

# Snowshed

December 2009

Volume 2, Number 4



#### News Flash!

- Caboose moves to new home
- CATT installs caboose ramp & deck
- Caboose electrical work near completion
- Society initiates campaign to establish an endowment

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## Happy Holidays

This issue is going to focus on our caboose museum. While there is still much work to do before we can open, we are making good progress. Don Davis will discuss our overall museum progress and Keith Pattison will focus on the display status.

## Caboose Project

### Don Davis

The major milestones of moving the caboose and building the deck and ramp are behind us. Our next big milestone will be the Grand Opening. In preparation for the move, several tasks were performed at the rail yard: Northern Forge fabricated and installed two missing grab bars; Chameleon Painting applied a second coat of exterior paint which matches the original paint scheme; the ADA compliant front door was installed. Frank Ross got started painting the signage and side markings until he ran out of time and weather (the work will be completed when time and weather allow). Allen Marshall installed the

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## President's Report

The news continues to be fantastic as our Truckee Railroad Museum is nearing completion. Members continue to be busy on exhibit construction and completion of the adjacent deck and railings. Our Grand Opening is planned for National Train Day, May 8, 2010. We anticipate a soft opening well before that date to fine tune our operation and interactions with the public and our docents.

The Society is establishing an endowment fund at the Truckee Tahoe Community Foundation. The money in this account will forever produce income for our Society's operations and projects. Yearly earnings would fund Society projects and, along with ongoing contributions, grow the fund to provide continued income and financial stability. We have already received contributions from several members, so please keep your Truckee Donner Railroad Society in mind for your end of the year tax deductible contributions and estate planned giving. A contribution to this fund will continue to support your Society in perpetuity, and while most people contribute to a fund with cash or appreciated stock, you can also make a gift of real estate, an interest in a family business, art

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work, or other property. If you have any questions contact me or Ann Pridgen at the Truckee Tahoe Community Foundation.

have many diverse projects and needs that just about anyone can find something that would be of interest.

Our next challenge is to elect a new slate of Directors at our annual membership meeting in July. We will establish a nominating committee at our next board meeting in early 2010, but if anyone is interested in serving on your Board of Directors, please contact me. We do expect our Directors to be actively involved in all aspects of Society governance and operation. We

We can not thank the Truckee Community and our members enough for all the time, money and material that has been provided to us to open the Museum.

Wishing you all the best this Holiday season,  
Bob Bell

### Caboose Project continued

RR tie cribbing for the foundation.

On the evening of October 27, Sierra Crane lifted the caboose onto Al Pombo's Lo Boy trailer. Early the next morning, it was moved to, and installed, at its new home next to the depot. All went like clockwork and the caboose was sitting on its cribbing by 8:00 AM.

completed construction of the ramp and deck over the weekend of November 22.

Additionally: The remaining ceiling bead board has been installed and painted and the trim cut and painted. Placer Electric has completed the electrical installation close to the point where we can hook up power.

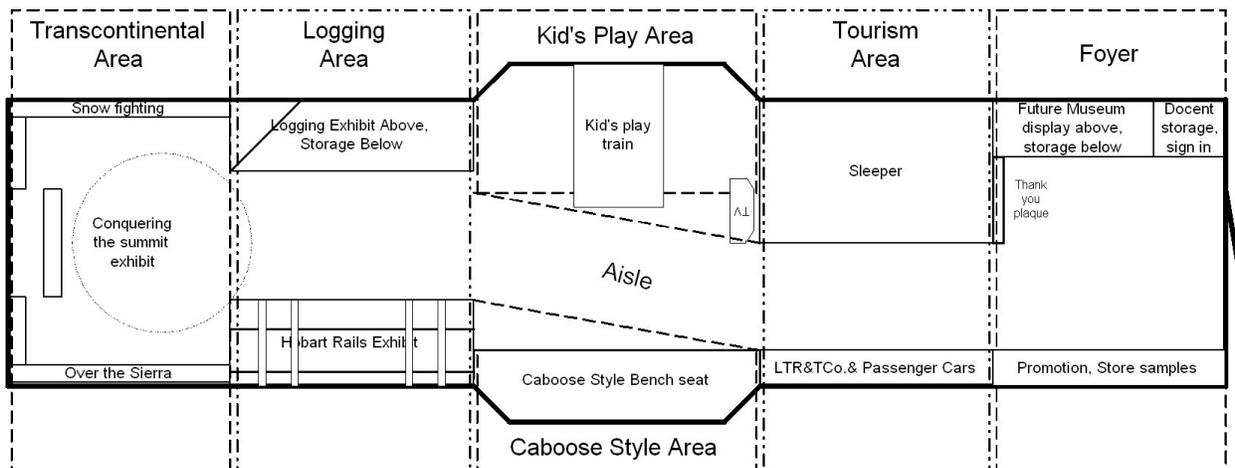
The Contractors Association of Truckee Tahoe (CATT) Community Projects Team volunteered to build the deck and ramp. In preparation, Frank Ross cut and laid out the RR tie foundation and installed the support posts. CATT

