

## Ambush in the New A.C.M. Log Yard

### **Night Watchman reports a soggy encounter;**

The fertile soil of the Community Gardens has been removed and a Log Yard now occupies the site. It is now the mid 1950's and the steam locomotive maintenance facility for the Milwaukee Railroad has been dismantled.

Old steam engine number 1246 sits in quiet retirement at the Deer Lodge Roundhouse. Switch Diesel Number 688 has replaced the old familiar steam locomotive and an old discarded copper fire extinguisher peeks out from a pile of rubble, bearing witness to "what once was".

For two young Bonner Hooligans this old copper fire extinguisher was the 44 Magnum of all water guns.

Emil--the grumpiest man in Bonner, and night watchman, was making his rounds in the new log yard, when he reported hearing his name being called from a log deck.

"OH EMILLLLLL!!" floated once again on the balmy night breezes. Clamping his Alarm Whistle firmly between his teeth, the grumpy old watchman cautiously approached the spooky log deck.

A barrage of water, suddenly and without warning exploded from the log deck !! sending Emil into an awkward and gangly run for safety, while frantically blowing his whistle.

Later in the evening witnesses reported seeing two Hooligans carrying a strange cylinder like device charging up the side of Bonner Mountain. The Chief of A.C.M. security was in hot pursuit. Youth and superior physical condition allowed the two Hooligans to escape, and share their hilarious encounter with friends in private gatherings.

Fifty five years would pass before this exciting adventure would go public. On May 1, 2010 this 100 year old Copper Railroad Fire Extinguisher was polished and now sits in a place of honor in the B.M.H.C. At long last, this "laugh a minute" adventure was shared with the public on the Mountain Line Trolley, while touring Bonner and hearing stories about growing up in this quaint little company town.

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