

**Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society**

## **2024 National Convention Time Table No.**

# **44**

**IN EFFECT**

**12:01 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time  
Wednesday, October 16 through  
Monday, October 21, 2024**

**DIVISION HEADQUARTERS  
Nugget Casino Resort • Sparks, Nevada**

### **TRAINMASTER**

David Coscia

### **YARDMASTER**

Ms. Chris Karasek

### **YARD CREW**

Craig Ferguson  
Andrew Novak

Donald Hanson  
Richard Overton

Albert Novak  
Peter Savoy

### **AUDIO VISUAL TECHNICIAN**

Chris Keller

### **PHOTOGRAPHER**

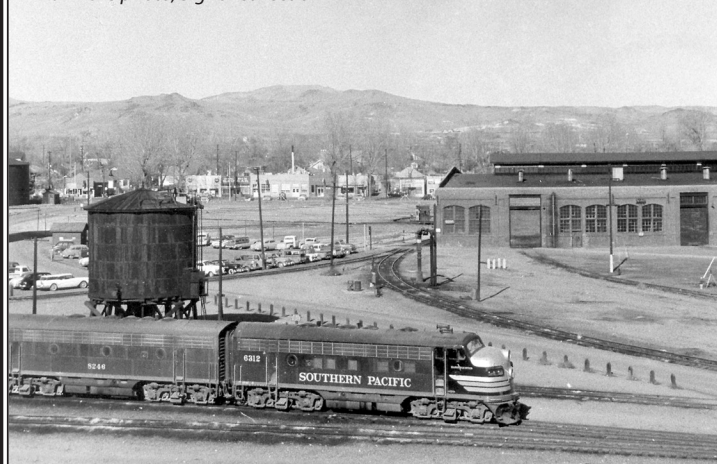
Richard Shulby

### **TRANSPORTATION CAPTAIN**

Lee Griffith

SP F7 No. 6312 passes through Sparks yard, 1956.

—Alan Aske photo, Signor collection



## *Welcome to* **SPARKS**

The Central Pacific arrived in the area in early 1868 with the construction of the transcontinental railroad, and the first scheduled train from Sacramento arrived a few months later. Sparks was born in 1905 when the division point was moved from Wadsworth, and the new town was named after the Governor of Nevada.

At an elevation of 4,413 feet (1,345 meters), days can be warm and nights can be cool. Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of water. Nearby Victoria Square has a several restaurants and bars.

### **CONVENTION REGISTRATION INFORMATION**

**Sierra Room 1.** Please pick up your registration packet at the registration desk. Your packet contains your badge, timetable, meal ticket, layout tours, and other information.

*REGISTRATION BADGES MUST BE WORN AT ALL  
TIMES IN CONVENTION SPACES.*

### **EXTRA FARE EVENTS:**

**Sunday, October 20**

**Ride on the Virginia & Truckee Railway.**

Motor coaches will depart at 8:30 a.m. from the front of the Nugget Casino Resort. After arriving at the Eastgate station, we will board the 10:00 a.m. train. Upon arriving at Virginia City, guests will have time to eat lunch at a local restaurant and do some sightseeing before the train departs at 3:00 p.m. for the return trip. (Don't be late!) Motor coaches will depart Eastgate station at about 4:30 p.m. for the return drive to the Nugget, expected to arrive at 5:30 p.m.

**Monday, October 21**

**Visit to the Nevada State Railroad Museum.**

Motor coaches will depart at 9:00 a.m. from the front of the Nugget Casino Resort, and arrive at the Museum at approximately 10:00 a.m. Guests can explore the museum's exhibits and ride the trains until 2:00 p.m. when the motor coaches will begin their return trip to the Nugget. Bring a snack and bottled water.

