



The Mountain GAZETTE

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From the Editor - Russ Wood

What a year this has been! In our small part of the universe there is so much to be thankful for. The dream that Quentin started and that Sharon continued on with, is alive and well in 2013. Train Mountain is now a 501c3 and is no longer burdened with the IRS liens that have stifled us for the past couple of years. Thanks to the huge efforts put forth by John Black, Carl Vanderspeck and Marg Hope we are in the black and moving forward once again. With all the good news, the membership is growing once again. Train Mountain has been getting really outstanding publicity and going beyond the world of live steaming. Publicity growing into the main stream media with a front page article in the Wall Street Journal, and a one hour spot on the RFD-TV show, Trains and Locomotives featuring our 2012 Triennial Video produced by member Aaron Bentson, 7Idea Productions. We are now showing over 1000 'Likes' on FaceBook, in fact we received 100 'Likes' in single day! See the article in this issue for more details. We put out a request for help during for our September 'Big Build' and the members came through like gang busters. Me moved track, we laid track, we cleaned up some of the forest areas, we hauled firewood, etc.. We also managed along the way to have some really great meets, run some trains, have a lot of fun, and eat really great food! So I'd say we have some things to be thankful for! Thank you all!

The meets for this year are over. We can now just take a breather and sit back and relax. Well not really we still have many daily visitors to the park and a lot of future planning to accomplish. We are less than 600 days away from the 2015 Triennial and we have some major issues regarding the Triennial. First off the Hairpin Project will take some of our work force resources this coming season. We need to do some very major track repairs all along the old right of way. The new steel track holds up very well under our mountain winter conditions. The wooden track and the aluminum on plastic track not so well. We need a lot of tune up and repairs to be the primary focus for next season so we can put our best foot forward in 2015. FTM sponsored the Big Build this past September and we gained a lot of knowledge about what needs to be done in regards to other infrastructure issues but also we gained some knowledge regarding what needs to be done to the right of way. Boyd and his crew have taken on the task of 'pruning' the right of way these past few years and that has been a major job. The park looks better each season but the track these days is really starting to have issues. So here is OUR task as members, we need to devote as much time FIXING as we do playing. If you are coming to Train Mountain next season please allow some time for 'giving back' to help us make the track run like we all want it to. We have about a 20 week season where track work is not tied to weather issues (rain, snow, cold). We have about 12 or so miles of track needing TLC. If we take on a mile of track per week of our next season we can get er' done! So what do think folks, can we get this place looking and running like we want? I think so, we

2014 Train Mountain Train Meet Schedule

	Polar Bear Meet	Kitsap Week	Spring Awakening	Narrow Gauge	Operations Meet	August Meet	Big Build Meet	Fall Colors
Work Week	No 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	1/17 to 1/20	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

Please Renew Now !!

Please Use the Online App to Renew. http://www.tmrmembers.org/Member_Portal.aspx

have a great bunch of hard working volunteers, so that is my choice for the direction of Train Mountain for 2014. Thanks for listening.

OK now for the annual nag! Memberships and renewals are being accepted on line for 2014. Follow the link http://www.tmrmembers.org/Member_Portal.aspx and get signed up. The 2014 schedule is shown at the bottom of the previous page so get your schedules figured out so you can come and join in the fun.

And if you haven't ever been a member of Train Mountain before, we have some good news for you in this issue. Check the special **FREE** offer towards the back of this issue.

From the President - Tom Watson

I was absent from Train Mountain for most of the month of November due to medical issues. As a result, no Board of Directors meeting was held. The previously approved projects continue to progress, and any news related to the ongoing projects will be reported elsewhere in this Gazette.

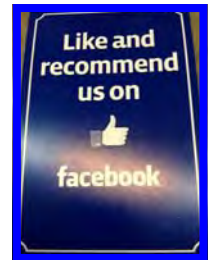
Our website statistics show we had 2,160,811 Hits and 1,129,581 page views for October. We reached 27,316 unique visitors, and we had 93,982 total visits. This means that our visitors each returned an average of 3.44 times with an average of 12.01 page views per visit.

As of November 29, the website has received 174,315 unique visitors since January 1, 486,751 total visits, 13,140,965 Hits, and 4,158,426 pages viewed. By looking at the Hours data, there are no slow times, which indicates world wide website viewing.

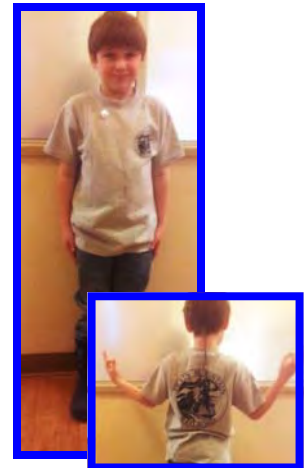
There was a huge spike in website traffic on November 18, and continuing, following the airing of the edited 2012 Triennial video which was shown in a one hour slot on RFD-TV.

Social Media - Chris Donhust

It was about this time last year when my friend Dale "railroaded" me into the social media position at Train Mountain. Truth be told, he had my locomotive in his garage and threatened to hold her hostage if I didn't make the gesture to handle Train Mountain's social media needs. So, I did. My professional career has exposed me to some facets of social media including Facebook, Blogger and Constant Contact, so that gave me some understanding on how to get things going. After discussions with John Black and the Train Mountain BOD, I got started building the framework.



