

From the President

By Jim Murphy

On behalf of the FRRS and the Board of Director's I wish to express our deepest sympathy and sorrow to the Habeck family regarding their loss of DonnaJean, age 19 years. DonnaJean worked in the Museum gift shop and was a faithful member of the FRRS team that provided great pleasure to Museum visitors. She will be missed.

I am honored to have been elected to serve as President of the Board of Directors and to serve the FRRS. By the time you read this message I will have served as your spokesperson for four months and I sincerely hope that you will start to see some positive and constructive changes within our organization. Certainly, no change ever occurs without some resistance and we will experience our share. I encourage all to keep one thought in the forefront... Everyone involved in the FRRS wants what's good for the organization and to improve on our mission. We may not all take the same path to accomplishing the end result, and that is not necessarily a bad or negative route.

I have informed the Board of Directors that one of my goals during my tenure is to open opportunities to participate in the organization to everyone who wants to participate, no matter where they live. With that said, I want to announce that I am asking all department managers and committee members to re-validate their interest in serving the FRRS by sending me an e-mail, note or personal telephone call to express their interest in continuing with their assignments. I am also appealing to our membership to apply for any of these positions outlined in the FRRS organizational chart (separate article). A special team of Directors will evaluate all expressions of interest and we will select a team that can most efficiently and effectively accomplish our short-term and long-term goals. This may not necessarily mean that a person who has served the society in a capacity for a number of consecutive years will automatically continue in that position. Our highest priority will be the ability to identify a team that will work cooperatively together and that will promote increasing membership participation while having fun following their volunteer pursuits. I encourage all members to review our organizational chart and evaluate how you might contribute to the Society. In this day and age of technology it is no longer necessary to have to travel to Portola to participate in the Museum or Society's operations.

For the last several months we have implemented bi-

weekly staff meetings where we discuss the day-to-day functions of the Society. For those department heads or committee chairmen that cannot personally attend the meetings we provide an 800 conference call line so that they can participate long distance. Staff meetings have already been productive in communicating within departments and coordinating FRRS business.

On September 3 at 9 AM, after several logistical delays, a consist of thirteen pieces of equipment from the Portola Railroad Museum in cooperation with the Union Pacific Railroad rolled onto the former Western Pacific line through the Feather River Canyon headed for the Truckee, CA Railroad Days Celebration. The consist followed the Feather River Canyon route to the Sacramento Valley to Roseville then on to Truckee. We are very proud of the newly painted WP-inspired silver and orange scheme on many of the pieces. Members Steve Habeck, Rod McClure, Doug Morgan, Hank Stiles and Norm Holmes have worked relentlessly this summer preparing for the trip. This event has certainly been the highlight of our year and the restoration work to these 13 pieces of equipment has certainly enhanced the attractiveness of the Museum presentation.

You will soon receive the next edition of the "Headlight". Frank Brehm, Tom Anderson and their crew have been working diligently to recover from the problems that resulted in some missed issues. Your Board of Director's recently amended the "Headlight" budget providing additional funds for improved graphics and publication needs.

A special thank you goes out to a few people who have gone out of their way to see that the Museum is presentable and viewed in a positive and constructive way by our visitors. I'm sure I have missed some people who have contributed equally. Please send me a note about those I have missed and we will recognize them in future issues.

Thank you for that little extra effort to: Kenny Roller who re-painted all the tables in the Beanery at the start of the year. To Linda Brimmer who replaced all of our signal flags and who with her husband, Pat, recovered all the tables in the Beanery. To Eugene Vicknair who has spent hundreds of hours of personal time with designs for the Museum Master Plan, designing signs for our display equipment and designing marketing and advertising tickets for the Truckee Railroad Days event.

These people and many other volunteers symbolize how we get things done in the FRRS.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The November Board Meeting for the FRRS will be held in Sacramento, CA. All interested members are invited to attend.

When: November 3, 2001. 3:00 PM - 5:30 PM.

Where: The Stanford Gallery of the California State Railroad Museum, located in the Big 4 Building at 111 "I" St., right next to the Railroad Museum Building building.

Map:

Saturday, Nov. 3, 2001

3:00 PM * Board Meeting

Questions Call
(530) 832-4131 or (530) 832-1657

CSRM Turntable

Discovery Museum



CSRM Main Entrance

Stanford Gallery

Sacramento River

I-5 and Amtrack Station