

# The Mountain GAZETTE

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An Official Publication of the Train Mountain Institute and TM Railroad—Issue Vol. #4 Issue #27 **November 2020**

## November

Well are you all ready for some good news for a change? 2020 has not been a stellar year for any news but it is the season to be giving thanks so here goes! You all know that Lillyville has been a 'dry' community since its founding. The church folks had made it so. With the lumber mill closing at Deadwood and the only other employment being that of the mine at Lillyville, what was a fellow to do but move to Lillyville? Well you know miners, so here's the good news I promised. There is now a first class saloon in Lillyville. That certainly is also a great reason to give thanks. So Happy Thanksgiving and thank you for indulging me in a little frivolity.



As this is being written the loggers are starting to clear the refuse from the fire and clearing up the north end of the property. Current estimates are they will be there for quite some period of time (read that as months). Of course all of this is weather dependent. This means no track work north of Schubert will be attempted until the big rigs and tree fallers leave. If you're driving in anytime soon be aware that there are tree fallers working the local highways as well. Expect flagger delays on Hwy 62, Hwy 422, and S Chiloquin Road. They are clearing the trees from power lines everywhere.

We are still a 'closed' park and that means no visitors, just members, and some restrictions are in force regarding use of enclosed spaces, IE the Hall of Flags. Please remember to wear your mask, and use social distancing when appropriate.

As a sidebar I would like to remind everyone that the facilities here belong to TMI and not to the 'club'. They are available for you to use on a 'shared' basis. Think about the area where you are working and ask yourself, are you blocking a track, are you using a device that other members need on a regular basis (IE a scissors lift, etc.), did you return the tools you used to their designated spot in the Backshop? Lastly there was an old rule we always used when camping, and that was to ALWAYS leave an area CLEANER than when you found it. You might not have dropped that rag or paper on the floor, but please reach down and pick it up and put it in the trash. The next person to use the area will greatly appreciate it.

Enough spouting off, time to head down the hill and stop off at Lillyville for a spot of 'Miners Tea'! First round is on me!

# 19 AND COUNTING

**Join Train Mountain Now!**

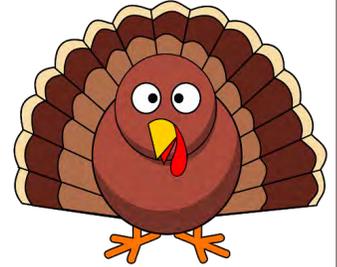
Register or Join - [https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Member\\_Portal.aspx](https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Member_Portal.aspx)

## From the Desk of Train Mountain Railroad President November 2020

By Jeff Mills, TMRR Board President

This issue of the TM Gazette finds us in November. **What a year this has been!** First, we had to cancel two meets and postpone the 2021 Triennial to 2022. Then, in September, Train Mountain could have been completely consumed by the Two Four Two Fire! While this fire was not the largest nor the most destructive in Oregon, it did do a great deal of damage to our property and track.

**However, November is the month for giving THANKS!** Train mountain and its members have a lot to be thankful for in 2020. First, the closure of TM was lifted for members only and we eventually resumed meets on a limited basis. We had three constructive meets with a lot of essential work accomplished. In May, I was doubtful the **raking and hauling** was even going to start. However, many volunteers showed up between meets just to rake and haul. Those **dedicated volunteers groomed the property and track** allowing productive work weeks at those few meets.



In August, we had a **great OPS Meet** with the implementation of a new radio communication system. Going from FRS radios, which are basically line of sight, to UHF. We now have coverage of the communication throughout the property.

We need to be thankful for the track crews who have replaced the **track on Timber Lake** property. This track replacement is **nearing the last phase**. Completion of this project is well within the reach before the 2022 Triennial.



Dales other projects, new Rail Tour engines

September brought a dark time at TM. A **fire** which started at Mile Post#242 on Highway 97, **burning South about 5 miles on the north end of Train Mountain Property in a little over two hours**. The fire required mandatory evacuation of the entire area. Thankfully, two of our skilled employees, **Richard Cox and Dustin Barnes**, immediately got both TM Bulldozers operating and cut a fire line. Their speedy reactions saved much of the property on the North Side. We did lose timber and some track but **no injuries or loss of life, for which we are truly thankful**.



