



The Mountain GAZETTE

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The snow is *sloooooowly* melting but the ground is frozen hard as a rock! We can't quite get to doing some of the outdoor stuff yet, but the indoor folks are working daily on all those infrastructure things so we can play this summer. The first gathering of the troops is quickly approaching so it won't be long until we have lots of railroad activities running again. We are only about 60 or so days away from the annual pilgrimage of the Kitsap Krew. Those of you that have not been here for one of their visits can't begin to understand how important they are to our annual running of Train Mountain. They come every year and take on all kinds of tasks to get us started for the year. Each year it is a different set of tasks but they determine what is needed and then go about getting it done! This is the way most things get done here and they are certainly the model of how to do it. We can't thank them enough. A couple of the locals will have some of the seasonal cleanup well underway by their visit but there will still be lots to do. www.kitsaplivesteamers.org

They currently provide rides on the second and fourth Saturday's of each month, April through October, weather permitting. Train operations are from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Departures are from their passenger depot near the Jackson Ave. play field, and riders traverse about 4000 feet of ground level railroad track, one trestle and one bridge. Maintenance and unloading facilities are also available.
South Kitsap Regional Park 3100 SE Marbeth LN, Port Orchard, WA 98366

Your Train Mountain membership gives you access to the facility 24/7 365 to come and play (or work) and without you the 'Project' can't work. So if you have a little spare time and you check in with the office to see if the track is run-able, please come by and give us a hand. In the past few years we have had a couple of folks come early in the season and they were amazed at how much needed to be done to get 36 miles of track ready for the season. They had only been here during regular summer meets and had only seen Deborah's wonderful gardening, or the raked and swept right-of-way, the lawns all mowed and swept by Larry and his trusty steed, and had not realized the amount of winter debris that comes each and every winter season. The cleanup is not really HARD work it's just that with 36 miles of track comes 72 miles of cleanup! Boyd is adding to his already great weed abatement train to allow for the early spraying of the track. However we think he might have to add some more braking power though cause once you get all that liquid headed down a grade it might be really a lot fun to get it stopped!

2013 Train Mountain Train Meet Schedule

	Polar Bear Train Meet	Narrow Gauge Train Meet	June Train Meet	Operations Meet	August Train Meet	September Train Meet	Fall Colors Train Meet
Work Week	none	5/4 to 5/9	5/25 to 5/30	6/22 to 6/27	7/27 to 8/1	8/31 to 9/5	none
Meet	1/19 to 1/21	5/10 to 5/12	5/31 to 6/2	6/28 to 6/30	8/2 to 8/4	9/6 to 9/8	10/11 to 10/13

A little Klamath and Western news for this winter season is that they are adding to their fleet of riding cars and also adding a braking system to the new cars. They have had a couple of great seasons and the facility is really getting to be a showplace and looking more like a park every year. Make sure you visit while you are here and see what I mean. Oh yeah, great food too!

If you haven't been to the club website lately I strongly urge you to do so. Tom has got a webcam setup and you can view it from the Train Mountain home page. It's that photo in the upper right hand corner of the page and it changes every 30 seconds or so. It's really cool!



When you first come to the website or if you come in the evening you are likely to see a webcam view from inside the tower. All of that computer equipment that you see has been provided by John Cooper and it's for the CTC system that controls all of the signals at Train Mountain. John and his group have developed the system over the past few years and it is quite impressive. Make sure you stop by on your next visit and have the guys show you all of the bells and whistles. The guys can even show you how to view the system on your cell phone! For now though, go to the website and on the left hand menu click on Central Station, then go to CTC VIEW and click on either link to see a live view of the CTC system from your home! Aren't we getting' sophisticated!

From the President - Jim Armstrong

On the Train Mountain website there is a listing of possible committees that are needed to make this whole 'Project' work. There are many without chairpersons but that really does not matter. Many committees are not being formed to take on specific assignments at this time but rather give the members a chance to let us know where their interests are.

