

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society



www.psrhs.org

November 2015 Newsletter

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Colfax caboose exterior showing new siding windows, paint and refurbished hardware. More photos on page 3. Roger Staab Photo

Scheduled Events & Notices



Nov 14-15 International Railfair, Placer County Fairgrounds, Roseville
<http://www.internationalrailfair.com/>

Nov 20 *Note Revised Date and Time *****
PSRHS Potluck Dinner Meeting and Presentation – 6:30 pm
– Auburn Airport Terminal Bldg
– Program - Bill Fowler will speak on “The SP in Chicago”

Nov 21 PSRHS Field Trip – Newcastle Area – 9am-1pm
– Details on Page 2

*****No Member Meeting in December*****

*****Reminder – It’s Time to Renew your PSRHS Membership*****



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**Potluck dinner meeting 6:30PM, Friday,
Nov. 20, Auburn Airport Terminal Bldg**

****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.***

Our annual potluck dinner meeting. Bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share. Dinner starts at 6:30. Family and friends are invited to join us.

Program: Bill Fowler – The SP in Chicago

Bill is web editor of the Southern Pacific Journey website www.southernpacificjourney.org, about the proud men and women who worked for Southern Pacific and its affiliated companies.

October Program: William Burg's presented a very interesting and informative program on the **1894 Pullman Strike**. He highlighted the political and economic climate at the time, local impacts of the strike, and the role played by the Sacramento Shops.

Fall Field Trip -- Newcastle -- Nov. 21, 9am

Jim Wood will host our fall field trip Saturday, Nov. 21 in the Newcastle area. The group will meet at 9am in the parking area on the town side of the Newcastle railroad crossing. The day's activities will conclude around 1pm.

There is a lot of railroad history surrounding the Newcastle town area. There are remnants of the original CPRR railroad grades that were abandoned during the double tracking era. The original trestle was replaced by fill then replaced by a bridge. The turntable was located there at end of track. There are also many changes that have occurred to the Newcastle yard/fruit shed areas. We'll conduct a walking tour of the town as well as walk out most of the old railroad grades to see what the original CPRR trackage looked like in the early days.

This will be largely a walking trip. We'll drive a short distance to the start of our walks then return to move to

other locations. Sack lunch and water/beverage is recommended. Also sunscreen, hat, etc.

Please send Jim an email to confirm attendance for tallying the number of fieldtrip guide pamphlets to print. Jim.Wood@psrhs.org For further information contact Jim by email or by phone at 530-320-1276.

PSRHS Oct. 22 Board Meeting Recap

The PSRHS Board met prior to the Oct. 22 regular meeting. Items discussed include:

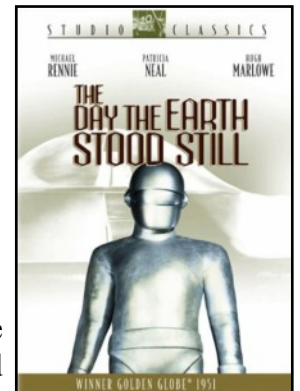
- 2016 Big Day of Giving -- We raised about \$2200 in the 2015 BigDOG but there was a lot of time involved. The board voted to form a committee to pursue our participation in 2016.
- Colfax caboose -- the board voted to form a committee to formulate our club's proposed oversight of the caboose with Tony Hesch as project manager.
- Colfax Railroad Days -- the board voted to notify the City of Colfax that our club will not host the event in 2016, but we are interested in holding the event in 2017 and 2019.
- Cape Horn webcam -- the webcam is down, but its condition is unknown. Bill Yoder agreed to look into the webcam's status and report back to the board with options for its future operation.
- Also discussed were changing the potluck dinner meeting to Nov. 20 due to conflict for the meeting room, and need to fill one board vacancy and vote on three board members whose terms expire this year.

Board Member Elections

In addition to voting on whether to extend three board members whose terms expire this year, there is one vacancy on the board that needs to be filled. Nominations will be accepted from the floor at our Nov. 20 potluck dinner meeting, followed by voting by those members present at the meeting for the four positions. Board members whose terms expire this year are Peter Hills, Walt Wilson and Bill Yoder.

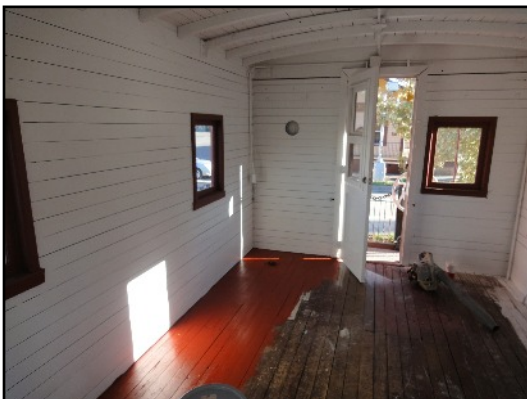


Passing Scene



Alien Sighting in Colfax! What was that strange apparition that appeared on the Colfax caboose over Halloween? Word is that Colfax mayor Kim Douglas provided the robot that appeared in the 1951 movie *The Day the Earth Stood Still*.

The caboose renovation is coming along. Photos below show the interior status, windows, caboose stove and cupola. The caboose will soon have new roofing, and funds are being sought for completion of the interior and interactive displays. *Photos above courtesy of Tony Hesch. Photos below by Roger Staab*



Amazon Smile Fund Raising

We are now part of the Amazon Smile fund raising campaign. We receive a donation to the society based on your purchases. Please feel free to copy and past the link below and include it in all your emails.

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/68-0488569>

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From the Archives

October Mystery Photo: This photo appeared in the Nov. 1998 issue of SP Review. The narrow gauge “dinky” tank engine is removing dirt and debris from the west end of new 368 foot Tunnel 19, being built as part of SP’s double tracking of the route between Rocklin and Colfax. The photo was taken circa 1910 near MP 122.5. *Photo courtesy of Phil Smith*



November Mystery Photo: Where was this photo taken, and what is seen at this location today? *Ken Yeo Collection*

CPRR/SP Donner Route Timeline: 1910-15 Double Tracking. In 1913-1914 double tracking from Colfax to Blue Canyon was underway in earnest. For the most part the second track was laid parallel to the original track. This involved widening Tunnel 1 to make room for the second track, and building a second steel viaduct crossing Long Ravine, which was completed in 1914. Also completed in 1914 were double-track tunnels 33 and 34 at Cape Horn that bypassed the scenic trip around the Cape. But double tracking in the Cape Horn tunnels was short-lived. With tight clearances for meets between large locomotives and gas build-up for eastbound trains, the second track within the tunnels was soon abandoned and eastbound trains returned to the old tracks around Cape Horn.

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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