October brought the **Fall Colors Meet**. We had quite a few volunteers show up early to repair fire damaged track and culverts. The Track is once again open to the Schubert Wye. Some of these volunteers also worked on the Northbound replacement track from North Portal. We do owe a big thanks to these volunteers also.



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**Continued from previous page:**

In the last three months, we have **lost valuable members**. Just in this brief period, we have lost more members than I can recall in my 15 years attending Train Mountain. We were fortunate to have known these people as they all contributed to Train Mountain in their own way to make it what it is today. I am thankful and will remember them fondly.

TMI has started a new **fundraising campaign for purchasing more rail, tie material** and supplies. Our income is down this year due to the closure to the public, canceled events and lower membership. **Please consider a donation** to this campaign because we still need to replace and maintain existing track. Hopefully 2021 and 2022 will provide a more normal income or even improve it. Please consider donating a portion of any financial windfall or “stimulus check” to our **woe-**



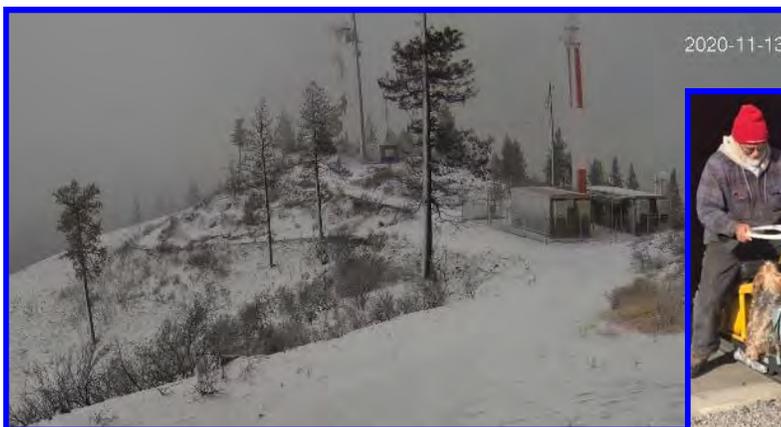
**Our local lumber mill in Klamath Falls**

**fully low coffers.**

Starting soon, a contract logger will be **salvaging the timber** in the burned area. This is expected to be finished **in early 2021**. It is important to get this work accomplished as soon as possible to bring the **best market value** for what is harvested. Train Mountain Institute will be paid for the salvaged timber. Once the logging crews are done, additional work on the track in the burned area can be completed and the **track opened to Hope Circle**.

**2021 Membership and Meet registration** is open so **renew your membership** and **sign up early for the meets!** We have every reason to believe we can have a full year of TRAIN MOUNTAIN experiences once again. Registrations can be done on the TMRR website or by calling the Business Office or by mail.

Have a great Thanksgiving Holiday!



So the first snow means ya' gotta' get the winter equipment ready. Thanks Gil and Dale.



## Fund Raising Campaign and George Hoke

by Jerry Crane



Most of you have now received your letter from Train Mountain Institute requesting donations to help support Train Mountain. The last year has been financially hard for TM. The Covid 19 virus required us to close the museum to visitors eliminating their donations. The virus also reduced member attendance at our meets, reducing income. We also received a lot of damage to the north end of our property in the 242 wild fire. There will be many costs associated with recovering from this fire.



If you feel so inclined, we would greatly appreciate any financial help you can provide. Any amount would help.

To kick off the drive **George Hoke donated \$20,000** to Train Mountain requesting that the money be used for track construction and installation. This money covered the lion's share of the purchase of a new semi load of plastic tie material from Canada. Tragically, George never got to see the product of his donation. A few days after making the donation, **George passed away** in his sleep. George and his family were regular attendees at our meets. He will be greatly missed.



Last shipment still in Canada



Last shipment arriving TM

Leonard Houpt is one of those folks that we the locals affectionately call "snow birds". So when he is not enjoying our wonderful weather in Chiloquin he is at his "other" home down in Yuma. Bill Shepherd gathered a bunch of our recycled wood ties and Leonard brought them down to the Yuma Club for their use on their ever growing railroad.



