

Voice of Train Mountain & Volunteers

Train Mountain Gazette

September 2026

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*TMRR Board Election Results, A New Signal, Donor Cards,
Conversation Cards, A Visit to Bend & More*

A Letter From The Editor

Greetings Train Member Family,

As this year's season is quickly winding down, I wanted to take a moment to chat about what's to come of the Gazette in the "off season."

I am currently planning to keep the Gazette running, and pivot the reading away from meets and current events to stories and articles of interest.

It'll be a great way to keep the Train Mountain spirit strong through the off season, and fall/winter is the perfect time to sit down with your pen and paper and write that article you've been sitting on.

It's also a great time to curl up with a cup of coffee and read the Gazette!

Articles I'm looking for to be submitted over the "off season" include:

- Personal stories about Train Mountain
- Reflections from the season
- Stories about Train Mountain functions
- Live steam education or interest pieces

These Gazette issues are only as good as the articles that are submitted, so I highly encourage everyone to contribute as they feel called. (And don't worry, we will help you edit!)

Lastly, there are some articles I would love to see written but don't have the bandwidth for. If anyone is interested in being a "reporter" for the Gazette, please reach out!

See you next month,

Lila

gazette@tmrr.org



**September's
Ice Cream
Social**



**Lila Swanberg
Gazette Editor
Member Since '25**

*Join Us For Our Last
Social of the season*

Ice Cream & Chocolate Social



Hosted by TMRR

Tuesday October 6th

6:00 PM

Central Station

Reach out to Lila With Questions (951) 760- 0681

2026 Meet Schedule



Polar Bear

W: N/A

M: January 16th - January 19th

Spring Awakening

W: April 25th - April 30th

M: May 1st - May 3rd



Narrow Gauge

W: May 23rd - May 28th

M: May 29th - May 31st



Operations

W: June 20th - June 23rd

M: June 24th - June 28th



Hot August Nights

W: August 1st - August 6th

M: August 7th - August 9th



Big Build

W: September 5th - September 10th

M: September 11th - September 13th



Fall Colors

W: October 6th - October 8th

M: October 9th - October 12th



Just Added

Next Full Moon: August 28th

W= Work Week
M= Meet Days

TM Bulletin

The latest news and updates from Train Mountain

Fall Colors Work Week

Don't forget a work week has been added to the Fall Colors Meet this year! Volunteers are needed to help wind things down for the season. We'll see you there!

K&W Shuttle

During the last few K&W run weekends, Train Mountain experimented with providing a shuttle from K&W to our walking tour and Visitor Center!

Containerville 2.0

Be sure to tune in to the October Gazette next month. There is a big article coming with Containerville 2.0 updates and details.

Shower Project Update

The shower project is underway, but moving slowly as we are working to gather the necessary septic data for permits. It's been a lot of messy work to say the least!

Turntable Retaining Wall Failure

The retaining wall on the west side of the turntable has failed. We're building a block structure to replace the old tie material.

Tree Trimming Help Wanted!

"Major tree and brush removal days will be Tuesday, September 28th through Friday, October 2nd. We welcome others to join in. No particular skills required. We keep busy, but stop when we get tired. We also find time to talk and include train rides in the work. We need help in order to keep Dave Koetje busy as he runs the chipper."

If you are interested in helping or would like more information, please send your name, phone number and preferred email address to Communications@tmrr.org.

Train Mountain Stats

Social Media Stats (August)

Provided by: Joe Lagerstrom (Communications Director)

- Google Rating: 4.9
- Google Interactions: 2,895
- Facebook Views: 416,100 (262,500 unique)
- Facebook Interactions: 8,500
- YouTube Views: 18,000 (7,100 unique)
- YouTube Watch Time: 514 hrs
- Emails Sent: 1,763 (Gazettes, Member Exclusive, New Members, Elections)



Office Stats

Provided by: Joyce Merwin (Office Administrator)

- YTD Memberships: 326
- Total Members (adults + children): 453
- Harvest Hosts (August): 38
- Harvest Hosts (YTD): 250



Visitor Center Stats

Provided by: Cheryl McInnes (Visitor Center Manager)

- Visitors, Adults & Children (August): 1,736
- Visitors, Adults & Children (YTD): 4,899
- Tour Trains Run (August): 197
- Tour Trains Run (YTD): 681



Train Game Statistics (YTD)

Provided by: Jordan Dobson (Ops & Train Game)

- Car Movements: 3,974 (+364)
- Miles: 283,010 (+24,743)
- Active Crews: 90 (+2)
- Active Cars: 57 (+1)



Did you know most visitors come in the AM?

