

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

P.O. Box 1776

Colfax, CA 95713

Apply
U.S. Postage
Here

March 2011 Newsletter



www.psrhs.org

To:

Editor's Comments

If you have not already paid your 2011 dues, please forward your payment as soon as possible to keep your membership active. Member dues are the primary source of revenue for club publications, meeting room rental and other activities.

Our former newsletter editor, Lyle Brown, has had to resign due to health issues. We appreciate the faithful service Lyle has provided in keeping members informed of upcoming meetings and other events for the past several years. Roger Staab has assumed the editor role for the monthly newsletter, and will continue to prepare special issues of Donner Crossings. If anyone is willing to assume responsibility for preparing and/or mailing the newsletters, please contact Roger or president Jim Wood.

Please forward any comments, suggestions or information for inclusion in future issues of the newsletter.

Editor: Roger Staab, (530) 346-6722 rsrr@exwire.com

Monthly Meeting...

The next PSRHS meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on **Thursday, March 24th**. In the Multi-purpose Senior Citizen Center at the Dewitt Complex in Auburn (enter on D Ave.). Call (530) 346-9607 for more information.

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

March 2011 Newsletter

March Meeting Presentation. Roger Staab will show scenes from two July 1994 excursions on the Feather River Route aboard the UP streamliner train. The first trip, part of the Portola museum's Circle the Wagons July 4th weekend celebration, offered rides from Portola to the Keddie Wye and return, with the train turning around on the Keddie Wye. The second trip was a run up the Feather River Canyon from Oroville to the Keddie Wye, then north on the highline route to Westwood and return. The highline route had not seen passenger traffic for several years prior to that trip.

Donner Crossings. The spring 2011 issue of Donner Crossings is being finalized and should be in the mail next month. It has come to my attention that some members did not receive a copy of the spring 2010 issue, **Colfax and Its Railroads – A Look Back in Time**. If you were a paid member in 2010 and did not receive your copy of that issue, please notify me by phone or email and I will include a copy of the 2010 issue with the mailing of the 2011 issue. See previous page for contact information. *Roger Staab, editor.*

Mailing Lists. We are trying to reduce printing and mailing costs by emailing the monthly newsletter to those who are willing to receive it electronically. For those of you who receive this monthly newsletter in hard copy, if you have an email address and would be willing to receive the monthly newsletter by email, please let me know and I will update our mailing list. We will continue to mail copies of the monthly newsletter to those who prefer to receive a hard copy, and will mail hard copies of the issues of Donner Crossings to all members. Please notify the club of changes in both mailing and email addresses so you will continue to receive publications and information on club activities.

Summary of February Meeting.

News announcements:

A local film producer Bill George, was a guest at the meeting to announce his intention to create a local symposium for all things "Transcontinental Railroad". The idea is to have a day devoted to host presentations by notable authors, researchers, historians, etc., that

have made contributions to the record of the first transcontinental railroad story. Bill has made a commitment to host this symposium in conjunction with the Colfax Railroad Days now scheduled for October 1st and 2nd.

To expand our society's commitment to the support of the Colfax Railroad Days event, members of our group recently met with representatives of the Union Pacific management to discuss the prospect of inviting the Portola Museum's Zephyr train to the Railroad Days event. The notion is currently being evaluated by UP.