If you would like to be a chairman or just a committee volunteer please send us an email letting us know.

The TMRR Board will look to the various committees for input about future projects, volunteer staffing needs, and other concerns or issues revolving around the committee's sphere of influence.

Help Wanted - Jim Armstrong

Train Mountain Railroad is now looking for a volunteer or two that can help with our expanded role in the area of Social Media Communications.

Chris Donhost (our volunteer Social Media Developer) has been very busy building the necessary infrastructure to allow Train Mountain to enter the new world of social media presence on the World Wide Web.

Now we need volunteers who can use these newly integrated tools (a TM Blog, TM Facebook page, YouTube account, and soon a Twitter account) to communicate with our members, prospective members, and the public in general.

The volunteer (or group of volunteers) will have the opportunity to collect, manage, and communicate news and information about what is happening at Train Mountain, other similar clubs, the train hobby in general, and its related industries and vendors.

Here are some ideas and tasks this new adventure will allow you to do:

Collect information about:

1. What is happening at Train Mountain now (events, maintenance, construction, people, equipment, track building, etc.)
2. What are the current, short range, and long range plans for Train Mountain
3. What are other hobby train clubs doing at their locations
4. What is new in the hobby train industry and where can our members and others find that information and where can they purchase these products
5. The collected information can be oral, written, and/or visual images including photos and videos

Then take this gathered information and share it (using our new social media tools) with our members, use it to attract and enlist new members, and use it to educate the public as to what we 'train nuts' really do and why we do it!!

We want Train Mountain to be the 'Go To Source' to learn about and find all things "Train"!!

Does this sound like something you would like to be involved with? Can you volunteer your skills to help Train Mountain achieve this goal?

If so, please call the TM office at 541/783-3030 or send an email to info@tmrr.org and let us know that you are willing to help us and the hobby.

Train Mountain -- Where Friends Share Skills

IRS Liens Update - John Black

As of the morning of Feb 12, 2013, we are still waiting for the IRS appraiser to report back. He is trying to figure out what the IRS thinks Train Mountain is worth.

Stay Tuned.

Items with Disputed Ownership - John Black

In December we disclosed that there are several items at Train Mountain where Train Mountain and another party are both claiming ownership of the items. Friends and TMRR have compiled a list. We want your input. If you have testimony that helps determine the rightful owners, please email your testimony to info@trainmountain.org. We have tried to get pictures of many of the items with disputed ownership.

After looking at the testimony that we have received, we have decided to take testimony until the IRS liens are discharged. Then the Friends and TMRR will decide how to proceed. The idea is to make the issues as public as possible and hope the facts speak for themselves.

Check out the Items with Disputed Ownership at: www.tmrr.org/Resources/tmrrdocs/tmrr_disputed_items.pdf

Premium Membership Classifications – clarification - Jerry Crane

After much consideration, the Train Mountain Railroad Board has decided to make a small change in the benefits you receive if you sign up for either of two of the premium memberships. The Supporting Membership (\$250/year) will no longer receive one free meet but will receive \$35 off the All Meet registration package. Your cost for this package will now be \$85 per person. The Yard Boss Membership (\$500/year) will no longer receive two free meets but will receive \$70 off the All Meet registration package. Your cost for this package will now be \$50 per person.

From the Back Office - Dennis Ward

It is time to let you know what we here at ground zero are attempting to put together for you the members. As most of you should know by now our attempt is to cut costs. With that in mind our plan is to NOT send the Mountain Gazette via the United States postal service. We know that some of our esteemed members do not have access to the internet. So, if one of these members lives near you could you please make a copy of the

Gazette available for them. I know that Charlie 'Bill' Schubert makes one available for Art Crisp. We will make back issues available at Train Mountain so those members can get caught up while they are here visiting.

At the time this article is being prepared we have: 34 Individual, 70 Family, 14 Supporting, 9 Participating, 4 Empire application paid for. There are 40 life members and 127 family members which are part of the Family, Supporting, Participating and Empire memberships. At this time we have no Subscription, Young Adult, Railbike, or Yard Boss members.

