



2025 Annual Conference
TUCSON • ARIZONA

Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society
2025 National Convention Timetable No.

45

IN EFFECT
12:01 a.m. Pacific Daylight Time Wednesday, October 15 through Sunday, October 19, 2025

DIVISION HEADQUARTERS
Doubletree-Reid Park by Hilton • Tucson, Arizona

TRAINMASTER
TRAINMASTER
EJ Causbie

YARD CREW
Paul Chandler Donald Hanson Albert Novak Andrew Novak
Charlie Weesner Dustin Duke Paul McDonald Richard Overton

AUDIO VISUAL TECHNICIAN

Chris Kelle

PHOTOGRAPHER

Richard Shulby

TRANSPORTATION CAPTAIN

Lee Griffith

SP 1673 sits at the Tucson Depot March 20, 1955, to recognize 75 years of service to Tucson.



Southern Pacific arrived in the area on March 20, 1880, and continued east towards its ultimate goal of reaching New Orleans. For Southern Pacific historians, Tucson was a division point with a large depot and yard served by locomotives of all types. Smaller locomotives worked the local branches while the larger locomotives worked the railroad in all directions including south to Nogales, Douglas, Bisbee. At some point in time almost all the classes of road locomotive power would run to Tucson, both coal and oil. Tucson hosted both the El Paso & Southwestern Railroad along with the SP.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION INFORMATION

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:

Wednesday, October 15th, from 8:30 am- 4:30 pm

We will tour the Port of Tucson and then head downtown to drive by the EP&SW roundhouse. The next stop will be the EP &SW depot and former location of the SP Sanitarium. We will then head to the SP depot for lunch (on your own) and tour of the depot's Amtrak passenger terminal, the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum that has the above photo SP 1673 on display. We will then head back to the hotel.

MODEL LAYOUT TOURS:

Please refer to the flyer in your packet.

The Coach Yard Vendor Room Information

The Coach Yard Room. Dozens of vendors will have their wares 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) and Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Vendor Setup Hours:

Wednesday from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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

ReSourced Rails.com

Model & Photography Contest

The model and photography contest will be held Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed for lunch from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.), and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Railroad Prototype Meet

The Coach Yard Room Lobby. Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Please check in your model(s) or photograph(s) with the Room 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.

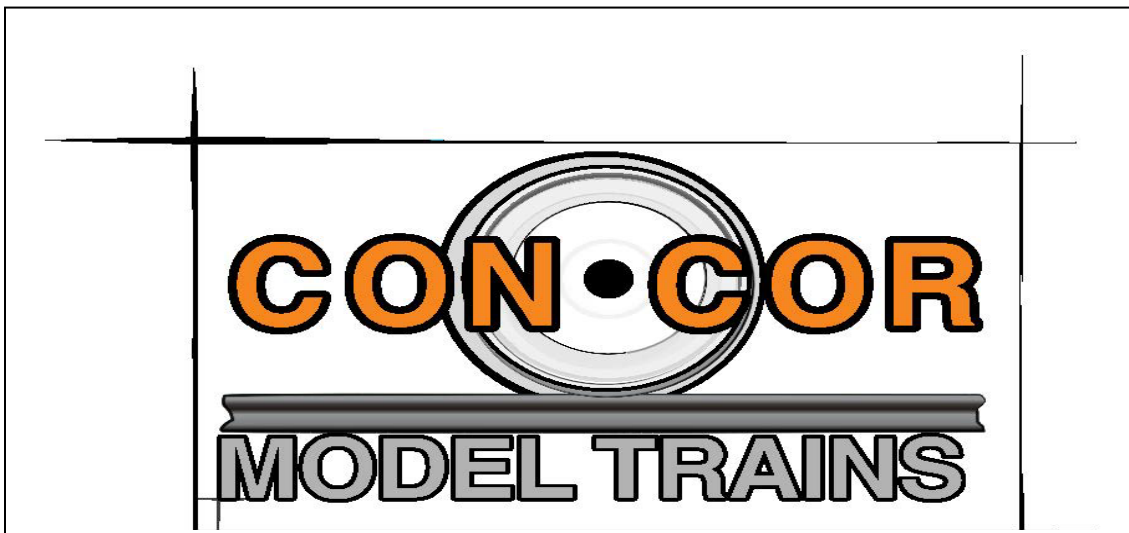
Model Contest Rules: The entrant detailed and painted the model, any scale.

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

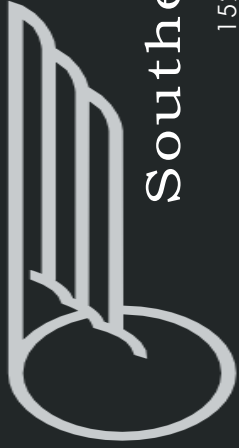
Display Rules: The entrant wishes to display model equipment, of any scale, or a railroad photograph. These items are not eligible to win an award.