Register or Join - [https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Member\\_Portal.aspx](https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Member_Portal.aspx)

## Track Replacement 2020

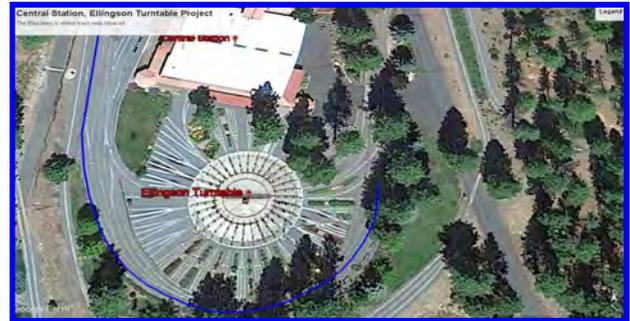
an article by Dennis Ward—Track Superintendent

The Track Department had a very productive year thanks mainly to Dale Furseth. I started in February of 2020, while the ground was still frozen, replacing the main track around Main Yard. Dale saw this old man struggling to get to his feet and sort of took over. Thank you Dale. Later Gil Dominguez started pitching in and upped the daily output. As a result instead of the 720' I had planned to replace around Main Yard, they replaced that and the main track around Central Station and Ellingson Turntable, the Colton Cutoff and the track from North Portal to the Dam 4 Junction. They had help from out of town members such as Matt, Wyatt and Abby Thomas, Mike Hoak and others. In their slack time, this amazing crew replaced four switches at Bond and five more on the Serpentine. Dale also replaced all the wooden ties with plastic ties on a 'diamond' at Youngstown.

Charlie Bill Schubert and I were barely able to keep ahead of Dale's crew and the Idaho Mafia, who did the Big Build project in 2020. The Idaho crew led by Mark Flitton replaced track from Train Mountain Logging Camp #1 to about half way through Vertel Junction on the Timberlake Railroad on the southbound leg north of North Portal. Charlie and I were of course working in the Track Shop. We also had help from Russ Wood (our tie cutter), Hank Stiles, Ed and Cathy Ackerman, and others. Richard Cox and Dustin Barnes, Train Mountains dynamic duo, kept our machinery in good working order.

We have approximately 1.77 miles (9320') of wooden tied main track still to replace. This does not include yards and sidings, main track only. We replaced approximately one mile (5272') of track in 2020. We had planned on replacing only about 2100' during the year. Consequently we have used a large portion of our inventory and haven't enough money in the budget for replacement. The 242 fire which burned a large portion of the northern part of Train Mountain will require placement of approximately another 470' of track in order to get the loop from Schubert Wye to Hope Circle and back open.

With that in mind, when you renew your membership think about upgrading to the next higher level. If you have already renewed it is not too late to upgrade. Another option is to donate to Train Mountain. Follow this link <<https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Donate.aspx>> to donate online. You do not have to be a member to donate. Just a reminder, we are a 501c3 organization so those donations are deductible.



## Hi Members a Note from the Back Shop

This year has been quite a ride due to fires and the virus so wanted to leave a note about things.

I do thank all of you who have used the Backshop and have left it in good shape as that takes quite a bit of my time to do usually, but thanks to you all, this year not so much. I am still having problems with tools missing and never coming back. Those are paid for by donations to the back shop and as consumables such as fasteners, paper towels, spray cans of lube and such. Also gas for the welder and torch. So it helps out when using the Backshop to contribute to it so we can continue to have it available.

Since it's winter here there is a very large problem I am again having, heat being left on after someone turns it up. Due to finances the propane used to heat with could become a problem so always check to see it's turned down as far as it goes and the rear one turned off with its switch. Sixty should also be the max temp in there when working if you even turn it up. That cost comes from another fund so it's not donations and could go away if misused.

This year a member passed away up in WA, sorry don't know the name, and some of his tools were donated to the back shop. Jeff Mills brought them down to sell and have put into the back shop funds. They are on a flat car inside the back shop for sale when down please look them over. And make an offer on one or all. I will try to price them soon. Its things like this that keep the Backshop open and stocked for members use. Some members see something missing and replace that tool or just see one that they think is needed and do the same. To all who do contribute thank you very much.