We have a roster which will soon be available online. We have year pins for all and name badges for new members which are ready to go into these packets. Children and grandchildren who were added to member registration forms will receive a laminated name tag. The latest track map available will also be added to the packet. The plan is to get the member packet in the mail next week. If you plan on being at Train Mountain soon and would like to pick up your packet let us know. We will save a little postage in this manner.

As you know the roster is very dynamic, especially at the start of a new season. Our Information Technology volunteers will soon have an up to date, very dynamic, version of the roster on line at the website <http://tmrr.org>.

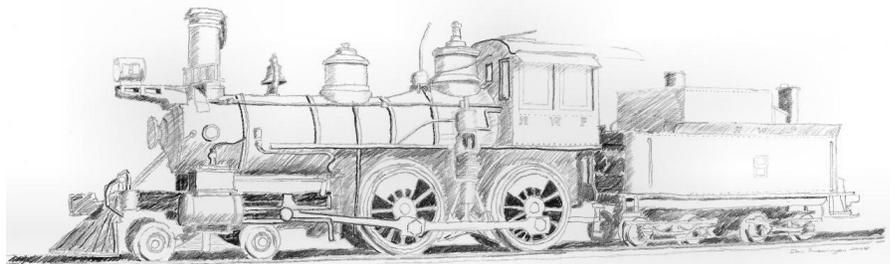
The Information Technology group is headed up primarily by Dale Furseth and Tom Watson, both volunteers. Social networking is being tackled by Chris Donhost, also a volunteer. Other volunteers: Charlie 'Bill' Schubert has been a great asset as the mail clerk, delivering to and receiving from the local post office daily. Russ Wood is on campus almost every day, researching information for the newsletter and the blog, doing the hard plastic name tags and cutting the vinyl for the new mileposts. Jim and Sabra Rickman are updating and organizing the library while Steve and Pam Panzik are organizing and inventorying the Company Store. Barb and Dana Ward cater lunch and breakfast for the Union Pacific safety meeting which is held monthly in the Hall of Flags. Others contributing frequently include Bert Newberry and Boyd Butler who have been maintaining the Maintenance of Way equipment. Larry Dabroi has been here, from Mt Shasta, at least once a week presumably preparing the equipment for spring cleanup;

My job has been to attempt to make sense of the financial picture. As reported previously Train Mountain is three organizations under one umbrella. Train Mountain Railroad (TMRR) is the public face of Train Mountain and its members. Friends of Train Mountain (Friends) is the court ordered custodian of Train Mountain, responsible to see it through the transition while lien settlements are being negotiated. The third entity, RRI is preparing to offer railroad educational programs when the IRS lien issues are resolved.

Money is coming in from memberships, meets, sales from the company store, donations, room rents, campground fees, container fees, etc. We are developing the accounting processes to easily track it all for each of the entities and for the whole Train Mountain project.

IT Report - Tom Watson

1. **New Computer:** A new Lenovo computer was donated to TMRR by Denny Ellis (thank you). FTM donated a monitor to go with the computer. It is now set up and running in the front office.
2. **WEBCAM TM-1:** The first webcam was set up in the Tower, and is now uploading an image to the TMRR website every 30 seconds. It went live to the public on Feb. 9.
 - a. This has significantly increased the average daily website traffic. When looking at the stats, you must look at the number of visits and the pages. The "hits" look really good, but are misleading. The Feb. 12, today, stat is a partial day. When someone is monitoring the webcam, every time the browser calls for an image refresh, that counts as a hit.



b. Table of Visits, # of Pages Viewed, # of Hits, Bandwidth used, etc.

