



Fundraising and Grant Writing

By: Jerry Cane

Previously, I announced that Pam Williams had agreed to assume the position of Grant Writing Coordinator for Train Mountain Institute. Since that time, Pam and I have discovered that her true position is that of Fundraising Coordinator. Grant writing is just one part of the whole fundraising task. The work that Pam has taken on is very important in that it will assure the long term survival and growth of Train Mountain.

All three of the Train Mountain organizations are presently financially sound with adequate cash reserves. But Train Mountain Institute (TMI) and Train Mountain Railroad (TMRR) would have a very hard time surviving without the support of Friends of Train Mountain (FTM). FTM pays the salaries of all the full time employees at Train Mountain. FTM also owns all the heavy equipment used at Train Mountain and lets us use it at no cost. FTM is principally financed by one donor. Thank you Carl. In the long run we will need more donors.

Please read the following article by Pam. It outlines the first steps we must take to acquire the long term funding we need.

SHIFT in PERSPECTIVE

I volunteered to research grants and fundraising for Train Mountain Institute. After interviewing several professionals, it has become apparent we need to change *how* we think of Train Mountain. Therefore, I submit the following description of Train Mountain as how we should perceive it among ourselves and present it to the public.

Train Mountain Institute owns Train Mountain.

TRAIN MOUNTAIN *is* the MUSEUM.

“Throughout the 2,200 acre Museum property in a high desert pine forest, 76 pieces of full-size train equipment are exhibited including the world’s largest collection of standard gauge Cabooses (37). And the most appropriate means for viewing these exhibits is on the world’s *longest railroad of its kind* using 7.5” gauge track, spanning over 35 miles throughout the Museum.

The majesty of the ELK Preserve within our grounds can be enjoyed by riding these tracks in near silence on human-energy powered rail bikes. But historically, **rails are meant to carry Trains**. And from these trains, operated and maintained by dedicated Train Mountain Museum volunteers, visitors can observe the beauty of this region while discovering our train exhibits. One of those exhibits is our G scale Garden Railroad.

Our full size rail equipment pieces concentrate on the region’s historically significant rail providers such as Southern Pacific Railroad, the Great Northern Railroad and their successors. Also represented are the logging railroads of Klamath County with the only collection of Oregon, California, & Eastern Railroad (OC&E) equipment. We have 4 full-size snow plows used on the region’s Cascade Mountains railroads.”

Many museums begin as private collections, cultivated by a person or people with a passion for something. This is how Train Mountain began. A person with a passion for trains bought Train Mountain. As is often the case, many years later for whatever reason, that collection needs to be protected. Train Mountain Institute was formed as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization to preserve this regionally historic collection and educate the public about Trains.

Train Mountain, the entire property, should hold the distinction of being **the** Museum. And why is this important? BECAUSE, when the entire property is considered the museum we can get funding for all property improvements including TRACK! In this way, the Railroad is: **a)** one of the exhibits, **b)** part of how visitors can view the Museum and **c)** integral to our education program!!!

Train Mountain has evolved to survive. Thanks to a great many people who share the “passion”, this collection has been saved but we have to secure its future. This begins by evolving as members, volunteers and supporters. We need to Shift our Perspective from a “hobby” organization to a Museum one thus ensuring Train Mountain’s place in both the community and the world as a unique destination worthy of support and contributions.

In talking to Grant and Funding Resource professionals, they agree we must “BRAND” Train Mountain in order to approach larger donor and grant sources. First, we must embrace this concept within the membership. This idea can change the future of each organization associated with Train Mountain Institute. Please be patient because as we engage these new concepts, there will be challenges. But I welcome them because by resolving these issues will come the satisfaction of creating a legacy worth our effort.

Thank you, Pam Williams

Please address questions and comments to Pam at: pjwilliams525@comcast.net or 253-777-7509

SPRING IS HERE

by Tom Watson

Even though Mother Nature has not gotten the word, Spring is now officially here. If there is anyone out there in need of good fresh outdoor air - come on up to Train Mountain and help us get our railroad ready for running.

