

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

AUGUST 2020

Time moves on, we're still working on several projects even though we're closed to the public. Shop cleaning is still a work in progress. Grounds clean up and fire mitigation is still a priority.

Work continues with the reorganizing of the equipment. We found a stretch of track that was in dire need of attention. So on July 10th switching was halted and track work replaced it. We ended up replacing 12 ties and re-spiking 10 ties and tamping the track for about 50'. With the help of Ethan Doty, Loren Ross, Steve Habeck and David Elems the track was fixed in a timely manner. Thank you gentlemen, job well done. It goes to show that we must be vigilant and if you see something that looks amiss we need to know about it.

Loren Ross and I are formulating a track work schedule for September. Tie replacement on the balloon track will be the focus. We'll be looking for help also. Hopefully the temperatures will be cooler than they have been the last couple of weeks.

Work on the steam engine 165 has continued, new bolts on the boiler front really look good. Roger Stabler, Mike Waters and Bob Sims were present for the work session during the last week of July. Kirk Baer came by Wednesday August 6th and did his usual thorough job of cleaning. Thank you, steam crew for your continuing progress on the 165 project.

Paint removal on the SN 1642 is pretty much complete on the side. Filling the cracks and filling the numerous holes is about three quarters done. That leaves the last end which will need some repairs to the door jam and sill before scraping and filling the cracks. Duane Vander Veen will work on the door and I will try to assist as much as I can. Once that is completed, I will finish putting the primer on. At that time a plan for roof work will be developed. It's not leaking but preventative work will keep the interior dry for another winter and beyond.

WP 705 will be the next item on the paint preparation list. It will get the green and orange paint scheme with the WP on the short hood. I'm hoping it will be easier than the 1503 for preparation but that won't be known till actual cleaning and preparation starts.

I contacted Casey Wilmunder at the Northern California Museum of Transportation July 17th and let him know we will be giving them the burnt WP 646 wooden caboose. When he gets the transportation lined, up we will finish the paper work for the transfer to the NCMT. Then they will move it to its new home in Oroville.

Stay safe and keep well.

Greg Elems