



The Mountain GAZETTE

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An Official Publication of the Train Mountain Railroad Issue: Vol. #3 Issue #8 March 2014

From the Editor - Russ Wood

So NO, you didn't miss the February issue, we didn't send one out. It was decided not to as we were awaiting the outcome of the Klamath County Planning Commission Meeting in regards to our request for a Train Park Zone designation.

So here is the March issue and we are back to our **regular** schedule kinda! Charlie Bill in addition to being our main postal guy, keeps the office in line each morning. Bert has already been out for a pass with his pine needle sweeper. Jim and Sabra made us a really nice handout to give to visitors to allow them to go for a walking tour of some of our prototype equipment. Boyd has several of the locomotives serviced up and ready to go and is always working on making the BackShop better and cleaner. Dana, Rose and Barb started the raking season off and there has already been a train or two to the burn pit. Dana, Rose, Barb and Pam, with a little help from Boyd, keep us and our guests well fed during some of these events, thanks. Larry fired up his branch trimmer and filled up a debris train of his own. Steve is busy installing more really cool railroad artifacts around the property, be sure to see if you can spot the new ones! Debra is back on staff and hard at it too! Of course as soon as all that got started it snowed again a little! 59 yesterday, 17 today! Got to love Chiloquin, eh! eh!

During our 'freebie meet' for the special Planning Commission Meeting we also had a good group of volunteers that came for the meeting, the meet, and got a good start on some 2014 projects, thanks to all.

Things are starting to get busy for this season already. Folks are calling in and emailing us wanting to know when our meets are, about scheduling their groups for picnics etc, and some are just dropping by for a visit.

If you have a friend or an acquaintance that has never been to Train Mountain before remember we have our FREE visit promotion going on for 2014. Please see the write up elsewhere in this Gazette. **WE NEED TO RECRUIT MORE MEMBERS!**

From the President - Tom Watson

There was no Board of Directors meeting during February, as no agenda items were submitted to the Board that could not be resolved via email. This past month the volunteers at Train Mountain spent all of their available time dealing with the Central Station Septic System issues, member guest room upgrades, the **Special Open House Meet** and Planning Commission meeting preparations - the first step in the process which has a goal of rezoning Train Mountain. Hopefully, the details of the above items will be reported elsewhere in this Gazette. The next BOD meeting is not yet scheduled.

2014 Train Mountain Train Meet Schedule							
	Kitsap Week	Spring Awakening	Narrow Gauge	Operations Meet	August Meet	Big Build Meet	Fall Colors
Work Week	4/13 to 4/19	5/3 to 5/8	5/24 to 5/29	6/21 to 6/26	7/26 to 7/31	8/30 to 9/4	No Work Week
Meet	No Meet	5/9 to 5/11	5/30 to 6/1	6/27 to 6/29	8/1 8/3	9/5 to 9/7	10/10 to 10/12

I would like to encourage everyone to renew their Train Mountain memberships for 2014 as soon as possible. The volunteers who must process the renewals would like to get the paperwork done soon so they can go play trains when the weather improves rather than be stuck in the office all year. Also, since Train Mountain operates with funds from memberships and meet fees, early renewals provide us with the funds to make improvements prior to the running season instead of after the season.

I hope everyone is making plans to attend the Spring Awakening Work Week and Train Meet. We really need everyone's help to get the railroad ready for the running season. The local volunteers cannot get it all done without help. All of this is a must do situation before we can get to the daunting task of track tuning. The railroad is BIG, 36 miles BIG. This is a lot of track to maintain and keep in a safe and fun condition. This is NOT possible without your help. So let's get the place cleaned up, then fixed up, so we can all enjoy the great Train Mountain.

In addition, for the modelers out there we have painting and repair of the miniature buildings needing attention.

Weather permitting, we are already out there starting this work. Anyone with spare time is encouraged to come and help with the chores any time. It does not need to be during a work week or meet.

Our website statistics show we had 1,460,559 Hits and 314,563 page views for February 2013. We reached 9417 unique visitors, and we had 36,822 total visits. These stats are significantly down from previous months, but this is to be expected during the off season.

Our visitors continue to like pictures far and above all else. My gut feeling is they really like pictures with trains the best!

The Gallery continues to be the most popular destination on our website with 59,742 page views, with the Interactive Map coming in second with 1559 page views, the Home Page with 1384 page views, the live camera page with 735 page views, and everything else following with much smaller numbers.

