

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society



www.psrhs.org

October 2018 Newsletter

In this issue:

October Meeting and Presentation. Page 2

Colfax Railroad Days Recap. Page 2

The Future of PSRHS?? Page 2

Passing Scene. Page 3

Amazon Smile Fund Raising. Page 3

From the Archives. Page 4



A Union Pacific Heritage Locomotive was the featured guest at this year's Colfax Railroad Days. See page 3 for more photos.

Scheduled Events & Notices



Oct 25 PSRHS Monthly Meeting & Presentation – 7pm
– Brendan Compton – Rotaries II Video

Nov 15 Potluck Dinner Meeting & Presentation – 6:30pm
– Program to be announced

No Meeting in December

Future Programs//Events

Nov 10-11 International Railfair, Placer County Fairgrounds, Roseville
<http://www.internationalrailfair.com/>



Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

October 2018 Newsletter

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

October Program: **Brendan Compton** will provide a sneak preview of his soon-to-be released video titled Rotaries II. Brendan's videos provide appealing entertainment for both railfans and the general public.

August Program Recap: **Chuck Spinks** was slated to discuss the final months of the race to Promontory, and correct some of the myths about the Promontory event. However, the presentation was **canceled since only one person showed up** other than board members who were there for the board meeting.

Colfax Railroad Days Recap

Colfax Railroad Days 2018 was a qualified success. We had three indoor model railroad setups at various locations downtown, and the live steam models in the gazebo parking lot. Railroad movies were shown in the theater, and the single cylinder engines were a hit again in the grassy area by the depot. UP brought a heritage locomotive, a rotary plow and the flanger set.

We had just enough volunteers to staff the various venues supported by PSRHS, but only because several people worked 2, 3 or 4 shifts during the two days. Kudos to the following people for helping out:

Peter and Sam Hills - most of 4 shifts
Jim Wood - most of 4 shifts
Roger Staab - most of 4 shifts
Don Brown - 4 shifts
Mike Haire - 2 shifts
Don Anderson - 2 shifts
Walt Wilson - 2 shifts
David Wilson - 2 shifts
Jim Rutherford - 2 shifts
Rita Dolphin - 2 shifts (community volunteer)
Paul Greenfield
Mona Anderson
Bruce Choate
William Wauters
Ken Young
Phil Smith
Bill Yoder

Special kudos to **Jim Wood** for all the effort he put into coordinating with UP and arranging spaces and support to meet the needs of the model railroad groups.

Also to **Peter Hills** for once again responding to a last-minute change in UP's insurance requirements.

Finally to our jack of all trades, **Dave Ferreira**, the unsung hero in the background creating electrical service where there was none and being available both days to respond to special needs that arose.

A few others notified me as to why they were not available to help that weekend and I appreciate that.

The Future of PSRHS??

Two things happened this past month or so to make one question where our group PSRHS is headed. First, only one person showed up for the August program presentation. The program was to be done by one of our members who lives in Auburn. We didn't have a speaker who had traveled far for the meeting, but if our monthly programs are to continue, we owe it to our presenters to show decent turnout for their programs.

Second, after multiple solicitations by your editor for volunteers to help with railroad days – the one event PSRHS co-sponsors, we still had a dismal turnout. Kudos again to those I listed earlier who did help and especially to those who were willing to work multiple shifts to ensure we had coverage.

We cannot rely on the same few people to show up to help at every club sponsored event or activity, whether it is railroad days, a field trip, or a cleanup or repair project such as the caboose work parties. Perhaps it is time to take a hard look at whether PSRHS is still a relevant and viable organization, and if so what its future direction should be.

If you have input you would like to provide or suggestions for future direction of the club, contact one of the PSRHS board members or send me an email and I will forward it to the board. Or consider getting involved. The events, publications, field trips, etc. don't happen by magic.

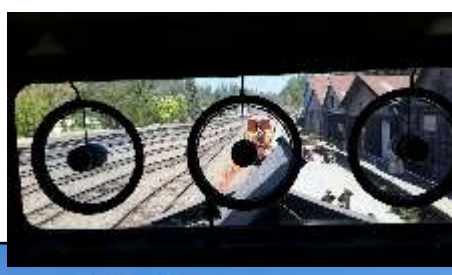


Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

October 2018 Newsletter

Passing Scene

Colfax Railroad Days 2018. Union Pacific provided a flanger set, a rotary plow, and the Rio Grande heritage locomotive UP1989. It is a great looking locomotive and displays well, but unfortunately it was parked at the far end of the consist alongside the fruit sheds, and thus was not visible to visitors unless they walked the length of the displayed equipment. Visitors could go inside the flanger and the rotary cab, but UP decided to not allow access to any of the locomotives, so they were displayed in a look, don't touch mode. That was unfortunate because many people never get the chance to see the inside of a locomotive, especially the newer ones, and a cab visit was a highlight at other events I have attended. For instance, at a past Dunsmuir RR Days, UP1996 was prominently displayed at the central turntable and there was a steady stream of people waiting for a cab visit. That said, we are fortunate that UP provided some nice equipment to display in Colfax. Photos below include three of the four model railroad exhibits at this year's event. *Photos by Jim Wood and 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 paste the link below and include it in all your emails.

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

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

October 2018 Newsletter

From the Archives

August Mystery Photo (right): This photo shows SP 4139 cab forward leading an eastbound freight out of Colfax. The date on the photo is February 1940. Note the NCNG tracks at the far left beyond the Standard Oil Company building. Location is just west of the Hwy 40 (now Hwy 174) bridge. Note the speeder-type maintenance vehicle without a cab at the bottom of the image. *Photo courtesy of Brian Wilson*



October Mystery Photo (left): What is taking place in this photo and what is the location and approximate date? *Photo courtesy of Colfax Area Historical Society Walter Keck collection*

Accidents/Other Incidents. Consistent with the lack of attendance at the August PSRHS meeting and the very limited response to multiple requests for volunteers to assist at Colfax Railroad Days, your editor decided he didn't feel like doing the research for this month's Accidents/Other Incidents entry. Perhaps it will return next month

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:

Roger Staab (530) 346-6722 roger.staab@psrhs.org