Day	Number of visits	Pages	Hits	Bandwidth
01 Feb 2013	259	1212	3517	162.56 MB
02 Feb 2013	149	503	1551	78.38 MB
03 Feb 2013	172	703	2031	87.43 MB
04 Feb 2013	209	1324	3746	163.49 MB
05 Feb 2013	244	931	2790	110.40 MB
06 Feb 2013	198	1230	2667	114.27 MB
07 Feb 2013	174	791	2201	124.22 MB
08 Feb 2013	135	533	1666	79.48 MB
09 Feb 2013	148	823	53569	721.62 MB
10 Feb 2013	162	752	35305	437.67 MB
11 Feb 2013	477	2004	92628	1.49 GB
12 Feb 2013	267	1052	59562	1004.22 MB

- 3. WEBCAM TM-2:** The second webcam has been installed temporarily on the balcony outside the upstairs office. Although it was working today, the DSL Modem in Central Station went haywire this afternoon. It was not yet on a public webpage.
- 4. Additional Computers:** Last weekend, I talked with John Cooper about old computers his school is replacing. I had hoped to get something this week to set up for vinyl cutting for the mile post marker project. However, John will not have any at the present time. He will be replacing some more units as donations to the school of new units arrive. Possibly in a week or two. The units he had thought were going to be available were sold through a school fund raiser.
- 5. Office Server:** I am researching small office servers.
- 6. Donations:** As always, we are still looking for donations of usable computers.

Railbike Project - John Black

I want to thank everyone who helped us acquire the recycled bicycles that we will use to make the Rental RailBike fleet. Eric Munson brought down 28 old bikes from Eugene, OR. John Rodgers found 18 in Napa, CA. Ed Wishart found 20 in Reno, NV, and Recycled Cycles in Seattle gave us 8 more. 74 total. Some may be unusable but all are valuable for this project. Ed is finding a few more and that should be enough bikes. We want to build a total of 50 frames. We hope to have enough parts so we can cherry pick the Bottom Brackets that take a 1.37" diameter 24 threads per inch cartridge bearing. That will allow us to standardize the Rail Bikes. THANK YOU FOR THE BIKES. *Ed: Once again the members come through when asked!*
Thanks!



Financial Report - By John Black

This month Dennis Ward and I have held up publication of the Gazette for days while we chase small errors out of our new Quickbooks accounting systems and got all the separate accounts to balance over the last 3 months. We have 2 legal entities to account for Train Mountain Railroad (TMRR) and Friends of Train Mountain (Friends) as Custodian of Train Mountain. We have several accounts to think about... TMRR, Friends as Custodian, Cash on Hand, Visa, TMRR PayPal.... and Tom Watson is helping us add a Friends as Custodian PayPal account.

We can finally see what it is costing to run Train Mountain (TM). Over the last 3 months there have been various issues with our suppliers as we get their billings straightened out and set up to auto-pay electronically.... in the worst case (electricity) all 3 months were paid in January. Looking at the last quarter (Nov, Dec, Jan) we can now see a good picture of our costs.

The Expense Side

First Quarter Summary Friends as Custodian	Total First Quarter	Average Per Month
Property Basic Operating Expenses		
Real Estate Taxes (Reserve)	\$(5,100.00)	\$(1,700.00)
Personal Property Taxes		
Insurance		
Timberlake		
Property & Basic Liability	\$(5,245.64)	\$(1,748.55)
Umbrella		
Directors & Offices		
Utilities		
Phone and Broadband	\$(437.08)	\$(145.69)
Electricity	\$(1,602.52)	\$(534.17)
Septic Services	\$(630.20)	\$(210.07)
Propane - Central Station & Backshop	\$(2,708.53)	\$(902.84)
Garbage	\$(681.36)	\$(227.12)
Water Testing & Permits	\$(115.00)	\$(38.33)
Haz Waste Permits	\$(457.00)	\$(152.33)
Repairs & Maintenance		
Backshop Supplies	\$(172.98)	\$(57.66)
Housekeeping Supplies	\$(44.28)	\$(14.76)
General and Administrative		
Office Expenses	\$(250.03)	\$(83.34)
Website & Social Media	\$(245.09)	\$(81.70)
Computers	\$(872.22)	\$(290.74)
Bank, PayPal & Visa fees	\$(305.01)	\$(101.67)
Legal & Professional	\$(142.15)	\$(47.38)
Accounting		
Advertising & Promotional		
Subscriptions, Dues, Books		
Other Expenses	\$(200.00)	\$(66.67)
Total Expenses	\$(19,209.09)	\$(6,403.03)

The Income Side

To fund the above expenses TM has a few Lines of Business.

