

SOUTHERN PACIFIC NEWSLETTER
Edited by Bill Fowler
March 2024



Although I have edited this publication for more than ten years, I have seldom requested assistance or asked for donations. However, I am sure that many of you have recently noticed that the Southern Pacific Railroad History Center has entered into a long-term agreement with the Barringer/St. Louis Mercantile Library (<https://www.umsl.edu/mercantile/barriger/index.html>). Under this agreement, the History Center will post documents, photos, drawings, maps, and more (Documents) onto the Library's servers. The public will have access to the servers and imagine being able to review all of these items from your personal computers, tablets, iPads, and smart phones, using a robust search engine.

As you might imagine, this will be a huge undertaking, and you can help to make this initiative a success in the following ways:

We need volunteers to post Documents onto the servers. It is not difficult to do, and free training will be provided by the Library.

We need volunteers to scan Documents so that they can then be uploaded to the Library's servers.

Do you have Southern Pacific related Documents that you can donate? Once scanned and uploaded to the Library's servers, they will then be stored in the Library's climate controlled facilities and be curated by the Library's professional staff.

We are fundraising to help pay for the costs to scan Documents and, when necessary, to ship them to locations where they can be scanned.

If you can help in anyway, please email me at wefowler@pm.me. If you wish to donate immediately, please click on the following link for options: <https://splives.org/donate/>.

We are literally in a race against time, and a big fear is that we do not make aspects of the history of the Southern Pacific immediately available online, our great legacy will fade away over time, and that would be a shame. There are many Documents in railroad libraries, in the archives of railroad historical societies, and in private collections. But, and this is a big but, I am not aware of any large undertakings such as the one that the History Center will start in the near future.

Please help us achieve success in this great endeavor!



Octave Lee Carter
October 18, 1947 February 4, 2024

Octave Lee Carter was born on October 18, 1947, in Bakersfield, California, to parents Lonnie and Juliette (Brandon) Carter, and passed away on February 4, 2024, at his home in Sacramento, California.

Known to many as Lee, he is survived by his son, Marcus Cervantes Carter and sister, Lonnedra (Raymond) Lowe. He is also survived

by his cousin Ronald (Marilyn) Brandon and nephews Eric Lowe and Edmond Lowe.

Lee served proudly in the U.S Army before spending his railroad career of 42 years with Southern Pacific/Union Pacific.

**Bobby “Joe” Richmond, Sr.
October 16, 1940 ~ February 6, 2024**

Bobby “Joe” Richmond, Sr. of White Hall, Arkansas, was born on October 16, 1940 in Dyess, Arkansas to George Ausborn and Nellie Dean Sharp Richmond.

He graduated from White Hall High School in 1958, and eventually was employed by the Cotton Belt/Southern Pacific/Union Pacific. He retired as a locomotive engineer with thirty five years of service.

Joe loved to be around his family, and he enjoyed steer wrestling, bull riding, and bronc riding, in which he competed.

He was a member of the Cowboy Church and Greenlee Baptist Church.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents; brother, George W. Richmond; and sisters, Patsy A. Devine, and Bonnie Latham.

Survivors include wife, Kathy Richmond; sons, Joey (Patti) Richmond, Scotty (Tonia) Richmond, and Cody Joe (Lashan) Morris; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren

Do you have a story about your Southern Pacific career that you wish to share with others? If so, please submit your outline to Bill Fowler at billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org.



**Lorenzo Cardenas Gutierrez
September 7, 1939 ~ January 21, 2024**

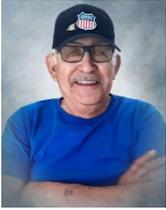
On January 21, 2024, Lorenzo “Larry” Cardenas Gutierrez, age 84, passed away peacefully at his Bakersfield, California home, in the presence of loving family.

Larry was born on September 7, 1939, in Jalisco, Mexico, to Cleotilde and Secundina Gutierrez. Larry moved from Mexico to Texas as a youth, uniting with his family from Jalisco.

After moving to Arizona he worked in the Gilbert, Arizona area. He was dedicated to helping his family, after the passing of his father as a father figure to his siblings. Larry then moved with his family to Bakersfield, California where he began a career with Southern Pacific. Soon after, he meet and married Margaret Pimienta on September 3, 1971. He was married 52 years to his devoted wife Margaret, living in both California and Arizona at times.

Larry and Margaret two children, Lori and Florencio, whom they loved dearly. Larry worked 38 years for Southern Pacific/Union Pacific before retiring.. He loved working in both the Tehachapi, and Bakersfield areas as a welder. After retirement, Larry worked on home projects, and visited with his grandchildren, and family. Larry attended Christian services to strengthen his faith in Jesus, even as his health changed.

Larry is survived by his devoted wife Margaret Gutierrez; daughter Lori Gutierrez Sumner; son Florencio Gutierrez; son-in-Law Gerald Sumner; daughter-in-law Juanita Gutierrez; and seven grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father Cleotilde; mother Secudina; brothers Tomas and Florencio; and sisters Candida and Irene.



Tony "Chimmey" Torres
May 10, 1940 ~ February 2, 2024

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of our dad, Tony "Chimmey" Torres. Tony passed away peacefully at home in Colton, California surrounded by friends and family on February 2, 2024. He is now in the company of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Tony was born on May 10, 1940, growing up in Colton, and residing in that city for most of his life. He is survived by his three sons Ruben Torres, Rod Torres, and Dann Torres. He leaves behind one brother, Willy T. Hernandez, and many cousins, nieces, nephews and grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife Amalia, and also leaves behind step-children Daniel Nanez, Saul Nanez, and Andrea Nanez.

Tony retired from Southern Pacific/Union Pacific after working many years there as a motor track operator. He loved to play the guitar and sing for family and friends. He could often be found playing and singing Spanish songs on holidays and special occasions throughout the neighborhood for anyone that requested a song. Tony was a kind soul with a gentle spirit, always ready to share his love for music with others. His legacy lives on in the melodies he created and the memories he left behind. May his music continue to play in our hearts, a tribute to a life well-lived and a talent deeply cherished. He is best known for the relationships and love he created through his entertaining others. He is now free to play his guitar and sing amongst the Angels and with his siblings and parents who have preceded him.

Dad, Descanse En Paz

Editor's request: When changing email addresses, please send your new address to billfowler@southernpacificjourney.org.

2024 Southern Pacific/Cotton Belt Employee Reunion April 21, 2024 Through April 25, 2024



Hollywood Casino & Resort

711 Hollywood Boulevard, Bay St Louis, MS 39520
· (228) 469-2100, and ask for Buffie to make reservations.

Cost: \$89.00 per room plus 7% tax (\$6.23) = \$95.23

Payment in advance before March 17 required.

Each guest will receive \$20 FREE Play at check in.
Complimentary wireless internet access, cable TV,
welcome table, door prizes, concierge services, and much more
Complimentary \$50.00 for the Sunday's epic buffet
Visitor center and tour of the Mardi Gras museum - Free
Hurricane Museum – Free

Extra cost

Tour of Bay St. Louis via golf cart.
Gulf Port Train Museum - \$12.00 per person
Transportation to and from the airport – working on cost
Transportation to and from museums and events - \$18.00 per day per person

For more information call: Virginia Rodriguez at 281-487-4961 or Leon Roesler at 281-424-4307