Area Events & Attractions:

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

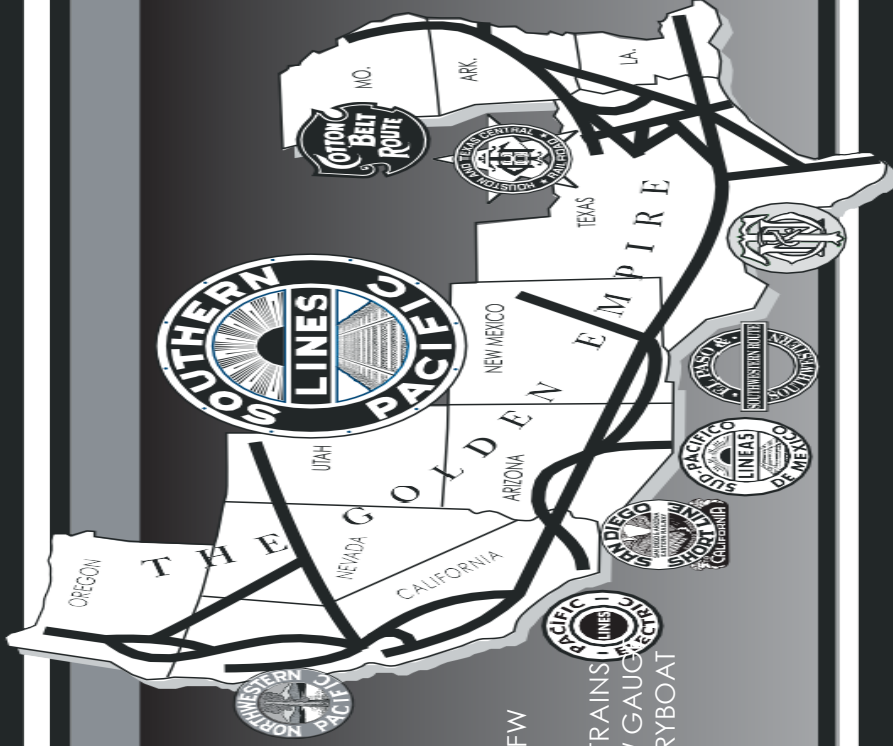


Not interested in the history of the Southern Pacific? Visit the Tucson Visitors Center website at visittucson.org for more information.



Southern Pacific Historical & Technical Society

1525 HOWARD ST. SUITE E, UPLAND, CA 91786



MOTIVE POWER:

STEAM • DIESEL • ELECTRIC

ROLLING STOCK:

PASSENGER • FREIGHT • MOFW

OPERATIONS:

PASSENGER TRAINS • FREIGHT TRAINS
STANDARD GAUGE • NARROW GAUGE
ELECTRIFIED • STEAMER & FERRYBOAT
DATA • REGIONAL • MEXICO

FACILITIES:

STRUCTURES • SIGNALING
ENGINEERING • COMMON
STANDARDS MAPS • DRAWINGS

MODELING:

PRODUCT REVIEWS • HOW-TO ARTICLES
PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT

PEOPLE:

BIOGRAPHIES • ORAL HISTORY
PERSONAL STORIES

CONVENTION SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 15

- 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Vendor Registration.
ReSourced Rails Room
- 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Attendee Registration.
ReSourced Rails Room

Thursday, October 16

- 7:00 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
Coach Yard Vendor Room Lobby
- 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration.
ReSourced Rails Room
- 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Vendor Sales.
The Coach Yard Ballrooms
- 8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Opening ceremony.
The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room
- 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Morning presentations.
The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room
- 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Afternoon presentations.
The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room
- 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting.
ReSourced Rails Room
- 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. General Membership Meeting.
The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room

Thursday Presentations

The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

“El Paso & Southwestern Locomotives” –
Joe Strapac

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

“Sunset Limited”
Mike Jarel

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

“SP Arizona and New Mexico Gallery”
John Signor

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

“Southern Pacific in Southern AZ Nov 1985”
Andrew Novak

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

“Southern Pacific Rules”
Mike Boarding

8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

General Membership Meeting

Clinics and Presentations

Thursday

Joe Strapac

Locomotives of the EP&SW

Today’s presentation provides an overview of the locomotives of the El Paso & Southwestern Railroad, a business venture established by Arizona mining interests in the late 1800s. By 1913, the EP&SW had extended its railroad lines from Tucumcari, New Mexico, through El Paso and Bisbee to Tucson, Arizona. Allied with the Rock Island, the EP&SW eventually became part of a Los Angeles-to-Chicago route known in modern times as the “Golden State Route.” It was viewed as a competitive threat by the Southern Pacific and was bought out by the SP in 1924. About 150 coal-fired steam locomotives were included in the transaction, eventually integrated into the rosters of the SP and the SP of Mexico.