Everyone knows about slideshows, but what is our new Interactive Map? The Train Mountain Interactive Map, at this time, is a map of the railroad south of South Chiloquin Road. The long term plan is to create additional Interactive Maps for other areas of Train Mountain.

Please see the detailed Instructions for use of the Interactive Map in a separate article.

From the Back Office - Dennis Ward (desk jockey)

I spend between 40 and 50 hours per week at Train Mountain. I get a lot of input from members and guest regarding their perspective of what Train Mountain is and what it should/could be. I get input for my dream about what I will do when I win the lottery. Or, what we can do as a membership if that does not happen. Below is a list of my vision of what we as the membership can do.

Upgrade and maintain the infrastructure by refinishing the exterior of all of the buildings. This would include all of the miniature buildings on the property. I would upgrade the camping and RV facilities by adding washrooms and showers to all camping areas (Six Acre, Blue Caboose, and South Meadow). Upgrade the electrical at Blue Caboose so that each of the sites would have at least 30 amp electric available.

If at all possible I would add more bedrooms, probably in the bunkroom cars and cabooses next to Main Yard, in order that more volunteers could stay on campus. The 10/6 passenger car alongside Train Mountain Road could also be refurbished to provide housing for volunteers. If we make the Santa Fe and Burlington Northern cabooses habitable the persons staying there would provide added security. While the cabooses are being made livable I would add a place to park an RV at each site. RV site amenities would include water, septic and 30 amp electric service. This would give the volunteers who are refurbishing the cabooses a place to stay while the work is being done. I might add some park model RV's at South Meadow with water, septic and electricity. For those of us who like it a little more primitive I would add yurts or tepees at more remote sites such as Hope Circle, Witcombe Wye, Schubert Wye, Beauchamp Siding, etc.

Once zoning is in place, I envision housing for more permanent residents with track going right up to their homes. People who will be here to help in the office or help as docents. These will be volunteers who main-

tain the track, right-of-way, buildings, etc. year round and help to direct the seasonal volunteers in maintaining Train Mountain.

Once there are enough volunteers in place then the signs can go up, directing visitors to this world class Train Park.

My dream includes a bridge over South Chiloquin roads so that me can get track to the cabooses on Caboose Ridge. I also have vision of track along the south side of Caboose Ridge to Farmersville Circle which would also give access to Caboose Ridge.

That's it folks! All it takes is time and money.

Membership Talley for 2014 Season - Dennis Ward

Membership data for 2014 is as follows:

Empire	1
Yard Boss	7
Participating	7
Supporting	25
Family	110
Individual	62
Life	30
Total Memberships for 2014	252
Family Members not included in above	214
Total of all member categories	466
2013 Members not yet signed up for 2014	289
(this figure includes Members and their families)	

Revenue from 2014 Memberships

Empire	\$1,000
Yard Boss	3,500
Participating	1,750
Supporting	3,750
Family	8,250
Individual	3,100
Total Revenue from Memberships	\$21,350

To date we have issued 34 season passes (does not include those to for Life Members and Empire Members) totaling \$3,940. Five Polar Bear passes garnered \$155 and 1 Narrow gauge for \$35 and 1 Big Build \$25.

Meet Revenue total **\$4,155**.

Total Revenue for 2014 season, to date, from Meet and Memberships equals **\$25,505**.

Social Media News - Chris Donhost

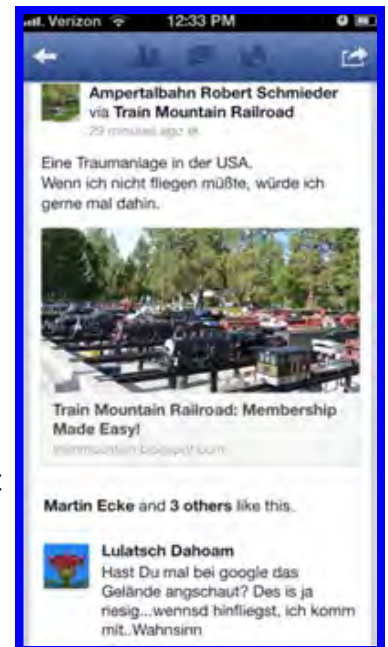
February's social media report is very short. I want to share with you a Facebook screen shot from Germany.

Translation:

From Robert Schmieder: [It's] a dream location in the USA. If I didn't have to fly, I would gladly go there.