Property income.

100% of the income from the property goes to pay the above expenses. This includes cell tower income, room rentals, container fees, riding car rentals, K&W's lease payment, etc. This is a significant amount of money, but we are reluctant to disclose the amount until we discharge the IRS liens and get title to the property. We do not want to give our competitors the information.

Store

Friends as Custodian runs the store. Actually Steve and Pam Panzik run the store with Tom Watson setting up the online portion. Russ, Dennis, and Charlie help with the order fulfillment. The 2 biggest sellers in the store are the 2012 Triennial DVD and rail parts.

	Total First Quarter	Average Per Month
Gross Sales	\$2,512.19	\$837.40
Cost of Goods Sold	\$(1,145.00)	\$(381.67)
Shipping	\$(117.67)	\$(39.22)
Store Supplies	\$(42.92)	\$(14.31)
Profit	\$1,206.60	\$402.20

Train Mountain Railroad.

You join TMRR, donate, and pay to attend the meets. Here is some detail on TMRR operations :

TMRR Income

	2012 November	2012 December	2013 January	Total	Num
Memberships					
\$20 Subscribing					
\$25 Rail Bike					
\$50 Individual	\$450.00	\$700.00	\$450.00	\$1,600.00	32
\$75 Family	\$1,800.00	\$1,725.00	\$1,275.00	\$4,800.00	64
\$25 Young Adult					
\$150 Supporting	\$900.00	\$300.00	\$900.00	\$2,100.00	14
\$250 Participating	\$1,250.00	\$250.00	\$500.00	\$2,000.00	8
\$500 Yard Boss					
\$1000 Empire	\$3,000.00		\$1,000.00	\$4,000.00	4
PayPal Fees	\$(15.10)	\$(19.40)	\$(15.03)	\$(49.53)	
SubTotal	\$7,384.90	\$2,955.60	\$4,109.97	\$3,950.47	122
Other Donations	\$250.00	\$125.00	\$175.00	\$550.00	
Meets					
Polar Bear Meet			\$60.00	\$60.00	2
Narrow Gauge Meet			\$35.00	\$35.00	1
All Meet Passes	\$480.00	\$600.00	\$600.00	\$1,680.00	14
PayPal Fees		\$(10.74)	\$(1.32)	\$(12.06)	
SubTotal	\$480.00	\$589.26	\$693.68	\$1,762.94	
TOTAL INCOME	\$8,114.90	\$3,669.86	\$4,978.65	\$16,763.41	

	<u>2012 November</u>	<u>2012 December</u>	<u>2013 January</u>	<u>Total</u>
TMRR Expenses				
Membership Pins		\$(657.55)		\$(657.55)
Bank Charges	\$(109.62)	\$(119.94)	\$(6.55)	\$(236.11)
PayPal			\$(30.83)	\$(30.83)
Insurance			\$(844.00)	\$(844.00)
Total Expenses	\$(109.62)	\$(119.94)	\$(881.38)	\$(1,110.94)
Net Income	\$8,005.28	\$3,549.92	\$4,097.27	\$15,652.47

Amount TMRR contributed to Basic Operating Expenses

75% of the TMRR money goes to paying the property expenses until enough has been raised... including all the other lines of business... to pay the annual Operating Budget ... the property expenses Friends as Custodian must pay. . After the Operating Budget has been met all the TMRR income goes to anything the TMRR Board wants to do. Here is the TMRR Contribution calculation so far:

	<u>2012 November</u>	<u>2012 December</u>	<u>2013 January</u>	<u>Total</u>
Contribution owed	\$(6,086.18)	\$(2,752.40)	\$(3,733.99)	\$(12,572.56)
Actually paid	\$-	\$(9,322.50)	\$(3,261.94)	\$(12,584.44)

THANK YOU !!

