

'Railroad Days' at Historic Cold Spring Village, July 28-29

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CAPE MAY – All aboard! Historic Cold Spring Village's Annual Railroad Days will be held on Sat. and Sun., July 28-29, 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Sponsored by the Marsh & McLennan Agency, Railroad Days is the perfect outing for folks interested in railroad memorabilia, model and toy trains, or just enjoying a unique collection in a unique historical setting.

Under the big tent at the Welcome Center and along the Village's shady lanes, visitors will find presentations and displays from a variety of groups. As part of their model train layouts, the South Jersey Garden Railroad Society will exhibit a display of Village buildings and a circus setting, and offer a hands-on experience for children of all ages! On display in the Welcome Center will be the South Jersey Garden Railroad Society's fifteen-foot G scale railroad. Additional groups, including the 4-H Club, Just for Fun, and the Strasburg Railroad Club, will exhibit a variety of models and landscapes.

Railroad ephemera and memorabilia will be on display and available for purchase throughout the Village.

Children can enjoy free toy train rides around the Village, Sat. 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. and Sun. 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.

"This is a wonderful event for the whole family- the model railroads are always fascinating to see in action," said Anne Salvatore, HCSV Executive Director. "Railroad lore is an integral part of the American experience and we are always excited to share that interest with the public."

Two of the Village's historic structures are linked to Cape May County's own railroading heritage. The Rio Grande Station, donated to HCSV in 1974 and recently added to the National and State Registers of Historic Places, was built in 1894 by the Atlantic City Railroad to serve the Middle Township rural farming community of Rio Grande. The Woodbine Junction Tower is a two-story signal tower built in 1894 that originally stood in Dennis Township. It controlled the Woodbine Junction of the Atlantic City Railroad, which was the western end of a branch line that ran east to Ocean City. The tower was acquired by HCSV in 1974.

Historic Cold Spring Village is a non-profit, open-air living history museum that portrays the daily life of a rural South Jersey community of the Early American period. It features 26 restored historic structures on a 30-acre site. From late June to early September, interpreters and artisans in period clothing preserve the trades, crafts and heritage of "the age of homespun." Fun and educational activities for children are featured Tues. through Sun., with special events every weekend through mid-September.

Historic Cold Spring Village is located on Route 9, three miles north of Victorian Cape May and a mile and a half west of the southern terminus of the Garden State Parkway. Admission during the season is \$10 for adults and \$8 for children ages 3 to 12. Children under 3 are admitted free. Unlimited free admission is available with Village membership.

Visit the Country Store, Needle Arts Coop, Bakery and Ice Cream Parlor. The Village Nature Trail at Bradner's Run is open to the public for free self-guided tours. The Old Grange Restaurant by Tony Clark on the Village grounds is open Tues. through Sun. for lunch and dinner; please contact the Old Grange Restaurant at (609) 884-0114.

For more information on events, membership, volunteering, or booking private affairs, please call (609) 898-2300, ext. 10, or visit the Village website at www.hcsv.org.

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