
Southern Pacific Railroad

1902 Owing to so many wrecks at Hugo, the S. P. has put on an extra gang of section men and track walkers. By Dick. *Rogue River Courier*. February 13, 1902, [Hugo Items](#).

1903 Freight train No. 229 was caught in a cave in tunnel nine, between Delta and Sims, last Thursday morning. The accident was a peculiar one. The freight train was running through the tunnel when three of the cars jumped the track. The jar of the wreck against the wall, which had been loosened and softened by the recent rains, caused about 300 feet of the tunnel to collapse. Luckily none of the crew were on that portion of the train caught in the cave in so no one was hurt. The engine and about half the train were through the tunnel when the accident occurred.

The task of clearing up the track through the tunnel was a big one and seriously blocked traffic on the road for several days.



1903 Smash-Up

At Wolf Creek Hand-Car collides with Engine – Two Men Badly Hurt. *Rogue River Courier*. March 26, 1903.

1906 Henry Phillips and a speeder had a close call with a locomotive not long since. Henry came out O.K. with the exception of being slightly frightened, but the speeder is ready for repairs. *Rogue River Courier*. March 30, 1906. [Hugo](#).

Train Wrecks

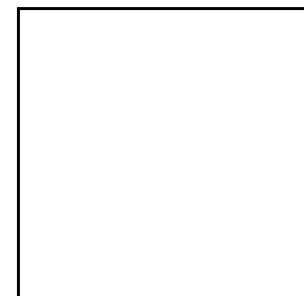
1909 An extra through freight was wrecked ½ mile beyond Merlin about 5 o'clock this morning, delaying the passenger traffic several hours, train No. 15 coming into Grants Pass nearly three-hours late. The wreck was caused by the breaking of a wheel on a car loaded with potatoes. The car jumped the track and tore up the rails for a short distance. The car was placed on the track and skidded to Merlin and the track repaired sufficiently to allow the passage of trains. A wrecker was ordered from Roseburg to repair the track. *Rogue River Courier*. March 26, 1909. [Freight Wreck Near Merlin](#).

1912 Sixteen Loaded Freight Cars Ditched at Three Pines Sixteen freight cars, nearly all loaded with way or through freight are in the ditch one mile south at Three Pines, a broken car wheel having caused the wreck of an extra out of Roseburg running as No. 221. The train was in charge of a crew from Roseburg, but all escaped injury except rear Brakeman Lang, who had his back severely wrenched. Dr. Longhridge was taken to the scene of the accident on an extra engine from this city to attend the injured man. He reports that Lang's back was sprained nearly to the breaking point, and that it will lay him up for some time before he is on duty again. Lang was walking on top of the train when the crash came, and he says that he remembered going up in the air, but had no recollection of the descent, being found unconscious twenty-five feet from the track. *Rogue River Courier*. July 19, 1912. [S.P. Freight Train No. 221 Wrecked](#).

1912 The drawhead of a car of lumber was pulled out Wednesday night while a south-bound freight was running full speed near Hugo and as a result the car was ditched, and the freight delayed. The woodwork of the car was completely wrecked and the trainmen burned the scraps. The lumber is being reloaded at the freight depot here. *Rogue River Courier*. October 25, 1912. [Freight Car Wrecked](#).

More Information

1920 Transient Injured In Wreck Of Freight James Ryan, a transient, was badly injured early Saturday when a freight train was derailed at Hugo, 15 miles north of this city. Ryan was stealing a ride on one of the refrigerator cars and was caught when the cars left the track. His legs were so badly smashed that it is doubtful if they can be saved. The ligaments were all torn loose from the knee. He was brought to the city one of the engines and taken to the county hospital. He was bound for Marysville, Cal. No others were on the car with him. Six cars of the freight were derailed, tearing up a large section of track. Train 13, due here at 8:13 o'clock did not arrive until late in the afternoon, and train 14, northbound, was held until the wreck was cleared away. A wrecker was sent to the scene of the accident from Ashland. The yards here were filled with freight trains that could not be sent north. *Rogue River Courier*. November 12, 1920. [Transient Injured In Wreck Of Freight](#).



1920 Cars Are Derailed

Three cars on a southbound freight jumped the track at Hugo Sunday night, holding up traffic for hours. The wrecker was called out from Ashland and early Monday had the track cleared. Two box cars and a gondola loaded with lumber were in the mishap. All were pretty badly damaged, the gondola being jammed endwise into the bank. One box car was upturned and the third was lying on the upturned car. *Rogue River Courier*, December 17, 1920. [Cars Are Derailed](#).

Want more information? Contact an officer of the *Hugo Neighborhood* on how you can become involved in your community's history and land use.

Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society's Mission

This information brochure is one of a series of documents published by the Hugo Neighborhood Association & Historical Society (*Hugo Neighborhood*). It is designed to be shared with neighbors for the purpose of helping protect our rural quality of life by promoting an informed citizenry in decision-making. The *Hugo Neighborhood* is an informal nonprofit charitable and educational organization with a land use and history mission of promoting the social welfare of its neighbors.

Land Use & History

The *Hugo Neighborhood's* land use mission is to promote Oregon Statewide Goal 1 — Citizen Involvement, and to preserve, protect, and enhance the livability and economic viability of its farms, forests, and rural neighbors. It will act, if requested, as a technical resource assisting neighbors to represent themselves.

Its history mission is to educate, collect, preserve, interpret, and research its local history and to encourage public interest in the history of the Hugo area.

Volunteer membership dues are \$10.00 annually per family and normally used for paper, ink, envelopes, publications and mailings. Send us your e-mail address if you want to know what we are doing.

Email: hugo@jeffnet.org
Web Page: <http://jeffnet.org/~hugo/>
Edited by Karen Rose & Mike Walker

HNA&HS 2007-RR15
C:\Documents and Settings\mike\My
Documents\Genealogy\History_Brochures\Railroad\Brochures\BROCHURE_RR15 Train
Wrecks_122805.wpd

HUGO TRAIN WRECKS



Very Draft

HNA&HS Officers

Hal Anthony, Outreach Chair
3995 Russell Road
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Wayne McKy, Chair
6497 Hugo Road
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Mike Walker, Education Chair
3388B Merlin Rd #195
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

Karen Rose, Web Master
575 Red Mountain Drive
Grants Pass, Oregon 97526

December 23, 2007

Hugo Neighborhood Association &
Historical Society