

Snowshed

March 2016

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President's Letter

Jim Hood

2016 looks to be a very good year for the Truckee Donner Railroad Society (TDRS). As soon as weather permits, we will start running the Truckee River Railroad in the Regional Park and will start the phase two expansion of the "riding" railroad. We continue to get good crowds in the Caboose Museum that we operate in down town Truckee. We look forward to another year of Trestle Tours and other activities that engage our membership and the community.

As previously announced, we are working with the Truckee Donner Historical Society and the McGlashan Family to define a Truckee History-Railroad Museum to preserve the rich history of our area. We have looked at three areas near downtown Truckee where we could possibly build such a museum. One of the areas is in the Railyard Project that will be built east of and adjacent to Downtown. There will be "civic" property provided by the Developer, Rick Holliday, which would have many advantages as a location. We are in preliminary discussions with other non-profit organizations from our area that could share this civic property with us. An architecture firm, well known in our area, has agreed to work with us to help scope out how the land could be best used. I will keep you informed as this activity progresses.

I want to thank all of our members that have contributed to our membership drive by making their annual contribution to TDRS. Your support is very important in keeping our society healthy and strong



- The Smith Brothers acquire a Forney live steam locomotive
- Snow shed construction to commence this spring
- 1,000 foot extension to park railroad to begin this summer
- Combined Historical and Railroad societies museum planning continues to move forward

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Help needed on several Park Railroad projects 2

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Tom and Bob Smith's new toy - a live steam Forney engine



Truckee River Railroad

Bob Bell

The Society's TRUCKEE RIVER RAILROAD operating schedule for this year is posted on our website. Please note the dates on your calendars and plan to come out and help the operations at the Regional Park: our first shakedown run is Saturday April 30

Our snow shed precut materials should arrive by the end of March and our drop gate crossing arms should arrive in about a month. We will also be scheduling several track workdays with our chief Roadmaster Tom Smith to do the yearly fine tuning and a realignment thru the snow shed. With the help of our chief surveyor, member Tom Nixon, we will also be commencing on the final grading and track laying for our 1,000 foot track extension as soon as the other projects are complete. With the help of many volunteers we have about 80% of the track panels completed.

The Society owned locomotive, a Union Pacific GP35, is almost ready for painting and we hope to have it running on the TRR in June.



Trestle Tours - 2015

Jerry Blackwill

Did you know at one time Hobart Mills was the largest town in Nevada County and dry? Lumberjacks were forced to ride the standard gauge train from Hobart Mills to Truckee where their thirst was amply rewarded.

Hobart Mills was a hub of sawmills, switching log and lumber trains, and railroad servicing. Only the servicing pits now remain of the large locomotive barn. Nelson Van Gundy and Keith Pattison led us past the pits and on to the remains of logging cars around Hobart Mills. Our automobile tour continued up the Little Truckee Valley, past ruined trestles of the three lines that operated there – Hobart Mills, Boca & Loyalton, and Verdi Lumber. At the end of one hot day, we ended up across the Truckee River





Incline Village's incline Railroad.

from the old Boca Brewer site. Some say the ghost of Boca beer exists today in some red boxes at Truckee's Safeway.

The zenith of the season was Keith's lead up to the bull wheel at the top of



See the following article for this years planned Trestle Tours.

2016 Trestle Tours

Nelson Van Gundy & Keith Pattison

Three tours will be offered during 2016. On July 3rd and October 1st, local railroad historian and TDRS board member Nelson Van Gundy will be leading tours into our local logging railroad history. Areas of exploration will include Hobart Mills, The Bocca and Loyalton RR, Verdi Lumber and other areas of interest. Check the Society web page for details during June.

Our third tour will be led by Keith Pattison and will focus on old flumes, railroads and trestles utilized in fueling the Comstock Lode; the largest gold and silver discovery in the world in the late 19th century. This tour will last for about six hours. Bring your camera, lunch and layered clothing. We will stop for a picnic lunch about noon. See below for further details.

2016 Tour:

October 8, 2015—9 am

Meet at:

Incline Village & Crystal Bay Historical
Society Museum (in the same building as
Starbuck's)
899 Tahoe Blvd.
Incline Village, NV
Corner of Highway 28 and Village Blvd.



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 President, Museum Operations

Jerry Blackwill—Vice President, Strategic Planning

Ed Czerwinski—Secretary

Nelson Van Gundy — Historian

Barbara Czerwinski

Steve Disbrow

Chip Huck

Bonnie Thompson (on leave)

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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.

SECRETARY