Welcome Matt Thomas & Tim Willard as Our Newest TMRR Board Members



pic: Joe Lag

I am truly honored to be voted into a position on the Train Mountain Railroad Board as a voice of the members and community. I want to thank everyone who believes in me and what I stand for as well as what can be brought to this beautiful railroad as a whole. I look forward to creating a space where all members' voices are heard as well as strengthening the trust of the members with decisions made by the board. It is a privilege to serve somewhere that I hold dear to my heart, and I look forward to seeing the positive changes within Train Mountain Railroad and its community. Thank you once again for your generosity and commitment: the best is yet to come.

Sincerely,
Matt Thomas

It is with great honor to be elected to the TMRR Board. I would like to thank each and every one of you who supported and voted for me. I'm sure it will be an adventure for all of us. Thanks again and may the future of TMRR be bright.
-Tim Willard



TMRR Board of Directors Election Results And New Officers

By: Richard Croll

The ballots have been counted, and the results are as follows:

Tim Willard 101 votes
Matt Thomas 93 votes
John Bartlow 58 votes

The Board welcomes Tim and Matt, and they were seated at the Board of Directors meeting held September 11, 2026.

Officers were elected at the same meeting, and are as follows:

President Ed Sarber
Vice Pres. Richard Croll
Secretary Matt Thomas
Treasurer Cheryl McInnes

The Board thanked outgoing President John Cooper for his nine years on the board including terms as Vice President and President. It also thanked John Bartlow for his service on the board as a member and Secretary. Clay Smith was thanked for serving as Treasurer.

The TMRR Board of Directors now consists of Ed Sarber, Richard Croll, Matt Thomas, Cheryl McInnes, Pete Robbins, Clay Smith and Tim Willard.

Thank you to all of the members who took the time to vote in the election.

Donor Cards

By: Jen Tarr

The TM Communications Team recently implemented a new way for visitors who donate money to get on our email list. The cards are located just outside the Visitor Center, directly above the donation box. These cards include space for the donor's name, email address and donation amount (optional). Folks can also leave a comment on the cards. Once completed, the cards get placed into the donation box. We are compiling a list of these donors and will periodically send them an email that highlights the many ways in which their gifts are contributing to the improvement, repairs and new projects around Train Mountain. We love our visitors and donors and this can help us keep an ongoing relationship with them!



Photo: TM Comms Director, Joe Lagerstrom placing a sample card in the donation box. (photo by Jen Tarr)



*Jennifer Tarr
Comms Team
Member Since 2025*

A New Signal Has Been Added to the Layout

By: John Cooper

The signals team is pleased to announce a new piece for the museum. Recently installed at the west end of the Main Yard is a full-size replica of a Pennsylvania Railroad pedestal signal. These signals were essentially two dwarf signals in a single iron casting. This arrangement permitted the display of more indications than was possible with a dwarf signal. Pedestal signals were used in terminal areas where standard 3-lamp position light signals weren't practical due to space limitations and where speeds were reduced. There are many still in use in various places along the Northeast Corridor with a high concentration in Philadelphia. The Long Island Railroad also has many still in service.

The pedestal signal replaces a dwarf signal that had been located at a crossover at the west end of the yard. Because of a dwarf signal's limited number of aspects, indicating whether the crossover was set for the main track or entry into the yard was confusing. A pedestal signal, essentially having two heads, solves this problem. The dwarf signal that had been in this location has been moved back onto the wedding cake curve to protect that track's merging with the 6-Acre loop.

Like other position-light signals, the aspect of a pedestal signal is conveyed not by color, but by the position of the lamps. Two horizontal lamps is equivalent to red. Two vertical lamps is green. Upper quadrant diagonal lights (45 degrees or positive slope if you remember Algebra class) is yellow. This is used in the upper head. Lower quadrant diagonal lights (135 degrees or negative slope) is equivalent to lunar white. This is restricting, used in the lower head for entering the yard.