## Vendor Room Information

**Sierra Rooms 2, 3 & 4.** Dozens of vendors will have their ware for sale. Stop by and support our vendors! Sales hours will be Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed for lunch 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### *Vendor Setup Hours:*

Wednesday from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

## Model & Photography Contest

**Sierra Rooms 2, 3 & 4.** The model and photography contest will be open Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed for lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**NO BAGS ARE ALLOWED  
IN THIS PORTION OF THE ROOM.  
PLEASE CHECK YOUR BAG  
WITH THE ROOM HOST.**

Please check in your model(s) or photograph(s) with the Contest Host. All entries must be received by 5:00 p.m. on Friday. Voting will begin on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. and will end at 12:00 p.m. Please retrieve your items between 12:00 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. on Saturday.

**Model Contest Rules:** The entrant detailed and painted the model, any scale.

**Photo Contest Rules:** The entrant was the photographer of record.

**Display Rules:** The entrant wishes to display model equipment, of any scale, or a railroad photograph. These items are not eligible to win an award.

## Railroad Prototype Meet

**Sierra Rooms 2, 3 & 4.** Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All scales and railroads (real or fantasy), in any state of completion, are welcome.

## Area Events & Attractions:

Not interested in the history of the Southern Pacific? Visit the Reno/Tahoe Visitors Center website at [visitrenotahoe.com](http://visitrenotahoe.com) for information on the nearby sights and attractions.

## Model Layout Tours:

Please refer to the flier in your packet.

## CONVENTION SCHEDULE

### Wednesday, October 16

- 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Vendor Registration.  
*Sierra Room 1*
- 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Attendee Registration.  
*Sierra Room 1*

### Thursday, October 17

- 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration. *Sierra Room 1.*
- 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Vendor Sales.  
*Sierra Rooms 2, 3 & 4*
- 8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Opening ceremony.  
*Sierra Room 5*
- 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Morning presentations.  
*Sierra Room 5*
- 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Afternoon presentations.  
*Sierra Room 5*
- 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting.  
*Sierra Room 1*
- 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. General Membership Meeting.  
*Sierra Room 5*

## Thursday Presentations

### *SIERRA ROOM 5*

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

“The San Francisco Overland: 1946-1963”  
Jeff Cauthen and Don Munger

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

“Ghost Trains Revisited: Along the Route of  
Trains 21-22, Mail, Ogden to Oakland”  
Randy Cape

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

“Who Ordered These Engines to Run Backward?”  
Rich Tower

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

“Rails Through Redlands”  
Ron Park

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

“The Southern Pacific Railroad at the  
Panama Pacific Exposition”  
Jean-Guy Dubé

7:15 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

“Los Angeles Division Reflections: 1967-1985”  
Peter Baumhefner

8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

General Membership Meeting

## Friday, October 18

- 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration. *Sierra Room 1*  
 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Vendor Sales.  
*Sierra Rooms 2, 3 & 4*  
 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Morning presentations.  
*Sierra Room 5*  
 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch  
 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Afternoon presentations.  
*Sierra Room 5*  
 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Dinner  
 7:15 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Evening presentation.  
*Sierra Room 5*

## Friday Presentations

*SAN JOAQUIN BALLROOM*

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

“Standard Gauging The Carson & Colorado:  
The North End and Other Ideas”

Brian Norden

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

“The Nevada-California-Oregon Railway in Reno”

Maurice Walker

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

“Nevada-California-Oregon Railway Historical Society”

Shane Starr

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

“Carson & Colorado / Hawthorne to Benton”

Lawrence Meeker

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

“Winter on Donner: SP Snow Fighting Operations”

Dick Dorn

7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

“The Surviving Depots of Nevada”

Jean-Guy Dubé

8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

“Old Timer’s Talk”



## Saturday, October 19

- 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Registration. *Sierra Room 1*  
 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Vendor Sales.  
*Sierra Rooms 2, 3 & 4*  
 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Morning presentations.  
*Sierra Room 5*  
 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch  
 1:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Afternoon presentations.  
*Sierra Room 5*  
 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Cocktail Hour  
*Outside Sierra Room 5*  
 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Banquet  
*Sierra Room 5*  
 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Keynote Speaker: Mr. John R. Signor

## Saturday Presentations

*SAN JOAQUIN BALLROOM*

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

“Sacramento to Sparks, 1976-1996: The Final Years”

Andrew Novak

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

“Somewhat Unique Southern Pacific Narrow-gauge

Freight Cars and Structures”

Steve Bradley

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

“Modoc Memories in Color”

Scott Inman

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

“What Are You Doing Here?”

