS AND EVENTS

(Please mark your calendar)

- 4/1 11:00 AM: The Moya Library and Ross Historical Society invites you to their program: 1906 SAN FRANCISCO EARTHQUAKE & FIRE REVISITED. A lot of new info is now showing up on the earthquake, and what happened after it. The Internet and its impact will be discussed by RICHARD HANSEN, of the Museum of the City of S. F. The Earthquake Dead List (Great Register) developed by GLADYS HANSEN has been ongoing for over 40 years and will be covered. Sample photographs and stories will be shown. Presented in "THE LIVERMORE PAVILION" at the MARIN ART AND GARDEN CENTER. A donation of \$5.00 is requested. There will be a reception after the show. Information, call (415) 258-9595.
- 4/6 11:30 AM: The Presidio Historical Association invites you to their Annual Luncheon (See enclosed invitation in mailing). Prof. Betty Goerke is guest speaker and will present *Insights into the Lives of Native Peoples at the Presidio and Mission Dolores*. Old Presidio Golf Club, San Francisco. Advance reservations required by March 29th. \$55/member; \$60 non-member. Information at (415) 752-2270 or presidio-assoc@att.net.
- 4/28 Board of Directors/Membership Meeting. Location to be announced.
- 5/26 Board of Directors/Membership Meeting. Location to be announced.
- 6/30 Annual Awards Dinner: 6:00 PM-10:00PM, St. Francis Yacht Club, San Francisco