



Grounds & Right of Way



Special Events Volunteers



James H. Andrew Railroad Museum



Tour Guide



Shop Projects



Conductor



Conductor

Volunteer Opportunities



James H. Andrew
Railroad Museum &
History Center
Iowa Railroad Historical Society



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A vast array of opportunities for you...

Volunteers Make it Possible

Most people know of the Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad & The James H. Andrew Railroad Museum. They know that we are an operating railroad museum, located in the heart of Iowa just northwest of Des Moines. Did you know, however, that we are operated mainly by volunteers? We need you to join us as we continue to tell the story of railroading to future generations. You may be asking, how can I help? Read on to learn about all of the different opportunities that exist. There are even some that have little to do with railroading.



Museum

Our James H. Andrew Railroad Museum needs volunteers to assist in many aspects, from staffing the front desk to helping construct displays to conducting research on museum pieces.

Train Crews

Our passenger excursion trains are operated by our volunteers. As a new volunteer, you will receive hands-on training as a brakeman. Once qualified, you can move up the ladder all the way to an engineer. What positions are available? Here is a brief rundown: The **brakeman** assists the engine crew in moving and operating the train. The **fireman** assists the engineer in the cab. The workload will vary depending on the type of motive power (steam or diesel). The **engineer** operates the locomotive that pulls the train. The **conductor** moves throughout the train, visits with passengers, punches the tickets of passengers, and is the person who is in charge of the train and its crew. The **stationmaster** acts as a dispatcher, giving trains clearance to move, and informs the public about what is going on around the trains. **Tour guides** ride the train and relate the history of the line to our passengers. Don't worry, our training program will guide you in the right direction no matter what your background is.

Ticket Window

In order for passengers to ride the trains, they need to purchase tickets! We are always looking for volunteers to sell tickets in the depot. A computerized ticket system is in use. The ability to use a basic web browser will be helpful.

Gift Shop

The gift shop is a popular place for passengers to purchase a souvenir to remember their day with us. As with the ticket window, patrons can't buy items without someone to staff the checkouts!

Grounds and Right of Way

If you enjoy trimming trees or building things, there are plenty of opportunities for you! Trimming weeds and trees around the museum and along the tracks is a constant battle. Whether you can spend a day, or just an hour, you will be making a difference. We also need volunteers to assist with building new sections of track and maintaining the current rails. Tasks can be as simple as tightening rail joint bolts to as in-depth as building new switches.

Special Events

We hold numerous special events, such as Day Out With Thomas, the Pumpkin Express trains, and the Santa Express trains. These events require a lot of help from folks like you to make them successful.

Ready to begin?

Are you ready for an enjoyable challenge? Contact us and we will tell you more about how to get involved! Call us at 1-800-626-0319, e-mail info@bsvrr.com, or visit www.bsvrr.com. All aboard!