

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society



www.psrhs.org

January 2013 Newsletter

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*Mountain Quarries Engine #202 at Colfax Railroad Days.
Photo by Roger Staab*

Scheduled Events & Notices



Jan 19-20 **Great Train Expo Model Train Show and Sale**

– Cal Expo, Sacramento 10am-4pm

– <http://www.greattrainexpo.com/shows/2013Sacramento.html>

Jan 24 **Monthly Meeting and Program** – 7 pm

– Presentation on Mountain Quarries Railroad 100th Anniversary by Mike Lynch

Ongoing Thru January 31

Photographs of Trains at Cafe Luna, 5 West Depot St. in Colfax
Displayed photos taken by Steve Wolf, Chris Hansell and Jay Hansell
Includes photos of UP steam engine 844 in and around Colfax
Proceeds from sale of photos benefits restoration of Colfax caboose

Feb 28 **Monthly Meeting & Program** – 7 pm

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January Meeting – Thursday, 24 January, 7:00PM - DeWitt Senior Center

January Program: Mountain Quarries Railroad
Mike Lynch will present his tribute to the Mountain Quarries Railroad marking its 100th anniversary.

Membership Renewal Time

A reminder to renew your membership if you have not already done so. Effective in 2013 single membership is \$25/yr. Additional cards for family members can be added for \$5 each. If you wish to add family members, please list primary member and family member name(s), and enclose \$5 additional for each family member. A card will be issued for each person.

Leadership Changes

Long-term club president Jim Wood has decided to step down from his executive role with PSRHS. At a January 7 meeting of the PSRHS board Jim submitted his resignation from the board, but will continue to be involved in specific club activities. Jim is one of the founding members of PSRHS, and has served as club president since 2006. Thanks Jim for the excellent direction you have provided and the many hours you invested in club events and activities. See Jim's Past President statement that follows this section.

The board selected Lonnie Dickson to fill the remaining two years of Jim's board position.

Past President's Message from Jim Wood

Due to outside time commitments and family obligations, I have resigned my Board position and role of President of PSRHS. I'm very happy that Lonnie Dickson will fill the remaining two years of my vacant Board position.

As our organization has grown we have incorporated new members with a keen interest in the goals and mission of this group as well as those with new and creative ideas for moving forward into the second decade of our incorporation. Therefore, I am very comfortable in passing the role of President to others in this organization because of the strong leadership we now have in our ranks. I intend to continue active participation in the organization in some of the activities I enjoy and those roles that I feel I can accomplish within the constraints on my time.

I'm very proud of what our organization has accomplished to preserve and interpret railroad history in the

past 11 years. I've thoroughly enjoyed participating in the administration of this Society through its fledgling years and I believe that the most exciting period of this organization's activities and role in preserving railroad history is yet to come.

Jim Wood, past President

Election of Board Members and Officers

Terms of board members Peter Hills, Walt Wilson and Bill Yoder expired at the end of 2012. At the November general membership meeting, their names were placed in nomination for the three board positions, and members voted to re-elect them to three year terms.

Officers for 2013 were elected at a board meeting on January 7. PSRHS officers and board members for the coming year are (board term expiration in parentheses):

President	Malcolm Frost (2013)
Vice-President	Walt Wilson (2015)
Secretary	Shirley Belleville (2014)
Treasurer	Peter Hills (2015)

Board Members

Dave Ferreira (2013)
Ken Yeo (2013)
Brendan Compton (2014)
Lonnie Dickson (2014)
Bill Yoder (2015)

Board Priorities for 2013

At the January 7 board meeting, incoming president Malcolm Frost described his view of the role of the board as providing oversight and direction to the club's activities. Day-to-day responsibility for carrying out specific tasks or programs should be assigned to one or more individuals for direction and execution.

The president and board members discussed several priorities for 2013. These include:

- Obtain grant for completing the Colfax caboose
- Continue to schedule field trips and site visits
- Establish a web cam at Colfax
- Begin to explore participation in 150th anniversary celebrations of CPRR construction completion along the Donner Route in 1864-1867.
- Establish regularly scheduled board meetings. The board agreed to hold meetings at 7PM on the first Monday of odd numbered months. All members are welcome to attend board meetings.

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Board Meeting & Priorities (cont'd from page 2)

Discussions are underway between PSRHS and both UP and the California State Railroad Museum to solicit support for 2013 Colfax Railroad Days.

Treasurer Peter Hills provided a financial report for the close of 2012. Paid membership count stood at 65 at the end of the year.

2012 Income	\$6486
2012 Expenses	\$4358

Chkg Account Balance 12/31	\$2120
Caboose Fund Balance 12/31	\$1088

Colfax Caboose Project Update

Caboose Project Manager Tony Hesch found that four of the primary support columns for the cupola windows could not be repaired or returned to service. Replacement pieces have been milled. Weather and the cold temperatures have held up work parties.

