

TV Listings • Entertainment

Making tracks enhances menu aboard dinner train

By **BOB RODRIGUEZ**
Staff Writer

There's no food like train-flavored food.

And there's nothing like the soothing sway of a train in motion, not to mention the clickety-clack as the wheels pass over the track joints.

Put all that together, and you have the recipe for an enjoyable Thanksgiving

trip we stayed at the McCloud Guest House B&B.

In a sort-of strange situation, the B&B where we stayed this trip used to house the offices of the McCloud Lumber Co.; and our lodging during our earlier get-away was the handsome residence of the former lumber firm owner.

Our choo-choo, chew-

switchback at 4,200 feet. The switchback, one of the few remaining in the United States, allows the train to continue toward Shasta City, as there's no curve. It would have been some feat to engineer one in that area; thus the switchback.

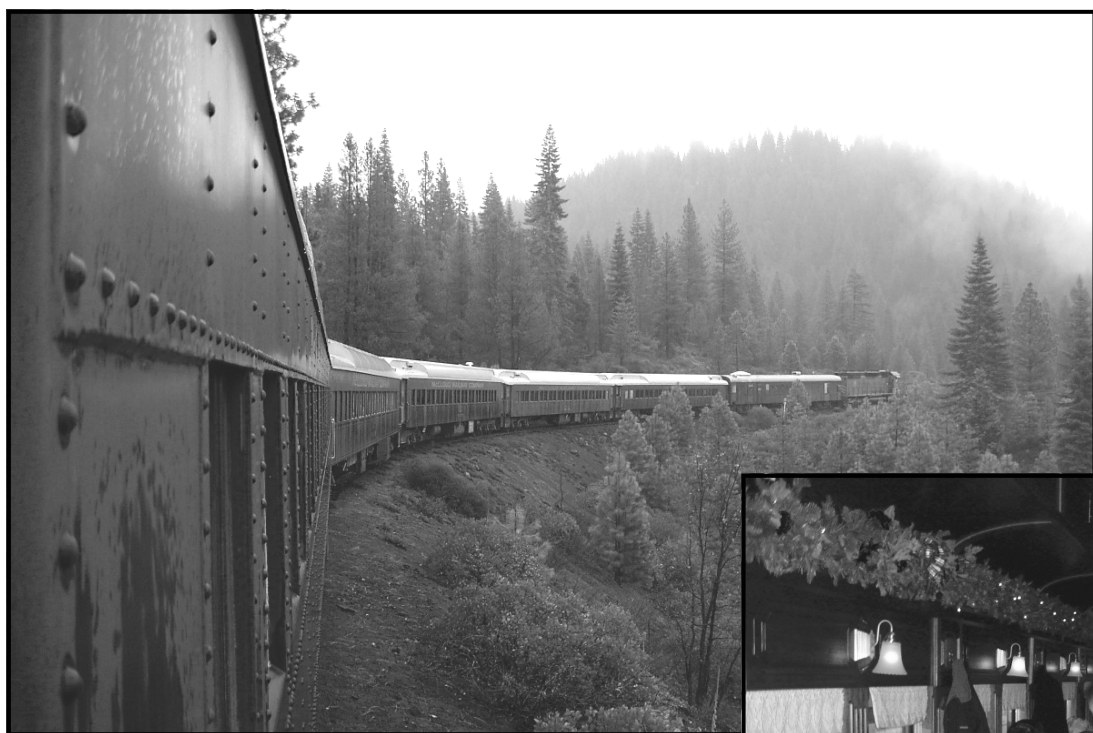
So the engine pulls its cars onto the switchback; a switch is opened; and the train proceeds toward Pierce

There are great views of forestland, some of them panoramic, and other track-side attractions during the ride. Of course, to a railroad aficionado like me, the sight of rusty box cars, old streamliner passenger cars and the like are super-interesting scenery.

The service aboard the train is excellent, with attentive waitresses and waiters. And the interiors of the "heavy-weight" cars themselves provide an air of elegance.

The cars originally were built in 1916 for Illinois Central Railroad; acquired by McCloud Railway; and carefully rebuilt in its shops.

Although originally coaches, the cars have been revamped into dining cars including lots of mahogany wood work, plus brass



The dinner train, run by the McCloud Railway Co. from McCloud, Calif., near Shasta City, offers nostalgic trips with meals served by an attentive staff in old-style dining cars. The railway company and the numerous bed-and-breakfast establishments in McCloud work hand-in-hand to help keep the local economy working.



outing from the tiny and picturesque mountain town of McCloud, Calif., approximately 9 miles southeast of Shasta City.

