

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

P.O. Box 1776

Colfax, CA 95713

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June 2009



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To:

PSRHS Activities & Events...

Editor's Comments:

IMPORTANT MEETING NOTE:

June meeting date is FRIDAY, JUNE 26, 2009.

This change is due to arrangements to have Jim Mahon to give a presentation for the program.

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

Editor: Lyle Brown, (530) 885-6997

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Monthly Meeting...

The next PSRHS meeting will be held at **7:00PM Friday, June 26th**, in the Multi-purpose Senior Citizen Center on D Ave. at the Dewitt Complex in Auburn. Call (530) 346-9607 for more info.

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 – June 2009

June 2009 Meeting:

SPECIAL MEETING DATE:

This month's meeting will depart from our normal meeting date and will be held on **Friday June 26th**. At our normal time and place. This change is for this month only and is to accommodate the schedule of Jim Mahon who will discuss his role in the dramatic Roseville yard "mishap" when a train carrying bomb ordinance exploded and leveled much of the Antelope train yard. In past meetings we have heard other perspectives of this event. Jim will tell us about his role in trying to pull out pieces of the train before they too exploded and his role in rebuilding the yard in the aftermath.

Field Trip Saturday May 23, 2009:

Our Spring fieldtrip outing on Saturday, May 23rd, drew our largest attendance yet with about 30 people including several new guests to our activities. We began our walking tour in the Colfax Union Pacific train yard to look around at some of the odd pieces of maintenance and rail equipment.

The group then moved to the west end of our tour area to the home of Dave McClain to see the semaphore signal that our society purchased recently as well as to view some of Dave's interesting railroad memorabilia.

We then headed east bound over the site of the former Lower Illinoistown Gap Trestle built in 1865. We then began walking on the original Central Pacific Railroad grades that were abandoned during the 1909-10 double tracking of the SP mainline through the Colfax areas. We walked over about 6 abandoned "S" shaped

sections that now lie on both sides of the current mainline. Evidence of the original CPRR track grades were marked by old Rocklin and Penryn granite culverts beneath the fills, old Central Pacific railroad spikes lying here and there, as well as some original square redwood telegraph poles that paralleled the Central Pacific tracks when constructed in 1865 in the Colfax area.

Following a lunch/refreshment break, the group viewed the caboose restoration effort, looked at the site of a possible future railroad museum and walked to the site of "Oilville" on the Nevada County Narrow Gauge railroad line east of Colfax.

The fine weather this day was enjoyed and we look forward to our Fall outing to look at Cape Horn and vicinity.

Note:

Anyone that took photos of our Spring fieldtrip and would like to share them with our Society for the collection is asked to bring a CD to an upcoming meeting. (Jim Wood, Pres.)

"Donner Crossings"

I would like to thank again Roger Staab for his work on the latest "Donner Crossings" publication. It is a very interesting story of the first business/excursion train that ran from Boston to Sacramento shortly after the golden spike ceremony completing the transcontinental railroad.

(Lyle Brown, Editor)