Joe Strapac

## Saturday Banquet Keynote Speaker

8:00 p.m.

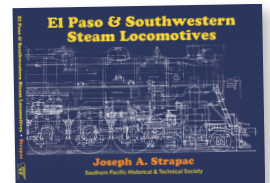
Mr. John R. Signor

### Coming Soon!

## El Paso & Southwestern Steam Locomotives

By Joseph A. Strapac

With 221 pages and 250 pictures, maps and drawings, this new book takes the EP&SW locomotive story from its earliest days through the SP takeover, comprehensively illustrating the EP&SW fleet as it served the SP for nearly thirty years, all the way to final dieselization and beyond to preservation efforts on the three surviving steam engines. Hardcover, 8½"x11" with dust jacket.



**\$69.95 plus S&H.**

**Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society**

1525 Howard Access Rd. Unit E, Upland, CA 91786 • www.sphts.org

# CLINICS AND PRESENTATIONS

## Thursday

**Jeff Cauthen and Don Munger**  
**The San Francisco Overland: 1946-1963**

The presentation will be a pictorial overview of the train during the post-war period. Views of the train and its cars will be included. Also, included will be information on model cars that may be used to recreate the train.

**Randy Cape**  
**Ghost Trains Revisited: Along the Route of Trains 21-22, Mail, Ogden to Oakland**

Recent search has uncovered new images of Trains 21 and 22, the preeminent mail and express trains on SP's Overland Route from 1947 to 1967. Using a combination of previously and newly discovered material, the presentation will take viewers from Ogden to Oakland, highlighting notable locations along the way.

**Rich Tower**  
**Who Ordered These Engines to Run Backward?**

The unique cab forward was a hallmark of Southern Pacific steam power. But the derailment of the Overland Limited near Applegate, California in February 1912, while hauled by cab forward #4208, caused SP President William Sproule to question the wisdom of his officers in adopting such an unusual locomotive design. The resulting investigation determined the cause of the derailment and brought out many details of how the cab forward design was originally developed.

**Ron Park**  
**Rails Through Redlands**

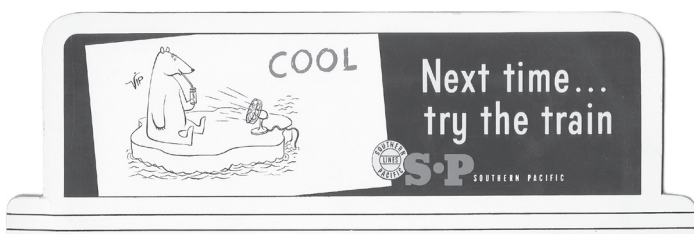
A video of operations of Southern Pacific and the Santa Fe on their Redland branch line. Santa Fe diesels in warbonnets and steam locomotives. SP steam and operations in San Timoteo Canyon with plenty of cab forward locomotives.

**Jean-Guy Dubé**  
**The Southern Pacific Railroad at the Panama Pacific Exposition**

Experience the exhibits that the Southern Pacific Railroad had at the 1915 World's Fair in San Francisco. Walk through their Pavilion building on a Road of a Thousand Wonders.

**Peter Baumhefner**  
**Los Angeles Division Reflections: 1967-1985**

A review of Southern Pacific's Los Angeles Division from my perspective as a train order operator, train dispatcher, and management employee. Presentation covers late 60's through mid 80's operation from Indio to San Luis Obispo with many interesting stops along the way.



# CLINICS AND PRESENTATIONS

## Friday

**Brian Norden**  
**Standard Gauging The Carson & Colorado: The North End and Other Ideas**

The narrow gauge C & C was acquired by the SP in 1900 and there were thoughts of converting its gauge. The mining booms in Tonopah and in Goldfield caused the northern part to be converted. The idea of converting the rest of the line as part of an Ogden to Southern California line was revisited several times.