This replica was completely 3D-printed in 8"x8" sections and joined together with super-glue. The parts took more than 600 hours to print, not counting all the mistakes and printing failures. The lenses are from a truck parts store. The computer-aided design (CAD) files were developed based on measurements of dwarf signals in the TM Museum collection and from prototype photos.

We hope you enjoy the new addition.



*John Cooper
Former TMRR
President
Member Since '03*

New Signal!

September 2026

New for members: Conversation Cards!

By: Joe Lagerstrom

Has this happened to you? You're telling your friend about Train Mountain and they say it sounds wonderful. So you tell them more. And they start to look confused. So you explain it to them. And they start to look...tired.

What you need is something to give to that friend so they'll remember how to look into Train Mountain when they're ready to learn more. Right?

Now you'll have that something. It's a Train Mountain Conversation Card! It looks a lot like a business card. But it isn't for business. It's for sharing and maybe even finding new members.

We have an initial trial batch of these Conversation Cards available for members in the office. Members can take up to 3 cards to give away to interested friends and family. We're not mailing these out, so pick them up on your next visit.

Please don't keep them for yourself and please don't take any if you don't intend to give them away. We want this trial program to show success by getting new faces interested in joining our fun.

Feedback on this idea? Email Communications@tmrr.org



Visiting Our Neighbors in Bend

By: By Jordan Dobson and Lila Swanberg

We visited the Eastern Cascades Model Railroad Club / COALS open house. It was a good opportunity to lend a hand with their big event of the year. While there we met many friends new and old from other area clubs and we toured their HO model railroad.

It was a well attended and organized event, with strong public turnout. The event featured a number of vendor food trucks and burgers for the volunteers. I heard there was a dinner planned but we left in the late afternoon before the rain started. Members from PNLS, Willow Creek, and other clubs brought trainsets to haul the public with about 10 trains running and a number of steam engines.

Visiting other clubs allows us to show the Train Mountain flag and see how other clubs operate. Coming from a club with a focus on public run days it was interesting to observe their operation and we were able to quickly integrate into their operating plan. In fact, Lila was the conductor on a train within five minutes of stepping on property. ECMRC has facilities for dry camping and we hope to attend their entire open house weekend in the future.

We were excited to see many fellow members of Train Mountain visiting, volunteering and having a good time as well!



*Jordan & Lila
Member's Since
15' & '25*



Our #101 Full-scale Locomotive Gets Noticed by Weyerhaeuser Company

By: Joe Lagerstrom

Ever since Train Mountain acquired the #101 Baldwin DS-4-4-750 diesel locomotive in August 2024, there's been a desire to make contact with Weyerhaeuser, the company that owned and operated it for so many years.

Weyerhaeuser once operated a thriving mill in Klamath Falls and #101 was an integral part of that operation. But when the company terminated their operations in Klamath County, selling their mills and 600,000 acres of timberlands in 1996, #101 was left abandoned on a right of way that ultimately became a public multi-use trail. #101 was eventually sold to collectors but sat unattended and unprotected from thieves looking for scrap metal.

When we acquired the locomotive and moved it to 6-Acre, with the help of many people and generous funding by Frank Bartholomew, the benefit of getting the Weyerhaeuser company involved seemed obvious. Calls were placed and letters were sent asking for potential donations or at least creating some level of interest from the company, now based in Seattle with almost no remaining operations south of Cottage Grove.

These efforts all seemed to fall on deaf ears until this July when, at the request of Nancy Smith, I used social media and internet back channels to make another attempt at getting a response from Weyerhaeuser. At first, that attempt seemed like another dead end. But then in late July, I received a request for an interview from a Weyerhaeuser writer.

The writer creates articles for ROOTS, Weyerhaeuser's internal newsletter and she does her research. She watched the Moving #101 video on our YouTube channel and studied the photographs I provided before she interviewed me. I recommended she also interview David Waterstreet, the Project Manager for the move, who's familiar with the history and acquisition of #101.

