
The Official Newsletter of the

Peninsular Railway & Lumbermen's Museum
& Simpson Railroad

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Peninsular Railway and Lumbermen's Museum is a registered nonprofit 501(c) 3 Organization dedicated to pre-serving and interpreting the rich railroad and logging history of the Olympic Peninsula of Washington State.

Up coming events



Pumpkin Pickers Special



Fall is right around the corner and with it comes Halloween. And like last year the Simpson Railroad will be hosting its Pumpkin Pickers special Saturday October 23rd 12noon -6pm & Sunday October 24th 10am -4pm. This year will be bigger and better than ever. Like last year there will be a pumpkin patch where kids 12 and under can pick out a pumpkin to take home. But there's more this year including a hay bale/corn stalk maze, hot cider, and a reading corner with some not to scary stories. Of course to get to the activities you get a ride on the Simpson Railroad over to the activates. This will be an outdoor event so please be dressed for the weather. We are excited to be partnering with several youth groups in and around the area, including the International Order of the Rainbow for Girls. Go to simpsonrailroad.org to keep up to date on events and announcements.

Simpson Santa Special



To end 2021 the Simpson Railroad will once again operate the Simpson Santa Special. Scheduled for December 4th/5th/11th/12th. Santa has already confirmed and has put it on his busy schedule. He looking forward to having as much fun as he did last year on the Simpson Railroad. All the details to be announced as the events draws closer. Go to simpsonrailroad.org to keep up to date on events and announcements.



Working on the Simpson



First off with the hot & dry weather during the summer months a side project had to be elevated in need. The water pump, plumbing & gas engine on the water cart all got attention to make sure it was operating and reliable. Once the engine was reliably running again and after a trip into town to the hardware store to get some parts it is now spraying water and ready to use. The cart was home built by Simpson some years ago. It has a 250 gallon water tank with small gas engine with a water pump to put out small line side fires while working on the track out in the woods. Now it is ready if it is ever needed to do the same for the museum during our work parties. Thanks you to Bill, Nick & Ted for taking care of this safety item in short order.



Brush clearing continues

It seems that brush clearing is a never ending task here on the Simpson Railroad and it is. The wet climate on the Olympic Peninsula makes for ideal growing conditions. The brush clearing has been headed up by Ted & Pete P. who do tireless work on keeping all the brush, scotch broom and other plant life at bay in and on the Railroad. Recently Ted purchased a used weed mower to help with those duties which, has made a big difference in what can be accomplished in a afternoon. But for that to be effective all the over growth must be cut down to a manageable level so it becomes a grounds maintenance the mower can easily take care of . The main focus is to get our area ready for visitors for our upcoming fall and winter events. In addition to our maintenance area Ted & company spent some time in town down at Interchange yard mowing and brush clearing. That yard was previously cleared so we needed to make sure we stayed on top of it.



Coach 1212

The most noticeable work since the last newsletter has taken place inside coach 1212. After a few months of surface prep and repair one half of the passenger section received fresh paint. The color chosen was previously matched after sanding thru layers of old paint to reveal its original color. The Great Northern received the car in that color, a butter yellow, brighten the cars interior. Now it seems to have brought life back to it. Some of the window trim & other trim features are being polished as time allows and volunteer availability allow. A unique addition to the car is a small Great Northern 1212 sign that has been added to the bulkhead where an air vent used to be. The men's bathroom was removed after its GN days which left an opening that need something to fill the void. The second step was to start removal of the first overlay on the floor to reveal the floor's true condition and if any work s needed. Knock on wood! So far the floor is in better than excepted condition with original to GN flooring still intact to the section that has been revealed so far. Now work will move to the remaining unpainted sections.



Forklift for the Simpson

In July the Simpson Railroad purchased a Hyster 15,000lb.(lifting capacity) off-road forklift that was built in 1948. It has a look of something old & reliable, doesn't it. So why buy a forklift when we have many projects and tasks all competing for our very limited resources. Well many of the upcoming projects we have scheduled in need of heavy parts and/or items that need to be lifted in place or otherwise moved about the yard. Doing so safely is a top priority here at the Simpson. One such will be the prime mover replacement for the crane. That includes removal of the dead diesel power plant and putting its replacement back in. That involves lifting the engines in and out of the crane house some 8 feet in the air, the forklift can do that safely. We also will need to lift couplers into position on coach 1212, and continue organizing heavy items presently scattered about our yard. Railroads seem to have bulky and heavy items around, just as part of their normal business, a forklift is an investment in keeping the Simpson around for years to come. We would like to thank all those that contributed to its purchase which made it very affordable and helps promote a safe work environment for our volunteers when working on the Simpson Railroad.



Shelton-Mason County Chamber of Commerce street fair and expo

The PRLM and the Simpson Railroad made an appearance in down town Shelton at the Chamber of Commerce's street fair and expo July 16th. It was an opportunity for us to be visible in town and show we are alive and well. We wanted the citizens of Shelton and Mason County know we are actively preserving area history and still working on bringing historic living history to the old Simpson Railroad. It was good for us to hear from the many of those in the area support and love the idea of what we doing. We did not hear a negative word all day. We repeatedly heard they missed the trains running through town as it had become part of the fabric and culture of the area and the town of Shelton. In particular many former Simpson employees wished us well, told a few stories, and are looking forward to seeing and riding, trains running out of Shelton once again. They never thought they'd see a day when Simpson was no longer in town. We're working very hard to bring the Simpson Railroad back!

