



# The Mountain GAZETTE

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An Official Publication of the Train Mountain Institute and TM Railroad—Issue Vol. #5 Issue #3 **October 2022**

## October

Well, it's October, and if you're in Oregon, you've been enjoying the fine fall weather. It's more like what summer used to be when we were all young sprouts, or if not young, then younger—the point is, fall is a very fine season in Oregon, especially for those of us lucky enough to get down to Train Mountain.

A lot of people made it this month for a wide range of goings-on—an informal but productive work week; the Fall Colors meet, which was unusually well attended by all reports; the banquet; and more work on the Hope Shelter, which is getting close to complete. We were not among them, alas, although we did get some runs in on our local track.

This month features the inaugural article of our new President, John Cooper. We also have articles on some new track (woo!), the Fall Colors Meet, the Hope Shelter, the ongoing reconstruction of the Blue Mountain Coal structure, the website, and as usual Joyce reminds us to be our better selves.

This month was also the last meet of the year—sigh. Time to winterize your engine and start daydreaming about spring.

Speaking of our better selves, we were reminded that articles will only make it to us if we tell you where to send them. Please send articles, photos, ramblings, and discourses to [lucindagilman@gmail.com](mailto:lucindagilman@gmail.com).

Cheers,

Lucinda Gilman and Xander Geraghty

### Call for Halloween photos!

Did you or your club decorate your track for Halloween? We would love to see some photos. Look for a collection in the next Gazette.



*The junior editor*

### 2022 Train Mountain Train Meet Schedule

	Polar Bear Train Meet	Spring Awakening Train Meet	Narrow Gauge Train Meet	Triennial Train Meet	Operations Train Meet	Big Build Train Meet	Fall Colors Train Meet
Work Week	none	4 /30 to 5 /5	5 /21 to 5 /26	6 /11 to 6 /19	7 /23 to 7 /27	9 /3 to 9 /8	none
Meet	1 /14 to 1 /16	5 /6 to 5 /8	5 /27 to 5 /29	6 /20 to 6 /26	7 /28 to 7 /31	9 /9 to 9 /11	10 /7 to 10 /10

### Join Train Mountain Now!

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

**The Mountain Gazette**

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**October 2022**

## From The President of Train Mountain John Cooper

Due to work, I wasn't able to attend the Fall Colors Meet, but I was able to stop by Saturday afternoon and join the banquet. I could tell right away that I missed a fantastic week. I caught up with Clay Smith and Mike Rademacher as they were headed to M&M corner with some Train Game cars. On the way, the colors were fantastic, and if you haven't been to M&M recently, you should check it out. M&M corner is now sporting some new picnic tables and a finished look. On the way back we walked along the new track at Beauchamp, which looked great. It was evident that a great team of people had worked on it. The roadbed was clean and straight and, most of all, inviting. Closer to home we ran into Jim Eakin who was working on restoring the Blue Mountain Coaling Facility. He is doing a tremendous job on that. Be sure to thank him for his efforts when you see him. Steve Passmore was setting up some wi-fi hotspots when we got back to central station, so remember him next time you have five bars on your laptop. I'm sure that there are lots of other people who worked hard on projects throughout the week. Whether large or small, go ahead and toot your own horn. Drop a line or send some pictures to Lucinda Gilman for inclusion in the Gazette. Everyone would like to hear what's going on.

The banquet was very well attended. At the conclusion of the meal, we sang Happy Birthday to Rose Dobbs, after which a few people gave some remarks to the crowd. Dennis Ward spoke about the new track at Beauchamp, thanking all the folks that helped with that this week. Steve Eddy spoke about the success of the Train Game this year, and indicated that he is working on some scoring changes for next year. He also mentioned the need for push buttons to operate the new switch at Antis, which was duly noted by the signals team. Next, Gil Dominguez gave an update on the Hope Shelter indicating that the roof is now on, except for the roof cap. Thanks to the team for their hard work. A picnic at Hope is now officially on my to-do list. Jerry Crane closed out the evening giving a brief report on TMI and introducing our new neighbors who bought the Balf property.

There are a few other items of business that I can report. The schedule for next years' meets has recently been approved and published on the website. It's not too soon to start thinking about travel

plans for next summer. Also, Dale Furseth has informed me that he recently installed more ties in the track through our memorial garden near the flag pole. These ties have engraved on them the names of members who have passed on. If you get a chance, walk over to the garden and remember these folks.





## New Track! Dale Furseth

This year, the Fall Colors Meet, which typically does not have an attached work week, turned into a very productive week of hard work—just like last year. A dedicated group of members calling themselves the “Wonder Bread Crew” showed up the week before the meet and completed a track installation project that has been on the books for years.

The team of volunteers laid 1500' of plastic, 150 track panels (weighing 140 pounds each) and 100 cubic yards of ballast, and then made sure it was dead smooth and level. This has been such a great effort by a whole bunch of people who I cannot thank enough. Every time the call goes out for help on a tough project, this crew, led by Matt Thomas, answers the call and consistently delivers above and beyond. Every member who has come and enjoyed Train Mountain has enjoyed the hard work of this group.

