



# The Mountain GAZETTE

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## From The President - Sharon Breen

What a wonderful spirit is present as Santa and all his elves do a great job of hosting the second **Annual Holiday Express**. Many expressions of cheerful giving were in the preparing of this gala event for the public. There were some grunts and groans, but I believe they were ones of satisfaction.

Inside the Hall of Flags I especially felt the compassion between members, as our cooks also dealt with 'Grandma Lily', who unfortunately fell and was taken to the hospital. Still they cooked and served hot dogs, cheeseburgers and terrific soups and stew, as well as keeping the cookies for decorations going. So many thanks to Dana, Barb, Cindy and to Mort & Louise who stepped in to help them during those difficult hours. Amidst this, Dennis was doing the Santa Clause stint perfectly! Alex, (Ward's grandson), Kaitlynn and Jacob, (Les Dent's GreatGrans) were very helpful to Santa during his visit.

Outside Linda and Jim were busy registering guests before they boarded under Steve's direction, as Trainmaster, from the K&W. Up to the Hall of Flags, now transformed into Santa's home and workshop by volunteers Russ & Linda Wood, Sabra & Jim Rickman, Pam Panzik, Peg Schubert and Dennis & Mort Ediger. Trains and track were prepared by Lee Bruer, Charlie Bill Schubert, Larry De Broi, Les Dent, Dick Sharp and Steve Panzik. Some worked lonely cold mornings, in the days before the event, by themselves. Other tasks were done in joint effort. Sonya and Jerry were their usual helpful selves as well. Greg, Myra, Helena and Jason Petersen came to help at the event also. The result was another amazing welcome to the public for a Train Ride, Santa Visit with optional Photos, Cookies to Decorate, Crafts to Create, Trains to watch and good Food to eat including fresh Popcorn!

A hearty "Well Done" from me to each and all who helped. Now a few days before the crowds come again! More elves will be welcome as more visitors are expected next weekend and several of those here for the last weekend cannot be here next weekend! Lots of activity and lots of fun, although it isn't just the cool air that can keep you feeling breathless!

A note on conservation: Comparing electrical consumption of the last three years shows a 43% decrease for the month of Oct. and 53% decrease for Nov. and that's just in the main building! Good job, Folks, for turning off lights, heaters, & keeping doors shut for warmth, etc. It may not seem like much but **it does add up!!** Next month the propane consumption will be looked at. It certainly is a time which provokes thinking of ways to not waste resources.

The snow reappeared this morning after rain in the night. Then the sun was out today, Wednesday, and it was beautiful. Just a nice frosting of snow...exactly what is wished for.

Wishing each of you a Happy Holiday Season,

Sharon - sharon@trainmountain.org

## From The Editor — Russ Wood



Do you believe? Do you believe in magic or the Easter Bunny, or the Tooth Fairy, or how about that most mystical dude Santa Claus? Well if don't believe, that is just because you probably have never seen the Easter Bunny, or the Tooth Fairy, or even Santa Claus. Now I'm not real sure about the Easter Bunny or the Tooth Fairy, but that jolly fellow in the bright red suit, I know he exists and he is surrounded by lots and lots of magic! Now you might ask, did I really see him? Yep, he was right here at Train Mountain last weekend for the Holiday Express. He had his elves change the Central Station building into a replica of his own North Pole. He even had some elves running miniature versions of his Polar Express train. Several hundred believers showed up

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to go for a train ride to the North Pole to see Santa and his elves. The believers got to decorate cookies, decorate ornaments, write letters to Santa, sit on Santa's lap and tell him if you were naughty or nice and to just enjoy the wonderful magic of Christmas and Train Mountain. Speaking of Santa's lap, I'm not sure who was having the most fun, they were as young as 3 weeks old to 54 years young and all had Santa smiling right back at them. Good job Santa!