We now have a Weather Station, donated by Robert Bell, installed and in operation at TM. It is located on the west side of the Central Station Yard approximately 100 feet south of the Control Tower. The Weather Station is now affiliated with Weather Underground, with a Weather Wiget available on the tmrr.org homepage, and also available through Weather Underground. Our Camera 6 is also providing a webcam image on the Weather Underground site.



There are now two additional cameras available on the [tmrr.org camera page](http://tmrr.org).

One is located at Meisser Tower and looks toward Four Way Crossing and the antique full size snow removal equipment.

The second one is located at Blue Caboose RV area on the equipment building.

Work continues on moving the tmrr website to a new and more powerful server. Presently, the camera page and images are being served from the new server, but the rest of the site is still coming from the old server.



Tuesday Taskers -- by Russ Wood

So the Tuesday Taskers are off to a pretty shaky start. Two weeks have gone by and we only gathered once, all 5 of us. However the daily stuff is still getting done. The purpose of the Tuesday Taskers is much the same as what the Aussies are doing with their Wednesday group. There are tasks that can't get done by a single person, I.E. loading and unloading steel track panels. These kinds of tasks require two or more folks to assist.

Some of the other projects that are getting done or in progress are Dale Furseth and Bob (Robert Bell) worked on the cameras and Bob donated a weather station that can be accessed via the TMRR.ORG website. The weather information that shows up there is TM's new station. Bob also donated a couple of digital thermostats for the Hall of Flags and a couple of the rooms. BTW he also installed them. Dennis has taken on the task of stripping the wooden track panels and salvaging the tie plates, rail joiners, and the rail. The screws are toast so they are being scrapped. Mort and Denny have been helping in the track shop dressing rail and building track panels. Boyd is continuing the never ending task of maintaining the equipment we use around the park. Bert and Larry are building additional trucks to be used on future riding cars. Tom and Dale are working on the live cameras and the TMRR.ORG website camera page. It's looking pretty good with all of the cameras working. Next gathering of the Taskers is 3/22, see ya' there.

(Editor's note: It is very possible this group may move to Wednesdays due to more participants being available on Wednesdays. Please check with the TM Office for latest details.)



The Elk visited Train Mountain again this winter. Although most are hidden in the bushes and not visible in this image, there were 75 to 100 elk in this group. A lot of yearlings but no new calves yet. They are due to calve any time now.

Greetings from Joyce at the front office:

The past couple of weeks have brought sun, big gusts of wind, rain and a few smatterings of snow.

At the time of this writing, we are at 296 members for 2016 with more signing on and more renewing just about daily.

A lot of track building has been going on at the track shop with the help of volunteers. Our supply of tie plates is being restocked because they rapidly exhausted the supply over the winter.



Dr. Larry has finished his project out in the woodshop. It is a miniature building just waiting to be placed in its new home out along the tracks.

With some nicer weather and clearer roads tourists have been starting to appear at Train Mountain. Those who have come so far have been rail enthusiasts and they have thoroughly enjoyed touring Train Mountain despite the chilly weather. Though no trains were running during their visit, they were able to get a good concept from Tom Watson's in-office videos.

The website has been restored. If you are finding a "This Page Not Available" when you try to go to our website and you have been using an old bookmark to get there, the bookmark might be the culprit. You can use this link to get to the site instead: <http://tmrr.org>.

It won't be long before Kitsap Live Steamers arrive at Train Mountain for the Kitsap work week in April, and not much longer after that when we have the Spring Awakening Work Week and Meet.

If you want to register for any of the meets, you can register online, by mail or in the office.

As a reminder, when you fuel your train at the fueling station, please fill in the fuel tag, then bring the white copy to the office and pay the same day that you got the fuel.

It will be great to see more folks around Train Mountain in the coming weeks.

Thanks to those who have turned in their volunteer hours. Keep on sending them in!

Tax Savings Donation Tip

By: Jerry Crane

It is tax time again and I wanted to tell you about an IRS rule that some of our more senior members might use to their advantage. If you are now taking a "Required Minimum Distribution" (RMD) from your IRA account and wish to donate a portion to Train Mountain Institute, you can do so in a way that might save you some tax expense.

