

FEATHER RIVER RAIL SOCIETY AGENDA REPORT

DATE: April 28, 2003
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Thom Anderson, WPRRHS Admin
MEETING: May 3, 2003
ITEM: Historical Society Report for May 2003
SUBJECT: Recent Events

The WPRRHS annual convention was held at the Oakland Airport Holiday Inn on April 11-12. Over 100 people attended, and 88 of those people attended the banquet on Saturday evening to hear Harold Meeker speak about his experiences working for the WP, and view a film by Virgil Staff covering the WP Eastern Division in the 1970s.

Other presentations included various WP and related Bay Area subjects by Vic Neves, Dunston Fish, Thom Anderson, Dave Pires, Don Olsen, Ernie Von Ibsch, Drew Jacksich, John McCormick, Bob Heywood, Tom Lawler, John Walker, Tony Thompson, Seth Neumann, Dudley Westler, and Evan Werkema. Several railroaders dealers were present, along with the PRM gift shop to sell items to the attendees.

It appears that a good time was had by all the attendees. This would not have been possible without the efforts of Vic Neves, Barbara Holmes, Steve and Norma Hayes, and Bob and Lois Mersereau. These individuals performed a lot of the behind the scenes work that is necessary for an event like this, and I would like to commend them for their efforts. It was also gratifying to note President McClure, Vice-President Brehm, and Directors McClure, Cochran, Habeck, Holmes, Stiles and Vicknair being present this year, some of whom were attending their first WPRRHS convention.

I have not received a final financial statement from the convention at this time, but anticipate it being available at the June Board meeting. The past conventions have generated a modest profit (something in the \$500.-\$1,000. range), and I anticipate a similar situation again.

An informal meeting was held during the convention with President McClure, Vice-President Brehm, Headlight Editor Dave Pires, 2004 Convention host Frank

Beavers, Convention Coordinator Steve Hayes, and WPRRHS Administrator Anderson regarding the procedures currently in use by the Historical Society staff during the planning of each convention. The current procedures were determined to be acceptable to all concerned, with the addition of submitting of any contracts, such as site rental to President McClure for legal review prior to signing any contract by the convention host or any other representative of the FRRS or WPRRHS.

Issue #20 of the Headlight magazine has been printed and is in the process of being distributed to members and retailers.

An informal meeting was held during the convention with President McClure, Vice-President Brehm, Headlight Editor Dave Pires, Headlight Production Manager Bruce Petty and WPRRHS Administrator Anderson. Production of the magazine was discussed, and determined that a realistic production goal for the magazine is three issues per calendar year. Deadline dates for submissions and production layout of the magazine (similar to those in place for the Train Sheet) are to be established by Pires and Petty for dissemination to the membership through various mediums including the website and the Train Sheet. This should reduce to a trickle (if not completely eliminate) the oft-repeated question of "where is the Headlight".

An article for the Train Sheet is also to be prepared by Pires, Petty and WPRRHS Administrator Anderson outlining just what is involved to create an issue of the magazine. Hopefully it will open a few eyes to the fact that it is not as simple a process as some imagine.

Thom Anderson
WPRRHS Administrator