On Saturday we had light rain and very cold winds. On Sunday we had a little sunshine and a whole bunch of smiling faces all day long. The elves that had worked so hard for the past few weeks got to see a lot of lasting Christmas memories being made for a lot of little ones. The magic of Train Mountain was in full swing and the great volunteer members made it all happen. In this issue is a list of those that helped in this great venture. There were no easy jobs or even jobs so hard that nobody would do them. What ever needed to get done got done. Every single person on that list was here early in the morning and stayed until the last. I personally would like to thank them all for a job well done. I urge you all to try and be here for these really special events. These special events are all about giving back and not at all about us.

In the preparation phase of the Holiday Express many of the locals worked tirelessly at trying to keep the track open. They used shovels, brooms, snow blowers, and a lot of man power. When I asked them if they were getting tired of the work, the answer was not surprising for somebody from Train Mountain, the answer was 'work, this is not work. this is fun!' Sounds like the Polar Bear Meet to me! Anyhow, the track was in good shape and so was all of the equipment. Thanks gang.

Make sure you get your dues in before the end of the year. A large part of the funds that it takes to maintain Train Mountain come from the dues. There are lots of projects for 2011 and of course lots of things that need a little tweaking here and there. Train Mountain needs the funds, it also needs you to come and give us a hand at the tweaking part.

Next up is the Polar Bear Meet. The meet (if we have snow) will be Fri – Sun, Jan 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> 2011. The locals have had some practice but we really need you to come and get in on all the fun! Bring warm clothes for wet and cold conditions. Be sure to be able to keep your ears and your hands warm. A good supply of dry socks is also a real good idea. It really is fun just ask any fellow members who have braved the elements to give it a try. See ya' in January.

The holiday season is when families come together to celebrate the past, the present and the future. It is also a time to give thanks and to help those that are in need. It is a time for all of us to support one another. Linda and I would like to wish you and yours the very best of this holiday season.

Russ Wood, Editor - russ@hobby-tronics.com

### The Cast of Characters

Sharmoni	Addington
Jerry	Balf
Louise	Balf
Sharon	Breen
Lee	Breuer
Boyd	Butler
Twila	Butler
Kydara	Carter
Kaitlynn	Colapietro
Richard	Cox
Jerry	Day
Les	Dent
Larry	Dubroi
Dennis	Ediger
Mort	Ediger
Chris	Kuehl
Michelle	Kuehl
Louis	Mooney
Bert	Newberry
Pam	Panzik
Steve	Panzik
Greg	Petersen
Helena	Petersen
Jason	Petersen
Myra	Petersen
Houi	Ray
Jim	Rickman
Sabra	Rickman
Charlie	Schubert
Peggy	Schubert
Arlene	Siquidson
Richard	Stark
Althia	Stephens
Barbara	Ward
Dana	Ward
Dennis	Ward
Cindy	Wendt
John	Wheelock
Linda	Wood
Russ	Wood

# Holiday Express



Santa arrived via his very special steamer (no solid fuel, just some hot air I think) and was greeted by Charlie the Greeter and inside by Pam the conductor. What a way to start the festivities.

# Holiday Express



We had four trains running all day. The outside pictures are from Sunday, Saturday was not a real good outside kinda' day! That really is sunshine that you see.



Most of the snow around the track was gone by Sunday.



If you want to know why we do this, this is the reason. Dennis is a great Santa and Kydara is well, she is just a love!



There was even some local groups participating.



There was lots to see once you entered the North Pole.



The ladies made a ton of great looking things for the raffles.



Looks like the kids enjoyed playing in the snow, or watching the trains going by, or just eating those delicious Christmas cookies fresh from the oven!