From Lulatsch Dahoam: Have you looked at this site on Google? It's great. [Let me know] when you fly there. I'll come too. Crazy!

Did you see the announcement in January's newsletter? There is a video contest on the horizon. Please stay tuned!





The Scouts Are Coming - Jim Armstrong

Train Mountain is hosting a Boy Scout Campout the weekend of May 16th, 17th, and 18th and we need your help; that's the weekend in between the Spring Awakening and Narrow Gauge Meets.

The scouts will be staying in Six Acre Campground, doing their normal scout activities, and also performing a community service project for TM – raking, loading, and disposing of track side pine needles from many areas south of South Chiloquin Road.

We hope to have 10 trains ready for them; each train with sufficient riding cars, pine needle bin cars, and the necessary hand tools to do the job. The project starts at 9am, Saturday, May 17th and will last until lunch time that day.

If you are able and willing to volunteer your locomotive and time to help with this project, please email (armstrong.jandq@gmail.com) or call (208/484-0073) Jim Armstrong to sign up. We will also be giving the scouts a Friday evening train ride around the K&W track and could use a few extra locos for that event too. Our final involvement will be Saturday afternoon where TM members will staff two special events that the scouts will rotate through as part of their “patrol competitions”. The first of the two special events will be trying their skills at the “John Allen Switching Game Track” (those special rails between the Fuel Depot and the Grand Junction - K&W Selector switch) and the second special event will involve rail bikes – details of the second event are still being explored.

If you would like to be part of this “First” for Train Mountain, please give me a call or send an email.

Thanks for your interest and support – more next month.

STACKS – Library News - Jim and Sabra Rickman

A big thank you goes out to Rose Dobbs for a recent gift to the Library: Locomotive (2013) by Brian Floca, which follows a 1869 railroad journey. This book has received The Caldecott Medal, which is "given to the artist who had created the most distinguished picture book of the year."



We have also received a copy of: The Brix Logging Story: In The Woods of Washington and Oregon, by Peter Brix and Bryan Penttila, signed and donated by Brix. This new book follows the lives and careers of 4 German born brothers.



Come to the Library and check out these new acquisitions. Also, we are in need of a computer and a VCR.

If you would like to join the Train Mountain Library Committee, please contact the Rickmans.

Museum Donations Needed - Steve Panzik

I have been searching for several years for a reasonably priced relay cabinet/mast for a Magnetic Flagman Wig Wag Crossing signal. We have the motor and banner here at Train Mountain, but not the correct mast.

The Wig Wags were made by the Magnetic Flagman Company of Los Angeles, Ca.

They were very common throughout California and Oregon through circa 1990 with a few examples still in service.

The mast is located in Roseville, Ca and offered to Train Mountain for \$1200.00. These masts generally sell for approx \$2,000.00, or \$3,000 to \$3500 with the motor and banner, if you can even find one in operating condition.

We are requesting members who remember these signals or appreciate preservation to help acquire this

mast with a donation to offset the cost. Steve will make the trip to Roseville to get it. It is our hope to erect this signal along with a Western Railroad Supply no. 5 Wig Wag that is here in the collection and have them in service this summer.

If you wish to donate to this project please make checks payable to: Train Mountain, noting for 'Signal Project' on the check, and mail to Train Mountain, P.O. Box 438, Chiloquin, Oregon, 97624. If donations exceed the \$1,200 needed then the excess we would like to have applied to a fund to repair and weatherize the roof on the BN boxcar which we use for storage.

Interactive Map Instructions - Tom Watson

A thumbnail (Thumb) is located on the tmrr.org Index or Home page, on the bottom right side just above the Footer. The Slideshow Thumb is just to the left of the Map Thumb. The Slide show is accessed by clicking on its Thumb and then choosing to either run the show or step through the images manually. Clicking on the X, or clicking in the middle of the slide, or clicking off the slideshow will close the show.

The Interactive Map is probably different than most have experienced, and needs a little explanation. The Map is opened the same way, by clicking on its Thumb. Closing it is a different matter. It can only be closed by clicking on **CLOSE** on the upper right side, or by clicking anywhere clear off the Map.

Once you click on the Map Thumb, the Interactive Map will appear. It is the track map for the south side with which most people that have ever visited TM are familiar. However, this version has a bunch of **RED DOTS**, and a few **BLUE DOTS** scattered around the Map.

