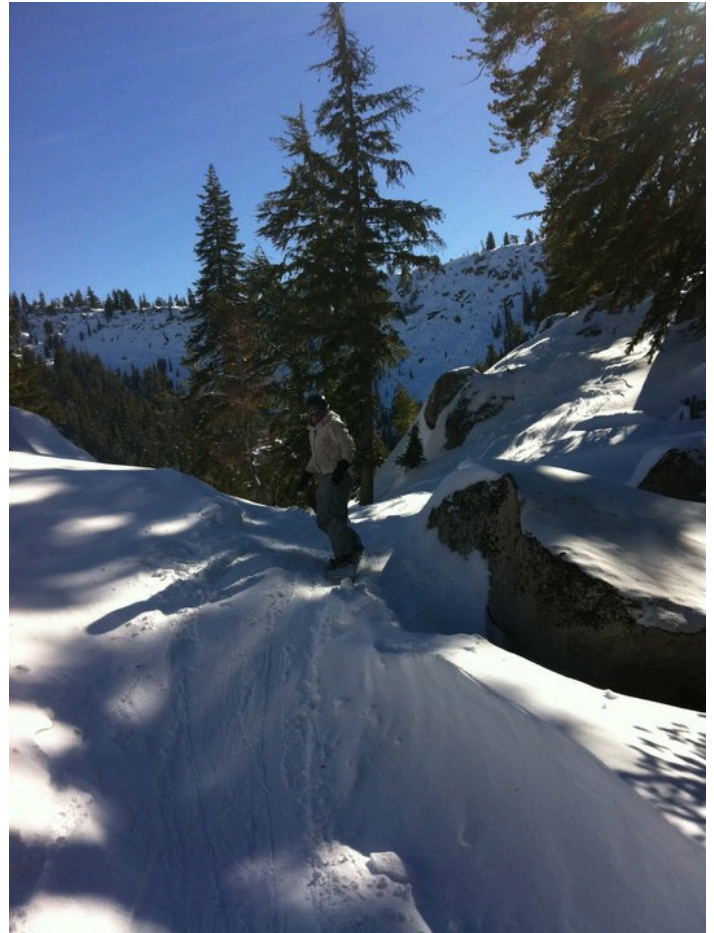


Track



Welcome to the Winter 2013
edition of Track!

- Explorers Corner: Donner's History
- Kids' Club Weekend – Jan 19!
- Lodge Latest: What does the future hold?
- Consolidation comes to Tahoe
- 2013 Events
- Broadband at the Lodge
- Eating out of a crock pot

Peninsula Ski Club
10065 Lake Angela Road,
Donner Summit

Phone: 530 426 0232



Acting President's Intro

Dear Members,

El Nino? La Nina? Global warming? Hurricane this. Hurricane that? Who knows what we are in for this year? I have heard everything from a dramatic and strong snowfall to another hot time like last year. For 43 years I have seen and remember lots of fantastic weather. In 1976 following a drought year an extreme amount of snow fell. Then, I realized that I have skied many Thanksgiving Holidays. Once at Mammoth it was knees deep on a nice base. Maybe the dramatic weather we are having is just what it used to be like. What ever your thoughts are, what will be will be. Prey for snow.

Yes, you are not crazy the election last year was "weak". I am only "acting President and soon there will be nominations beginning spear headed by James Rosen. (Happy Hanukkah)

Last years finances did take a hit from a lack of lodge use but one good season and that could be wiped away. Thanks to Kevin Corbett who is constructing a pay system on the web site to enable each of us to find out our balances and pay it right from our reservation system. Last word was it was operational. It may be being Bata tested. Check the calendar, Alan walls has initiated some get together events at the lodge.



Welcome to the new members. Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

DAN

Donner Summit – A History

Contribution from Lara Paskins

In fourth grade, California students spend time learning about the Donner Party and their ill-fated winter in the Sierra Nevadas in 1846... but this tragic journey is NOT the extent of historical importance of the area that PSC calls home. Literally steps from the cabin, traces of some of very significant points in California's history can be found.