You can have some or all of your required minimum distribution sent directly to a 501c(3) non-profit like Train Mountain Institute and not have to declare it as income on your tax return. This can be a help if you do not itemize your deductions and take the standard deduction when computing your taxes. You can donate to Train Mountain Institute and still take your standard deduction on your tax return. It also helps if your itemized deductions are subject to the phase out rules or when less than 85% of your Social Security income is being taxed.

The IRS requires that the donation go directly from the trustee/institution making the distribution to the 501c(3) non-profit organization. Just let the trustee/institution in charge of your IRA distributions that you want a portion of your RMD sent to Train Mountain Institute.

You can find more information about this rule at <https://www.irs.gov/uac/Special-Charitable-Contributions-for-Certain-IRA-Owners>. You should contact our own tax advisor to see if this rule will apply to your situation.

Help Needed Now for 2016 Big Build

The September Big Build in 2016 will replace the existing track from Cox Bridge to Hill Top Crossing. This is the section on track that runs from Central Station to the Serpentine in front of the Colton Cement Plant. This section of aluminum on wood track will be replaced with steel on plastic track.

This is a section of double track 1,350 feet long. Therefore, the replacement work will require 2,700 feet of track or 270 pre-made track panels. We presently have about 70 track panels constructed, so we need to build 200 more before next September.

We are looking for volunteers that would like to help this winter in the track shop. You don't need any special skills. Richard will show you what needs to be done and he will pre-bend the required rails. The work is mostly loading jigs and operating powered screw guns. You don't have to work all winter. Any amount of time that you could donate would be appreciated. If you could come and work for a few days, it would be a great help.

If you have any question or if you are willing to help, please call the office at 541-783-3030 or drop us a line at info@tmrr.org.

Thank you.

Visitors to Train Mountain:

Train Mountain is very popular and is continually attracting visitors from throughout the world. We announce that our hours are from 10:00 AM until 3:00 PM Monday through Friday during the summer, and 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM during the winter. The office is closed on weekends except during meets, and then only when volunteers are available to open the office.

Our insurance advisors request that all people (members and visitors) complete and sign a liability release. If **YOU** as a member encounter visitors on the property without a visitors pass please direct them to the office so that we can insure that a release has been completed and a visitors pass has been issued.

If **YOU**, as a member, open the gate and allow visitors to pass through - **YOU** are responsible to see that the release has been completed. Releases are available in the mailboxes near the office for those times the office is closed. There are also releases available in the kitchen and in the back shop.

If you do not want to, or do not have the time to, ensure that the releases are completed - then please graciously explain that the train park is closed to visitors and that the open hours are normally (Winter) 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM Monday through Friday. To arrange other hours visitors should call the office at 541-783-3030.

Notice to all Members

Due to security concerns, the Gate Code for the Train Mountain Main Gate was changed after the Triennial. Any Member planning to arrive at Train Mountain when the Office is closed will need to contact the Office prior to arrival to arrange to get the new Gate Code.

Train Mountain is a NO SMOKING Facility

During recent events, many Members and their Guests have been ignoring this policy. There are only three designated smoking areas at Train Mountain:

- (1) Outside the front of the Backshop
- (2) Outside the east door of the Hall of Flags
- (3) Outside the Motor Pool (Maintenance Building)

Due to the high fire danger at Train Mountain during the summer, we have zero tolerance for anyone smoking outside one of the designated areas.

There is NO SMOKING anywhere out on the track!

Members, Guests, and Visitors that continue to violate the Train Mountain Smoking Policy may be asked to leave.

Please submit your volunteer hours. If you work off site or at home on Train Mountain projects - these hours count.

