

Snowshed

Sept 2016

Volume 9 Number 3



- Railroad Museum needs volunteers
- Snow shed construction complete. Functions as ride feature and storage facility
- 1000 foot extension to park railroad underway. Volunteers needed!
- Board members elected at annual meeting
- Don Davis and Bonnie Thompson retire from board. Both will be greatly missed.

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Help needed on Truckee River Railroad expansion 2

Park map with Railroad expansion 3

President's Letter

Jim Hood

The annual meeting of the Truckee Donner Railroad Society was held on September 10th at the Truckee River Regional Park. The Truckee River Railroad had been in operation earlier in the day and we had the opportunity to see Bob and Tom Smiths Forney Steam Engine that they generously run on the Truckee River Railroad.

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 2016 to 2018 term. The new Directors are Bob Bell, Jerry Blackwill, Barbara Czerwinski, Ed Czerwinski, Steve Disbrow, Jim Hood, Christopher "Chip" Huck, Greg Kuzma and Nelson Van Gundy. We welcome our newest Board Member, Greg Kuzma, and all of our returning Board Members.

Two of our Board Members, Don Davis and Bonnie Thompson, retired this year. Don is a long term Board Member and was heavily involved in the planning and construction of the "Caboose Museum". He also had been responsible for its day to day operation since it was first opened. Don will be greatly missed. Bonnie has become very busy with her personal life and her more than full time job – we hope that she will be able to return in the future. This will be a very challenging two year term for the Board as we try to finalize plans for a Permanent Museum in cooperation with the Truckee-Donner Historical Society.

Volunteers Needed for the Caboose Museum

Jerry Blackwill

Want to meet people from around the world and share Truckee's history with them? The Caboose Railroad Museum is looking for volunteers. Our volunteers are museum hosts who welcome our visitors and answer questions about the museum, the railroads, and our community.

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The caboose museum has four weekend shifts - Saturday and Sunday mornings from 10 am to 1 pm and afternoons from 1 pm to 4 pm. The morning Docents open the Caboose at 10 am and the afternoon docents close it at 4 pm. The stuff in between is fun and simple.



Truckee Thursday at the Museum

You don't have to be a railroad expert but it helps to learn a little about the Depot and its history. Learn how many railroads came to Truckee. Find out about the Central Pacific/ Southern Pacific, the Hobart Southern, the Lake Tahoe Railway & Transportation Company and other logging railroads. You can easily do this by wandering around the museum and attending our next Volunteer Training Class where you'll receive some basic task training and enjoy a detailed tour of the facility. Once you've completed the training, you'll have the opportunity to work as a docent once a

month, or more if you'd like.

Thanks to Steve Disbrow for solving the parking problem. Docents can now park in the old Tidewater Service station parking lot on the west side of the museum parking. Pick up a Railroad Society patch and place it on your dash when you park.

For any questions or to sign up for the training class, contact our volunteer coordinator, Ed Larson at edmlar@suddenlink.net.