The **BLUE DOTS** indicate that a Slideshow of images from that location on the Map is available by clicking on the **BLUE DOT**. Some of these only have a few images, with more to be added. Once you click on a **BLUE DOT**, the Slideshow that appears works the same as described above, except that when you close the Slideshow you return to the Map instead of the homepage.

When you click on a **RED DOT**, a single image of what is at that point on the Map will pop-up. It closes the same way as a Slideshow, returning you to the Map. It has another feature, should you choose the Play icon on the Control Bar, this will cause all **RED DOT** images on the Map to be played as a single Slideshow.

The Control Bar will be visible at the bottom center of the image whenever you use the mouse pointer to hover over the image, but will disappear when the mouse pointer is moved off the image.

Another unique feature is associated with six of the perimeter **RED DOTS**. They are all aerial photographs of Train Mountain thanks to the antique airplane club, and some of them can be zoomed quite large by clicking on the Zoom icon on the Control Bar. The image which can be zoomed the largest is the **RED DOT** in the lower right hand corner. Be aware that these are large high resolution images, and will take some time to load.

Winter is not the best time of year for getting out and taking pictures of areas on the map for which I have no good stock images, or just can't find what I am looking for because there are so many to look through. Thus, there are some images on the Map which will be replaced as better ones are located.

The long-term goal will be to develop additional Interactive Map segments covering all of Train Mountain, but it will take some time as it is a huge project. Let me know if you like the Interactive Map and would like to see Maps for the rest of TM developed.




[Click for Details](#)

Try playing with the Interactive map. Click on the Map Thumbnail below to pop up the Interactive Map. Then click on Dots on the map to see images of what is at that location. The Blue Dots have a slide show.



For Slideshow
Click on Image



Interactive
South Area Map
Click Map Image.

Summary of Planning Commission Meeting - TMRR BOD

The Planning Commission meeting took place with approximately 60 people in attendance representing five states, requiring the hallway doors to be opened and additional chairs set up outside the doors. It was announced that there were over 220 emails and letters of support for TM. Most attendees were in support of Train Mountain.

Almost all of the close neighbors spoke in opposition to the housing portion of the presented plan by Train Mountain. Even those that opposed were in favor of keeping Train Mountain alive and well with one dissenter not in favor of Train Mountain at all. The Commission stated those issues raised by the neighbors concerning such things as roadways, structure density and the like, would all be addressed much later in the process should the Planning Commission decide to allow Train Mountain to proceed.

The meeting was a joint meeting, with both the Planning Commissioners and the County Commissioners in attendance. This very efficiently allowed for the witness testimony to be given only once, as both bodies must approve the application.

Individually, all of the commissioners spoke in favor of Train Mountain. A dilemma was created when a last minute eleven page opposition to the Train Mountain application from the State of Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development ("DLCD"). DLCD also stated that they could not attend the Tuesday night, February 25, meeting, but were scheduled to meet with Klamath County and Train Mountain on Wednesday, February 26. This pretty much told us that no decision would be made at the February 25 meeting.

There was much discussion by the Planning Commission dealing with how they wanted to approve the Train Mountain application, but arguing over how to do it legally so that it did not violate any other Oregon statutes. In the end, the Planning Commission voted to continue the matter for one month to March 25.

The issue was then turned over to the County Commissioners for their decision. There were two of the three commissioners in attendance, both of whom spoke in favor of Train Mountain. They also wanted to do this in a manner that would stand up to Oregon state law. One of the commissioners stated that DLCD was wrong in their reading of state law and that the Train Mountain application conformed to state law, but they needed to wait until after the February 26 meeting before proceeding. The County Commissioners then tabled the matter then scheduled it to be taken off the table on March 25, citing that Roberts Rules of Order required Tabling rather than Continuing.

Train Mountain wants to thank all those that wrote emails and attended the meeting. It will not be necessary for the long distance out of state supporters to attend the March 25 meeting unless they want to attend, but we would like to have all the locals attend that meeting. We will let you know if any additional emails or other support is needed as this progresses.

Your Help Is Needed: - TMRR

Equipment Operators needed at the Spring Awakening Work Week and Train Meet.

