

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

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To:

PSRHS Activities & Events...

Editor's Comments

There will be no regular meeting of the Society in May due to the scheduled field trip to Rocklin.

The field trip is scheduled for May 22nd. See details included in page 2.

Please forward any comments, suggestions or ideas for trips or other activities to me for consideration and information.

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In this Issue...

Monthly Meeting...

PSRHS will not meet in May. Instead a field trip to Rocklin is scheduled for May 22, 2004 at 9:00 AM to review historic RR sites and a rock quarry.

Membership Information

Individual Members = \$20.00

Family Membership = \$25.00

- Monthly Newsletter
 - Member Activities, Presentations and Field Trips
 - Display & Restoration Projects
- PSRHS, P.O. Box 1776
Colfax, CA 95713

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

Monthly Newsletter

Meeting Minutes-April 22, 2004

Meeting commenced at 7:00 PM at the first Congregational Church in Auburn

Announcements-

- President Roger Staab announced that the Society will have an information table and will conduct caboose tours at Colfax's Annual Spring Fair on Saturday, May 1st. All interested Society members are invited to participate.
- Roger also discussed the Society's first field trip of the year which will take place in Rocklin on Saturday, May 22nd starting at 9:00 AM. Attendees should meet at Rocklin Road where it crosses the railroad tracks. Our guide will be Rocklin native Roy Ruhkala who will take us on a tour of all the sites that involved early railroad operations including the major quarries, the railroad spurs that served them and the 28 bay roundhouse. The tour is expected to last until around 1:00 PM. More details and directions will be included in the May Newsletter.

Program-

- Society member Dave McClain, assisted by fellow Portola Railroad Museum volunteer Dwight Whetstone, described with digitalized photos the rehab of their Western Pacific 805A, a EMD FP7 locomotive built for WP in 1949. It served on the California Zephyr until 1971 when it was traded to G.E., who subsequently sold it to the Louisiana Northwestern RR. There it remained until being acquired by the Feather River Rail Society in 1989. After lying idle for several years, Dave and Dwight began repairing the diesel's 16 Cylinder engine in January of this year and worked long week-ends to get it ready to meet the California Zephyr Excursion train in Sparks on the week-end of April 15-18. Dave expects the 805A to leave the museum at least once annually to participate in rail events.
- Upon the conclusion of Dave's presentation, Roger Staab showed pictures he had taken

of the California Zephyr Excursion train during it's stops in Colfax on the above mentioned week-end

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M. Attendance consisted of 16 members and 6 guests. Jim Peterson

PSRHS FIELDTRIP ON MAY 22.

CPRR Rocklin Roundhouse Site and Granite Quarry Operations

To continue our efforts to learn more about the commerce surrounding the railroad activities along the Donner Pass Route, PSRHS is sponsoring this walking/driving fieldtrip on May 22 at 9AM. Walking will be mostly on level grassy areas, light to moderate effort. We will drive between locations and may carpool from the beginning point.

On this trip we'll see remnants of the CPRR (later SPRR) roundhouse at Rocklin and visit other historical RR sites. We will also visit one of the old granite quarries in Rocklin.

We will hear about the importance of the local granite quarrying operations to the Central Pacific railroad construction over Donner Pass and how the railroad helped get quarried granite to market.

Roy Ruhkala will be our guest guide for this trip. Roy is retired from his family's granite quarrying business that began in the late 1800's. He is a great resource of local Rocklin history. We will look at historic photos and maps of the railroad activities in the Rocklin area.

Meeting Information

Meet at 9AM at the dirt parking area on the west side of the railroad tracks at the intersection of Rocklin Road and Pacific St. in Rocklin. To get there, exit I-80 at Rocklin Road and travel west to the RR tracks in Rocklin. Cross Pacific St. and the RR tracks and immediately turn in to the right. The outing will last 3 to 4 hrs.

If you plan on attending this trip, please call Jim Wood at (530) 346-9607 ASAP so we can plan for the number of people that may be on the trip. Also call Jim if you want need or want further details.