Once the article was drafted, the ROOTS editor must have liked it. She already published the article to ROOTS, which is only accessible by employees, but she also intends to publish it to their publicly accessible web blog (wy.com/blog) and to their social media channels.



pic: Joe Lagerstrom



Joe Lagerstrom
Communications
Director
Member Since '21

On Track

By: Dale Furseth

It sure feels like fall around the railroad, but the daily maintenance of the railroad continues. I want to talk this month about a couple of members who came to visit Train Mountain - from Australia. They contacted me by e-mail before their trip to America and asked about helping maintain the tracks at Train Mountain, helping me with things that I do every day. We agreed that they would help work in the mornings, and the afternoons and evenings would be spent exploring Train Mountain.

Ian Thomas and Adam Bell helped out each day of their visit. Day 1 was spent helping ballast a new siding - moving over 10 tons of ballast by gator. And yes, I did catch them occasionally driving on the wrong side of the road. Day 2 they helped install 2 switches to create a crossover. Day 3 they helped in the track shop building track. Day 4 they helped with the removal of roots. Their help was tremendously appreciated and we had a lot of laughs.

If you are reading this, and are planning a trip to Train Mountain and want to help with track work just like the guys from Australia, and are wondering how to arrange for a week of "fun", simply send me an e-mail at the address listed below with your dates and an idea of what you want to do, and if I am going to be in town, we can work something out.

I want to be sure to mention Mark Madewell who has helped with track work all summer long. If you see new yellow stop blocks out on the sidings, you can thank Mark. If you help out in the track shop and see the stacks of ties all cut and ready to use - thank Mark. If you notice how organized the track storage yard and track shop yards are, thank Mark. I sure appreciate Mark's help and support this summer. Train Mountain is a better place because of all his hard work.

So in closing, maintaining the railroad is every member's responsibility - there is no "they" who does all the track work at Train Mountain. Each and every member needs to help out at some level to keep the right of way passable. And if you want to help out with track work, send me an e-mail.

Dale.Furseth@gmail.com



Dale Furseth
Track Super
Member since '06

Hello from G-Ville

By: Jim & Sue Moore

While the TM season is rapidly coming to an end, we have completed most of our goals at G-Ville. Sue and I believe these items would be appreciated and approved by both Dennis and Mort.

During the Big Build work week, we would like to again thank Marcia and Dale for their continued help at G-Ville with planting, irrigation projects, etc. Jim Henry provided help with woodworking projects and provided steel stakes for the G-Scale retaining wall. After testing, we are confident this recycled deck board wall will help the critter problems of pushing dirt and rock over the track. A big thanks to Jim Henry and Frank Fillman for their help with this wall.

The back acreage (back forty) has been cleared of manzanita plants and shrubs with the help from Mike and Wendy Mulder. We appreciate all their hard work. We also want to thank Frank and Evy Fillman for raking of the paths and hauling away the pinecones and pine needles that fell during the recent rain storms. Also we want to thank Robert Perry for his assistance in cleaning the track.

Again we invite you to run your trains or just take a peaceful walk through G-Ville. If you are out on a night ride, be sure to check out all the solar lights along the pathways. It is a beautiful sight. During the work week in October, all the buildings and solar lights will be put away for the winter.

Jim & Sue Moore



***Jim & Sue Moore
G-Ville Stewards
Members Since '15***



Communications Team Update

By: Joe Lagerstrom

Here's your quick update on the Communications Team. But first...a quick refresh on the mission of the team, because some people have asked.

In a nutshell, the team works to:

"...guarantee the longevity of Train Mountain by continually improving engagement with current and prospective members, visitors, benefactors and the local community."

So, how have we been working on that? Glad you asked!

Since last Gazette we've:

- Assisted with the TMRR election by emailing ballots to qualified voters.
- Met with various local organizations (YMCA, Chamber of Commerce, Waterwheel RV Park, etc.) to build awareness of our community impact and create partnerships.
- Provided some articles, photos and news to the monthly Gazette.
- Sent the first New Member Welcome email featuring tips and links that TM folks should have handy.
- Began gathering email and other information from donors so we can stay in touch.
- Released several videos and photos to social media to increase our visibility with potential visitors and members.
- Posted information to the Member Group on Facebook and the website.
- Posted the Gazette and other public information on the main Facebook page.

Questions? Ask one of the team. (Cheryl, Jen, Joe, Lila & Lindsey) or, if you can't find us, Communications@tmrr.org.

