

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society



www.psrhs.org

September 2015 Newsletter

2015 Colfax Railroad Days Special Issue

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****No Meeting in September****

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Kids of all ages enjoyed the hands-on exhibits at this year's Railroad Days celebrating 150 years of railroading in Colfax. Roger Staab photo

Scheduled Events & Notices



****No Member Meeting in September****

- Oct 22 PSRHS Meeting and Presentation – 7 pm**
– Auburn Airport Terminal Bldg
– Program - William Burg – 1894 Pullman Strike
- Nov 19 PSRHS Potluck Dinner and Presentation – 6:30 pm**
– Auburn Airport Terminal Bldg
– Program TBA



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*****No Meeting in September*****

**Next meeting 7:00PM, Thursday Oct. 22nd.
Auburn Airport Terminal Building**

*****NOTE: Access to parking in front of building has changed. Turn right at sign for Arbotec Body Shop or continue to parking lot at rear of building.*****

Program: 1894 Pullman Strike – William Burg, CA
Office of Historic Preservation. More details in the October newsletter.

August Program: Roger Staab presented his updated slide show **Colfax and Its Railroads – A Look Back in Time**, on railroad related changes in Colfax through the earlier years, a special tribute for the 150 year celebration.

Colfax Caboose Update

Tony Hesch and his small but effective crew of volunteers completed much of the exterior and interior work on the caboose in preparation for Railroad Days. The caboose was proudly on display for our visitors, and saw a steady stream of families checking it out. The October newsletter will feature the caboose project.

2015 Colfax Railroad Days Sept. 12-13

We are fresh off another successful Colfax Railroad Days celebration. Many thanks to the small core team involved in planning and coordinating activities, and those who volunteered time on the days of the event.

Friday Night Dinner Sept. 11

The event kicked off with a BBQ dinner Friday night at the passenger depot. Colfax Lions took on the task of organizing the dinner. The evening included good food and conversation, raffle drawings, reading of historical moments, and entertaining music.

Railroad Days Saturday and Sunday Sept. 12-13

The main event started Saturday morning with setup of the many venues. The week's heat wave relented a bit

on Saturday -- hot but not too hot. Smoke from area wildfires was a bit of an issue, but did not deter a steady stream of visitors for both days of the event.

Union Pacific provided a sparkling clean set of equipment including a rotary plow and its B unit, a flanger, modern diesel locomotive, and maintenance of way equipment, all available for guests to tour and hear from experts who operate or have operated the equipment. Thanks Union Pacific for providing a great show for our event attendees.

The putt-putt antique engines were a big hit as always. Four model RR layouts attracted lots of attention, two downtown and two at Sierra Vista Center. Also at SVCC were railroad art, kids zone, and the ride-on steam train in the ballfield. Railroad movies were featured at the Colfax Theater. A big hit at the PSRHS booth was the Thomas the Tank engine layout that kids of all ages could operate. The newly renovated caboose was open for visitors, and a car show was held nearby on Main Street. Once again we provided a shuttle train from the caboose area to Sierra Vista Center.

Numerous Arts & Crafts booths and two food trucks set up in the freight depot lot, along with yummy gelato at the passenger depot. Other booths featured Empire Mine, NCNG RR, Operation Lifesaver, CHP, Placer County Sheriff, International Railfair, Lions, Boy Scouts, PG&E, Colfax High Engineering Arts Team (they also provided volunteers to assist us), Siemens Rail Systems, California High Speed Rail Authority, and a monument dedicated to Chinese workers.

Railroad T-shirts sold like hotcakes at the PSRHS booth, and raffle tickets were a popular item with AMTRAK tickets to Reno offered as a grand prize.

I'm sure I missed mentioning someone and if so I apologize but you get the idea.

It was a lot of work putting on the event, but those of us who were involved feel we provided a festive party to celebrate Colfax's 150 years as a Railroad Town.



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2015 Colfax Railroad Days in Photos

Friday Night Dinner



Saturday and Sunday Activities



Roger Staab Photos

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2015 Colfax Railroad Days in Photos



Membership Information

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

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

PSRHS, P.O. Box 1776, Colfax, CA 95713
or join/renew online at www.psrhs.org

Reader comments, additional details, etc., are invited on any newsletter items or photos. Please forward comments, suggestions or information for inclusion in future issues of the newsletter to:

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