Last week, my wife, Jan, and I stayed in the McCloud River Inn Bed & Breakfast, courtesy of our children Vicki and Michael. They wanted to do something nice to help us celebrate our 40th wedding anniversary, and they succeeded. Our room even had its own spa.

It was our second trip to McCloud, having ridden the McCloud Railway Co.'s Shasta Sunset Dinner Train several years ago. On that

chew Thanksgiving meal covered the grand total of 28 miles, from the town of McCloud to a spot called Rocky Point, approximately a mile from 3,500-foot Mt. Shasta.

Before we left Illinois Valley on our trip, someone asked where the train went. Our answer, "It doesn't go anywhere, but it's a great trip." Pulled by a diesel locomotive, the five cars -- four dining cars and a "dance car" -- simply go out 14 miles and return.

At one point, below Signal Butte and after completing the first 5 miles of the route, there's a

Siding with the engine pushing instead of pulling.

On the return segment, the procedure is repeated, and the locomotive continues to push, rather than pull, the train. Thus, when McCloud is reached, the loco is facing the same way as when it left and can easily proceed to the train yard for fuel and rest.

There is a concrete ring adjacent to the track near the switchback. It was the pit of the turntable used to turn snowplows years ago.

touches. Some cars have tables and chairs; while others offer booth-like seating. Both are comfortable.

Memories of long-ago train rides emerge when one views the "Pullman" green cars with their gold lettering.

For us, the train makes the grade.

Through the end of this year, the Shasta Sunset Dinner Train will roll again on Fridays and Saturdays.

It's a well-trained dining experience.

**All friends of
Junior Fowler
come celebrate his
25th birthday at
Wild River Pizza**



**Sunday, December
5th at 5:30 p.m.
No host.**



The public is invited to attend a
**Christmas dessert buffet
with "High F'lutin" band**
Sunday, Dec. 12 - 1 p.m.

3098 University Road, Grants Pass, OR
Travel West on Hwy. 199, turn left on Hubbard Lane,
right on University Road.

Additional Listings

Besides the program listings provided, the following also are among those available from Charter Communications. For information about costs that might apply, contact the company.

1-800-338-8838

- *12 - QVC
- *14 - Better Life TV
- *16 - Home Shopping
- *23 - Community Bulletins
- *25 - Fox News
- *26 - C-Span/House of Rep.
- *27 - C-Span 2 (Senate)
- *28 - ESPN 2
- *31 - CNN Headline News
- *33 - Fox Sports Northwest
- *36 - Country Music TV
- *37 - Nashville Channel
- *40 - The History Channel
- *41 - The Learning Channel
- *42 - Cartoon Network
- *43 - Home & Garden TV
- *44 - The Weather Channel

I find television very educating. Every time somebody turns on the set, I go into the other room and read a book.