-Joe Lagerstrom,
TM Comms Director

P.S. I'd like to give a quick "THANK YOU" to all of you that smile, wave or even submit to a little interview when I'm walking around with my camera on my hip and filming your trains. The work I do is exclusively donated to Train Mountain's YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Website and/or The Gazette. This work benefits Train Mountain, not me personally. Thank you for helping me help TM!



Joe Lagerstrom
Communications
Director
Member Since '21

Vintage Luggage Needed

We need some vintage luggage for the Train Mountain Baggage Cart. This cart isn't just for holding coffee mugs, it's a historical representation of how baggage has been moved, both historically and in modern times. To really conceptualize this piece, we'd like to outfit it with some luggage. If you have any to donate, please contact Theresa Shelby.

trshelby@gmail.com

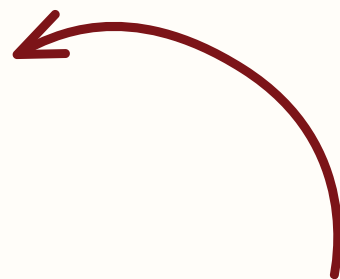


Kitty Litter Buckets Needed

For Train Mountain projects and maintenance, kitty litter buckets are essential! And our stocks are very low.

If you are a proud cat owner, or kitty bucket collector consider donating your extra buckets to our Train Mountain work force.

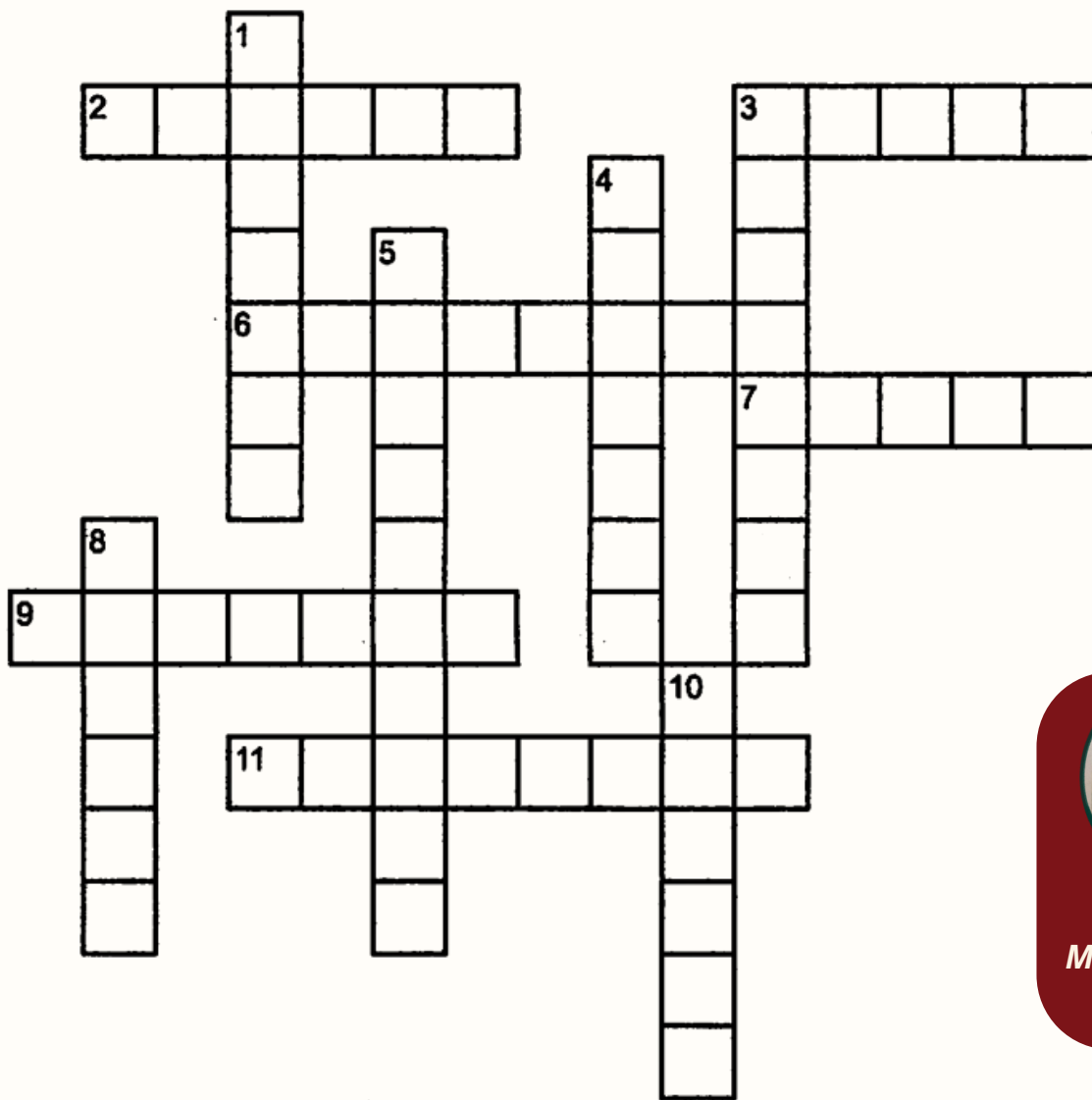
[empty] Kitty bucket donations can be given to Jeff Shelby.



