

DONATIONS

The Portola Rotary Club's Memorial Day weekend Sunday breakfast was a great success. The profits from the event amounted to \$1422.66, which was donated to our Rail Society with the recommendation that we use the money to repair the roll-up doors on the east end of our diesel shop building. Skip Englert, President of the Rotary Club and FRRS charter member, initiated the event. We have invited them to return next year.

Other donations received during the last two months were: Doug Peterson who donated four railroad car jacks and Owen Acuff who donated a complete set of Trains magazines along with Railroad magazines, Official Guides, and other printed matter.

An overdue thanks goes out to Minuteman Printing in Reno for printing our Train Sheet and other material at a very reasonable cost. Member Harry Jamason also prints extra spiral bound copies at no cost for distribution to hobby shops.

We also need to express our appreciation to Joe Way for supplying our mailing labels. Norm Holmes picks up the mail and sends the new and renewed members names to Charlene Marvin who records them on file cards. Charlene then sends the changes to Joe who enters them in his computer and when we need labels he prints them for us.

FEATHER RIVER
RAIL FESTIVAL 87

By John Walker

Our 2nd Annual Feather River Rail Festival (Railfan's Day or WP Day depending on who you talk to) was held July 11th at the museum, and proved again to be a great success!!!

The all day photo session, slide show, railfan extravaganza brought 190 visitors to the museum for a fun filled day of railroading. Some traveled as far as New York and LA to take part in the festivities.

Although there were the normal hitches, glitches and bitches, things went extremely well, and most everyone had a great time.

Featured activities for the day included several M of W trains powered by UP, WP, KCC and ARR motive power. An afternoon passenger special with one of the KCC Alco's and WP and Alaska passenger trains concluded the day's operations.

Meanwhile, there were no less than three slide/movie programs playing consecutively inside the museum. Chris Skow showed movies in the theater and a slide program in the display room while those taking a break or eating lunch in the meeting room enjoyed McCloud River and Milwaukee Road slide presentations.

The Short Line was on hand to answer questions on the restoration of the #8 while Hap Manitt and Kent Stevens guided visitors through the museum.

The evening entertainment was provided by Vic Neves, Wayne Monger and Dale Sanders who presented

excellent D&RGW Narrow Gauge, Oliver Bro's and Alaska Railroad slide programs. There was nice WP coverage (of course) and a tribute to F-Units. On the subject of "F-Units" Dale Sanders and Mark Hemphill directed the night photo session which consisted of the ARR F's, our FA and the 921 side by side in front of the engine house.

The evening entertainment was briefly interrupted by a special anniversary cake for Steve and Mary Habeck, Wayne and Linda Monger, and Steve and Luann Milward who all celebrated wedding anniversaries this week.

The day's events were largely successful with an over 150% increase in attendance and revenue's over last year. \$1,276.00 was taken in at the gate while Chris reported \$3,100.00 in gift shop sales for the day, and the snack bar/food concession brought in another \$500.00, for just under \$5,000.00 gross for the day!!!!

A successful undertaking such as this does not happen all by itself. My sincerest thanks to all of you who came out and helped with the planning, preparation and operation of this years Rail Festival. Again you have proven that W.P. also stands for "Willing People". Special thanks to Steve Habeck and Vic Neves and to all of the people who helped out on train crew's (you did a first class job), thanks to Ken Roller for getting our rip track (Rip Two) completed in time, thanks to

Photo by Vic Neves



Linda and Wayne Monger and Pam Hodgson for their help on the ticket booth, Barbara Holmes-snack bar, Chris Skow and Vickie Krois-gift shop, Bill Frasier for loaning us his movie screen, and a big THANK YOU to Rick Merrill from Idaho, who spent a two week vacation at Portola working on the shower car (it now works!!) and other assorted projects in preparation for this event. I wish I could list everyone who participated but, the turnout this year was so great that I couldn't begin to remember everyone involved. Thanks again for a job well done.

Myself and the FRRS are looking to next year to be even better.....

DIESEL DOINGS

As part of the diesel training class Brian Challendar is conducting this summer, a complete oil change was done on WP GP-7 No. 707. Additional work in the form of window replacement, headlight change out, battery door repair, and installation of a pre-lube oil pump along with a scrub down is needed before this unit is ready for regular service.

On June 20 Richard Canino, Steve Habeck, Norm Holmes, Jim Ley, Steve Milward, Dave McClain, Odie Lorimer, Hank Stiles, and Kent Thompson accomplished a great deal on the UP GP-30 no. 849. The turbo was replaced,

a new set of batteries installed and some miscellaneous air work completed. The engine was test run on Sunday and even though a few minor problems remain to be solved, we have an operable GP-30. On June 29th Jim Ley and Brian Challendar changed the crankcase oil, and fuel filters.

AND AROUND THE MUSEUM

Rick Merle from Blackfoot, Idaho returned to the PRM in July along with his daughter Melissa to spend a two week vacation working on our equipment. (Rick and Melissa spent two weeks with us in 1985 also.) Rick accomplished much during his stay, completing the step renewal on SN 1632, finishing the shower-lounge car and doing many other small jobs around the museum, which seem to have no end. Both Rick and Melissa said they enjoyed their stay. We enjoyed them and wish them a speedy return.

Steve Habeck also spent some vacation time with us in July doing some of the many odd jobs around the museum and switching equipment for operations and rail festival day. Steve lives in Los Osos which is quite a drive (10 hours) to come to help our museum, and he does this once a month during the summer.

TRACK WORK

Our one-man track laying machine, Ken Roller, working ten hours a day July 6-10 completed the Rip#2 track in time to allow it to be used to store some of our equipment prior to the Rail Festival event. Rip#3 remains to be laid: the ties are in place, but need to be spaced, then rail moved onto the ties, etc. However, due to an unfortunate automobile accident on July 11th, Ken will not be building track for at least a month. We all wish Ken a speedy recovery.

Ken is an accomplished artist, so during his recuperation, he will be painting a number of canvases depicting WP steam engines for display in our museum. If anyone would like to commission Ken to do a painting, he would be glad to oblige.....

THIS MONTHS COVER PHOTO

Shows the July 4th operating crew on the nose of the 921 in our new operating dept T-shirts.

Last issues cover photo--how many know where it was--East of Winnemucca, Nevada on the old WP main line just before you get to Weso, milepost 536.

With a blast of smoke GP-30 849 roars back to life on June 21st after turbo replacement