- Groucho Marx -

MONDAY-FRIDAY MORNING/AFTERNOON

	6:00	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	4:00	4:30	5:00	5:30
2 (WTBS)	Mama's Family	Mama's Family	Saved by the Bell	Saved by the Bell	Movie				Dawson's Creek	Dawson's Creek			Saved by the Bell	Saved by the Bell	Cosby	Cosby	Steve Harvey	Steve Harvey	Drew Carey	Drew Carey	Yes, Dear	Yes, Dear	Home Improve.	Home Improve.
3 (FOX4M)	Joyce Meyer	Feed the Children	Digimon-Digital	Digimon-Digital	Power Rangers	Beyblade	Two of a Kind	Living the Life	The 700 Club	Gilmore Girls			Full House	Full House	Family Matters	Family Matters	Step by Step	Step by Step	Boy Meets World	Boy Meets World	Full House	Full House	Gilmore Girls	
4 (FOX)	Mary Tyler Moore	Mary Tyler Moore	Bob Newhart	Bob Newhart	Paid Program	Paid Program	Green Acres	Green Acres	Mister Ed	Addams Family	Paid Program	Paid Program	Quincy, M.E.	Kojak			Cagney & Lacey		Remington Steele		St. Elsewhere		Varied Programs	
5 (KOB)	News		Today						Mercury Media	Varied Programs			Home Improve.	Just Shoot Me	Days of our Lives		Passions		Dr. Phil		Seinfeld	Inside Edition	The Insider	NBC News
6 (ESPN)	SportsCenter	Varied Programs	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	SportsCenter	Varied Programs								1st & 10	NFL Live	Around the Horn	Interruption	SportsCenter	Varied Programs				
7 (KSTV)	Varied Programs	Dragon Tales	Berenstain Bears	Sesame Street	Boohbah	Teletubbies	Mister Rogers	Varied Programs	Sit and Be Fit	Charlie Rose	Caillou	Barney & Friends	Between the Lions	George Shrinks	Reading Rainbow	Praise the Lord			Clifford-Red	Postcards	Arthur	Maya & Miguel	Cyberchase	Zoom
8 (TBN)	Changing-World	John Hagee	Rod Parsley	Marilyn Hickey	Believer's Voice	Varied Programs			Life Today	This Is Your Day	The 700 Club	John Hagee	Rod Parsley	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Movie					Varied Programs	Behind Scenes	Varied Programs	
9 (LIFE)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Fit & Life	Daily Workout	Suddenly Susan	Mad About You	Golden Girls	The Nanny	The Nanny	Golden Girls	The Nanny	Golden Girls	Unsolved Mysteries	Unsolved Mysteries	Movie		Guiding Light	Family Feud	Family Feud	Family Feud	The Jane Pauley Show	News	The Nanny	CBS News
10 (KTVL)	News	The Early Show					The 700 Club	The Price Is Right	The Young and the Restless	Backyardigans	Dora the Explorer	Blue's Clues	Miss Spider	Lazy Town	Backyardigans	Lazy Town	Thornberys	Rocket Power	Rugrats	Rugrats	Oddparents	Jimmy Neutron	Sponge-Bob	U-Pick
11 (NICK)	News Special	Hey Arnold!	Oddparents	Jimmy Neutron	Rugrats	Sponge-Bob	Dora the Explorer	Blue's Clues	Miss Spider	Lazy Town	Backyardigans	Dora the Explorer	Blue's Clues	Little Bill	Backyardigans	Lazy Town	Thornberys	Rocket Power	Rugrats	Rugrats	Oddparents	Jimmy Neutron	Sponge-Bob	U-Pick
13 (KDRV)	News Cont'd	Good Morning America					Live With Regis and Kelly	The View	Nash Bridges	The District	The District				JAG		Movie	Varied Programs			Movie			
15 (USA)	Coach	Coach	Walker, Texas Ranger	Movie					Murder, She Wrote	Third Watch	City Confidential	American Justice	Movie	Varied Programs			Movie	Varied Programs			Murder, She Wrote	Third Watch		
17 (A&E)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Biography	Movie	Varied Programs																			
18 (HBO)	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs																				
19 (SHOW2)	Movie	Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs																
21 (SHOW)	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs																						
22 (MAX)	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs																						
23 (ESPL)	Varied Programs	Jack LaLanne	One on One	Wide World of Sports	Sport-Scenitury	Varied Programs	College Football																	
30 (TRAV)	Epicurious	Travel Cafe	Varied Programs	Great Hotels	Great Hotels	Get Packing!	Epicurious	Travel Cafe	Varied Programs	Great Hotels	Great Hotels	Adventure Crazy	Adventure Crazy	Varied Programs										
34 (ABC)	Movie Cont'd	Varied Programs	Movie	Varied Programs																				
35 (TNT)	The Lost World	The Pretender	Angel	Charmed	ER				ER		Judging Amy	Judging Amy	NYPD Blue	Law & Order	Law & Order	Angel								
38 (DISN)	Winnie-Pooh	Bear in House	The Koala Brothers	The Wiggles	Higglytown	JoJo's Circus	The Wiggles	Stanley	Varied Programs	Out of the Box	The Wiggles	The Koala Brothers	Higglytown	JoJo's Circus	Stanley	Winnie-Pooh	House of Mouse	House of Mouse	Recess	Lilo & Stitch	Recess	Kim Possible	The Proud Family	
39 (SCFI)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Varied Programs																			
45 (DISC)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Assignment Discovery	Double Agents	Designer Guys	Designer Guys	B. Smith Style	That's My Baby	That's My Baby	Surprise by Design	Surprise by Design	Ancient Egyptians	Monster Garage	Monster House						
46 (ANFL)	Animal Miracles	Adoption Tales	Pet Story	Movie	Movie	Movie	Open Court		The Daily Show	Premium Blend	Com-Presents	Mad TV	Upright Citizen	Varied Programs	Closing Arguments									
47 (COM)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program
48 (CRT)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program	Paid Program

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