

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society



www.psrhs.org

May 2022 Newsletter

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PSRHS members enjoyed an informative tour of the Siemens facility in Sacramento and an inside look at their latest railroad products. See page 3 for details. Photo courtesy of Paul Greenfield.

Scheduled Events & Notices



May 24 PSRHS Monthly Meeting, 7PM – Program: Paul Helman – Central Pacific Government Debt - Buyers Remorse, the Supreme Court, James Speyer and more.

Jun 4 - Sep 3 Placer County Heritage Trail Tour of Museums. See page 2.

Jun 25 Colfax Museum & Caboose Open House 9-4. See page 2.

Jun 28 PSRHS Monthly Meeting, 7PM – Tentative

Jul 1-4 Great Western Steam UP - Carson City. See page 2.

NOTE: UP Big Boy July West Coast Steam Tour has been postponed indefinitely

Please consider joining PSRHS or renewing membership for 2022
See the box at the bottom of page 4 for details. Thank you for
supporting our railroad history preservation activities.

Preserving Railroad History on the Donner Pass Route



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May PSRHS MEETING Tuesday, May 24, 7PM, Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall

May Program: Paul Helman will present **Central Pacific Government Debt - Buyers Remorse, the Supreme Court, James Speyer and more. Was it ever paid off?** – The fascinating story of the events, actions, and people who dealt with the Central Pacific Railroad's government debt.

PSRHS member Paul Helman is a 20 year docent at the California State Railroad museum. Prior to starting his volunteer work at the museum he had a 32 year career with the Procter and Gamble Company serving in a number of technical management positions.

The program will be presented live at the Auburn Veterans Memorial Hall. See our web site for directions.

April Program Recap: Kyle Wyatt presented **The Central Pacific Story: Building the Western Half of the Pacific Railroad**, covering the many-year lead up to the Transcontinental RR, and the roles of Central Pacific and Union Pacific in the actual construction.

UP BIG BOY WEST COAST TOUR POSTPONED

On April 22 the UP Steam Club regrettably announced that the West Coast Tour had to be postponed. UP has placed its focus on efforts to ease supply chain congestion. The tour will likely not be rescheduled until service performance levels return to normal.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

Our program director is building a calendar of future programs for our monthly meetings. Program Chair Peter Diurni would like your ideas for future speakers and programs. You can email him at petediurni@hotmail.com

HERITAGE TRAIL TOUR OF MUSEUMS IN PLACER COUNTY June 4 – Sept. 3

Placer County Museums is sponsoring the Heritage Trail series of open houses at museums throughout Placer County. A different museum or museums will be featured each weekend from June 4 - Sept. 3. Visit the web site for a detailed schedule.

<https://www.placer.ca.gov/7375/Heritage-Trail>

The Colfax museum in the restored passenger depot **and the Colfax Caboose** will be featured on **Saturday, June 25 from 9am-4pm. The caboose will be open and staffed by volunteers from PSRHS and the Colfax Area Historical Society.**

If you are willing to help staff the caboose, contact Swend Miller at swendm@icloud.com. We'd like to have at least 2 people at the caboose to provide history insights to visitors both inside and outside the caboose. This is a great opportunity to promote PSRHS and local railroad history.

GREAT WESTERN STEAM UP July 1-4, 2022

The Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson City will host the Great Western Steam Up July 1-4, 2022. This event will celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the completion of Nevada's famous Virginia & Truckee Railroad with an exciting pageant of steam locomotion, train rides behind visiting narrow- and standard-gauge steam locomotives, food, live entertainment, "lost art" demonstrations and more! It will include the largest reunion of existing Virginia & Truckee locomotives assembled in over 75 years, including the famous Reno, No. 11.

For more information and to purchase tickets for the event in advance at a discount, visit their web site <https://greatwesternsteamup.com/>





Passing Scene – Field Trip to Siemens Sacramento

On April 19 several PSRHS members were treated to a tour of Siemens Manufacturing facility in South Sacramento. Siemens is very busy these days with a number of contracts underway to produce locomotives and railcars for AMTRAK and regional transit lines as well as their on-going light-rail vehicle production. A walking tour of the facility provided the visitors with an overview of the entire manufacturing process and the numerous pieces of equipment currently in production.

The tour was informative and interesting, and questions were answered with insight while maintaining the interest of attendees. This field trip and site visit was available to paid PSRHS members and spouses.

Photo courtesy of Paul Greenfield.



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.

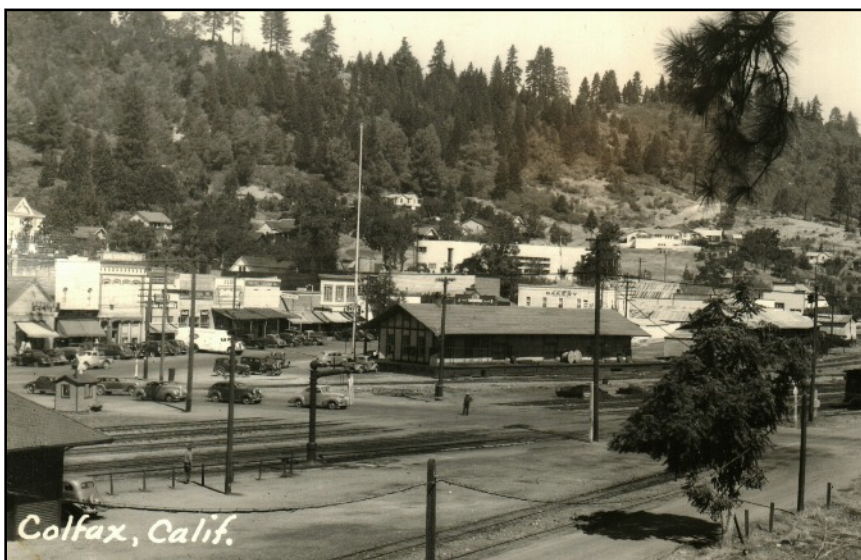
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/68-0488569>

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From the Archives

April Mystery Photo (right): SP 2252 is being transported to its new home at the Placer County Fairgrounds in Roseville. It had seen fire train service prior to its retirement. The locomotive was later moved to its current location between Atlantic St and the tracks just east of downtown Roseville. *Ken Yeo Collection. PSRHS*



May Mystery Photo (left): No trains in sight but cars are stopped because of two railroad-related features visible in this circa 1940 view of the Grass Valley St crossing in Colfax. Can you spot them? Hint - you may need to magnify the image to make out the details. *PSRHS Collection.*

Accidents/Other Incidents. *Auburn Journal*, Nov. 6, 1913 – **Clerk Hit By Train** – William Hancock, clerk in the Southern Pacific office at Dutch Flat, was struck by a westbound passenger train at 2:30 Thursday morning and thrown thirty feet. Luckily he escaped with only severe bruises on the hip and side, no bones were broken. He was taken on the train that struck him to the Railroad Hospital at Sacramento.

Just how the accident occurred is not known, but it is thought he attempted to cross the track.

Membership Information

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

- Monthly Meetings (4th Tuesday) 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 <https://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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