Truckee Donner Railroad Society-Newsletter Keeping Truckee Railroads Alive!

Volume 3, Number 3

# Snowshed

September 2010

Railroad Society Unveils Conceptual Museum Model



#### News Flash

- Truckee Railroad Museum Attendance approaches Four Thousand
- Annual meeting elects new slate of directors
- Endowment effort lags behund expectations

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# West End View

If you haven't been to the Museum lately, you haven't had an opportunity to view the conceptual model of our future museum constructed by Jim Hood. The concept incorporates a replica of the stone round house once in use here in Truckee. The round house was a circular structure with 24 sides, 22 stalls and a 65 foot turntable in the center of the building. Built in 1882, it served the Railroad until the 1930's when engine size outgrew the capability of the building.

The interior of the museum will house equipment representative of the types of railroading experienced in the area and space for exhibits and learning activities to tell the Truckee Railroading story.

Why build a "World Class" museum in Truckee? Because Truckee's history is rooted in railroading and we have a "world class" story to tell.

- The nations first transcontinental railroad was constructed through the high Sierra via Truckee.
- The Truckee ice industry enabled the distribution of fresh produce to the east.

### Aerial View

- The area's logging trains enabled the supply of lumber to the railroad, mining industry, and building throughout the west and beyond.
- Local tourism was rooted in tourist railroading.

It is a significant story tied directly to Truckee's history and it needs to be told.

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Director Election Results Announced

# Director elections were held during the annual meeting of the Truckee Donner Railroad Society held at the Bells. The following individuals were elected to your board, and officers subsequently elected by the board at a follow on meeting:

Bob Bell	Vice President /Treasurer
Jerry Blackwill	
Ed Czerwinski	Secretary
Don Cluckey	
Don Davis	
Steve Disbrow	
Ron Florian	
Jim Hood	President
Keith Pattison	
Nelson Van Gundy	/ Historian

Subsequent to the meeting, Keith Pattison advised that for personal reasons, he would be unable to continue his involvement with the Society and he reluctantly resigned.

Over the years, Keith made a number of significant contributions to TDRS and he will be missed. We wish him nothing but the best.

Endowment Contributions Continue to Lag

# Behind Expectations

Need a tax write off? Our endowment provides a great opportunity. At +/- \$7,000, our contributions are \$3,000 behind our \$10,000 objective. Please support this endeavor. Any amount will help.

### President's Message

#### Jim Hood

I would like to thank each of you for electing me the President of the Tahoe Donner Railroad Society for the 2010/2012 term. We have an exciting program ahead of us and a Board of Directors Team that is highly qualified to make the items on the agenda happen. The most significant items are 1) to continue to attract the volume of visitors that we have achieved in the first four months of operation of the Truckee Railroad Museum, 2) complete the definition of the Permanent Museum that the TDRS intends to build, 3) continue to acquire and restore railroad equipment for the Permanent Museum, and 4) significantly grow the membership of the TDRS. I will be reporting the progress on these and other agenda items in future letters.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bob Bell for his service to our organization as President of TDRS for the past eight years. He has provided the leadership to grow the organization from a small number of Railroad enthusiasts into a vital organization that established a vision of creating a museum in the heart of Downtown Truckee and turned that vision into reality. He assembled a team of people to develop a vision for the Museum, planed how it could be built in our existing Caboose, obtained all of the necessary approvals and constructed the Truckee Railroad Museum that we have today. Bob was largely responsible for obtaining the financing for the Museum through donations and in-kind gifts. Bob will continue to serve TDRS as Vice President and Treasurer.

Work Begins to Stabilize Sleeper from Further Rust Related

# Deterioration



Bob Williams, Steve Disbrow and Don Clukey; three local day laborers, grind away on rusty sleeper roof.

Thanks to a \$4,250 grant from the National Railroad Society—Railway Heritage Grants Program, work has begun on the stabilization of our Pullman Sleeper. Current activities involve the removal of rust and loose paint from the top and sides and applying two coats of metal paint. This activity is not designed to "restore" the exterior, only to arrest any further deterioration. Expectations are that the painting of the roof and sides will be completed this season.

Inspection of the car has determined that all windows will have to be removed (and in some cases extensive metal work accomplished) to contain/repair the rust. The windows will then be replaced with new gaskets to ensure they are adequately sealed and further water damage prevented. This activity will begin next season.

Because of the nature of this work, the expectation is that this will be restorative in nature as there is no reasonable temporary fix, other than installing tape around each window (which will be done after painting the sides this year) and doing it twice would be counter productive. This will be a large project and the three guys above could use some help. If you are interested in working on this project, please contact Bob, Steve or Don and sign up!

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# Truckee Donner Railroad Society

#### Society Mission:

Board of Directors:
Jim Hood—President
Bob Bell—Vice President/ Treasurer
Ed Czerwinski—Secretary
Nelson Van Gundy Historian
Jerry Blackwill
Don Clukey
Don Davis
Steve Disbrow
Ron Florian

To discover, preserve, and showcase the history of railroading in the Truckee area to include the transcontinental, logging, tourist and narrow gauge lines and the community facilities supporting those activities. This will be accomplished through the acquisition, preservation, education, community outreach, and display of equipment, memorabilia, and documents relevant to the area railroading in a permanent facility located within the Town of Truckee.

#### Truckee Railroad museum Vision:

# Keeping Truckee railroads alreet

Railroads of the Truckee area played a significant role in founding and developing the town of Truckee. From blasting black powder in the granite over Donner Lake, to hissing of the first steam coming to town, to lumberjack whistles in the mountains, to ice cracking as it loads in reefers, and tourists flocking to share the beauty of the area, The Truckee Railroad Museum tells the story.

- A place to Learn
- A place to Interact
- A place to Enjoy

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

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

#### Current Projects Seeking Support

- Caboose Museum Interior
- Crane Rehabilitation
- Rotary Restoration
- Sleeper Restoration
- Switcher Operational repair
- 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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