



## Train Day 2007

On June 24 we held another very successful Train Day. The highlight of the event was the little Choo Choo Train and the model railroad exhibit. Over 640 exuberant kids and adults clamored aboard the train all day. The Choo Choo Train was repeatedly shot at by that dastardly bandit, P. Sledge. Rumor has it that Sledge is the Great-great-great-granddaughter of the notorious California robber, Black Bart. Relax gentle reader!! Her weapon was only a water gun. Since it was a warm day all the kids were delighted.

Between the model railroad and Thomas the Train, the Freight Room was crowded all day with enthusiastic train aficionados of every age. Adding to the gaiety was the train history exhibit including the old train bell that everyone vigorously rang.

New this year was the appearance of the Danville Police Volunteers distributing free balloons and safety information. Every child asked for a balloon. Also for the first time the Mayors of Danville and San Ramon shared the bandstand. **Mike Shimansky** and **Abram Wilson** brought brief greetings from their communities.

It was great fun to celebrate the arrival of the railroad to the San Ramon Valley back in June 1891. Will the little train run again? If so, will the brazen Sledge slink out of her hideout and menace another time? Stay tuned folks.

Jerry Warren, Train Day Chair



❄ Winter 2007

## WE ARE GETTING A TRAIN!

After all these years the museum is buying a train! Well, of course, it is just a small train. One of the main attractions of Train Day has always been the little Choo Choo Train. A few weeks ago its owner announced his retirement and intention to sell his train. Our long-faced question was "What do we do now?" After careful thought the Steering Committee and Board of Trustees voted to purchase our very own little train.

It can only be named *The Branch Line Railroad*. Its three cars will be named Alamo, Danville, and San Ramon. What else could we name them? The train will arrive in November. Suggested fundraising and public relations uses include Town of Danville or City of San Ramon festivals and many special events. Creative minds have already dreamed up the 4th of July Parade, a Halloween Ghost Train, and even a Santa Train. Are there any ideas from you?

To move the little train we need to acquire an Econoline type van/truck and an 8 foot x 16 foot flat bed trailer. Can you donate one or recommend a source for us? Please contact Chuck Brydon, (925) 872-4109, [Cwbrydon@aol.com](mailto:Cwbrydon@aol.com).

While the Museum features all types of exhibits, our public image clearly is as a railroad museum. The caboose and depot shout that out loud and clear. Also, Americans love the celebration of our culture in lively ways. Who does not enjoy a Civil War troop reenactment or a ride on a smoke belching old train? Our new *Branch Line Railroad* train places the Museum squarely in the middle of such living history. Your children or grandchildren will love it for years to come.

Jerry Warren

*The little choo-choo was very popular with both children and adults on Train Day. The Museum is purchasing it and it will be renamed The Branch Line Railroad.*



The Museum of the San Ramon Valley in the Depot