The First Transcontinental Railroad: A total of fifteen tunnels needed to be carved for the first transcontinental railroad to get through the Sierra Nevadas. The longest and most impressive tunnel (referred to as the Great 1867 Tunnel, Tunnel Six or the Summit Tunnel), lies directly across Donner Summit Road from the cabin. It is 1,659 feet long and was blasted out of solid granite from four directions by nearly 4,000 laborers, two-thirds of which were Chinese.

These workers braved the harsh weather of the mountains, frequent accidents and disease to build the railroad. While the remains of Chinese camps can be found in many places around Donner, the biggest monument to the Chinese (aside from the railroad itself) is the China Wall. This wall was hand hewn with quarried granite excavated from the Great Summit tunnel as a grade for the railroad.

The Lincoln Highway: The first transcontinental highway, which was also the first public memorial to Abraham Lincoln, was completed in 1913. The Lincoln Highway, composed of dirt and granite, crossed Donner Summit, but was tenuous at best for travelers with its steep decline. Limitations of traveling on the highway included a 35 MPH top speed on the best sections of the road and an inability to pass the Sierra portion between the months of December through May due to snow. In an effort to make it easier to get lumber out of the Tahoe Basin through Donner Pass, the Forest Service commissioned Rainbow Bridge, arguably the country's most photographed bridge (after the Golden Gate). An engineering feat at the time it was completed in 1926, it was the first bridge built with a compound curve on a grade.

Native American Petroglyphs: Near the first turn below Rainbow Bridge is a wonderful example of petroglyphs created by ancestors of the Washoe People. Archeologists estimate that these images were made 1,500 to 4,000 years ago by a tool called a hammerstone. Most of the petroglyphs are geometric shapes – wavy lines, circles and zigzags – and are thought to have a spiritual or ceremonial significance.

The First Wagon Train: Despite all we've learned in school, the Donner Party was not the first wagon train to reach California. The Stephens Murphy Townsend Party, guided by Caleb Greenwood and Isaac Hitchcock, consisted of ten families who migrated from Iowa to California and pioneered the first route near Donner Pass in 1844 – two years before the Donner Party and five years before the Gold Rush. The next time you're skiing, hiking, biking, trainspotting, or fishing in the beautiful and pristine areas around PSC, keep an eye out for signs of the rich history that surrounds us.



Another tidbit for people exploring from James Rosen - near the summit and a little south of Sugarbowl academy one can find a metal square top at ground level where after a long while of slow progress, the railroad engineers created a shaft to access tunneling in both directions for tunnel 6.

Kid's Club OH BASH 2013 – Jan 19th

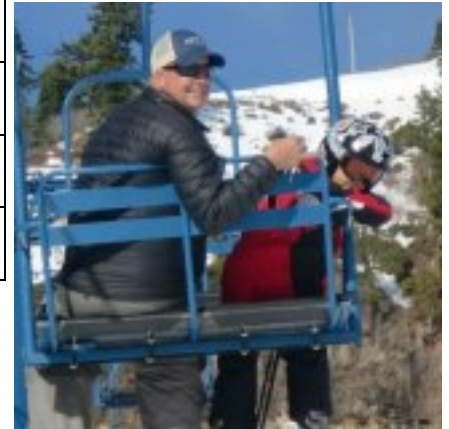
The "Fun Meister" will be crowned and there is lot of fun planned for all. This year is special due to the fact there was no snow last year and the event was cancelled. In January we will see a new Fun Meister crowned for the next year. Come and join us for a talent show and skits as well as a scavenger hunt. Ski or board with your buddies, show off your talents and possibly win a prize. Things get started on Saturday the 19th in the morning at 9am. Lunch and dinner is provided. Everyone is invited. Make a reservation online now, and don't miss it!

PSC Lodge Committee Future Plans

Your Lodge Committee is: Alan Walls/Nate Hartwig/Tomek O/Don Arndt/Don Postle

2013 Work Party Dates are out. Please contact Alan to help!

Date	Work Party Lead	Cook
June 22/23, 2013	Alan Walls	We need you
July 20/21, 2013	Don Arndt	Likewise...
Aug 17/18, 2013	Nate Hartwig	Who is volunteering?