Like this!

Amusements

wheels



Across

2 2-6-2

3 2-6-0

6 4-4-0

7 2-10-4

9 4-4-4

11 4-4-2

Down

1 2-10-2

3 4-8-2

4 4-6-2

5 4-6-0

8 4-6-4

10 2-8-2

*Answers on the
next page!*



*Member's Since
'13*

Mike Raypholtz

Amusements

August Crossword Answer Key

Across

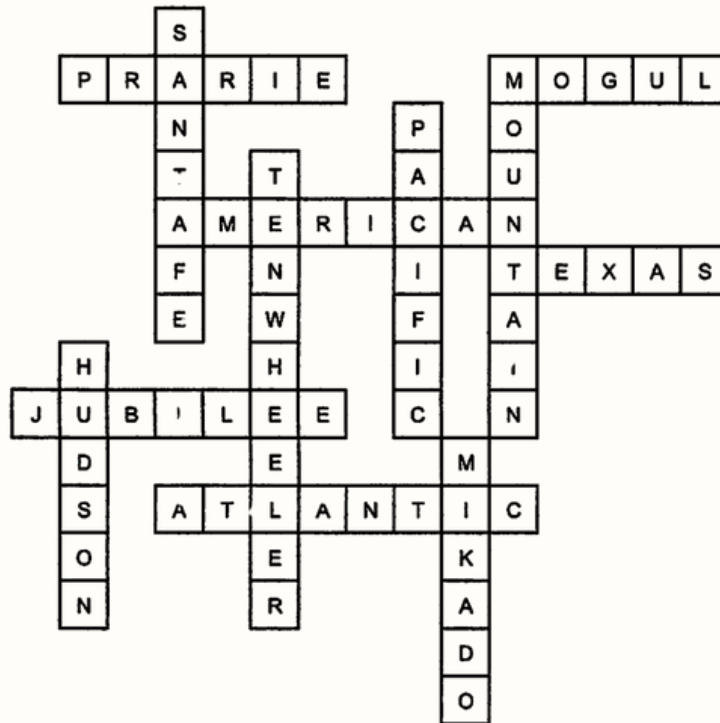
- 2 refrigerator car
3 energy
5 to fasten
7 signal
10 consist
12 engine fuel

Down

- 1 caboose
4 permit
6 gondola
8 tramp
9 locomotive
attachment
11 high iron

September Gazette Answer Key

wheels



Across	Down
2 2-6-2	1 2-10-2
3 2-6-0	3 4-8-2
6 4-4-0	4 4-6-2
7 2-10-4	5 4-6-0
9 4-4-4	8 4-6-4
11 4-4-2	10 2-8-2

*Going forward we'll put
answer keys for the
crosswords in the
respective gazette!*

Classifieds

For Sale: Bachmann Santa Fe Big Hauler G-Scale Train Set

Includes locomotive and tender with authentic chuffing sound in both forward and reverse, Santa Fe caboose, and CV gondola. Comes with the fully functioning remote control, the original "Bach Man" comic booklet (covers assembly and operation), and an adapter that lets you run it off an R/C battery instead of the 6 D-cells normally stuffed into the boiler. Also including a box of Amazon D-cells and a 9-volt battery for the remote.