One member, again lost track of his name, from Florida asked me about nuts and bolts, I gave him a list and ended up with everything on the list showing up. WOW, what a great deal that was! Also the bins have been restocked by another member Clay, who was here for several weeks. He also cleaned up the place much better than I do.

When you do come back, please enjoy using the Backshop, that's a member perk after all, and what a good deal it is. Thanks one and all who have enjoyed it over the years and Happy Holidays.

Boyd Butler member Train Mountain since 1993.



## Greetings from Joyce at the front office:

So far this month we have gotten some snow and yesterday, a lot of rain. That is good since we really need the moisture after a very dry summer. The first snow made for some slippery roads and white knuckle driving, but the roads are much better now.

Last month, member Wes Peterson, reported a hawk in distress. It was unable to get off the ground. When I found it near the big pond it was sitting on the ground like a duck sitting on eggs—only this hawk was not sitting on any eggs and it wasn't trying to fly away when I got within a foot of it! Raven caught the red-tailed hawk shortly after and it was taken to Badger Run Wildlife Rehab for treatment. Badger Run reported that the hawk had low level lead poisoning and a head trauma. It was given physical therapy for the head trauma and treated for the lead poisoning. When they were certain that she could fly, hunt and eat on her own, they returned her to Train Mountain. It was such a gorgeous site to see her competently and happily fly off into the tree tops.

So, why is a hawk important and how does a hawk get lead poisoning? Well, the hawks help to keep the small critter population under control on both the north and south sides of Train Mountain. The lead poisoning can come from lead pellets used in shotgun shells and in bullets. Animals hit by these, but not killed, might become hawk food and the hawk inadvertently eats the lead along with the animal. Lead pellets have been banned in some areas because it can poison and keep on poisoning all the way up the food chain. Another way is through the use of lead weights and lures in fishing. The lead can taint the water especially if lost or left in the water. If hunting or fishing, it is best to use other metals instead.

A big thank you goes to everyone who has volunteered, who has joined or renewed their membership and who has made donations this year. 2020 has not been an easy year with sudden and abrupt changes in our lives and our work and play habits nor with the fires and other things. I didn't realize just how many members we missed seeing this year until I recently reviewed our mailing list. I am so happy that those of you who came to Train Mountain for a meet or in between meets were able to come!

Our condolences go to the family and friends of George Hoke and of Doug Wilkinson who both passed away this month.

Here's wishing you a Happy Thanksgiving, however you celebrate it.

Thank goodness we are nearing the end of 2020. Let's make 2021 be a much better year!

Take care, stay happy and stay healthy.

**This is your newsletter!**  
**Thank you to everyone that took the time**  
**to submit articles this month (by the 15th).**  
**Please keep it up!**

### 2021 Train Mountain Train Meet Schedule

	Polar Bear Train Meet	Spring Awakening Train Meet	Narrow Gauge Train Meet	Operations Train Meet	August Train Meet	Big Build Train Meet	Fall Colors Train Meet
Work Week	none	5/1 to 5/6	5/22 to 5/27	6/19 to 6/23	7/24 to 7/29	9/4 to 9/9	none
Meet	1/15 to 1/18	5/7 to 5/9	5/28 to 5/30	6/24 to 6/27	7/30 to 8/1	9/10 to 9/12	10/8 to 10/12

Register or Join - [https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Member\\_Portal.aspx](https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Member_Portal.aspx)



**CAUTION - CAUTION - CAUTION**  
**North of Schubert is CLOSED**



There are a large number of lumber vehicles working the burned out area North of Schubert. PLEASE do NOT venture into that area. They are not railroaders and will NOT be looking out for you. This land clearing will be ongoing for some time so once again please protect yourself and stay out of the area. They will be clearing the burnt area first and then they might also be assisting us in the future forest management project that is now in it's 2nd year of planning. We are awaiting the signed ODF grant forms to start on that portion as well. Thank you for your cooperation.