Also thanks to Dennis Ward, our Train Mountain Track Superintendent. Your guidance and encouragement keep me on the right track!

To access the new track, when coming down hill from Witcombe, right before you get to Beauchamp (at the top of Aspen Loop), there is a new switch that goes off to the left. This new bypass track takes you around the outside of Aspen Loop, down to Elizabeth River. The purpose for the new track is to provide some options when running on the north side, and to allow a train returning from the north side to take the track all the way round Aspen Loop – and not just half Aspen.

After the crew finished that task, they spent a day moving drainage rock for the Panama project.

Thank you to every one of the Wonder Bread Crew.



Tom Watson did a very cool video on the track work. Check it out here and drop him a like and a comment: <https://youtu.be/F8fR5VjHXFA>



## New Track! - Photos





## Fall Colors Meet

The Fall Colors meet went extremely well, by all reports. A surprising number of people showed up, including lots of people that Jeff Mills didn't recognize as regular attendees – which is great to see! The weather was excellent – high 80s and sunny – and the trees were in color. There were more steam engines than usual. People are starting to use the Hope picnic shelter.

Thanks to Jeff Mills and Joyce Merwin for their reports and photos.





## Fall Colors Meet—Photos





## Greetings from Joyce at the front office:

The weather and temperatures have continued to be nice. Mornings are good and chilly, but the afternoons have been nice, warm and sunny.

The Fall Colors meet was quite well attended. The weather helped to make for a good time for all. Matt Thomas and his Wonder Bread Crew did a bang up job on their unofficial pre-meet work week. Dale covered that elsewhere in this edition, so I am not going to expand on that here. The banquet was also well attended with 69 people turning in their banquet tickets. John Cooper, Train Mountain Railroad's new President, made the banquet's after-dinner announcements fun and entertaining.

The Triennial VIII video is nearing completion and will be "going to print" soon. That is my term for going into production. We will, of course, make an announcement as soon as it is available for purchase onsite and in the online store. We are not taking pre-orders, but once it is available you will be able to purchase it through the online store, onsite, by phone or by mail.

2023 memberships and meet sign-ups are now available online or through the office. The website has both online registration and downloadable forms for printing and mailing. If you need assistance with signing up online, you can call me at 541-783-3030.

We are continuing to get visitors though the visitor traffic is lighter this time of year. They are enjoying their visits with the walking tour and seeing and learning about Train Mountain. Some are getting longer rail tours with trips to Midway Circle to see the Garden Scale railroad and more when volunteers are available to run the tour trains. They have been leaving very nice donations, too.

Klamath & Western Railroad will be doing their Pumpkin Express train rides and pumpkin patch on October 22, 2022 and October 29, 2022 from 10 AM to 3 PM. As many people call the Train Mountain business office for information, many are very excited about this popular event being back.

The kitties Charlie and Maggie are doing fine. Oh-so-timid Maggie is in her glory when she has the Hall of Flags all to herself. Charlie continues to greet visitors and walk with them around the park. This time of year after all of the meets are over, when all of the non-locals go back home and visitor traffic slows down is the time when Charlie will be looking for all of you and we both start missing you all. (We do still see the year-round "locals", though, and are thankful for that.)

We look forward to seeing you here next year—or sooner.

If you celebrate it, have a Happy Halloween!

## What's spinning on the turntable?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zJRHm4fZgio>

**Roll On, Big Boy**

By Nebraska 66



# Blue Mountain Coal Structure Reconstruction

By Jeff Mills

The Blue Mountain Coal structure, near Blue Caboose Campground, was in a severely **deteriorated state**. There had been little maintenance work done on it since it was built. This piece is an **important asset on our layout** as it is one of the largest model buildings we have. **Most visitors and members get an opportunity to view this structure, giving it “Show Piece” status.** Due to its size, most work must be done in situ.

After discussions between Bill Kludt and **Jim Eakin**, Jim volunteered to take on the project and has been **working diligently on it for several months**. Jim is also responsible for some construction and most of the maintenance of the buildings at **Lillyville** with direction and support from the Lilly family. He has brought those same **skills and imagination to this project**.

The materials he has chosen **reinforced the original construction** with **improved** methods for **fastening** them to it. He plans to **resume** work on this project **next spring** while constructing some components in his home shop over the winter. Jim is making a **photo album of each day’s progress** on this project. We will be sure to **share those with you in the Gazette** when his work is finished.

At present, Jim is **using his own funds** for this project. A **few** generous members have provided **donations** to him. Additional **donations are encouraged and appreciated**. If you send a **check to the Train Mountain Office**, make sure the **Blue Mountain Coal Project** is noted on it. You can also donate in the Business Office or leave a donation in the **Lillyville Donation box at Lillyville**.

We all owe Jim a big **Thank You**. **His work deserves it!**





# Hope Shelter Project

By Valerie Bedore



Happy Halloween Folks,

FINALLY.....The shelter is finished!!!!!! The skip sheeting is complete and metal roofing installed. On Friday, October 14, 2022, the Klamath County Building Inspector came and finalized the permitted structure. Next, the gravel base and grading under the structure, landscaping, signs, etc. Mainly incidentals!

