

President's Report

May 2019

Winter is reluctantly releasing its grip on Portola and the Museum, allowing us to get going on lots of work that needs to get done. I don't need to get into detail on the Mechanical work, Steam work, and rubber-tired fleet work that's going on; the other reports cover that quite well. Museum attendance has been quite low, somewhat due to the weather, although we hear that everyone is experiencing low turnouts so far this year. Gas prices certainly aren't helping. Speaking of fuel prices, I will have to bite the bullet and order diesel fuel before we run out. I expect to get that done, and fuel delivered, next week.

I am also working with Fritz Elems to get our fire extinguishers serviced this year. We have let this fall back a bit, and need to get back on track. This will also start happening soon, probably next week. This is a time-consuming and labor-intensive process, but is essential.

I assisted with the Convention this year, hauling the Museum's trailer down to Roseville and McClellan for the show, and hauling it back. Unfortunately, it was just as full coming home as it was going down; we took several boxes of the remaining O-scale stuff from the Bruce Y collection down to the show, but it did not sell, so it all came back. We did do well on sales of books, hats, and T-shirts, as well as the 70th anniversary CZ issue we had available, and other odds and ends, such that we grossed over \$3000 on sales. We also had a few books left over for stock in the WP Store (12 copies of Jeff Asay's book, *The Iron Feather*, and a few copies of all 3 of Janet Dawson's CZ mystery books, with books 2 & 3 signed by the author). We will also be selling the CZ Anniversary issue in the WP Store. The 8 Zephyrettes in attendance at the Convention spent a lot of time at our tables, when they weren't conducting their not-to-be-missed clinics on life on the CZ.

With the income from the Convention, the back rent payment from Wisneski on his Santa Fe diner, and the deposits I made from the WP Store dailies that were accumulating, I expect to be able to get the fire extinguisher servicing done in a timely manner, and order diesel fuel. I have also authorized KC to restock her store with most of the badly-needed items, and told Mechanical to get and/or order parts as necessary to continue the locomotive and vehicle work. Our season is upon us; it's time to get to work!

Steve Habeck