The first storms of winter and Christmas festivities have slowed our progress a bit but we should be in position for a "soft opening" before the next issue of Snowshed (weather permitting) and our Grand Opening on National Train Day in May.

## Truckee Railroad Museum Exhibits

Keith Pattison

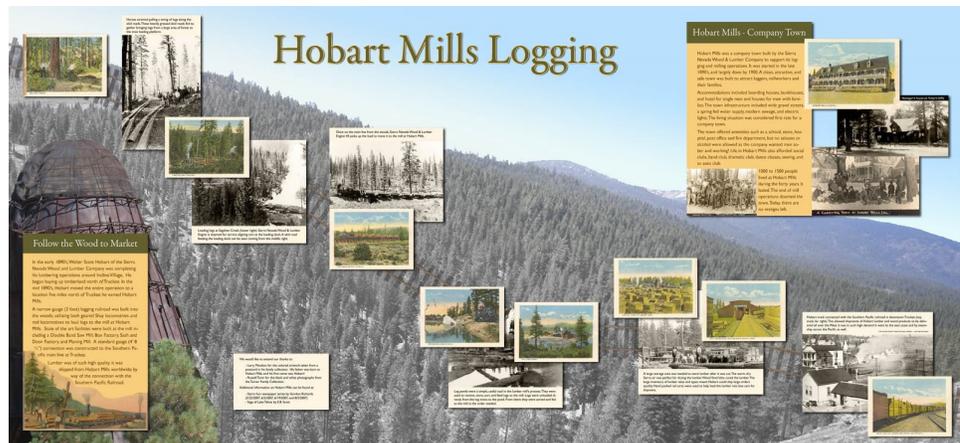
The basic layout of the exhibits remains pretty much the same as reviewed and approved in February. The entrance is on the right.



**Tourism Area –** The tourism area will have two exhibits. First seen coming around the corner will be the LTR&TCo & Passenger Car display. It will depict how railroads contributed in transforming the area from logging to tourism. Across the aisle is a restored sleeper unit from our sleeper car.



**Logging Area –** Logging and lumber played a big part in the development of the Truckee area. In this area, visitors will be able to see the story of one of the companies, Hobart Mills. In addition, there is a beautiful diorama built in HO scale (1:87.1). It depicts a typical logging scene.



**Transcontinental Railroad –** In the mid 1860's the First Transcontinental Railroad was built over the Sierra and through Truckee. The story of the difficult endeavor and some of the people that made it happen is brought to life in the museum. In addition, all the problems keeping trains running over the summit with all the snowfall are shown.



## Society Mission:

### Board of Directors:

Bob Bell—President  
Jim Hood—Vice President  
Don Davis—Secretary  
Nelson Van Gundy—  
Treasurer and Historian  
Sandy Coots  
Steve Disbrow  
Dean Dvoracek  
Rick McConn  
Frank Ross  
Dale Fowler

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

[www.truckeedonnerrailroadsociety.com](http://www.truckeedonnerrailroadsociety.com)  
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 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

## 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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