Eleven months later, Train Mountain is waist-deep in social media. We have a Facebook, YouTube Channel and a Blog. We have control of our place page on Google to help ensure accurate information is displayed and the map info is correct. When someone does a Google search for Train Mountain, the Facebook page is the fifth item displayed. That is an impressive achievement in less than one year. The Train Mountain Facebook has 1195 "Likes" as of this writing. My personal goal was to get to 1000 in a year, but that wish came early! In fact, the night RFD-TV aired a special featuring Train Mountain, we got 100 new "Likes" in a 24-hour period! Both of those individuals (who were the 100th and 1000th "Like") were contacted and sent some Train Mountain swag.



Our YouTube channel now has an original video solely created to promote Train Mountain. It went viral on day one! As of this writing, it has been viewed 1,232 times and shared in Live Steam forums as far away as South Africa and Australia.

Our social media has gone international, baby! The video was created from footage I shot during a family outing to Train Mountain earlier this year. There are plans in the works to encourage those with home video taken at Train Mountain to creatively edit and share their movies on our YouTube channel. More to come on that soon!

Do you like to write? Do you desire to help Train Mountain, but don't think you can because you live far away? If that is you, I need to hear from you! Our blog is in dire need of someone who has a few hours a month to research and write an article for the Train Mountain blog. The article need not be long nor per-

fect. In fact, if you only have one article that you want to write, or want to occasionally submit an article as the mood or subject suits you, that would be helpful, too! Please contact via Train Mountain via info@tmrr.org or message me on Facebook. Next steps? Twitter. Before we can go that direction, we need content (see previous request for assistance). Other sites we are considering are Yelp, Instagram, and Pinterest. Suggestions are welcome; see my contact information above.

Train Mountain Website Online Forms/Data - Dale Furseth

Updating YOUR information!

The recent changes to the web site now allow members to update their own personal information. So when you move, or change your phone number or e-mail address, you can change that information yourself, online, instead of having to notify the Train Mountain office volunteers. Go to <http://www.tmrmmembers.org> , click the "Update" button, enter your user name (which is your e-mail address) and password and you can update all your personal information. Remember that your personal information is what will be shown on the Train Mountain roster, so it is good to make sure it is correct.

Web site users and passwords!

It currently takes 2 different user/passwords to get around the Train Mountain web site these days. We know that, and are working on fixing that issue. You have your personal user – which is your e-mail address. That user is specific to you and allows you access to your personal information. The other generic user/password that you get when you sign up allows you to access the Train Mountain roster. We are working on getting the roster moved to the TMRR Members area, where your personal user/password will allow you access there also. Please be patient!

Thank You To Train Mountain - Denny Ellis

Thanks for the mention of our RV group in the October Gazette. Yes, we did have a great time! Several of our group, including some who weren't able to go this time, have already mentioned that they would like to schedule future visit.

One of things we enjoy most is introducing people to Train Mountain. Four generations of Ellises have visited Train Mountain, including my mother, at age 89, my sisters and their husbands, three of our four kids and eleven of our fourteen grandkids. In addition to our RV group, we have also brought other friends.

Thanks for all you did to make our visit a successful one. And thanks to Linda for inviting us to visit the gallery and the Chiloquilters. Ten of us were there. (Well, some of us also sneaked across the street to look at the taxidermy at Kircher's.)

We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Financial Report (repeat) - Board

We are still a little over budget. We have deferred the \$7,500 Containerville foundations until next year. So by spending the \$25,202 that we raised in the last Triennial, we can meet this year's bills.

But we are falling short of our goals. Our highest priority is fixing the Central Station sewage system in time for the Triennial. To finish the sewer system and get the new container foundations in, we need \$35,000. The first step was the getting the engineering done, that has been completed. Now we are awaiting the bids to come in for the first stage of real construction which is the digging of the pits where the new septic tanks go and the installation of same. We hope to have that all completed before the weather shuts down the construction. The drain fields etc, will be done in the spring time.

WE NEED HELP. We have raised less than \$6,000 toward paying for these expenses. **PLEASE DIG DEEP AND HELP US GET THIS WORK DONE.** Your contributions to Train Mountain Institute (PO Box 438, Chiloquin, OR 97624) are tax deductible.

Holiday Shopping at the Company Store - Office Groupies

Those of you that have enjoyed our Company Store know how many Christmas Goodies are available for purchase. The Office Groupies would like to remind you that we are volunteers too and if you want to receive your purchase in time for the holidays please order soon. We need a little time to pick your order, pack your order, and lastly ship your order. You can order your goodies online via the club website and following the links to the Company Store.

Special Train Mountain Promtion for 2014 - Board

If you are reading this issue of the Gazette but have never ever been a member of Train Mountain, we have a very **SPECIAL OFFER** for you! On the next page you will see an ad that entitles you to one **FREE MEET** during 2014. Normally, to run your equipment on Train Mountain, we require you to be a member. This **FREE** certificate waives that requirement so that as a non-member you can come and enjoy the facility and hopefully that will entice you enough to want to be a member. Our normal safety requirements such as safety chains, and current boiler certificates will be enforced but you can come and have some fun running **YOUR** trains on **OUR** layout.



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.

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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

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.

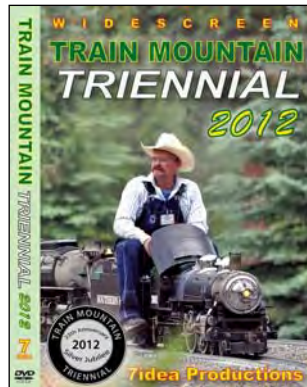
Cash or short term contract.

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 an ad for us on his terrific website, thanks Jim.



Did you see the great article and front cover story from the January /February 2013 issue of Live Steam and Outdoor Rail-roading? 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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Please Use the Online App to Renew. http://www.tmrrmembers.org/Member_Portal.aspx