

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society



www.psrhs.org

January 2018 Newsletter

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*See page 4 for the location of this photo and for another photo from the new book, Railroads of Placer County that will be previewed at the January meeting
Photo courtesy of Art Sommers*

Scheduled Events & Notices



- Jan 20** Colfax Caboose Planning Meeting – 9am at the caboose
- Jan 25** PSRHS Board Meeting (tentative) – 5:30pm prior to member meeting
- Jan 25** PSRHS Monthly Meeting & Presentation – 7pm
Program – Roger Staab - New Book 'Railroads of Placer County' - A Preview
- Feb 13** Inaugural Banquet - 150th Anniversary of Transcontinental Railroad
CA State RR Museum – See Page 2 for details and website
- Feb 22** PSRHS Monthly Meeting & Presentation – 7pm – Program TBA

*****Remember to Renew your Membership for 2018*****



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Monthly Member Meeting 7PM Thursday, Jan. 25th, Auburn Airport Pilots Lounge

January Program: Roger Staab will present a preview of the new book, **Railroads of Placer County**, that he co-authored with Art Sommers. The Arcadia publication includes 200 historic photos and maps to help tell the stories of 14 railroads that operated in Placer County through the years. Copies of the book can be purchased after the presentation.

November Potluck Dinner Meeting:

The November meeting was our annual potluck dinner. Thanks to all who helped set up and brought delicious dishes to share, with special kudos to Shirley Belleville for preparing the ham and the décor for the event.



Photo courtesy of Shirley Belleville

November Program: Peter Hills presented a slide show on the Southern Pacific narrow gauge line that ran from Laws to Keeler. The scenes, many from the 1950's, showed several aspects of the narrow-gauge operations along the east side of the Sierra south of Laws which is near Bishop.

Election of Board Members

The nominating committee proposed the following names for 3-year board terms commencing in 2018:

Chuck Spinks; Shirley Belleville; Don Anderson

By voice vote of members present at the November business meeting, these three were elected to fill the board positions.

Caboose Open for Colfax Winterfest

The Colfax caboose was open for the Colfax Winterfest celebration Dec. 9th with a large crowd in town and a steady stream of visitors viewing the caboose. The kids enjoyed the cupola, and adults enjoyed the photos and other displays and chats with PSRHS members regarding the history of cabooses in general and this one in particular. The interest shown clearly demonstrated the attraction the caboose offers for community events and a means of promoting the activities of PSRHS.

Speaking of the caboose, **a planning meeting will be held at the caboose on Saturday, January 20, starting at 9 AM.** Topics include the City lease, fundraising and interactive displays to tell the caboose story.

Inaugural Banquet at CSRM

Events commemorating the 150th anniversary of the completion of the nation's first transcontinental railroad will be taking place along the Donner Route throughout 2018 and into 2019. To kick off the celebration, an inaugural banquet will be held at the California State Railroad Museum on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 starting at 5:30 PM. The event will include Museum Tours, Documentary Films, Dinner and Entertainment. Details and donation/registration information can be found by clicking on the Upcoming Events tab at

www.uschinarfa.org

Member News

Cami Whitney reported by email that PSRHS charter member **Dick Whitney** passed away October 11 from cancer. She added that Dick didn't suffer and is now running trains with friends in heaven.



Passing Scene

Pennsylvania PRWX 7142 "Greenwich Harbor" was captured passing through Colfax on westbound AMTRAK May 31, 2017. The Greenwich Harbor is a Parlor/dining car that can accommodate up to 37 passengers in spacious first class comfort. It was built by Budd in 1952 for the Pennsylvania Railroad's "Senator" as first class parlor car 7142, "Roger Williams". Acquired by Penn Central in 1968, it was under Amtrak ownership from 1971-1977. The car was purchased by Railway Entertainment Services, Inc. in 1994. Major renovation and redecorating were undertaken by its current owner. It offers spacious comfort with large panoramic windows and open environment, great for socializing, and features one private drawing room, galley and many other features. *Photo by Roger Staab Car info from railcharter.com*



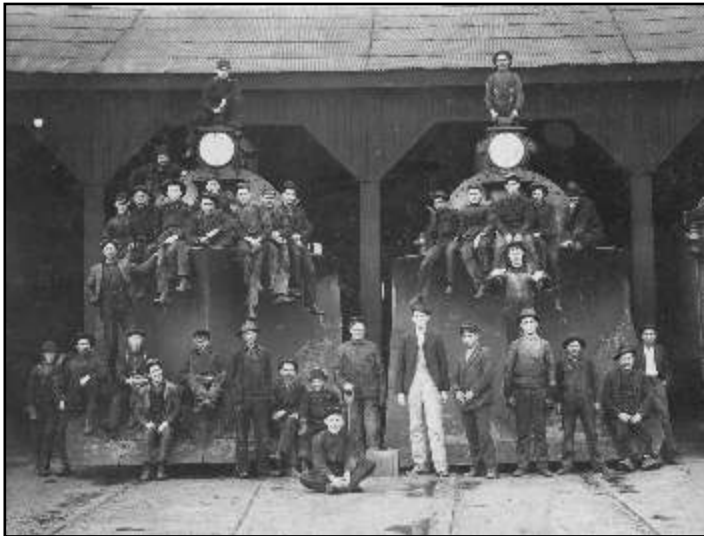
Amazon Smile Fund Raising

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 paste the link below and include it in all your emails.

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

From the Archives

November Mystery Photo (right): For many years the Roseville passenger depot was located in the triangle formed by the wye junction of east-west tracks and the northern route. The train at left is on the tracks that curve to the north toward Oregon, while the train at right is on the Donner Route tracks connecting Roseville and Ogden. *Photo courtesy of Art Sommers.*



January Mystery Photo (left): This photo has added significance due to what happened about a year after it was taken. Where was the location and what was about to happen there? *Photo courtesy of Andrew Brandon.*

This is another of the 200 photos & maps featured in the new Arcadia book, *Railroads of Placer County*, by Art Sommers and Roger Staab, published Jan. 15, 2018. The book provides a short history of 14 railroads that operated in Placer County through the years, some for only a short time or distance, others for many years, with a major railroad still operating

Accidents/Other Incidents. "Railroad Detention. -- Considerable anxiety was experienced yesterday on account of the non-arrival of any of the down trains from Colfax. The morning train, which should have come in at ten o'clock A.M. failed to arrive. The noon train, which should have reached the city at half-past twelve o'clock, did not make its appearance. Rumors were rife on the streets, some of which referred to landslides, others to collisions, others to detention of stages by the snow, etc., etc. Telegraphic information was received in the afternoon, conveying the intelligence that there was nothing serious the matter, and that the trains were on their way down. One of the trains arrived at six o'clock P.M., and was soon followed by the others in their turn. The detention had been caused by two trains having run off the track at different points between Colfax and Auburn. The heavy rains on the new embankments had caused them to settle or in some manner effect the track to such an extent as to cause the accidents referred to." *Sacramento Daily Union, 22 Nov 1865*

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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