

Historical/Archive Department Report

6/2/2021

One of the long term projects of the archive department has been the improvement of access to our collection. To that point, this month we will release a few sections of the Historical-Archive pages on the FRRS website.

This improvement will bring a new level of access to some of the collection donated to the society by our members, railroad employees and the general public.

While this is just a start as to what we in vision on releasing to our members and public, please understand this is a "Work in Progress" and several collections have not been inventoried as of yet.

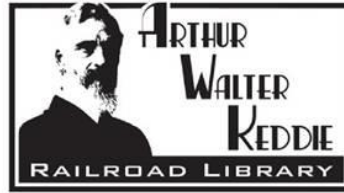
Our webmaster has been hard at work with the Archive Department to be able to bring these new web pages to the society.

Donations and Donation letters:

As you know, this had been a priority since I began working with the archives. Getting donation letters out in the mail to our donors is a very important issue. In the past I have had many conversations with our member at the WP Convention, asking did we receive the donation as they have not received an acknowledgment and/or a donation letter.

This very important fact (Donation Letter) keeps the donors informed and it brings them to give us more WP articles.

Please remember when you receive a donation at the museum in any form, let me know the donors name, address and inventory of the materials so I can get the letter out as soon as possible.



If you have not noticed, the archive team has been posting to the website new materials each month since September 2020. The new posting will appear on the 1st of each month. This work continues with a new postings with materials that we continue to find within the archive.

Moving on to the modeling section of the archives, I have been working on more materials for the modeling section of the website.

If you have not visited the “MODELING the WP & Related Lines” on the website, I encourage you to visit at this link:

<https://www.wplives.org/modeling.html>

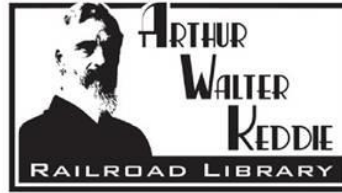
If you have not visited the Historical/Archive Department web page recently, please consider looking at them to see “What’s New” in the Western Pacific Documents page.

https://wplives.org/wphistory_wp_documents.html

As I point out in each of my reports, we still need some donation help with the materials needed to keep the archives moving forward and protecting them. I list the current needs in these reports and so far I can say that a few member have come through and provided us with donations as have been listed in the “Needs for the Archives”.

I would hope that other members will step-up and take notice and be kind enough to help us out.

Should there be any questions on donations or the archives, please contact the Archive Department or any of the contacts on our website and someone will get back to you.



Needs for the Archives:

We are always looking for help in getting materials properly stored and we need the support of the membership with helping supply storage materials for the archives.

A couple of members have stepped up and donated some storage boxes that will help store some of the archive materials. This allows us to get some of the archives out of cardboard boxes and stored properly.

We still need help in getting funding and storage materials for the archive department. Should you be able to help out, please let us know!

Items listed below are still needed to help keep our collection stored properly and should you wish to help us out, we certainly would like your donation and help.

- Computer program to track all the Historical/Archive items
- Original copy of Windows 10 to be used in the Archive Department
- Archive storage boxes for 35mm slides. (We need more, as we have over 20,000 + slides and counting!)
- Large archival storage boxes

Should any member receive any donation and/or get an inquiry about a donation, please get in touch with Eugene, Frank, myself or any member of the board of directors so that we may follow up with the donor to make sure we properly address the donation or inquiry.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers that help us in the Historical/Archive Department. Thank you to all the members of the FRRS/WPRM who contribute to the society and the archives.

Kerry Cochran
Director, General Superintendent, Historical-Archive Manager