Tony has approached the City of Colfax and requested that they consider reimbursing the Caboose fund for work our club did to replace and upgrade the City's electrical Service to their site called Roy Toms Plaza.

(The old service was attached to the side of the caboose and had to be removed before caboose restoration work could begin). The requested reimbursement includes the cost of permitting the work for the electrical improvements. If successful that will give us a refund of over \$5,000. This would allow us to vigorously return to work on the caboose once the weather improves.

A presentation is being put together for the Colfax City Council's January 23 meeting outlining all the improvements that we have done to the City's electrical system and requesting the reimbursement.

Newsletter Changes

Our list of hard-copy mailings of the monthly newsletter is greatly shortened thanks to those of you who have agreed to receive the monthly newsletter by email. Starting with this issue we are mailing the remaining hard copies in envelopes, thus eliminating the need for the address block on page 4 of previous issues of the newsletter. The layout has been revised to utilize the increased space for news items and photo layouts.



Passing Scene – A common site in Colfax in winter months is a flanger set heading uphill for snow service or returning to Roseville. At times a flanger is staged in the Colfax yard awaiting the call to attack the snowfall at higher elevations. This scene of westbound engines and flanger was taken in April 2006 from the roof of the Colfax passenger depot. Note the snow on the lead engines. *Photo by Roger Staab*

Membership Information

Individual Members = \$25.00/yr
Each Additional Member Card = \$5.00/yr

- Monthly Meetings (4th Thursday) and Newsletter
- Member Activities, Presentations and Field Trips
- Display and Restoration Projects

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

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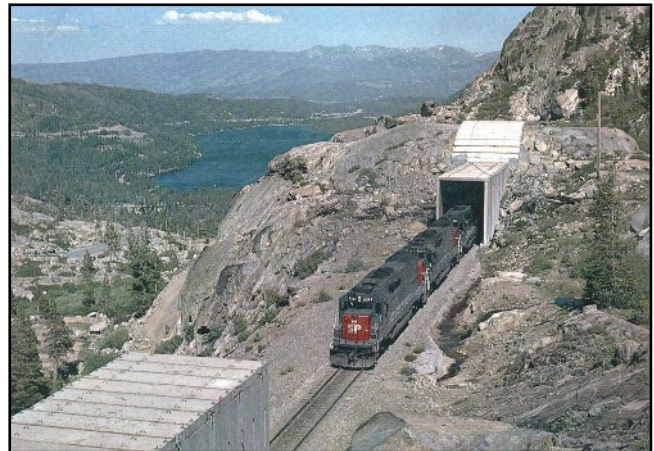
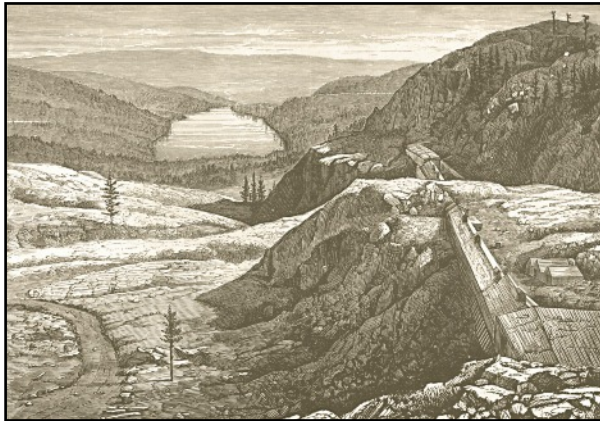
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From the Archives

November Photo: As part of SP's tunnel enlargement program in 1967, summit tunnel 7 was temporarily day-lighted while concrete forms were poured to re-close the tunnel with a concrete cover. Below left is a view of Tunnels 6, 7 & 8 linked by early wooden snowsheds. Tunnel 7 is the rock outcropping between sheds. Postcard photo at lower right shows Tunnel 7 with its newer concrete cover. Photo at right from *SP Bulletin*, Sept. 1967. Photos below left and right from PSRHS collection.



January Photo: While on the subject of tunnels, where and when was this photo taken and what key features can be identified in it? Answers in the February newsletter. Photo from the PSRHS collection courtesy of Dana Scanlon and the family of Gary Todd



CPRR/SP Donner Route Timeline: Summit Tunnel 6 was holed through on Aug. 30, 1867. Tracks from Cisco reached the summit tunnel on Nov. 30, 1867. On Dec. 1, 1867, Central Pacific opened 105 miles of track from Sacramento to the summit of the Sierra Nevada. Tracks reached two miles beyond Summit station by the time winter set in.