The Hope Shelter Committee is looking to have a dedication ceremony for the Hope Shelter in early Spring. We'll publish more information on this as we get closer.

As of now, \$8,513 has been donated for this project. Thank you to those who have donated. Thank you to our volunteers who contributed their time and talents as well!

Interested in donating to the Hope Shelter Project? Please mail a check (made out to Train Mountain Institute) to: P.O. Box 438, Chiloquin, OR. 97624. Please make sure you note on the check the donation is for the "Hope Shelter Project."





## Navigating Train Mountain Webpages

article by Danny Chamrad (djc2jr@hotmail.com)

Well, “down-here” where I live, it is common to hear someone refer to Murphy’s Law when things go awry. I ended last month’s article telling members to look at the Live Camera Page. As you may know by now, the camera servers decided that this would be a great time to malfunction. Murphy was Right Again!

Some of the camera servers, which refresh/replace their pictures after a set time period, are back up again, but the ones that store “historical pictures from each day” are not fully functioning yet. These are the pictures that I like to look at to see what/who has been going on at TM for the last few days or weeks. People at TM are working diligently to get these servers operational again.

This is a good time to reflect on the TM resources. I remember when I built my house that getting it built didn’t seem to be an overwhelming chore. It was exciting to see a different part of the construction completed, as we moved toward completion of the house. However, what I learned over time was that building the house was the easy part. Keeping it maintained for the last 40 years has been much harder. When building the house, I only put on one roof, painted it one time, put up ceiling fans once, etc.. However, over the years, I’ve worked on all of those things several times. Also, what’s up with these trees and grass?!?! Do these limbs ever stop needing to be trimmed, or does grass ever stop growing? Nope, they don’t.

The same thing is happening with TM. All of those wonderful facilities that were built towards the end of the 1980’s must now be maintained. I heard from a friend at TM that Jerry Crane was putting down tile in the bathroom of the area above the office which had a major bathroom remodel done this summer. Thanks to several skilled TM members, sheetrock was put up, electrical work done, a hot tub removed, etc. If you have some skills that can be used at TM, **be sure and let people know what you can do** because there’s always work to be done. Electrical, plumbing, mechanical, fence building, brush clearing, track building/installing/repairing, paperwork, Company Store work, etc.—anything you can imagine. The fun never ends and we would love your help.

With that said, let’s get back to that TMRR webpage. On the left side of the webpage is a column with windows which contain black letters on a green background. These are links to many resources which help us to understand and perform functions at TMRR. We will discuss each one of these links as we review the TMRR webpage. For now, let’s look at the right side of the webpage at the links located there. We will look at the Videos Page at this link: <https://trainmtn.org/tmrr/pages/Videos-2.shtml>. There are several videos on this webpage ranging from videos of events at TMRR to the use of the Switch Toter to transport and install a switch. The Switch Toter video is quite interesting and shows how a switch can actually be installed by one person, albeit more easily if two or more are doing it. The Toter was built at TMRR through the collaborative efforts of TMRR members. There is an interesting video of events and running the rails at TMRR in 2019. There are a couple of videos of people at TM who “Fought the Snow, and the Snow Won” which are quite humorous. There are also videos of the Pumpkin Express, Fall Colors, Big Build Meet work, and more.

Back on the TMRR webpage, below the Videos link, is the link to the Steiger Butte cameras: [https://trainmtn.org/cameras/Steiger\\_Butte\\_Camera.shtml](https://trainmtn.org/cameras/Steiger_Butte_Camera.shtml). On this webpage are pictures from the South and NW facing cameras on top of Steiger Butte showing contrasting views of TM after the fire/clearing of the trees, a Live Camera Page link, a Central Station Camera 33 Tour Train loading area view, and an aerial view of Central Station and the Topside buildings.

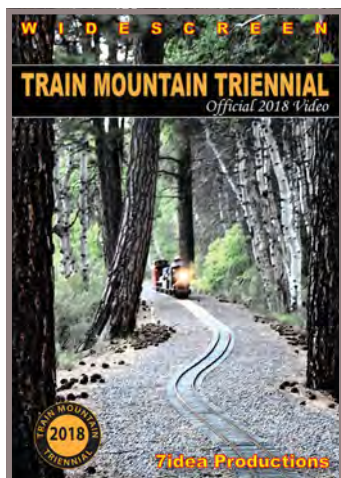
Until next month, enjoy browsing the webpages. Danny



# 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.



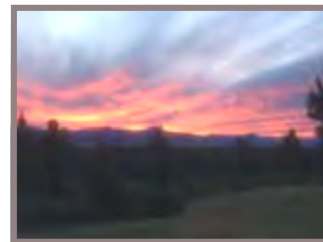
This comfortable house sits on 35 beautiful acres. 2 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Can sleep up to 6 people.

### 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 Ave-



**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

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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 becoming 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, png, or similar image file.

## 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 Friday. To arrange other hours visitors should call the office at 541-783-3030.

## **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.

[Click here for more information.](#)

## **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**



# Train Mountain Volunteer Hours

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Month & Year: \_\_\_\_\_

[illegible]

## 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.