**Maurice Walker**  
**The Nevada-California-Oregon Railway in Reno**

The Nevada-California-Oregon Railway has long been overshadowed by its Reno neighbors, The Friendly Southern Pacific and the fabled Virginia & Truckee. This brief history of the line tells you why you should care about what was once the longest narrow gauge railroad in the United States. In addition, you will learn where you can see vestiges of this interesting line while you are visiting Sparks.

**Shane Starr**  
**Nevada-California-Oregon Railway Historical Society.**

The Nevada-California-Oregon Railway is one of the newest historical societies dedicated to the 50 year legacy of the original narrow gauge railway that ran from Reno, Nevada to Lakeview, Oregon with a branch line into Plumas County, California. President, Shane Starr, will give an overview of the society's mission along with an update on the accomplishments over the past year and announcing some big goals for the society in the years to come.

**Lawrence Meeker**  
**Carson & Colorado / Hawthorne to Benton**

This will be a journey along the C&C visiting each town and siding location, using maps and photos. I'll have a mixture of photos from C&C and SPNG, and an assortment of my own images to present "Then and Now" comparisons.

**Dick Dorn**  
**Winter on Donner, SP Snow Fighting Operations**

This show will cover all the SP's snow removal operations. It will include regulators, flangers, spreaders, rotaries and the employees. Also included are some of my personal experiences during winter operations.

**Jean-Guy Dubé**  
**The Surviving Depots of Nevada**

Journey to see Nevada's existing depots. See their history and how they are adaptively reused today.

**SP Retired Employees "Old Timers Talk"**

Former railroad employees of the SP are invited to tell true stories and tall-tales about working on the railroad.

**Coming Soon!**

**SAN FRANCISCO OVERLAND LIMITED**

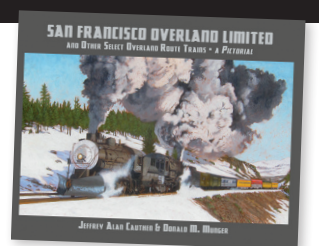
**AND OTHER SELECT OVERLAND ROUTE TRAINS - A PICTORIAL**

**By JEFFREY ALAN CAUTHEN & DONALD M. MUNGER**

**480 pages. \$129.95 plus Shipping & Handling**

**Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society**

1525 Howard Access Rd. Suite E, Upland, CA 91786 • www.sphts.org





# CLINICS AND PRESENTATIONS

**Saturday**

**Andrew Novak**

## **Sacramento to Sparks, 1976-1996: The Final Years**

A photographic journey from Sacramento, California to Sparks, Nevada across famed Donner Pass on Southern Pacific's mainline. For this presentation we will focus on the final 20 years of the Southern Pacific from 1976 to 1996. Aside from the freight action, we will also see Amtrak's *California Zephyr*, the *Reno Fun Train* and even the short-live Transisco Tours *Sierra 49er Express*.

**Steve Bradley**

## **Somewhat Unique Southern Pacific Narrow-gauge Freight Cars and Structures**

This clinic discusses the acquisition by the Southern Pacific in 1900, of a 300-mile narrow-gauge line, from just East of Carson City, NV, to Keeler, CA, in the Owens Valley East of the Sierra Nevada mountains. Once purchased, and gold & silver was found in the immediate area, the SP found the need to create custom train cars and facilities to transport the ore for processing. The clinic is entirely discussion of slides of original B/W photos and pictures from Steve Bradley's award-winning layout, structures and train cars.

**Scott Inman**

## **Modoc Memories in Color**

Following the collapse of the narrow-gauge Nevada-California-Oregon Railway in 1925, Southern Pacific acquired the company for standard gauging its right of way to complete a shortcut for the newly activated Natron Cutoff at Klamath Falls, Oregon to the SP's Overland Route at Fernley, Nevada. Once completed in 1928, the "Modoc Line" combined the former N-C-O with SP's Fernley and Lassen Railway at Wendel to form this gateway. This presentation will feature images from the era of color photography sharing SP's articulated steam power, high horsepower freight drags, passenger excursions, facilities, and the two branches that fed local traffic.

