

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

P.O. Box 1776

Colfax, CA 95713

Apply
U.S. Postage
Here



www.psrhs.org

To:

PSRHS Activities & Events...

Editor's Comments

NOTICE:

October 21, 2004 – Joint meeting with the Colfax Area Historical Society in Colfax.

Next meeting November 18, 2004. Final meeting of 2004.

Please forward any comments, suggestions or ideas for trips or other activities to me for consideration and information.

Editor: Lyle Brown, (530) 885-6997
<21ebrown@infostations.com>

In this Issue...

Monthly Meeting...

PSRHS and Colfax Area Historical Society will host a joint meeting on Thursday, October 21, 7:30PM, in the gym at Sierra Vista Community Center, 55 School St, Colfax. (See directions on page 2).

Membership Information

Individual Members = \$20.00
Family Membership = \$25.00

- Monthly Newsletter
 - Member Activities, Presentations and Field Trips
 - Display & Restoration Projects
- PSRHS, P.O. Box 1776
Colfax, CA 95713

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society

Monthly Newsletter

October PSRHS/CAHS Meeting

Placer-Sierra Railroad Heritage Society and Colfax Area Historical Society will host a joint meeting on Thursday, October 21, 7:30PM, in the gym at Sierra Vista Community Center, 55 School St, Colfax. The featured speaker, William Chew, will show slides and discuss points raised in his book, **Nameless Builders of the Transcontinental – Chinese Workers of the Central Pacific Railroad**. The program includes newly published facts taken from CPRR payroll records. Mr. Chew will discuss key accomplishments by Chinese workers along the route, including Bloomer's Cut, Cape Horn (will we finally hear the definitive word on whether baskets were used to suspend workers?), and tunnels including Tunnel #6.

Directions: Take I-80 East from Auburn to the Colfax exit. Loop back across the freeway, then turn right on S. Auburn. Go straight at the next stop sign toward the historic downtown, and follow S. Auburn as it veers left and crosses the tracks into downtown Colfax. Turn right at the caboose onto Main St., go north two blocks, then left on School St. Sierra Vista Center is one block up School St. on the right. Park on the street or in the parking lot just prior to the center.

October 2, 2004 Field Trip

The second field trip of the year was led by V.P. Jim Wood and commenced at 9A.M. at the parking lot behind the old Colfax freight depot. 14 members and 2 guests toured the newly renovated freight depot and some of its retail establishments before car-pooling into 6 vehicles to begin the day's tour.

The first stop was just below the Long Ravine bridge N/E of Colfax, where evidence of the old N.C.N.G. grade could still be seen passing beneath it on it's ways towards Rollins Lake and the Bear River. From here, P.S.R.H.S. member Brendan Compton, with authorization from Union Pacific, provided access to the maintenance road leading to Cape Horn. After driving as far as possible, the group then walked the remaining ½ mile distance. While in the area, 2 eastbound freights passed, the first an U.P., and the second, a Burlington Northern.

It was then on to Cape Horn Mills via the old Norton Grade, where we hiked the original S-configured mainline grade, which was replaced by a straighter realignment around 1909.

Our final planned stop was at the site of the famous Secret Ravine trestle, where early photos were compared with present views.

A very informative and enjoyable outing ended with the return to Colfax at 1:30 P.M.

Final 2004 meeting: November 18, 2004 at 7:00 PM in the First Congregational Church in Auburn.