Summary

Every month our accounting skills improve and our processes for tracking the dollars get better and simpler. The biggest changes this month are :

First, we finally are recognizing revenue and expenses only when the amounts debit or credit an account.... In other words we are accounting on a purely cash basis. And Second... we are simplifying how we track TMRR funds and Friends Custodial funds where a Credit Card or PayPal payment is made.

We also need to recognize that beyond these budget figures... Friends of Train Mountain is contributing by employing Dustin, Richard, Raven, Penny... buying the materials that they use, maintaining the equipment, and covering a portion of the property taxes, paying some insurance, and heating the Track Shop & Motor Pool as needed. We need to grow the TM business to lose TM's dependence on these generous donors.

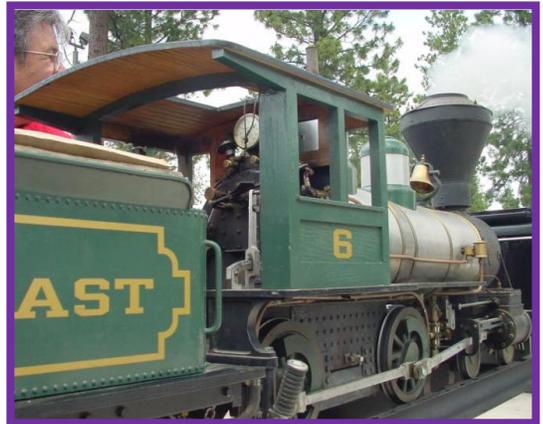


Photo Gallery



The new office computer donated by Denny Ellis



Raven working on the name badges



Dennis doing da' books



Boyd is busy building another car for the Weed Train



Before the new tank installation (I think)



Let's see part B goes into fitting C then



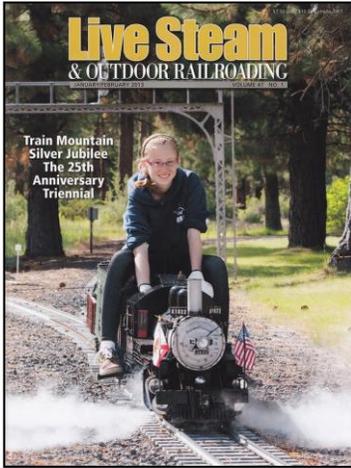
Dustin has the dump truck just about ready to go back together.



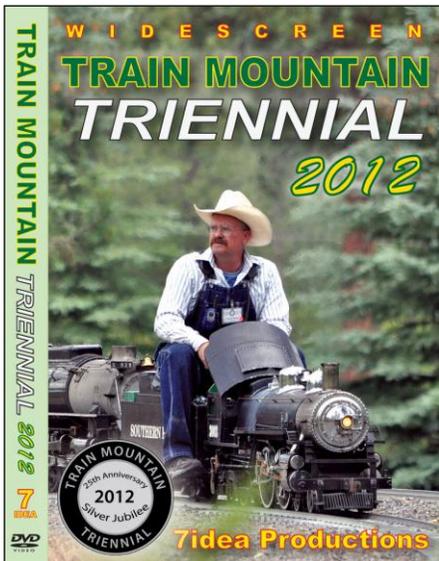
Richard's cleanup of the Motor Pool bays is looking good



More cleanup is under way.



Did you see the great article and front cover story from the latest 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!



The terrific video that Aaron Bentsen from 7Idea Productions shot at the 2012 Triennial is now 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 an ad for us on his terrific website, thanks Jim.

www.discoverlivesteam.com

HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO SELL?
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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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