[Click here for details.](#)

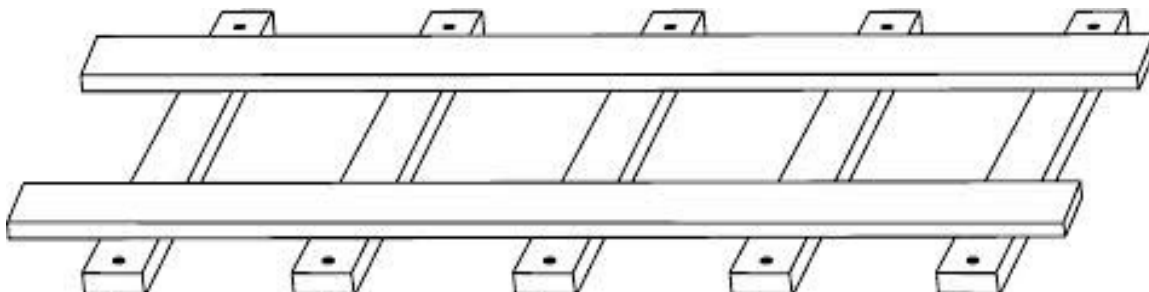


PHOTO GALLERY

Just a few pictures snapped during the 'freebie meet' for the Planning Commission Meeting. The weather was very chilly but not bad enough to keep the group from running some trains. Of course the ladies fed us very well as usual! More fun on the Mountain.





If you have never been a member of Train Mountain
 You Are invited to
VISIT TRAIN MOUNTAIN
For FREE!

RUN YOUR EQUIPMENT FOR FREE This Certificate gives bearer a one-time opportunity to bring their 7.5" gauge equipment to run on any of Train Mountain's 35 miles of track. Your visit may last up to 10 days, including any of the Meets. Normally only Train Mountain members are allowed to run their equipment on Train Mountain Track. Safety chains and current boiler certificates required.

2014 Train Mountain Train Meet Schedule

	Polar Bear Meet	Spring Awakening	Narrow Gauge	Operations Meet	August Meet	Big Build Meet	Fall Colors
Work Week	No Work Week	5/3 to 5/8	5/24 to 5/29	6/21 to 6/26	7/26 to 7/31	8/30 to 9/4	No Work Week
Meet	1/17 to 1/20	5/9 to 5/11	5/30 to 6/1	6/27 to 6/29	8/1 8/3	9/5 to 9/7	10/10 to 10/12

Certificate expires **Dec 31, 2014**. Certificate has no Cash Value. Participants must sign a standard Train Mountain Liability Release. **Not valid for anyone who has been a member previously.** Train Mountain Membership is only \$50 a year individuals, or just \$75 a year for families. Train Mountain wants more people to see Train Mountain and become members.

Worlds Largest Ride-on Model Railroad
over 35 miles of track

Train Mountain, PO Box 438, 36941 South Chiloquin Road, Chiloquin, OR 97624-0438
 www.TrainMountain.org 541-783-3030

PHOTO GALLERY

(continued)



CLASSIFIEDS

Building Lots For Sale!

Train Mountain member has 4 nice home / vacation building lots for sale.

Prices reduced! Lots are located in an established subdivision just a few minutes from Train Mountain. Home owners association provides free water and well maintained all-weather roads. Lots range in size from .7 acre to .25 acre, all lots have phone and water to the lot,

1 has power to the lot, power close by the other 3 lots.

Cash or short term contract.

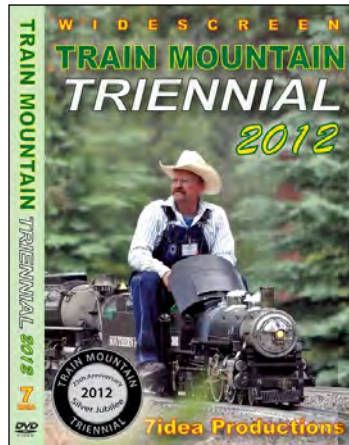
Priced from \$7,000 to \$8,500 (below tax value).

Call owner at 360-673-2277 or 360-703-7063.

The terrific video that Aaron Bentsen from 7Idea Productions shot at the 2012 Triennial is available through the main office at Train Mountain. Give them a call at 541-783-3030 and get your on the way to your place. It's \$30 for the video and \$3 shipping and handling lower 48, \$4 S&H for all others. A most enjoyable video shot by a true video artist and of course our favorite subject, Train Mountain!

Our good friend Jim over at **Discover Live Steam** has also placed ads for us on his terrific website, thanks Jim.

www.discoverlivesteam.com



Did you see the great article and front cover story from the January / February 2013 issue of Live Steam and Outdoor Railroading? It is a most complimentary article about the facility and the great gang of folks that hang around the place and put on terrific live steam train meets. Pretty cool!

www.livesteam.net/home



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

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