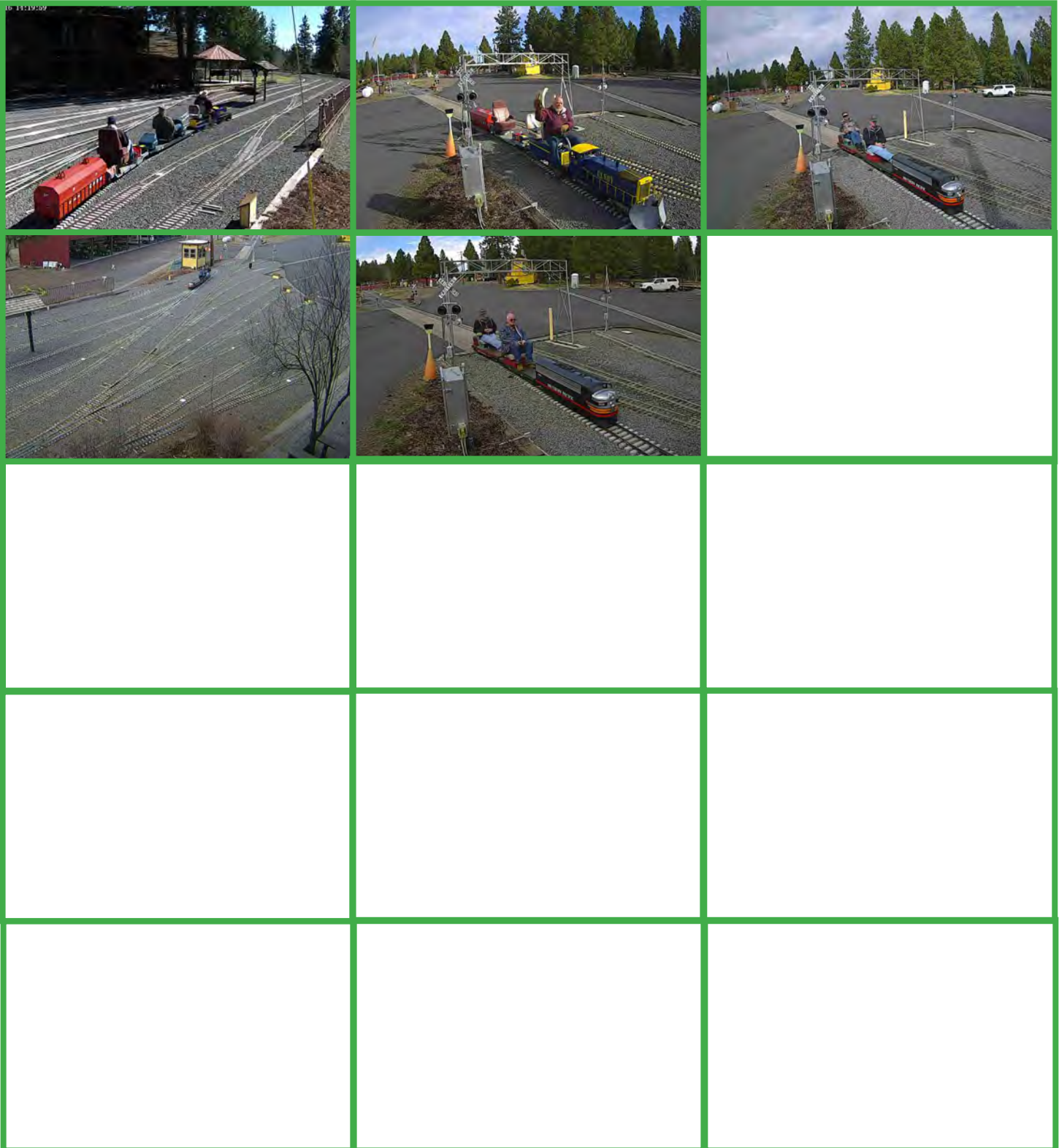
WEB-CAM GALLERY

Photos by: The Web-Cam



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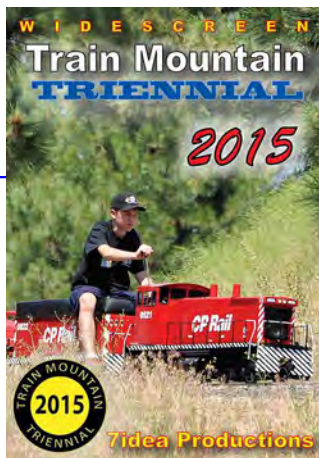


CLASSIFIEDS



2015 Triennial Video is available now!

The 2015 Train Mountain Triennial video from Aaron Bentsen at 7Idea Productions is now available through the [Train Mountain on-line store](#) or the main office at Train Mountain. Give them a call at 541-783-3030 and get a copy on the way to your place. It's \$29.95 for the video and free shipping and handling lower 48, \$6 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 placed ads for us on his terrific website, thanks Jim. discoverlivesteam.com Did you see the great article and front cover story from the November / December 2015 issue of Live Steam and Outdoor Railroading? It is a great article covering the 2015 Triennial. and the great gang of folks that hang around the place and put on terrific live steam train meets. Pretty cool! web: livesteam.net



Donations\$ Needed!