**Joe Strapac**

## **What Are You Doing Here?**

Southern Pacific diesels working for connecting railroads in places where they were not expected to be seen. No images in Taylor Yard, West Colton, Dolores, etc...



**THE  
TRAIN SHOP, LLC**  
1829 PRUNERIDGE AVE.  
SANTA CLARA, CA 95050  
PHONE: 408 • 296-1050

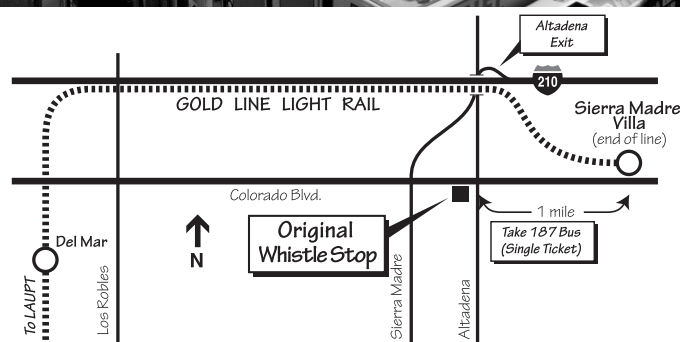
Sun.-Mon. Closed  
Tues.-Sat. 9:00-5:00

thetrainshop@att.net

DENNIS COLE

# *The Original Whistle Stop* in Pasadena. -It's worth the trip!

See why people from around the world keep coming back to The Original Whistle Stop for superior service and a wide selection of model train supplies—since 1951!



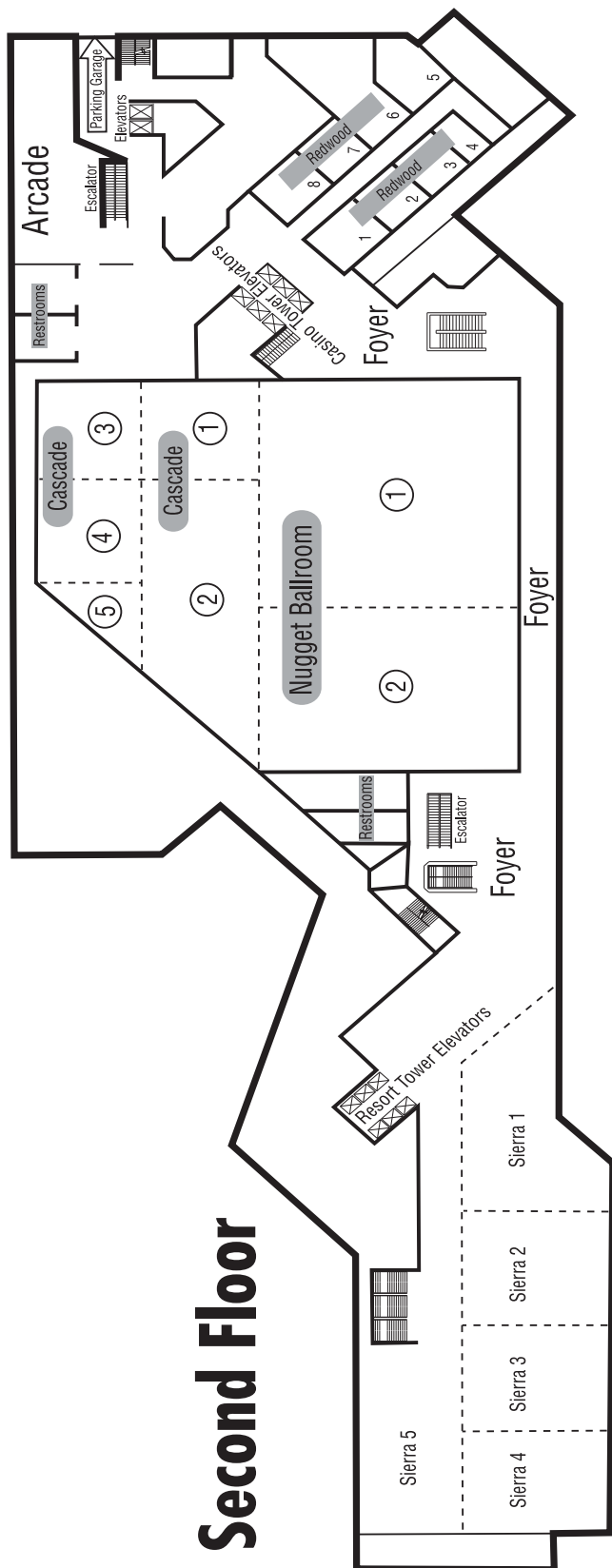
**THE ORIGINAL  
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Pasadena, CA 91107