Truckee River Railroad

Bob Bell

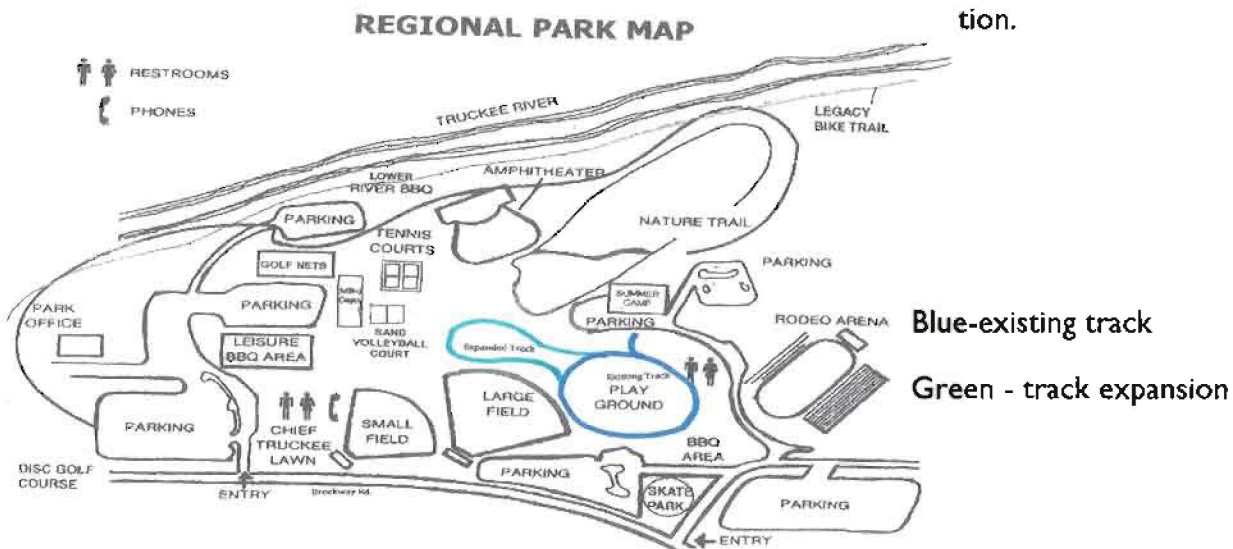
The last run of the Society's TRUCKEE RIVER RAILROAD miniature train at the Truckee Regional Community Park was held on Sept. 24. We had over 2500 kids and family members riding on our 12 run days. Tom and Bob Smith's Forney steam engine was a big hit during the runs and our Society owned GP35 engine was complete enough to see operation for the last half of the summer. Thank you to our train crew Tom Smith (all run days), Teri Smith (8 run days), Steve and Marilyn Disbrow (11 run days), Don Clukey (8 run days), Nelson VanGundy (11 run days), Jerry Blackwill (8 run days), Greg and John Kuzma (9 run days), Greg Zirbel (7 run days), Ed Larson (6 run days), Roger and Laura Skinner (5 run days), Bill Sunnergren (9 run days). Additionally, Glee Willis, Jim Schmidt, and Bob Gray lent a hand on a few run days. Thanks to all for your support although I believe you had as much fun as our riders!

Thanks to the Contractors Association of Truckee Tahoe under the management of Paul Zarubin of Mt. Lincoln Construction, and many of our volunteers, our snow shed is complete. The operating crossing arms are installed and operating as well. We will continue to schedule track expansion workdays with our chief Road master Tom Smith throughout the fall as long as weather permits. Dave Bert our backhoe volunteer is doing a heavy work on several hundred feet of grade cuts with our volunteers doing the side slopes and base rock placement with the help of Bill Sunnergren and his utility tractor. Thanks also to Teichert Aggregates for donation of the rock and Hall's Construction for hauling it. We also completed putting wire screens in the snow shed vents thanks to Greg Zirbel who also formed up our concrete grade crossing and constructed a water tank for lemonade distribution. Other volunteers that need recognition and thanks for multiple workday contributions including work on the snow shed are Tom Nixon, Steve Disbrow, Karl Pape, Nelson VanGundy, Jerry Blackwill, Ed Larson, Greg and John Kuzma, Ed Geiger, and a few others who were there when we needed them.

Thanks also to Bob Smith who has constructed several structures for the railroad including several water tanks, a barn façade complete with two silos, and a windmill. Bob also contributed funds for several new riding cars that are under construction and will be available next year so we can run two complete trains. More volunteers will be necessary to keep it all running. Learning to operate the diesel GP35 train and helping out with the train crew is simple and rewarding and the kids and parents are very appreciative of our efforts.

We also have Ed and Barbara Czerwinski to thank for manning the Operation Lifesaver table to give the kids and their parents some railroad safety information at the end of each train ride.

As usual, please email me "bellbob@sbcglobal.net" your interest in working with us this fall on our track construction.



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
P.O. Box 3838
Truckee, Ca 96160

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

Board of Directors:

Jim Hood—President

Bob Bell—Executive Vice
President/Treasurer

Greg Kuzma

Jerry Blackwill—Vice Presi-
dent, 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 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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