

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

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PSRHS Activities & Events...

Editor's Comments

Welcome to 2005!

Don't forget your membership dues are to be paid this month.

January's meeting will have some video presentations by Brendon Compton showing snow fighting on Donner Summit.

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 tentatively meet on Thursday, January 27, 2004, at 7:00 P.M., at the Pilgrim Hall of the First Congregational Church, 710, Auburn Ravine Road, Auburn. Brendan Compton will presenting snow equipment on Donner.

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

President's Corner

Membership Renewal – It is time again to renew your membership in PSRHS. We will once again be issuing member passes/membership cards. To preserve your sequence number, please renew by Feb.1. In early February, we will generate new member listings with sequence numbers for the 2005 member passes.

Remember that membership dues represent the primary source of income to cover costs of presentation and display materials, field trips, and society documentation and restoration projects. Your membership brings you the monthly society newsletter, information on upcoming events, some bonuses that we hope to add this year, and that all-around good feeling of being involved in supporting the society's goals.

Donations – PSRHS has been the beneficiary of three significant donations this past year. First, board member Dave McClain has made a generous cash donation to be used to support society projects. The board of directors will meet in February to decide on allocation of these funds. We also received numerous photos from the Southern Pacific collection, through the generosity of Jay Hansell. Many of these photos document the early history of the Donner Pass route. Finally, Don Baumgart has donated a painting of a railroad mountain scene in memory of Steve Sparling. Steve was a railroad man who worked AMTRAK and the Reno Fun Train. The painting is from Steve's private collection. The painting and info about Steve will be available at our January meeting. We plan to include the painting in future PSRHS displays.

McCloud Railroad – I just read in the latest issue of Western Railroader (Pacific Coast Chapter, R&LHS) that the McCloud Railroad is discontinuing steam operations. I was aware that the railroad is for sale, and apparently the

steam engines are being sold separately. This writer thoroughly enjoyed a steam excursion on the McCloud last spring, and I'm sorry to see it go.

January Meeting – If we can get him down off the mountain, Brendan Compton will treat us to some recent scenes and stories of the battle to keep Donner Pass open through the recent heavy snows. Brendan has been keeping those on his mailing list up-to-date on what has been happening on the mountain these past few weeks. If you are not getting his updates, suggest you check out his web site at www.donnerrails.com.

Roger Staab, PSRHS President
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Presentation - The presentation topic of our first meeting of 2005 will be made by Brendan Compton of Donner Rails Videos. Brendan has spent several days up with the UP snow removal crews during the latest heavy snows over the Donner Pass Route. He will show footage of the new flangers, and spreader operations. This will be a preview of his next video production of UP's snow removal operations over Donner Pass.



Snow along tracks –LEB photo