

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

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PSRHS Activities & Events...

Editor's Comments



We are still in the process of finding another meeting place, as our relationship with the First Congregational Church will terminate by year's end.

Check out in this newsletter the scheduling changes that have occurred in the proposed programs for the next couple of Months.

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Monthly meeting...

PSRHS will meet on August 22, 2005 at 7:00P.M. at the **Pilgrim Hall of the First Congregational Church**, 710 Auburn Ravine Road, Auburn. The program will feature the Towle Bros. logging RR field trip.

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 September 2005

Donner Route Abbreviated History Booklets

At the August meeting, many PSRHS members picked up your complimentary copy of the new PSRHS-published booklet, *The Donner Pass Route of the Transcontinental Railroad, An Abbreviated History*. Additional copies will be available at the September meeting for those members who have not received their copy. After the September meeting, I will mail copies to members who have not yet received a copy. Extra copies may be purchased for \$3 (excluding mailing).

Niles Canyon Railway Several PSRHS members took part in a special September 11 event on the Niles Canyon Railway. The Pacific Locomotive Association hosted members of the various railroad groups in Northern California for a special excursion through Niles canyon, including a tour of their yard and their numerous pieces of rolling stock.

On summer weekends, the Niles Canyon Railway offers either steam or diesel one-hour excursions from Sunol (SW of Livermore in the bay area) to Niles in the Fremont suburbs, and return to Sunol. They also operate during the winter months, but less frequently.

Their motive power includes a steam engine from the Quincy Junction Railroad, and several SP and WP diesels in gleaming restored condition. If you have not already discovered this interesting excursion line, I encourage you to check them out.

It was very interesting to view first-hand what a dedicated group of volunteers has been able to accomplish. Incidentally, the PLA points out that the Niles Canyon route was part of the original transcontinental railroad, before the bay route was built from Oakland to Sacramento via Martinez. The roadbed through Niles canyon dates to 1865.

For more information, visit the **Niles Canyon Railway** web site at www.ncry.org.



Officers for 2006 A reminder that we are soliciting nominations for PSRHS officers for 2006. If you or someone you know is interested in serving your organization as an officer next year, please contact Jim Wood, head of the nominating committee, at (530) 346-9607, or email Jim at jwoodgeo@onemain.com

Roger Staab, PSRHS President: rsrr@news.com

This Months Program - Due to a scheduling conflict, Dave McClain's talk on motorcars will be set for the November meeting.

Dave Wood and others will instead present a slide show to recap the recent field trip to the Towle Bros. logging railroad at Texas Hill.

A discussion of recent events that will allow our organization to create an outdoor railroad museum in Colfax will also be held.

August 25, 2005 Meeting Minutes

Announcements-

Niles Canyon Railway excursion.

U.P.'s Challenger Steam Locomotive visit. (Both have been completed).

V-P Jim Wood announced that the Society's next meeting on September 22nd would be a program by member Dave McClain on the activities of his Speeder Club. (Since rescheduled to November: ed. note).

The October 22nd meeting would be a field trip to continue exploring the mainline at the point where the last field trip ended. This will take in Gold Run, Dutch Flat, Alta and the former site of Towle.

Jim acknowledged member Jack Duncan's new book entitled *Cape Horn Construction* which is available to members for \$15.00.