2013 Planned Repairs and Upgrades to the Lodge

- Repair couches
- Replace outlets in kitchen with GFCIs (Don A to Purchase)
- Complete the Exterior Repaint/recaulk (have 18gallons Exterior on-hand)
- Water Shut-Off. Find where it is on exterior (have water district mark lines). Install Christy box.
- Upgrade service panel (research if actually needed based on load)
- Microwaves on dedicated circuits (Nate to Investigate)
- Repair light/heater in Mens RR (Don A to purchase)
- Replace Doorbell. Upgrade the interim wireless bell. Only one bell in lodge currently
- Bonding of water pipes (Nate to investigate w/ Voltage readings)
- Water heater pipe repair/PRV drain (code compliance) (Don Arndt to investigate)
- Connect drain line in bar so does not drain directly to ground (Raul mentioned doing this)
- Seal edge caps around building
- Repair wood shed exterior structure/seal from animals.
- Repair/Replace flashing
- Weather stripping on mens/women's upstairs exit door
- Find water damage cause in women's bathroom in corner by window (*Don A to investigate*)
- Repair/replace firehose bibs in men's and women's upstairs as they leak when turned on. (Nate)
- Block Mice/Squirrel Holes
- Demo and Rebuild deck (\$2500). Dan Brennan salvaged 300+ board feet of Redwood bleachers. Need Project coordinator and volunteers. 1) Move boards to Lodge 2) Demo 3) Build. Need boards up there end of May.
- Reseal flues with Henrys Tar
- Finish ceiling repairs in woman's restroom (sand/prime/paint)
- Custom Bookshelves in TV area (Frank Colino project)

2014

- Furnace Room: Create working use of the space for storage of supplies

2015

- Replace Windows in living room (2000\$)
- Replace siding on South Wall (concrete Lap siding?) (2,000\$)
- Window treatments (After new window install) (\$500)

2016

- New carpets in lounge/bar area (2,000\$)
- Tile back door area entry area (\$300)
- Bunk privacy curtains (\$1000) (Want not need)



2017

- Remodel Kitchen (Want not need) Need professional opinions/advice/cost estimate.

Consolidation in Lake Tahoe

As you've all likely seen, last year Vail added to its dominance of South Lake by acquiring Kirkwood to add to existing properties Heavenly and Northstar. Squaw had already acquired Alpine, but obviously wanted to try to head off the threat of folks all heading to South Lake en masse so cut a very interesting partnership with Sierra at Tahoe at the beginning of the season allowing Sierra pass holders early and later season access to Squaw (and half price tax in between). What is next? Sugar Bowl is controlling Royal Gorge now that the funding for the land purchase has come through – will Squaw buy Sierra next season or perhaps Donner, Boreal, Sugarbowl, Soda Springs and Royal Gorge could combine as one massive resort? Worth watching closely and buying season passes early in the Spring to get some pretty interesting deals potentially.

Broadband at the Lodge

It's expensive. And given that we currently use Verizon, we can't allow people to watch videos, use voice over IP or even check Facebook on the current plan as we easily and regularly go over our fixed download limit. We're looking into options and hopefully we will be able to get a deal with Exwire to give an unlimited usage plan for the club. That would hopefully make it easier for folks who need to work from the club to use the network to its full potential. Stay tuned.

Events Calendar

Want to know what's going on? We have a swanky new calendar on the www.peninsulaskiclub.org web page with everything you could want to know about events at the club, and hopefully soon, further afield in the Truckee area. Stop by to check out the latest. Thanks to Chad, Lora and team for getting this new feature up and running. See 'upcoming events' on the left hand menu to view it. And by the way, you can always download the latest newsletter directly from <http://sports.groups.yahoo.com/group/pscmembers/>

SLOW COOKER BEEF STEW

Prep: 20mins Cook: 4-6 hours. Serves 6

Ingredients

2 pounds beef stew meat, cut into 1 inch cubes

1/4 cup all-purpose flour

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper

1 clov garlic, minced

1 bay leaf

1 teaspoon paprika

1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

1 onion, chopped

1 1/2 cups beef broth

3 potatoes, diced

4 carrots, sliced

1 stalk celery, chopped



Cooking Instructions

1. Place meat in slow cooker. In a small bowl, mix together the flour, salt, and pepper; pour over the meat, and stir to coat meat with flour mixture. Stir in the garlic, bay leaf, paprika, Worcestershire sauce, onion, beef broth, potatoes, carrots, and celery.
2. Cover and cook on high setting for 4-6 hours.