**www.thewhistlestop.com**

Phone: 626-796-7791 • Fax: 626-796-7566

## Convention Headquarters Map



Historical & Technical Society

## Board of Directors

The Board consists of nine Directors, who serve overlapping three-year terms. Officers of the Society are elected annually by the Board. The present members of the Board are:

<b>President</b>	<b>Vice-President</b>
David Coscia	Ed Hall
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
Andrew Novak	Mr. Ted Kimball

<b>Directors</b>	
Andrew (A.J.) Chier	Fred Hill
Albert Novak	Richard Overton
Ben Kletzer	Peter Savoy

## Officers and Staff

<b>Archivist</b>	<b>Business Manager</b>
Mr. Joe Strapac	Ms. Chris Karasek
<b>Editor-S.P. Trainline</b>	<b>Webmaster</b>
Mr. John R. Signor	Ms. Jenai May

## Previous SPH&TS Conventions

*How many have you attended?*

<input type="checkbox"/> Fountain Valley	1981	<input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento	2003
<input type="checkbox"/> Fountain Valley	1982	<input type="checkbox"/> Tempe	2004
<input type="checkbox"/> Fountain Valley	1983	<input type="checkbox"/> San Diego	2005
<input type="checkbox"/> Huntington Beach	1984	<input type="checkbox"/> Oakland	2006
<input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles	1985	<input type="checkbox"/> Houston	2007
<input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles	1986	<input type="checkbox"/> Bakersfield	2008
<input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles	1987	<input type="checkbox"/> San Luis Obispo	2009
<input type="checkbox"/> Glendale/Richmond	1988	<input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento	2010
<input type="checkbox"/> Glendale/Rohnert Park	1989	<input type="checkbox"/> Portland	2011
<input type="checkbox"/> Glendale	1990	<input type="checkbox"/> Ventura	2012
<input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento	1991	<input type="checkbox"/> Fresno	2013
<input type="checkbox"/> Tucson	1992	<input type="checkbox"/> San Luis Obispo	2014
<input type="checkbox"/> San Diego	1993	<input type="checkbox"/> Sacramento	2015
<input type="checkbox"/> Eugene	1994	<input type="checkbox"/> Palm Springs	2016
<input type="checkbox"/> Reno	1995	<input type="checkbox"/> Santa Rosa	2017
<input type="checkbox"/> Houston	1996	<input type="checkbox"/> Monterey	2018
<input type="checkbox"/> Ventura	1997	<input type="checkbox"/> Ogden	2019
<input type="checkbox"/> Pasadena/Tucson	1998	<input type="checkbox"/> Online	2020
<input type="checkbox"/> Redding	1999	<input type="checkbox"/> Glendale	2021
<input type="checkbox"/> Portland	2000	<input type="checkbox"/> Modesto	2022
<input type="checkbox"/> Bakersfield	2001	<input type="checkbox"/> Bakersfield	2023
<input type="checkbox"/> Austin	2002	<input type="checkbox"/> Sparks	2024

*Join SPH&TS in Tucson, Arizona  
October 2025!*