

Snowshed

June 2017

Volume 10 Number 2



- ◆ The snow just didn't quit and had its impact on the caboose museum.
- ◆ New videos in museum enhance Truckee's railroading story.
- ◆ Effort to refresh Caboose Museum under way.

In side

Trestle tour schedules 2
and details announced
for 2017.

Truckee River Railroad in 3
the regional park off to a
great start.

Railroad 1000 foot ex- 3
pansion well under way.
Help is always appreciat-
ed.

President's Letter

Jim Hood

2017 has started out as a very good year for the Truckee Donner Railroad Society (TDRS). The small Museum that we have in downtown Truckee has had very good attendance even though we had an enormous amount of snow the first part of the year. Ed Larson and his crew of volunteers have kept the Museum open and visitation remains high. Bob Bell has started running our Truckee River Railroad in the Regional Park with record ridership and contributions. The run schedule can be found on our website truckeedonnerrailroadsociety.com. We plan to have of the phase two expansion of the "riding" railroad in operation this year. We also look forward to another year of Trestle Tours and other activities that engage our membership and the community.

We continue to work with the Truckee Donner Historical Society to evolve a plan for a permanent museum in Truckee to preserve the rich history of our area. Finding a location for the facility has proven to be the biggest problem. Our first choice for the location has proven to be problematic and we are now investigating alternatives. We will keep you informed regarding our progress.

Caboose Museum Needs Some TLC

Ed Larson

Can you believe our museum is seven years old and seen approximately 30,000 visitors. While it is relatively young, it has experienced its share of wear and tear and now needs some TLC. Required refreshing includes - outside paint, deck restoration, replace two broken windows (not easy as windows are installed from the inside where displays now cover them), display prints and signs are warped and need replacing and cabinet doors need to be built and installed in several area. Some good news, the Town did an excellent job repairing railings damaged during snow removal.

Needless to say, much work is required. If you can help by donating your time and talent or willing contractor contacts it would be greatly

Trestle Tours

Keith Pattison

Trestle Tours are guided, self-driven tours of old railroad lines of the area. See old grade, ties, rail, logging camp sites, and even trestles! At each stop, the significance of the railroad's history is discussed. At some stops, there are short hikes along old grade. Exploration is encouraged! Mostly it is an enjoyable few hours in the beautiful Truckee/Tahoe area talking about whatever comes up. The tours are free, but donations are graciously accepted to the Truckee Donner Railroad Society.

2017 Schedule:

- June 25, 2017 – Fueling the Comstock Tour – Start in Incline Village, NV
- July 30, 2017 – Hobart Estates, Boca & Loyalton, and Verdi Lumber – Start in Truckee
- Oct. 8, 2017 – Hobart Estates, Boca & Loyalton, and Verdi Lumber – Start in Truckee

Fueling the Comstock Tour

The Comstock Lode was the largest gold and silver bonanza in the country! Occurring around Virginia City and Gold Hill, Nevada starting in 1859, the area was desolate and foreboding. It required ingenuity, determination and inventiveness to change the high desert badlands into a prosperous, thriving mining enterprise. Roads, railroads, flumes, water, lumber, mining timbers, cordwood, ice, steamships and people were all resources



that needed to be brought to bear. With none available in the Comstock area, they all had to be provided from the near by eastern slope of the Sierra and the Lake Tahoe Basin. Come hear about the operations, and see remains, historic pictures, and maps of the activities on a tour of where it all happened.

Hobart Estates, Boca & Loyalton, and Verdi Lumber Tour

Come celebrate Truckee's logging history with a tour of the area's logging railroads. We'll travel north on highway 89, swing off the highway and see what's left of the Hobart Mill's locomotive shop, long abandoned logging car bodies, old trestles, and the traces of roadbeds of the Hobart Southern, the Estates [Sierra Nevada Wood and Lumber Company], the Boca and Loyalton Ry. [later the Clover Valley lumber Co.], and the Verdi Lumber Co. railroads.