February Program

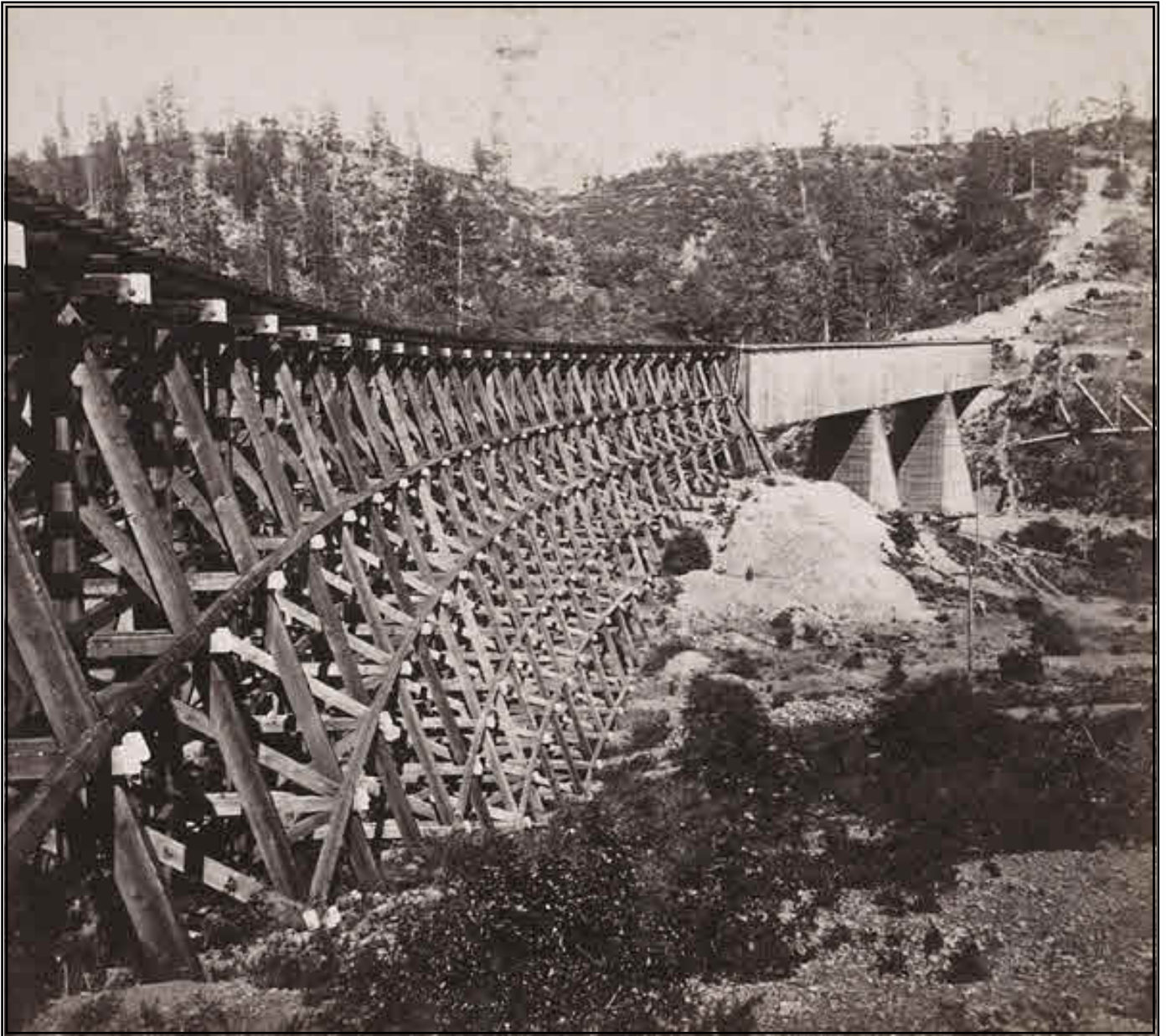
Brendan Compton debuted his newest film production "The Spreader Snow Plow—The New Mega Machines of the Sierra". This film features the rebuilding program of two of UP's aging snow spreaders for the 2009-2010 winter snow season on Donner Summit. This film accurately captures the drama and excitement experienced by all the engineering and rebuilding staff members during the scramble to meet the timetable and deadline to complete the new machines for their trial runs on the mountain. Jim Jordan and Gary Putnam were two guests in the audience who were part of the primary engineering contracting company for the project. They fielded numerous questions following the film from the captivated audience.



Rebuilt spreaders being viewed on June 2010 PSRHS field trip to the Roseville Yard.

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

March 2011 Newsletter



Do you recognize this scene? Much has changed since this Houseworth stereograph was taken shortly after the trestle and wooden bridge at Long Ravine were completed. This view clearly shows the impressive temporary trestle work that was accomplished to carry the transcontinental railroad over the many ravines along the route.

The trestle portion has since been filled in, and the wooden bridge has been replaced with two steel bridges that today cross over Interstate 80 east of Colfax.