Issue 166 - Fall 2014 The Train Sheet

Spansion Inc. Donates Two Computers to FRRS
—Paul Finnegan, Member / Volunteer

Three members of the Operating Department recently teamed up to arrange the donation of two desktop computers, two LCD monitors and a computer desk from Spansion Inc. of Sunnyvale California. On a recent visit to the museum, Student Brakeman Terry Maloney noted the age and condition of the computers in the Operating Department office. Terry arranged with Spansion to donate replacement computers to the society from its surplus equipment inventory. The Spansion IT Department then wiped the computers' disk drives so the computers could be donated. Paul Finnegan got involved to sort through Spansion's surplus equipment collection to find working monitors, keyboards, mice and the appropriate cables.

Since the computers were now without an operating system, Kenneth Finnegan volunteered to configure and load legal copies of operating systems, web browsers, and word processors on the computers. He also made sure all the hardware, software and networking were working together properly.

On the weekend of July 26th Terry brought the monitors and Paul and Kenneth brought the computers and assorted accessories to the museum. The team set up the systems and they came on-line on the first try. The team then realized there wasn't space for both of the computers in the Operations Office, so Paul arranged to have Spansion also donate an Engineering Workstation table that would be used with one of the computers in the board room. On August 8th, Kenneth and Paul brought the table up to the museum and installed the second computer in the board room. Matt Elems then joined the team and got networking to the board room working so volunteers can now check their email and browse the web from either room.

As a result of the efforts of these four volunteers, there are now two additional resources for the volunteers to use while on

property at the museum. We demonstrated again, when working together as a team, we can accomplish things at the museum in the spirit of the Willing People*.

*In the 1960's, the Western Pacific Marketing Department in San Francisco embarked on an advertising campaign, nicknaming their employees spirit the "Willing People".



Kenneth Finnegan, Terry Maloney, and Paul Finnegan in the Operating Department office with the newly donated computers. One of these computers now resides in the Board Room. Both feature internet access for volunteer use.

-Matt Elems Photo

Around the Museum



WP GP7 707 warms up during mechanical work to resolve leaking radiator feed hoses on the days leading up to Railroad Days 2014. WP707 was repaired in time for use on caboose train for the annual Railroad Days celebration.

-Matt Elems Photo