\$50, plus shipping (San Francisco Bay Area)

Contact Jim Rohrbach @ js.rohrbach6248@gmail.com



Want to post a classified in the gazette? Email Gazette@tmrr.org
Currently free to members!

Come Stay at Waterwheel RV Park and Campground!



A Train Mountain Partner



Enjoy this beautiful waterfront property YEAR ROUND!

- 🌲 RV, Tent Camping & an Airbnb Cabin
- 🌲 Laundry, showers, WiFi, propane, & dump station
- 🌲 Riverfront Property with river access for guests
- 🌲 RV & Boat Storage Available
- 🌲 Shuttle to Train Mountain Available
- 🌲 Train Mountain guests and work groups welcome



Reserve your site and find out more info at
www.waterwheelrvpark.com



Call or text at
541-783-2738



Chiloquin Local Resources

DINING

Turtle Loaves

Tamales · Sourdough · Baked goods · Breakfast & coffee
105 S 1st Ave

MON Closed

TUE-THUR 9:30 AM – 2 PM

FRI 9:30 AM – 3 PM

SAT-SUN 9:30 PM - 5:00 PM

El Rodeo Mexican & Seafood

Mexican · Steaks · Seafood · 320 W Chocktoot St,

MON Closed

TUE-THU 9 AM – 7 PM

FRI-SAT 9 AM – 8 PM

SUN 9 AM – 3 PM

The Burger Shack

Burgers · Corn dogs · Banana splits · Outdoor seating · 139 Chiloquin Blvd

THU-MON 12 – 6 PM

TUES Closed

WED 10-5 PM

COFFEE

Crater Coffee Company

Espresso · Breakfast · Baked Goods · 38097 US-97

MON-FRI 7 AM – 4 PM

SAT 8 AM – 4 PM

SUN 8 AM – 2 PM

GROCERY & DELI

Chiloquin Market & Deli

Grocery · Hot Grab & Go Deli · Beer & wine · Take & bake pizza ·
129 S 1st Ave

DAILY 7 AM – 8 PM

Jo's Organic Grocery

Produce · Prepared food · Organic · 16 minutes away
52851 OR-62, Fort Klamath, OR 97626

DAILY 12 PM – 7 PM

GAS & CONVENIENCE

Crater Lake Junction Travel Center

Gas · Diesel · Propane · Hot grab & go deli · Showers · Laundromat · 34005 Hwy 97

DAILY Open 24 Hours

NEW!

Peak to Peak Restaurant & Lounge

Full menu · Bar · Inside Kla-Mo-Ya Casino · 34333 US-97

SUN-WED 8 AM – 3 AM

THU-SAT 8 AM – 4 AM

Zuks

Homemade BBQ & Good Company

FRI 11 AM – Sold Out

The Potbelly Cafe

Breakfast & Lunch · Located on-site at Train Mountain

MON-FRI 7 :30AM – 3 PM

SAT-SUN Closed

Chiloquin Grill

Breakfast & Baked Goods · 212 1st Ave

TUES-SAT 8:30 AM- 2:30 PM

SUN-MON Closed



SHOPPING

Dollar General

1008S Chiloquin Blvd

DAILY 8 AM – 10 PM

Wright Hardware

117 S 1st Ave

MON-FRI 8 AM – 5:30 PM

SAT 8 AM – 5 PM

SUN Closed

LODGING & ENTERTAINMENT

Sleep Inn & Suites

Pool · Hottub · WiFi · 34333 US-97 · klamoyacasino.com

Kla-Mo-Ya Casino

Slots · Blackjack · Klamath Tribes · 34333 US-97 · Open 24 Hours

Hours subject to change — always call ahead · Support your local Chiloquin businesses!

Interested in Contributing to the Gazette?

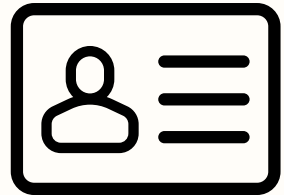
Reach out to Lila at

gazette@tmrr.org

Contributions must be submitted by the 10th



And don't forget to stay connected between meets



Physical Location:

36941 South Chiloquin Road

Postal Address:

PO Box 438, Chiloquin, OR 97624

Email: info@tmrr.org

Phone: 541-783-3030