Mike Jarel

1950’s Sunset Limited (Encore Presentation)

This will be giving an “encore” presentation on the 1950 streamlined Sunset Limited, first presented at the 2004 Tempe, AZ SPH&TS convention. The presentation was originally developed from work on what was initially intended as a 50-year anniversary tribute on the train for a 2000 edition of Trainline but continued to grow in size and scope as more and more information was uncovered, to the point where it was realized that it would take more than the magazine to cover the subject. The decision eventually was made to develop an entire book on the full history of the train from inception to Amtrak, which the Society published in 2006, co-authored by myself, Dennis Ryan and John Signor. This presentation covers the development and description of equipment and introduction of the 1950 lightweight train. After 21 years it felt a new audience might enjoy the story and I am pleased and proud to present it again.

John Signor

SP Arizona and New Mexico Gallery

John was too lazy to put together a detailed presentation, but thought a selection of quality images, most in color, from across the SP in this territory from the S•P Trainline archives might be of interest. All the main lines, and many of the branch lines will be included. Comments and additional information from the audience is welcomed.

Andrew Novak

Southern Pacific in Southern Arizona – November 1985

In November 1985, Southern California railfans Bill Farmer, Larry Jennings and Albert Novak headed to southern Arizona to photograph the Southern Pacific. This show has everything, including main line action, branch line trains, depots, the Phelps Dodge operation at Clifton and the Kennecott operation in Hayden before the formation of the Copper Basin Railway. This show features the best images from the trio’s nine-day adventure.

Mike Boarding

Southern Pacific Rules

A review of over a hundred years of “Rules” and a presentation of a collection of bound and “rivet-screw” rule books of the Southern Pacific and its associated subsidiaries. The discussion will be primarily about the SP 1951 Rule Book.

CLINICS AND PRESENTATIONS

Friday, October 27th

John Signor

I was a High-plains drifter for the SP

John will discuss what it was like to work the Carrizozo Subdivision of the Tucson Division in the early 1980s after the SSW had acquired Rock Island's Golden State Route. The crews called it the "East End" because Tucumcari was as far as one could get from San Francisco by rail and still be on the Pacific Lines.

Paul Chandler

Modeling Common Standards

The Southern Pacific design and engineering departments developed thousands of common standards for virtually everything the railroad built in support of its operations. This clinic looks at couple of dozen well known common standards through the lens of how SP did it, and how you can model these standards to bring the utmost fidelity to your lineside infrastructure.

John Causbie

Modeling the EP&SW Coal Tenders

A presentation on the multiple versions of the EP&SW and SP tenders used in and out the El Paso area. John will show some techniques that he has used modifying brass tenders for the more common locomotive power.

Randy Hill

Southern Pacific China

Randy is a member of the Southern Arizona Transportation Museum, a member of the board of directors and is the resident Santa. He has an extensive collection of SP China that he will have on display. His presentation will cover from the 1880's to the end of passenger trains in 1971.

Mike Boarding

The Golden State Limited

The Golden State Route- between Chicago and Los Angeles via the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific and the Southern Pacific Company. A discussion of the trains of the Golden State Route, but primarily about the "Golden State." The timetables, maps, pictures, postcards, menus and the trains. Memorabilia will be displayed.

David Quackenbush and Allan Walker

A History of Railroad Watches and Time Service

David and Allan will discuss the development of railroad watches And the rules that governed railroad time service

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.

Friday, October 17

- 7:00 a.m.- 8:30 a.m. Breakfast
Coach Yard Vendor Room Lobby
- 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Registration. ReSourced Rails Room
- 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Vendor Sales.
The Coach Yards Ballrooms
- 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Morning presentations.
The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room
- 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Afternoon presentations.
The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room
- 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Dinner
- 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Evening presentation.
The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room

Friday Presentations

The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

"Working on the Carrizozo Division"

John Signor

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

"Modeling Common Standards"

Paul Chandler

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

"Modeling Coal Tenders of the SP"

John Causbie

2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

"Southern Pacific China"

Randy Hill

4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

"Southern Pacific's Golden State"

Mike Boarding

RESOURCED RAILS

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Saturday, October 18

8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Registration. ReSourced Rails Room

8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Vendor Sales.

The Coach Yard Ballrooms

9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Morning presentations.

The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Afternoon presentations.

The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Cocktails in the foyer.

7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Banquet.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Stephen Bush

The Coach Yard Ballrooms

Saturday Presentations

The Con-Cor Labelle Meeting Room

9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

“Lighting for Layouts”

Ron Mei and Friends

10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

“American Railroads & Logistics in
WWII and the Southern Pacific”

Mark Schwartz

1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

“SP in O Scale”

David Hollywood

2:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.

