

The Renovation of SP 794 by Maria Rodriguez



Southern Pacific #794 located at Sunset Station, San Antonio, TX - photo taken by Michael Bongalis.

Starting on the beautiful morning of September 20, 2008 at 9:30 A.M., members of the Friends of the SP 794 joined together to begin restoration of the Southern Pacific locomotive #794, (SP 794), currently located at San Antonio's Sunset Station in St. Paul Square.

Sunset Station Group, LLC., (SSG), has teamed up with the San Antonio Railroad Heritage Museum, Inc., (SARHM), to restore SP 794 to her original beauty and eventual operational glory. Sunset Station Group has graciously provided the Friends of the SP 794, who operates under SARHM, with a monetary donation to aid in revitalizing SP 794's appearance.

The Friends of the SP 794 conducted a general clean up of the locomotive's location. Also, in accordance with their mission to return the locomotive to its original state, the group removed most of the special effect equipment added after her move to Sunset Station from Maverick Park in 1999.

Sunset Station Group and the Friends of the SP 794 were assisted by members of the Boy Scouts of America earning their Railroading Merit badges as well as visitors from the public dropping by to see the action. Refreshments and breakfast tacos were provided by Sunset Station.

With such enthusiasm, the group continued to work well past their cutoff time allowing for the KSAT 12 news team to catch them in action. The interview was broadcasted on KSAT 12's 10:00 P.M. news program that very evening.



"The Gang" (Friends of the SP 794) - photo taken by Adam Simpson, Scotland.

Reconstructing Elmendorf's Depot

by B.L. Miers



Original San Antonio & Aransas Pass Depot located in Elmendorf, TX

President/CEO Gary Rodriguez made a proposal to the City Counsel of Elmendorf to

reconstruct the San Antonio & Aransas Pass Railway Depot. Mr. Rodriguez has done extensive research on the railroad structure that once stood along the SA&AP tracks in Elmendorf and it has paid off. He has also uncovered a source of images of the original blue prints of the structure. When he presented the concept to the members of the city

counsel, he received unanimous approval. The Wilson County News has written and published an article on this project. The entire article is available to read on the internet at <http://www.wilsoncountynews.com/article.php?id=20294&n=top-stories-railway-to-revitalize-elmendorf>. Stay tuned for more information.

Upcoming Events:

- BOD Meeting:
10/12/2008 @ 1:00 P.M.
- Sidney's Grill on Brooks City-Base
- SP 794 Work Day:
10/12/2008 after the BOD Meeting - Sunset Station
- SP 794 Work Day:
10/26/2008 @ 1:00 P.M.
- Sunset Station
- Flatonia Rail Park Pavilion Party: 11/1/2008 @ 10:30 A.M. - Flatonia, TX

Items Needed:

- Miniature Inline Outdoor White Christmas Lights for decorating SP 794
- Icicle Inline Outdoor White Christmas Lights for decorating SP 794
- Folding Tables and Chairs for public events





San Antonio Railroad Heritage Museum

Where History and Rails are Joined Together.



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SARHM Needs Your Help! by Marla Rodriguez

How can you help?

Membership: By becoming a member, you can help this organization by giving your voluntary services enabling us to work as a team to preserve the railroad heritage of San Antonio and the South Texas area for all generations. This invaluable education will give future generations the history needed to expand their knowledge and understanding of how the railroad impacted our way of life as well how it affects us currently as we move into the future. For a membership application, please visit our website at www.sarhm.com or feel free to call or write.

Donations: If you choose not to become a member, but still want to help, donations are a great way to start. We are accepting both cash donations and railroad related items for donation.

Cash donations will receive a receipt for tax purposes as we are a 501(c)3, Not-For-Profit Organization.

All non cash donations will need an appraisal presented to ensure a proper receipt is issued for tax purposes. If the non cash item is not able to be presented to a member, a photo sent with a description and the appraisal may be mailed or emailed for consideration.

Information: Any information you can contribute is also a wonderful way to help. The information can be historical, documentation, photos, equipment, location, or financial opportunities.

Ideas/Suggestions: We at SARHM are interested in your ideas and suggestions. Anything is open for discussion including ideas to improve what we are already doing. Please don't hesitate!

No matter which way you decide to help, or how much you decide to help, please know your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your support!

SARHM's Mission

The purpose of SARHM is to inform and educate the public about the rich railroad history of San Antonio and the South Texas region, by offering a historical look at the economical and cultural impact that the operations of the railroads had on the past. Further, SARHM will look at how the railroad affects the region today and will continually look forward toward how the railroad will affect the future of our region.



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We're on the Web!

www.sarhm.com

www.sp794.org