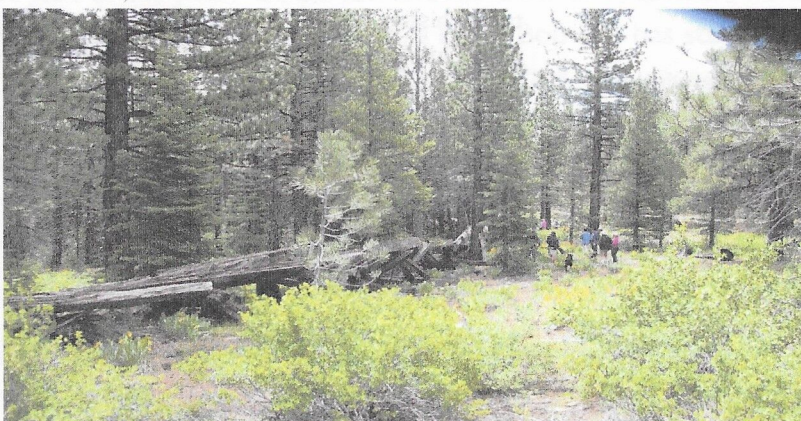
Suggested preparation: Secure a current copy of the USFS'S Tahoe National Forest Map. Read David W Myrick's Railroads of Nevada and Eastern California. Volume I [available locally], pages

416-453, "Logging Railroads-Lake Tahoe and Truckee River Basin", and then additionally pages 398-409 "BOCA AND LOYALTON RAILROAD" and pages 410-415, "VERDI LUMBER COMPANY."

We recommend hiking gear; good boots or hiking shoes are a must. This is a backwoods adventure, so come dressed comfortably and prepared for an expedition. We will hike a couple of miles [broken into smaller segments], and the trip will cover 40-50 miles of paved highway, USFS system roads, some rather doubtful 4 wheel-drive trails, and old railroad roadbed. It will be hot, dusty, and perhaps showery. Please bring whatever food and drink you'd like to have for a long afternoon -- there will be no fast food available on this tour.

Cameras are recommended. Cell phones are allowed, and should be turned off as we leave Truckee. This trip usually takes from 4-6 hours, depending on road and trail conditions, questions, photo opportunities, avid RR discussions, wildflowers, serendipitous finds, etc., and is never the same twice.

Bring: Sunglasses, hat, water, your camera, snacks, and a lunch as food will not be provided. We expect to have some maps to share and maybe a book or two about area logging railroads to examine (but not keep) while we travel.



Truckee River Railroad

Bob Bell

The Truckee River Railroad at the Community Regional Park is up and running. In our first two runs of the season we have had over 500 riders! The turnout has been exceptional with great enthusiasm and exceptional donations.

Our 1000 foot track expansion work continues with much of the track in place and road crossings built (by Mountain Forge) and installed by your volunteer crew. Thanks to many of our Society members who are putting in a lot of time (not to mention blood, sweat and tears) with special thanks to Bill Sunnergren for the use his tractor and Tom Smith for lots and lots of hard work managing the effort.

We can use your help both on our run days and work days. We need a minimum of ten volunteers to help out on run days (see our website for dates) when we are running two trains. Please come out and give us some help.

Thanks again to all our hard working volunteers.

Truckee Donner Railroad Society

Society Mission:

To preserve, interpret, and educate the public about rail-roading life and history in the Truckee region including its contribution to Truckee and the Nation. Specifically, depict railroad involvement in local industry through the acquisition, preservation, and restoration of relevant equipment, documents, and artifacts all to be part of a permanent museum facility in downtown Truckee.

Truckee Donner Railroad Society
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www.truckeedonnerrailroadsociety.com
501(c) 3 non-profit organization

Board of Directors:

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Truckee Railroad museum Vision:

Keeping Truckee railroads alive!

Railroads of the Truckee area played a significant role in founding and developing the town of Truckee. From the blasting of black powder in the granite over Donner Lake, to the hissing of the first steam coming into town, to whistles of lumberjacks in the mountains, to the crack of ice being loaded in the reefers, and tourists flocking to share the beauty of the area, the Truckee Railroad Museum tells the story.

- ◆ A place to Discover
- ◆ A place to Interact
- ◆ A place to Enjoy

Current Projects Seeking Support

- ◆ Caboose Museum Interior
- ◆ Crane Rehabilitation
- ◆ Rotary Restoration
- ◆ Sleeper Restoration
- ◆ Internet Book Sales

If you are able to support any of these projects with your time, talent or dollars, please contact us.

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