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## **OFFICE HOURS**

OFFICE HOURS ARE 9:00AM TO 3:00PM TUESDAY THRU THURSDAY

## **RAIL TOUR NEWSLETTER 100**

**DATED THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 12, 2019. WE HAVE SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

You are receiving our Railroad Newsletter because you requested it or had contacted us for more info about our train tours in which we place your e mail into our database . If you no longer want to receive our Railroad Newsletter send us an e mail to [tti@traintrips.biz](mailto:tti@traintrips.biz) asking to be removed from our database

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# **BIG BOY TO PULL PASSENGER EXCURSION OUT OF LOS ANGELES OCTOBER 12-13, 2019**

The Big Boy, largest steam locomotive in the world will pull a passenger train excursion out of The Greater Los Angeles area to Barstow and return October 12-13, 2019. This will be over Cajon Pass both days. To purchase tickets go to: <http://www.railgiants.org/Big-Boy-Excursion-Info.php>

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## **UP BIG BOY ARRIVING IN CALIFORNIA ON OCTOBER 8**

Union Pacific's Big Boy No. 4014 will be arriving in Yermo, California from Las Vegas on October 8 and will continue on over Cajon Pass to Colton on October 9. The largest steam locomotive in the world will then be on display in the Greater Los Angeles area October 10-11, 2019.

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# Route of the Plaza Santa Fe

Next year we are arranging a private charter using the Plaza Santa Fe Pleasure Dome Los Angeles to Seattle. Because of Amtrak's new rules on the movement of private rail cars here is the route that this car must take in order to be in position at Los Angeles to be attached to the Coast Starlight. This car is based in Salinas, California.

**SALINAS TO ROSEVILLE.....UP FREIGHT  
ROSEVILLE TO OAKLAND.....UP FREIGHT  
OAKLAND TO CHICAGO.....AMTRAK  
CHICAGO TO LOS ANGELES...AMTRAK**

**We want to thank the new CEO of Amtrak, Mr. Anderson for his new rules and regulations regarding the movement of private rail cars.**

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## **ANOTHER PRIVATE RAIL CAR IS SOLD AND LEAVES CALIFORNIA**

Thanks to the new CEO of Amtrak we loose yet another private rail car that Trains and Travel has chartered a number of times to be in the consist of our charter trains. We loose the Vista Dome Silver Splendor. Based in Southern California the Silver Splendor departs California for the last time. We will miss this car greatly.

### **STATEMENT FROM THE FORMER OWNERS DATED JUNE 28, 2019**

A day has come that I never anticipated. Due to the the highly restrictive environment that Amtrak has imposed upon us private car owners, along with painfully high prices to store and operate, my family and I have decided to sell the pride of our last 21 years, the *Silver Splendor*. The new owners are Dave and Rhonda Swirk who run the Conway Scenic Railroad in North Conway, NH. My wife, Heidi, and I, along with our two sons, have had the pleasure of visiting there twice in recent years during our visits with relatives in Boston. The lovely line in the White Mountains will now be the permanent home for the former Burlington Vista-Dome, originally known as *Silver Buckle*. It's a fine place with people who deeply care about vintage rail equipment and the *Splendor* will be well taken care of. We would like to sincerely thank all of you who have ridden and chased our car, along with those who have expressed their interest in its history. Hiedi, Martin, James and myself will be forever grateful for having lived the dream of rebuilding this beautiful piece of passenger rail history and for the privilege of being able to share it with all of you. We wish Dave and Rhonda all the best as the new caretakers of the finest that the Budd Company had to offer. The car will depart L.A. for the final time this Saturday on Amtrak train #4, arriving Chicago on the afternoon of the 19th. On the night of the 20th, we depart Chicago on train #48 with Albany, NY as our destination the following day. The car will be taken off at Albany and moved in freight service to Hazens, NH,

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the connection to Conway Scenic. Brian Solomon of Trains Magazine will be aboard to document the voyage and do a few interviews with the former owners and the new ones. Don't be surprised to see an article about the journey in a future edition of Trains. As always, photos and videos of our move would be appreciated. Thank you all deeply. The memories will last a lifetime!

John Caestecker

Former Owner of the Silver Splendor

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## THREE MORE PRIVATE CARS LEAVE CALIFORNIA

This is so very sad. Three more private rail cars leave California for the last time. American Railway Explorer , a division of Anschutz has moved their three private rail cars from Los Angeles to Williams, Arizona and the Grand Canyon Railroad. The three cars are "The Utah" a parlor Cafe-Lounge Car, "The California" a Dome-Sleeper car, and "The Kansas" a open observation business car.