“Painting SP Locomotives”

Steve Hegawood

Saturday Banquet Presentation

8:00 p.m.

Mr. Stephen Bush

CLINICS AND PRESENTATIONS

Saturday

Ron Mei and Friends

Lighting for Layouts

Ron and his group of friends present a very informative clinic on lighting for layouts. Ideas and concepts and stories learned when building the best Sunset Route layout in Arizona.

Mark Schwartz (Lt Col, USAF, Ret.)

American Railroads & Logistics in WWII, and the Southern Pacific Railroad

American entry into World War II came during a transition from economic depression to full-capacity manufacturing. Soldiers, raw materials and war goods transversed the country and moved to departure ports — mostly on US rails. The Southern Pacific rose to this need and merited close government attention as a critical segment in the wartime rail system. SP beat the expectations and serviced military, and commercial transportation needs to help assure victory and America's expansion to global superpower.

David Hollywood

Why “O” Scale?

Formally known as the “King of scales”, O scale has the added reputation of “if you want it, you must build it”. You'll also need a large space in which to build your layout if you want more than a switching shelf.

With that in mind, having neither the time for the former nor achieving the latter, I spent 20 years modeling “N” scale. But something was missing. As I aged, detail on my N scale empire began to go missing as well.

The opportunity arose to realize my number one on the railroad modeling bucket-list: “O scale”. This occurred 20 years ago when the space for an O scale layout was possible. The building went up, the N scale collection was selling nicely, and the hunt for O scale equipment was on. This presentation attempts to take the audience on my journey of creating an O scale layout in a 1680 sq. ft room.

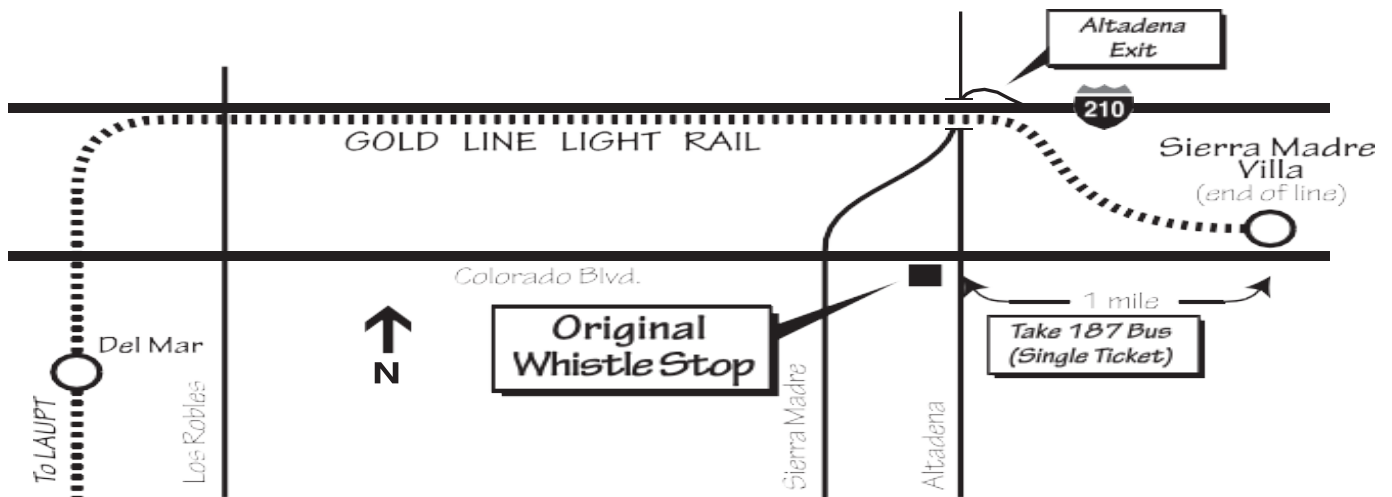
Steve Hegawood

Painting SP Locomotives

Steve will be walking you through the choices he makes when Painting locomotives in the different schemes, “Bloody Nose,” War Baby, Steam Locomotives, and Black Widow. Examples of some of his work will be on display.

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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:

President David Coscia	Vice-President Ed Hall	Secretary Andrew Novak	Treasurer Vacant
Directors			
Andrew (A.J.) Chier	Fred Hill	Ben Kletzer	
Albert Novak	Richard Overton	Rick Watson	

Officers and Staff

Archivist Mr. Joesph Strapac	Business Manager Ms. Chris Karasek
Editor-S·P Trainline Mr. John Signor	Webmaster Ms. Jenai Mav

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 Visalia, California
October 2026!***