**CAUTION - CAUTION - CAUTION**  
**North of Schubert is CLOSED**



For Local Lodging please go to our web site and click on Local Lodging. We think it's accurate as of last summer so if you call one of these folks, and they have changed or are no longer available please contact our office and let us know. Thanks.

## Volunteer Hours Reporting

Dale Furseth has worked his techie magic on the member's part of our website again. You can now report your monthly volunteer hours online. From the Train Mountain Railroad home page, click on "Online Member Resources: Join Train Mountain: "Register for Meets", then on "Enter Volunteer Hours" or go there directly with this link:

[https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Member\\_VolunteerHours.aspx](https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Member_VolunteerHours.aspx)

Choose your name from the drop down menu, enter your total hours in the box that matches the month you are reporting your hours for and click on "Update Information" to submit them. So-o-o simple! We hope you enjoy using this feature.



**COMING SOON (we hope!)**

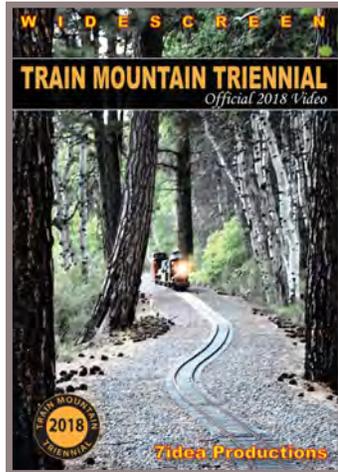
**We hope to have the ON LINE Company Store partially up soon!**  
**Just in time for Christmas! (we hope)**

Register or Join - [https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Member\\_Portal.aspx](https://trainmtn.org/tmrrmembers/Member_Portal.aspx)

# CLASSIFIEDS

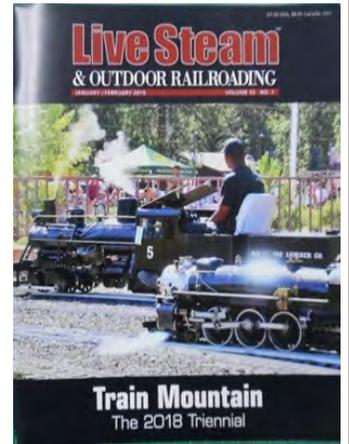
## 2018 Triennial Video Now Available

The 2018 Train Mountain Triennial video from Aaron Benson at 7Idea Productions is now available. You can order online at the link shown or you can call the office at 541-783-3030 to get your copy. This is a most enjoyable video created by a true video artist and of course it just happens to be about our most favorite subject! The cost of the video is just \$29.95, quite a bargain!



Our good friend Jim over at Discover Live Steam has placed ads for us on his terrific website, thanks Jim. [discoverlivesteam.com](http://discoverlivesteam.com)

Did you see the great article and front cover story from the January / February 2019 issue of Live Steam and Outdoor Railroading? It is a great article covering the 2018 Triennial. and the great gang of folks that hang around the place and put on terrific live steam trainmeets. As an added bonus there is a photo album by member Michelle Moore! How about that! Pretty cool!



## Crater Lake/ Train Mountain Vacation Rentals

### Crater Lake Chalet

Located on Hwy 422, only 1 mile off Hwy 62 and 2 miles from Hwy 97 in the Chiloquin area. This house is at north end of Train Mountain and contiguous to Train Mountain.



This comfortable house sits on 35 beautiful acres. 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Can sleep up to 6 people.

### Panoramic View Ranch House / Crater Lake

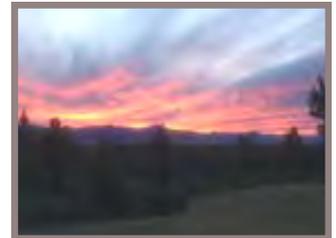


This ranch house is located on Hwy 62, and attaches to the west side of Train Mountain.

The 56 acres, panoramic views of Agency Lake and

the Cascades. Enjoy a peaceful and private experience. 4 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms.

Can sleep up to 8 people.



For more information please call: **Julie 415-756-3943** or **Mike 415-420-9026**

**10% off for train mountain members**

[www.getawayvacationhome.com](http://www.getawayvacationhome.com)

Please Volunteer at a Train Mountain Meet!