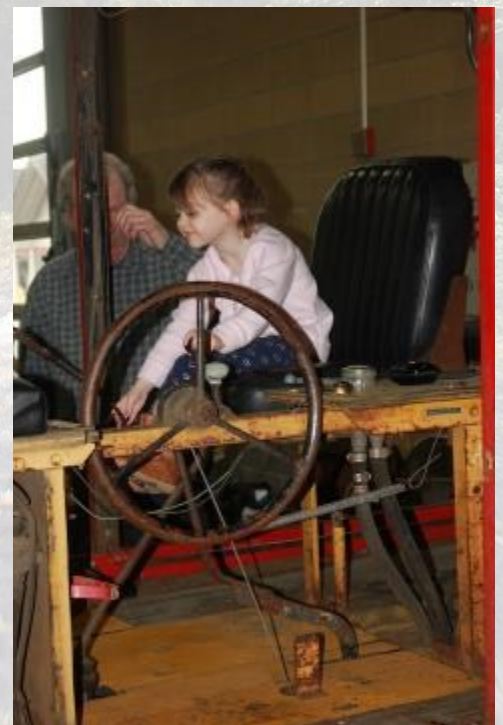


Train Shows

Some area trains shows are planning on returning to Western Washington. The Simpson Railroad is planning to participate in two of shows coming in 2022. First is the Great Train show in Puyallup on January 22nd and 23rd. This is one of the most popular shows around and is held every year, except last year, at the Washington State Fairgrounds in Puyallup.

The Greys Harbor Railroad Swap Meet & Train show is being held in Elma WA February 12th & 13th at the Greys Harbor fairgrounds. This show is a new first year show and little closer to home.

We are planning to bring A-8 Fairmont speeder 5-5 to both shows as well as improved signage that better explains who we are what we are about. We will have more details about both shows as we get closer to the events. And as always you can go to simpsonrailroad.org for details and information as it become available



Volunteers opportunities a plenty

The Simpson Railroad has many opportunities for anyone interested in volunteering with us. Upcoming events like the Pumpkin Pickers Special & Simpson Santa Special are always in need of more volunteers to help with the many activities. Helping at these events is a great chance to get acquainted with our Museum and see it in action. If you're more interested in helping with or learning about mechanical work, we have plenty of opportunities in those areas too. The crane, locomotives, cars, and track equipment are always in need of attention. We can also use a few days help working on Coach 1212 as we continue ongoing restoration work. We have many task open to all skill levels and abilities. We have many tasks open to all skill levels and abilities. Volunteering with the Simpson is a great chance to learn all about what it takes to run a non-profit railroad. Stop by during a work party or event, or drop us a message at simpsonrailroad.org to get started.



New Retractable signs

Not long ago Museum board member Les Bagley donated two retractable trade show type signs to the museum for use during shows and events. Standing almost 6 foot tall these will grab the attention of anyone passing by. These however were in need of new graphic before they could be used. Well new graphic have been printed and have replaced the out of date ones. One sign explains who we are, a non profit 501(c)3 museum organization and the second one is of our goal to operate the Simpson Railroad as a living history railroad. These will make good addition to our shows and help explain who and what we are more efficiently. And they will not be easy to miss specially along side speeder 5-5.

Second sign next page

Gauge Donation

While putting the newsletter together we received a donation of some Simpson history. Not large in size but large in historic significance. Two gauges, one a steam pressure gauge, were made available to our Museum. These two gauges come from Simpson's -Camp Grisdale operation. They are being donated from the Gibson family who's father/grandfather worked there over 20 years. While we don't know with certainty what equipment these came from, they could have been used on a steam donkey or locomotive or shop steam boiler or all three. They none the less help connect that history with a physical object that once worked in the woods in and on the Olympic Peninsula.

Thank You Very much for the donation.



Retractable signs



Please help preserve a part of Shelton's heritage by considering a donation or membership to the PRLM at [peninsularrailway.org /Donate](http://peninsularrailway.org/Donate) or membership Paypal enabled

Or send it to the following with the form below to: **Peninsular Railway and Lumberman's Museum**

P.O. Box 1333, Shelton Washington 98584

Membership \$25 per year

Donation

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$100 Other _____

Name: _____

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City: _____ **State:** _____ **ZIP:** _____

All donations are tax deductible Peninsular Railway and Lumbermen's Museum is a registered non-profit 501(c)3 Organization dedicated to preserving and interpreting the rich railroad and logging history of the Olympic Peninsula of Washington State.

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Submission and publication policy: Submissions should be concentrated on logging and railroading on and around the Olympic Peninsula and PRLM activities and information in particular. All submissions should be positive in nature and reflect the values of the PRLM and the community's for which we serve. We reserve the right to withhold any submitted articles which do not meet these requirements or are deemed inappropriate for this publication.