

Snowshed

September, 2012

Volume 5 Number 3

Museum Status

Don Davis

Wow! Where did summer go? At long last, the deck is painted. Many thanks to Steve Disbrow and his crew: Nelson VanGundy, Jerry Blackwill, and Ed Larson, who spent a few mornings with a pressure washer, wire brush, steel wool and paint rollers doing the job. The deck and railing look great and are now ready for winter. Thanks guys.

One of the more frequently asked questions arising from the Battling the Snow exhibit is "How do they keep the tracks clear now?" Jerry Blackwill came up with the idea of adding pictures of a current day flanger, spreader, and rotary to the exhibit to answer the question. We've a suitable place for the pictures but, unfortunately, we haven't located any with equipment in action, just some parked in the yard. We think the display will be more informative if it shows equipment at work moving snow. If you have some candidate pictures of a flanger, spreader, and current rotary plow, (sufficient resolution for 8" X 10" size, preferably in color, and that you have the rights to use) please let me know (ddavis@tcl.com).

In previous Snowsheds, I've mentioned the need for more participation as docents and that you don't need to be a trained expert. If you are coming to Truckee for a vacation or whatever purpose and can fit in 4 hours, you can be a docent. Eddie Hunt from Seattle has responded to my call. He is riding Amtrak from his home to spend a week in Truckee and will pick up two shifts during his visit. Thank you

Operation Lifesaver

The Union Pacific Rail Road and Operation Lifesaver came to Truckee August 22 to present an educational program on Railroad safety. The program consisted of an excursion train ride from Truckee to Norden, back down to the Reno station and back to Truckee with an onboard talk on railroad accident statistics and safety efforts. There were over 100 locals on board including several members of the Railroad Society. (continued on page 3)



- Society Elects New Board of Directors and Officers
- Brewster West Foundation Makes Significant Donation
- Society Members Participate in UP/Operation Lifesaver Outing
- Trestle Tour an Unqualified Success

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President's Report

Jim Hood

The annual meeting of the Truckee Donner Railroad Society was held on August 18th at the home of Jim and Carey Hood. It was a beautiful afternoon and everyone appeared to have an enjoyable time talking and dining on good food. A short business meeting was held to elect the Board of Directors for the 2012 to 2014 term. The new Directors are Bob Bell, Jerry Blackwill, Barbara Czerwinski, Ed Czerwinski, Don Davis, Steve Disbrow, Jim Hood, Christopher "Chip" Huck and Nelson Van Gundy. Barbara Czerwinski and Chip Huck are new board members this term. We welcome them aboard and look forward to their contributions to the Railroad Society. Two Board of Directors members, Don Clukey and Ted Owens, have retired from the Board. We wish to express our gratitude for the contributions they have made over the last term and both have expressed interest in working with us again in the future.

We received a very generous donation for the Brewster West Foundation located in San Francisco, CA. This is by far the largest donation we have ever received and is the second year in a row that they have made very generous donations to our Railroad Society. We have a plan to continue to use their donations to upgrade the existing Museum. It is imperative that we continue to keep our existing Museum re-

freshed and interesting to the public. The contributions from the Brewster West Foundation provide the funds necessary to allow us to purchase the equipment and in some instances the specialized expertise necessary to do this.

At the first meeting of the "new" Board of Directors the officers for the 2012 to 2014 were elected. They are: Jim Hood - President, Bob Bell - Executive Vice President, Don Davis - Vice President of Museum Operations, Jerry Blackwill - Vice President of Strategic Planning, Bob Bell - Treasurer, Ed Czerwinski - Secretary and Nelson Van Gundy - Historian. In addition, the responsibilities of the other Directors are: Barbara Czerwinski - Asset Inventory and Community Relations, Steve Disbrow - Editor and Chip Huck - Stabilization and Restoration of Assets. As in the past we have a "working" board and a significant amount of the work accomplished by the Railroad Society is done by members of the Board of Directors. We are always recruiting volunteers to assist with key tasks to help us achieve our short term and long term goals. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Jim Hood at jim.hood7914@att.net or contact any member of the Board of Directors.

The photograph to the right is of a Union Pacific locomotive painted in Western Pacific livery. It is one of UP's Heritage Locomotives depicting one of the railroad's pre-cursor lines. The Union Pacific has similar engines for every line that has merged with them.



Town council woman Carolyn Dee wishes Union Pacific Vice President Scott Moore a goodbye as the passengers leave the train.

It was a beautiful day in Truckee and the trip was both informative and enjoyable. We thank both the Union Pacific and Operation Lifesaver for their generous support of this worthwhile program.

2012 Trestle Tour

Nelson Van Gundy



Society Historian, Nelson Van Gundy answers a question about a Sierra Nevada Wood and Lumber Company (SNWL) trestle.

We had over twenty logging aficionados on August 18, 2012, for the Annual Trestle Tour, including Susan Lindstrom, noted local archeologist. Susan's knowledge of the area was invaluable, and we appreciate the significant addition she contributed! We toured Hobart Mills, and

parts of the Sierra Nevada Wood and Lumber Co. (SNW&L) line, seeing the old engine house location and work pits, remains of log cars and several trestles. We visited a donkey yarding and loading site at Sierraville Summit, and then went through Kyburz Flat, stopping to see the grinding rocks and the old hotel site. We proceeded to the High Trestle remains on the Boca and Loyalton Ry. (B&L), Jammer Chair Flat, Sardine Meadow, and Camp 21. Camp 21 is the location that the SNW&L Co., the B&L, and the Verdi Lumber Co. all passed through at different times, and it still has noticeable remains from those days. We then followed the B&L down to Boca, where we found the switchback that connected the B&L to the Southern Pacific. A grand time was had by all, and a number of new members in the Truckee Donner RR Society resulted!

Truckee Donner Railroad Society

Society Mission:

To preserve, interpret, and educate the public about railroading 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

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 in to 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 Enjoy
- ◆ A place to Interact

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
- ◆ 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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