

THE MANIFEST

March 2017



Greetings All:

Spring has arrived, consequently, so has our 2017-run season! Our opening day is this coming Sunday, April 9, 2017. If you have not already volunteered in some capacity to help out Sunday, and you can do so, please let one of the board members know.

I know that, in particular, we are going to need help with the parking this year, so if you can help, whether it be every run day, or just one, whatever you can do, please come out and help. You will enjoy it, I'm sure ☺

I am running low on new stories for the newsletter, so if you have any stories and/or pictures please email them to me. I have not taken Amtrak for a while, so I am fresh out of first person stories.

Personally, I love old train trestles. Therefore, I have decided to put in a story about a so-called "haunted" train trestle, right here in our own State of Oregon.

IS HOLCOMB CREEK TRAIN TRESTLE HAUNTED?

I'm sure many of you have either been to, or know of the Holcomb Creek Train Trestle. It is a magnificent wooden trestle, near North Plains, OR, which, rumor has it, is haunted.

I did a little research, albeit "little", and have not been able to definitively find out where the trestle came from, but it is believed to have been built somewhere around 1908. This is a massive trestle, which crosses Holcomb Creek and over Dick Road. It is a gorgeous area. It is possibly the longest trestle still in use in the United States, the key word here is "possibly". I don't think it's the tallest, I could be wrong, but I think there are taller ones that Stretch told me about in San Diego County, the Carrizo Gorge I believe, either way, it is massive.

Originally, it was ran by SP and BN Railroads. Somewhere in the mid-1990, the BN tracks between Beaverton (St Mary's Jct. I believe) and Bowers Jct. were abandoned, and were removed many years ago. The railroad that is currently operating is the Portland and Western.

So why haunted, well stories have circulated that several people over the years decided the trestle would be a good place to end their life, so they would climb to the top and hang themselves, seems to me shooting yourself would have been much easier, but then I've never wanted to commit suicide, so what do I know.

In addition, in the 1960's, a landowner in the area killed his entire family, and then himself. All of these deaths have led to the rumors and stories that the trestle and the area surrounding it are haunted by the spirits of these departed souls.

One story that I came across on the internet site hauntedhovel.com regarding the haunted nature of the trestle is as follows:

Kimmy Himy from Beaverton wrote:

So one night around midnight my sister called and asked is me and my mom wanted to go to dick road. Not

knowing why she wanted to go we went and picked her and her friend up. On the way there she was explaining to us that every time she went there she saw or heard something. The first time she went there she saw a guy outside walking away from his car she looked away for just a second and looked back and he was gone and so was the car. The second time she went there she heard an old women's scream, she looked around and no one was there. I didn't believe her. So as we approached the road we saw an old church I turned and saw an old lady in the window thinking we were just tired and our eyes were playing tricks on us we went on. Not but five seconds later we heard a girl crying. We didn't think much over it we crossed the bridge to come to a house with a fence as we got closer we heard two young girls scream at the top of their lungs "leave" we turned around only to stop and see someone walking towards our car but as soon as it was about a foot away turned back and started to run. After that we got the hell out of there and haven't been back since.

That makes for a great story; however, I think a more likely scenario is that people go out there when it's late, dark, coyotes are howling, more than likely, alcohol is involved, and they are expecting to see ghosts, spirits, etc., therefore, every tumbleweed, ground squirrel, or whatever they see or think they see in the dark, becomes a ghost. I could not confirm anyone every hung themselves from the trestle and many of the local residents think it is all imagined. However, as you cannot prove a negative, neither I, nor anyone else, can prove it is not haunted. I think it makes for a great campfire story, like we used to tell at Campfire Girls camp, especially to the "city girls" booga, booga 😊

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
3/14/17

Southern Oregon Railway Historical Society
Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
Minutes of March 14, 2017

1. Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Bruce Kelly
2. Roll Call: Bruce Kelly, Allen Dobney, Jerry Hellinga, Chris Manley and 9 other members were present.
3. Consent of the Agenda: The agenda was approved by consensus.
4. Approval of February Minutes.... Approved, Motion by Jerry Hellinga, second by Allen Dobney.
5. Treasurer's Report: Jerry Hellinga presented the Treasurer's Report. Chris Manley moved to accept the treasurer's report. Allen Dobney seconded. Motion passed.
6. Committee Reports:
 - a. Medco 4: Jerry Hellinga reported that the piping was about done on air compressor.
 - b. Burger Shack: Not sure of timeline, but Allen and Larry will be doing some work on the Burger Shack, perhaps the floor, Chris will get the souvenir stand cleaned up and ready to go.
 - c. Excess Sales: No update.

- d. Web Site - Allen Reported he is planning on updating #4 rebuild status
- e. Butte Falls – Mayor trying to get a meeting with a VP from Weyerhaeuser, so far it has not been accomplished.
- f. Parking – We may get some parking spots back, most likely not as many as before the firehouse rebuild, also have not heard if we can use Eagles again. We will need some parking help, as one of the members who usually helps is moving to Portland.
- g. Membership – Jerry said he has a new member application; he will scan it into a PDF for approval.

7. Old Business:

- a. Check sent for engineering drawings.

8. New Business

- a. None.

9. Good of the Order: Scouts will be available to help on the CB&Q. Dan and Jerry informed need to find someone who can help pick a primer that the topcoat will seal to.

10. Adjournment: Allen Dobney moved to adjourn, Jerry Hellinga seconded Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Chris Manley, Secretary

Our next meeting is Tuesday, April 11, 2017

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UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

Our entertainment for our meeting on April 11, 2017 will be presented by Allen Dobney, "The Siskiyou Line, from the O&C to CORP"

If you know of any other events that should be added to our newsletter, please email, me at (chrismanleysteam@gmail.com)/ call, (541-291-1705), with the details.

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