

Snowshed

June, 2013

Volume 6 Number 2

Museum Status

Don Davis

I don't have much new to report this quarter but the Editor is banging on my head so here is where we are:

We've made good progress on the Logging Display Upgrade project. The first phase (Sound dome speaker together with the controller and a "push to hear the story" button) is installed and is operational. All of the long lead items for the next phase, (the specially designed spotlights and projector) have been delivered and are currently being assembled into a new display cap which when complete will replace the existing display cap minimizing the down time. Assuming no disasters, phase two, (cycling spot lights and visitor directed narration) will be in operation by the next issue of Snowshed.

We've added a couple of new folks, Carl Pape and Barbara Iler, to the docent crew but still have room for several more. With vacations and Truckee Thursdays adding potentially open days, we're having a few shifts go unfilled causing us to close the museum. If you can find three hours on an occasional weekend to help make the museum a success, please drop me a note (ddavis@ttd.com) and we'll bring you on board.

A Special Member

It was with great sadness we learned of the passing of the Truckee Donner Railroad Society's founding president, Jerry Keyes.

Jerry, with a handful of other local Railroad enthusiasts, formed our Society in 2000, and their vision and mission of bringing a world class railroad museum to Truckee remains as solid today as it was then. Jerry brought his Marine Corps aviator/test pilot background and considerable business skills to bear upon all of us to press forward and achieve our objective. I personally will always remember and appreciate Jerry's confidence in me when he asked me to take the reins of the organization and keep the mission and vision moving forward when he and his wife Jacque decided it was time to move down the hill. For the eight years I served as the Society president, he frequent-



- ♦ Jerry Keyes, Founding TDRS President passes away
- ♦ Annual meeting to be held August 24th
- ♦ Brewster West Foundation makes generous contribution to TDRS
- ♦ TDRS to Participate in 4th of July Parade

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ly came back to Truckee to participate at our annual meetings, and other society events. His continued encouragement, humor, and stories will always be with me as we continue to promote and achieve our founding vision. It goes without saying, we wish his wife Jacque and their family the best and hope we see them frequently in Truckee in the years to come as Jerry's vision continues to grow and is ultimately fulfilled.

Bob Bell

President's Report

Jim Hood

The annual meeting of the Truckee Donner Railroad Society will be held on August 24, 2013 at the home of Jim and Carey Hood, 12929 Filly Lane, Truckee, CA. The meeting will start at 4:00pm with drinks (beer and wine) and a social hour to get reacquainted with your old friends from the Railroad Society and meet some of the new members. Dinner will be served after a short business meeting (no elections of Board Members this year) to address the progress that has been made toward our ultimate goal of building a permanent Railroad Museum in Truckee. Anyone wishing to bring food for the event please bring an appetizer or some desert. Everything else will be provided. Please RSVP by August 16th to Jim Hood at jim.hood7914@att.net or 530-550-1233 so we can make sure we have plenty of food for everyone.

We want to thank Brewster West Foundation for their extremely generous contribution to the Truckee Donner Railroad Society that we received in July 2013. We have used their contributions from the past to upgrade the displays/exhibits in the existing Museum and plan to do the same with their most recent grant. The funding that they have provided allows us to keep our exhibits "fresh" and interesting and provides us the oppor-

tunity to develop the new types of museum technology necessary to expand our audience. We greatly appreciate Barbara and Eric Johnson and their Brewster West Foundation for their continued support.

The Truckee Donner Railroad Society once again had a float in the Truckee 4th of July Parade. This year we commemorated the start of the construction of the Transcontinental Railroad 150 years ago in 1863. One of the purposes of participating in the 4th of July parade is to continue to raise the awareness of TDRS in our "extended community". The parade is a very well attended event and affords us an excellent opportunity to introduce ourselves to a broad segment of the population. We have received very positive feedback regarding our floats in past years and plan to continue with this segment of our public awareness program at least through 2018 (the 150th anniversary of the first "through" train arriving in Truckee).

We continue to have discussions with Rick Holliday regarding our future Museum Development plans. Rick is working very hard to get the funds to build the infrastructure for the Railyard Development adjacent to and just East of Historic Downtown Truckee. Rick remains optimistic that he will be able to get the funds and could start building the infrastructure for the first phase on the Railyard Development as early as summer 2014.

Truckee History Day- August 10, 2013

Truckee's 20 – 150 year anniversary

Truckee Regional Park: 10050 Brockway Road, Truckee
10 AM to 4 PM

We've all seen signs for Brickelltown, the Titus house, the Kruger house, Moody's hotel, and Cabonas, but who were these people? Come to the Truckee Regional Park on August 10th and learn about Truckee's history. You'll find stories from the initial establishment of Coburn's station near the Truckee River to Truckee's role in snow removal and aiding the snowbound *City of San Francisco* streamliner. When you arrive in the park, local historians will be available to give presentations and answer questions.

The Truckee Donner Historical and the Truckee Donner Railroad Societies are sponsoring the Saturday August 10 event as part of Truckee's 20 – 150 year anniversary celebration. Tables "top" discussions will be devoted to the Coburn station and early life in Truckee, the transcontinental railroad, logging railroads of Truckee, the Truckee to Tahoe City tourist railroad, the snowbound streamliner and snow removal. In addition, children of all ages can have rides on model trains run by the Sacramento Valley Live Steamers. Donations will be appreciated.



2013 Trestle Tour Schedule Announced

Mark your calendar, August 11th and October 6th are the dates for this year's trestle tours. If you haven't joined Nelson on one of these tours you are missing a fun day learning of our logging history. Check the web site for details.



Long abandoned lumber RR trestle

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.

Board of Directors:

Jim Hood—President

Bob Bell—Executive Vice
President/Treasurer

Don Davis—Vice Presi-
dent, Museum Operations

Jerry Blackwill—Vice Presi-
dent, Strategic Planning

Ed Czerwinski—Secretary

Nelson Van Gundy —
Historian

Barbara Czerwinski

Steve Disbrow

Chip Huck

Truckee Donner Railroad Society
P.O. Box 3838
Truckee, Ca 96160

www.truckeedonnerrailroadsociety.com
501(c) 3 non-profit organization

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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