# TRAIN MOUNTAIN RAILROAD

## 2011 AND 2012 SCHEDULE

### 2011 WORK WEEK AND TRAIN MEET SCHEDULE

#### Polar Bear Train Meet

Friday, January 15—Monday, January 17, 2011  
(Banquet is Potluck 6:00 Saturday Evening)

#### Narrow Gauge Work Week

Saturday, April 30—Thursday, May 5, 2011

#### Narrow Gauge Train Meet

Friday, May 6—Monday, May 8, 2011  
(Banquet is 6:00 Saturday Evening)

#### May Work Week

Saturday, May 28—Thursday, June 2, 2011

#### May Train Meet

Friday, June 3—Sunday, June 5, 2011  
(Banquet is 6:00 Saturday Evening)

#### Operations Set Up & Work Week

Saturday, June 25—Thursday, June 30, 2011

#### Operations Meet

Friday, July 1—Sunday, July 3, 2011  
(Banquet is 6:00 Saturday Evening)

#### August Work Week

Saturday, August 6—Thursday, August 11, 2011

#### August Meet

Friday, August 12—Sunday, August 14, 2011  
(Banquet is 6:00 Saturday Evening)

#### September Work Week

Saturday, September 3—Thursday, September 8, 2011

#### September Train Meet

Friday, Sept 9—Sunday, Sept 11, 2011  
(Banquet is 6:00 Saturday Evening)

#### Fall Colors Train Meet

Friday, October 7—Sunday, October 9, 2011  
(Banquet is Potluck 6:00 Saturday Evening)

### 2012 WORK WEEK AND TRAIN MEET SCHEDULE

#### Polar Bear Train Meet

Friday, January 13—Sunday, January 15, 2012  
(Banquet is Potluck 6:00 Saturday Evening)

#### Narrow Gauge Work Week

Saturday, May 12—Thursday, May 17, 2012

#### Narrow Gauge Train Meet

Friday, May 18—Sunday, May 20, 2012  
(Banquet is 6:00 Saturday Evening)

#### 2012 Train Mountain Triennial Work Week

Monday, June 16—Sunday, June 24, 2012

#### 2012 Train Mountain Triennial

Monday, June 25—Sunday, July 1, 2012  
(No Banquet during Triennial)

#### Operations Set Up & Work Week

Saturday, August 4—Thursday, August 9, 2012

#### Operations Meet

Friday, August 10—Sunday, August 12, 2012  
(Banquet is 6:00 Saturday Evening)

#### September Work Week

Saturday, September 1—Thursday, Sept 6, 2012

#### September Train Meet

Friday, Sept 7—Sunday, Sept 9, 2012  
(Banquet is 6:00 Saturday Evening)

#### Fall Colors Train Meet

Friday, October 5—Sunday, October 7, 2012  
(Banquet is Potluck 6:00 Saturday Evening)

**Oregon Shores II Lots for Sale**  
**Owned by Train Mountain member, Dick Gemeinhardt**

This well established subdivision is located on a bluff overlooking beautiful Agency Lake with its breathtaking backdrop of the Cascade Mountains, and is just a few miles from Train Mountain. Association fees were only \$200 for the year 2010, and include all your household water, road maintenance and access to the beautiful 17-acre Agency Lakeside park.

**Lot 25 Deerpath:** 29,842 SF (more than 2/3 acre!) \$17,464. Adjacent to this lot is

**Lot 16 Woodland:** 23,651 SF (another half an acre +!) \$16,784. Grassy, rolling building lots, with nice views of the Cascades. Bought separately, each is large enough to be able to have a horse! Buy them both for a total of 1.23 acres for lots of elbow room, and enough space for your site-built or manufactured home AND a shop!

**Lot 47 Kerry:** Huge Lot! 30,466 SF (7/10th of an acre!) of grassy, rolling topography with power at the lot. Nice views of the Cascades. \$15,847.

**Lot 54 Rainbow:** Wonderful level grassy home site with super Cascade Mountain and Agency Lake views. Great for site-built or manufactured homes. Power is about 300' away. \$11,876.

**Call Dick Gemeinhardt 360-703-7063**

**HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO SELL?**

Place an ad in the Gazette!

1/8 Page: \$25/month or \$250/year

1/4 Page: \$40/month or \$400/year

1/2 Page: \$70/month or \$700/year

Full Page: \$125/month or \$1250/year



**NOTICE:** The TM office will be closed from Dec. 20th through Jan. 3rd. Messages and emails will still be checked. Store customers who order from now until Christmas will be called if higher, (for faster) shipping costs are incurred. The store will remain open through the Holidays.

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