



August 2005

RAILROAD DAYS 2005 was a huge success. Crowds were estimated at around 4000 here in Dunsmuir to enjoy the annual event.

The Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society was a big part of this event. The Depot Society hosted the Friday "Meet The Trains" evening. Crowds, bunting, music and speeches began the evening. Folks welcomed the Union Pacific and Portola Railroad Museum trains and their crews.

The Depot Society also presented the locomotive Photo Walk depicting some of the locomotives that have run through Dunsmuir through the years. The photographs will eventually become part of the Depot Railroad Museum.

The Depot Society staffed an information table to advise folks of the Society's accomplishments and goals. The Shasta Cascade Rail Preservation Society also provided railroad information. Thanks to their Society for coordinating the trains on display and their constant assistance to our Society.

We were able to show off the newly repainted Depot and sparkling waiting room, completed ramp and flower boxes. We should mention that work is progressing on a mural designed and executed by Linda Drager. Sid spruced up the roof with new copper flashing in honor of his shop teacher.

Much has been accomplished at the Depot thanks to Bob Billings, Gene Lachawicz and crew, Richard Scott, and the other faithful volunteers. We thank them for their efforts. Construction of a canopy below the Depot roof, which will cover the ramp and entryway, will begin soon.

But we haven't even begun to talk and plan for the Depot Railroad Museum. Should you have time to volunteer for this project, please call me so that your name and phone number can be kept on the volunteer list. More hands make for light work. Also, please let me know if you would like to sponsor the next Depot Society letter.

Remember to talk to your friends and neighbors about joining the Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society (membership form enclosed). We encourage new members so that we can continue to maintain the Dunsmuir Depot and new Depot Railroad Museum.

*Rita Green*

Rita Green  
President, Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society  
(530) 235-0929

## DUNSMUIR ON TRACK

The City of Dunsmuir was founded as a railroad town, and a passenger depot here is a vital part of our heritage. The former Dunsmuir depot was removed by Southern Pacific in 1974, but passengers were allowed to use the remaining dispatch office in inclement weather. This building, now owned by Union Pacific, was closed when U.P. developed a new office complex on the east side of the tracks. AMTRAK informed Dunsmuir that they would no longer stop there if a heated shelter, with a restroom and public telephone, was not available to passengers by December 1, 2002. Thanks to the Dunsmuir City Council, with the cooperation of Union Pacific, and to the many dedicated volunteers who contributed money, materials, skill, and hours of hard work, the old dispatch office was refurbished, minimum requirements were met, and Dunsmuir remains an AMTRAK stop.

In February, 2003, when the immediate crisis was over, the Depot volunteers developed a two-fold mission statement. **FIRST STAGE:** To make the Dunsmuir passenger rail station a vibrant, attractive, functional station through repair, refurbishment, landscaping and maintenance. **LONGER TERM:** To establish a Dunsmuir transportation center serving Siskiyou County.

## SHASTA CASCADE RAIL PRESERVATION SOCIETY TO THE RESCUE

Out of the blue, one of our dedicated supporters obtained a \$10,000 grant for "The Dunsmuir Railroad Station Historical Restoration and Museum Project". Although we are a volunteer non-profit, we are not as yet set up to receive tax deductible contributions. SCRPS, which has that designation, agreed to sponsor us in using this grant for Dunsmuir. We are extremely grateful to the Society, with special thanks to Wally Haas and Matt Shuman, who have met with us on several occasions and provided the expertise we needed. The plans that Wally drew up for us to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act have been submitted to the city for permit approval. Work will commence this spring.

## RAILROAD DAYS

Dunsmuir's annual Railroad Days celebration will be Father's Day weekend, June 18-20. Everyone is invited! The Depot will be open all weekend with volunteers available on Saturday to answer questions and to provide information. We hope that many SCRPS members will be able to attend so that we can thank them personally for their support.

RITA GREEN, President  
Dunsmuir Railroad Depot Historical Society