# CLASSIFIEDS

## THE POTBELLY CAFE



Located only 1.5 miles off Hwy 97 in Downtown Chiloquin in the same building as the Post Office 212 1st Avenue, Chiloquin, OREGON 97624 -- Phone: (541) 783-0988



**Good Service**  
**Good Food**  
**Friendly Folks**



## 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 Yahooskin 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 food to go or you can eat it there, Free Wi-Fi, a comfortable lounge with large screen TVs, laundry and shower facilities, and ATMs are all available.

**WE ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS**

**DON'T YELL AT ME, I AM A VOLUNTEER!**

### 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

Published by Train Mountain Railroad

P.O. Box 438

Chiloquin, OR 97624

Email: [info@tmrr.org](mailto:info@tmrr.org) Phone: 541-783-3030

Contributors: TMRR BOD, Friends, TMI

Photos: Tom Watson



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



**REMEMBER: No job is complete without the paperwork!**

## I AM NOT A ROBOT!

There have been a few changes made to the member's site, specifically where payment information is entered. The most noticeable change is that we have added a question asking if you are a robot. You check the box and depending on a bunch of things, you may be asked to choose from a set of pictures. You may be asked to click the pictures that show street signs, or click on pictures that show store fronts. It seems silly, but the questions and challenges are carefully crafted and updated by Google, and have an amazing success rate at determining if the entity pressing the keys is a real person or a computer program ("robot") trying to gain access.

The technology is called "CAPTCHA", or in our case "reCAPTCHA" and is quickly being the standard for online protection against robots, which pose a real problem to web sites. This is replacing the (to me) very irritating practice of trying to figure out what letters and numbers they are showing in fuzzy text. If you have questions or problems getting around the new challenge (or if you are a robot!), feel free to give Joyce a call in the office.

Dale Furseth, "the computer guy"

# NOTICES

## **Gazette PUBLICATION DEADLINE:**

Submissions to the Gazette must be received by the 15th of the month of publication. The fifteenth of the month is to be the last day to submit material. Material received after the 15th of the month may be held until the following month or rejected.

### **SUBMISSION CRITERIA**

Articles and ads may be submitted via a pdf file, MS WORD, Open Office, notepad, or similar text file attached to an email. The email SUBJECT line must include your article title and a date.

Please give each article a distinct file name with your name and a date. If everyone submits an article named "article for gazette" or something similar it will often get overwritten by another article with the same name when downloading. Articles sent as text in a email text will no longer be accepted.

Please use a common open source FONT such as ARIAL that can be displayed in all Browsers, and is easy to read. Please do NOT use the Calibri font, as we must take the time to convert it to Arial.

If your document has an embedded image, you must also include the image separately as a jpg,

## **Visitors to Train Mountain and YOU:**

Train Mountain is very popular and is continually attracting visitors from throughout the world. We announce that our hours are from 9:00 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, and **YOU** are liable for them until they sign a release. Releases are available in the mailboxes near the office for those times when 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) (Summer - 9:00 AM until 3:00 PM) Monday through

**Please Volunteer at a Train Mountain Meet!**

## **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.**

## **What is Amazon Smile?**

In a nutshell, it is a way for Train Mountain to receive 501c3 donations from Amazon. According to Amazon: AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. You can choose from nearly one million organizations to support.

When you go to Amazon Smile, choose Train Mountain Institute as your charity. In order for this to work, you must always start from Amazon Smile. Then all else is the same, your account, wish lists, etc. Also available is a direct link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-4031025> for the TMI account.

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases. I found that just about everything I purchased lately is eligible.

If we can get a large number of Train Mountain supporters to take advantage of the Amazon Smile program, this could result in sizable donations to Train Mountain.

## **New Gate Code**

**Due to security concerns, the Gate Code for the Train Mountain Main Gate may be changed at any time without notice. Any Member planning to arrive at Train Mountain when the Office is closed will need to contact the Office prior to arrival to ensure they have the current Gate Code.**

**Get New Gate Code—Call Office 541-783-3030**



# WEB-CAM GALLERY

Photos by: The Web-Cam



# PHOTO GALLERY

Photos by: Tom Watson