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1/2 Page: \$70/month or \$700/year
Full Page: \$125/month or \$1250/year

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Photos: Tom Watson



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Kla-Mo-Ya Casino

34333 Hwy 97 N
Chiloquin, OR 97624
541-783-7529 or 1-888-KLAMOYA
www.klamoyacasino.com

Kla-Mo-Ya Casino opened in 1997 and is owned and operated by the Klamath, Modoc and Yahooskin Tribes. Set in the beautiful pines of Southern Oregon, we are located on Highway 97 near the junction of Highway 62 (Crater Lake Highway).

We are open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, and welcome travelers and groups from across the country year round.

Our Peak to Peak Restaurant is open 24 hours a day, with a full service lounge and beverage service available out on the gaming floor. Choose from great menu items like juicy steaks, classic salads and pastas, or try our beefy Triple 7 Burger if you are *really* hungry. Dine in or take out, we have a host of friendly staff to serve you. Check out our current menu from the Dining page of our website, and watch for monthly special features. The Peak to Peak restaurant welcomes groups, meetings or parties for special occasions.

Open from 7am to 9pm, the Espresso Bar serves a wide variety of espresso and coffee drinks, hot or cold, as well as fruit smoothies, frozen yogurt, desserts, and quick to-go lunches.

Our gaming floor has 344 slots with new games and themes being brought in all the time. Find out about our current slot promotions and check out recent jackpot winners on our website and Facebook page.

Try your hand at one of our four Blackjack tables. We offer double deck and six-deck blackjack with \$3 tables available every Monday. Keep up with promotions and tournaments available by checking our website.

Hours of operation:

Weds & Thurs: 12 noon – 8pm

Friday through Sunday: 12
Noon – 12 Midnight

(closing times may vary depending on play)

Stop by the Bonus Club to sign up for a free membership card to earn rewards and qualify for our many promotions and giveaways. While you are there, browse through the unique selection of items in our Gift Shop.

RVers, Truckers and large vehicles are always welcome, with plenty of free overnight parking available. Stop by the Bonus Club to ask about discounts and perks.

Come enjoy the warmth and excitement of Kla-Mo-Ya casino.



Crater Lake Junction Travel Center

34005 Hwy 97 N
Chiloquin, OR 97624
541-783-9800

The Crater Lake Junction Travel Center opened for business in 2010, and is owned by the Klamath, Modoc and Ya-hooskin Tribes. Open 24 hours a day and located just next door to Kla-Mo-Ya Casino as you enter, this travel center offers competitive fuel prices and many convenience items.

Travelers can fuel up with gas, diesel, or propane. Stop in for a snack or soda, or grab a quick meal featuring Mexi-Go or Mountain Fresh Pizza. Free Wi-Fi, a comfortable lounge with large screen TVs, laundry and shower facilities, and ATMs are all available.

Make sure to ask for a Crater Lake Junction Travel Center rewards membership card so that you can earn points for each purchase and visit. Your earned points can be applied toward future purchases.

Truckers, ask about trucker services and benefits for each visit. Convenience items and truck accessories are for sale, along with many useful daily provisions.

Crater Lake National Park

Crater Lake National Park is located off Highway 62, just 34 miles from Kla-Mo-Ya Casino and the Crater Lake Junction Travel Center. After playing and fueling up, discover the world-famous beauty and amazing history of Crater Lake. Groups and parties, ask about casino shuttle service for your outing or adventure.

Shuttle Service to and from Train Mountain

Kla-Mo-Ya Casino and the Crater Lake Junction Travel Center are also offering a free shuttle service for Train Mountain Members, Guests and Visitors.

Train Mountain people should see the TM Office for more details, schedules, and special events.