# Caboosing With Hap Manit

Hap's Museum diary...

This writing of "Caboosing with Hap Manit," is dedicated to Hap's birthday, which took place on June 10, 1991. A surprise birthday dinner for him was held at the Log Cabin Restaurant, and many friends were in attendance. Hap turned 75 years young and we all wish him well, and hope he has MANY more happy birthdays.

**April 26, 1991** The westbound UP Steam train was on display in Portola all day.

**April 27, 1991** The westbound UP Steam train left Portola headed for Sacramento. Steve Habeck worked on lettering new switchstand targets.

**April 30, 1991** Gordon Wollesen worked on electrical work and on batteries.

**May 6, 1991** An incident at the museum involved a white Cadillac driving out of the museum property recklessly. Chris Skow who was at the museum at the time made the report to the Sheriff's office.

**May 8, 1991** Norm Holmes and Dean Hill went to Sacramento to take the museum's green truck for transmission repairs.

**May 9, 1991** Cordless telephones were put into service for Hap Manit and Norm Holmes so they won't have to run the 100 yard dash to answer the telephone anymore. Bill Evans used the loader to fill and level the new roadbed for the track 6 extension.

**May 11, 1991** Norm Holmes and Bill Evans went to Reno to attend an auction. They came back with a sand blaster and other assorted goodies.

**May 12, 1991** The museum was bustling with activity in preparation for the next day's steam excursion train.

**May 13, 1991** The bus left Portola at 3:30 AM headed for Sacramento with crew members for the UP steam excursion train. The train made its way from Sacramento to Portola. Upon arrival, the train was cleaned for the next day's trip to Winnemucca. Norm Holmes spent the evening at the Nugget in Sparks, Nevada to supervise the lodging arrangements and the loading of passengers on buses the next morning. See stories elsewhere.

**May 14, 1991** Wayne Monger and John Walker completed ticket sales for the Portola to Winnemucca steam train which operated on this day. In Winnemucca, the FRRS crews cleaned the train and then posed for a picture on the nose of the UP 844 steam engine.

**May 15, 1991** Hank Stiles spent the day at the museum with his mother and father.

**May 16, 1991** 75 school children toured the museum.

**May 17, 1991** 25 school children from the Quincy Pre-School toured the museum and went for a train ride. Larry Hanlon and Dave McClain worked on engine 805A. John Ryczkowski borrowed 30 pictures from Hap in order to make negatives.

**May 18, 1991** Operating crew training was held for "new recruits" in the operating department. About 6 newcomers showed up and were shown the ropes.

**May 21, 1991** Gordon Wollesen solved a power surge in the ladie's room by replacing the service panel that serves it.

**May 23, 1991** Gordon Wollesen replaced the main building service panel. He had power restored at 3:00 PM. The museum has 1600 signatures in the guest book as of this date since January 1, 1991.

**May 25, 1991** Opening day of operations saw Sue Cooper, Pat Cousin, Emery Goddard, Teresa Goddard, Karena Wollesen as the kitchen workers who put on a good feed. Dave McClain and Dan Ogle serviced and brought to life 925C (the B unit). Eric Rich and Mardi Vincent installed the radio into engine 512, and they also cleaned and oiled the journal boxes on the vista flat car and they lubricated its center plate. Eric Rich and Gary Cousin organized the communications center in the operating department office. Barbara Holmes worked on cleaning, stocking and making new signs in the gift shop. Vickie Krois worked in the ticket booth.

**May 26, 1991** Bill Evans worked on engine 2001; he applied the first coats of Bondo to it.

**May 29, 1991** Groups of school children from Westwood and the Pioneer School in Quincy toured the museum, went for train rides, and had lunch in our dining car. Peter Langdon arrived from England and pitched in to help Hap sweep the south side of the building.

**May 31, 1991** Bruce Cooper spread base gravel on right of way for extension of track 6. Norm Holmes graded it with the plow on his Jeep truck.

**June 1, 1991** Eric Rich held a "camp-out" in the Troop Sleeper Car for 7 adults and 10 kids who then toured the museum and went for a train ride.

**June 3, 1991** Mardi Vincent worked on the mechanical records books in the operating department office; she organized and arranged the books in an easy-to-see manner.

**June 5, 1991** Bruce Cooper made repairs to the fork-lift and loader.

**June 6, 1991** Ken Roller worked hard on extension of track 6.

**June 8, 1991** Bill Evans built a cabinet to hold paints and other materials that he uses in his restoration work.

**June 10, 1991** Hap Manit's birthday; 75 years young and going strong. A surprise birthday dinner was held at the Log Cabin Restaurant with many friends attending.

**June 12, 1991** Norm Holmes and Dean Hill straightened out the oil house and built new shelves.

**June 21, 1991** Mardi Vincent, Dave Anderson, Julie Anderson started to prepare food for the next day's annual meeting and feed.

**June 22, 1991** The annual meeting was held to the delight of all those who attended. Mardi Vincent put on a delicious feed. Vic Neves put on a great slide show after dinner, and everyone had a great time.

**June 23, 1991** Bernie Coggins from Oroville donated a roll-up door to the museum to replace the broken one. New volunteer helpers in the kitchen were Edna Ede, and Ellen Hausen.

**June 30, 1991** A crew headed by Brian Challender, consisting of Kevin Moran, an SP bridge designer from San Leandro, CA, Jim Price, an electrical engineer from San Carlos, CA, and Paul Lucia, a police officer from Foster City (Menlo Park), CA, all worked hard on restoration work on our dump truck. They are reworking the entire truck to match the appearance of Western Pacific's trucks. And if that wasn't enough work for them, they all checked engine 707 to see why the auxiliary circuit breaker was tripping, and found 2 bad traction motor blower bearings and removed the 2 blowers for repair. Peter Langdon, who is visiting from the United Kingdom, then made repairs.