

Snowshed

May, 2019

Volume 12 Number 1



News & Events

- ♦ **New Museum of Truckee History:** “soft” opening was celebrated on May 10, 2019.
- ♦ **Transcontinental Railroad 150th Anniversary Events:** Talks, tours, and other events are planned through Labor Day. More information at: <https://www.truckeedonnerrailroadsociety.com/>
- ♦ **July 4th Parade:** See the TDRS sesquicentennial float!
- ♦ **July 28 Hobart/Boca/Verdi Trestle Tour:** Meet at the Caboose Museum @ 9:30 AM on July 28, 2019. See article on Page 3.

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Presidents Letter

Jerry Blackwill

This is a big year for the Truckee Donner Railroad Society. This 150th anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad will be celebrated with over two dozen talks, events, and tours in the Truckee area.

Our 150th anniversary celebration was kicked off on May 10th with the “soft” opening of the new Museum of Truckee History at the east end of the railroad depot. Photos of planned exhibits were on display that day. Museum exhibits will be constructed and installed over the next 18 months. The museum is a joint effort of the Truckee railroad and historical societies.

This year’s Golden Spike activities will also include talks such as “The Story of Tunnel Six”, “The Chinese and their Importance to the Railroad”, “Logging Railroads”, “Truckee Tahoe Railway”, “Snow Shed Fires”, and a talk about the Boca Brewery by the Anchor Steam Brewery historian. Other activities will be an interpretative walk of the Boca town site, the Society’s float in the 4th of July parade, a historical tour with stories of Jibboom Street, and a Trestle tour drive/walk. The ending event will be a joint railroad historical society picnic with train rides on the Saturday of the Labor Day weekend.

Please join us for this informative and fun-filled Golden Spike year.

For more information, full list of the events and with their dates and locations is on the society’s website : <http://www.truckeedonnerrailroadsociety.com>

New Museum of Truckee History

Jim Hood

We have made a major step forward in establishing a new Museum of Truckee History in the last few months. The Truckee Town Council has approved the terms of a lease for approximately 700 sq. ft. of space at the east end of the historic train depot. A “soft opening” of the Museum was held on May 10th as part of the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the completion of the Transcontinental Railroad, with a temporary exhibit of artifacts from the Historical Society's collection and signs describing many of the planned permanent displays.

The Truckee Donner Railroad Society and the Truckee Donner Historical Society have been working together on this project for a few years and have established a new 501(c)3 organization named the Truckee History-Railroad Museum. The objective of this new organization is to build a new museum that will tell the history of the Truckee area from before there were any permanent residences here through the incorporation of the Town of Truckee. Our vision of the museum is a timeline of Life, Individuals, Industry and Railroading in and around Truckee, through the professional display of artifacts and exhibits, creation of documentary films, access to scheduled lectures, educational programs and research facilities. The planning work for the new museum is well underway and the fund raising committee has been established and is generating the collateral material.



Artist's rendering of the depot museum exterior.

Trestle Tour

Nelson Van Gundy

TDRS resumes its popular “trestle tour” program on July 28th with an exploration of many of the old logging lines north of Truckee. Last year's tour included the engine house site and remnants of logging cars at Hobart Mills, narrow gauge trestles of the Sierra Nevada Wood and Lumber Company, More's Station on the Henness Pass route, traces of the Boca and Loyalton mainline, derelict trestles of the Verdi Lumber Company, and the Boca town site.

The tour will meet at the Caboose Museum @ 9:30 AM on July 28, 2019. Come prepared to drive a lot, hike a little, and bring a lunch. 4-wheel drive or high-clearance vehicle is recommended. Further info @ <http://www.truckeedonerrailroadsociety.com/tour/tour.html>.

Future Plans for the 1950 Pullman Sleeper Car

Chip Huck

In 2008, the Pacific Coast Chapter of the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, Inc. donated the 1950 Pullman Sleeper Car #9053 to TDRS. At that time, it was stored at the Railyard. With the establishment of the Caboose Museum in downtown Truckee in 2009, one of the Pullman roomettes was extracted and displayed in the Museum. With development of the Railyard underway in the spring of 2018, TDRS, with the help of Teichert and Al Pombo and the transport services of Taylor Heavy Hauling, relocated the Pullman for storage in the vicinity of Boca Reservoir. In an upcoming issue of Snowshed, we look forward to sharing with you the working history of the Pullman Car.



Since its relocation, TDRS is exploring options for a permanent home and use for the Pullman. Current ideas under consideration are 1) A kids reading room for a new Town Library, with location to be determined. 2) A kids event facility for birthdays etc., located next to the Truckee River Railroad at Truckee River Regional Park. 3) Or, at the same location, a space for kids to run and operate model trains.

Do you have an idea for a use and location for the Pullman? The sleeper is approximately 80 feet long by 10 feet wide. Please share your ideas with us at tdrs.rollingstock@gmail.com.

Truckee Donner Railroad Society

Society Mission:

Board of Directors:

Jerry Blackwill—President

Bob Bell—Executive Vice President/Treasurer

Ed Czerwinski—Secretary

Nelson Van Gundy —
Historian

Ed Larson—Vice President,
Museum Operations

Dan Cobb—Strategic
Planning

Chip Huck

Greg Kuzma

Jim Hood

Carolyn Wallace Dee

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.

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

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

www.truckeedonerrailroadsociety.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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