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## ANOTHER PRIVATE CAR OWNER MAKING PLANS TO SELL THE CAR

### THE SILVER IRIS WILL BE LEAVING CALIFORNIA SOON

Yet another private rail car will be leaving California for it's new home by the end of 2019. The Silver Iris is based in Oakland and is a Sleeper-Lounge. We are hoping to offer a oneway excursion onboard this car when it departs Oakland and heads east to it's new owner and home. More details in a few weeks.

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## \*\*\*\*\*FUTURE OF PRIVATE RAIL CAR EXCURSIONS\*\*\*\*\*

We will continue to offer you private rail car tours and excursions with the few cars that have not been sold to leased to shortlines. Since there are only four cars still based in California most of the excursions that we offer will be with equipment based in mid-America such as Chicago. Very few trips will be operated to California so we will be offering our clients new routes in the middle of our country and the east coast. As soon as we have some additional information we will announce it in our newsletter and post it on our website.

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## *UPDATE ON 2019 AVAILABLE SPACE*

**WESTERN STATES TRAINS & TREASURES.....TWO SPACES**  
**WONDERS OF SRI LANKA BY RAIL.....FOUR SPACES**

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# BY POPULAR DEMAND WE BRING BACK TWO TOURS IN 2020

Our good clients have been asking us for sometime now to bring back our “New England Fall Colors Rail Spectacular” and our “Steam in the Andes” of Ecuador, tours. We will operate both of these tours in 2020. New England Fall Colors Rail Spectacular will operate October 3-12, 2020 and the Steam in the Andes to Ecuador will be August 8-22, 2020. Both of these tours are now posted on our website and bookings are open with Early Bird Discounts offered until November 1, 2019.

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## 2020 TRAIN TOURS

We have just opened up the bookings for the first four tours in 2020. They are now posted on our website. In the next few weeks we will be adding several more tours for 2020.

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN EXPRESS.....MAY 15-17, 2020**

Two private rail cars attached to the rear of Amtrak's California Zephyr Emeryville to Chicago. Tickets also available Emeryville to Reno and Denver. The way things are changing so fast at Amtrak this could very well be the only private rail car excursion offered this year. Check it out by going to: <http://www.traintrips.biz/2020-Tours/Rocky-Mountain-Express-2020#details>

**STEAM IN THE ANDES.....AUGUST 8-22, 2020**

Steam tour to Ecuador using Baldwin locomotives over the famous Guayaquil & Quito Railroad. Early bird discount offered. <http://www.traintrips.biz/2020-Tours/Steam-In-The-Andes-2020#details>

**JOURNEY BUENOS AIRES TO LIMA.....SEPTEMBER 6-26, 2020**

Travel through Argentina, Bolivia and Peru. Early bird discount offered..

<http://www.traintrips.biz/2020-Tours/Journey-Buenos-Aires-To-Lima-2020#details>

**NEW ENGLAND FALL COLORS RAIL SPECTACULAR.....OCTOBER 3-12, 2020**

Enjoy the spectacular fall colors in Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. Special early bird discount offered. Check it out click here: <http://www.traintrips.biz/2020-Tours/New-England-Fall-Colors-Rail-Spectacular-2020.php>

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# SPECIAL DISCOUNT OFFER

**TAKE OVER A RESERVATION**

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**RECEIVE A \$800 DISCOUNT**  
**WESTERN STATES TRAINS & TREASURES**  
**RAIL AND NATIONAL PARK ADVENTURE**  
**OCTOBER 16-30, 2019**

We just had a couple that had to cancel their reservation on our Western States Trains & Treasures Rail and National Park Adventure tour. If you can take over this reservation on such a short notice we can give you a \$800 discount per person.

This tour begins in Denver, Colorado and ends in San Francisco, California. This tour is packed full of sightseeing and exciting train rides. Included in our tour is 17 Meals, 6 Western States, 15 Nights Lodging, 7 Railroad Museums, 4 Railroad Workshop Visits, 10 train rides, and 10 National Parks. You can take a look at the detailed day by day itinerary by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.traintrips.biz/2019-Tours/Western-States-Trains-and-Treasures-2019#details>

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