

Historical/Archive Department Report

8/2/2023

Since the museum is open now for the 2023 season, the Historical/Archive Department will reopen on a limited basis as staff is available. (Please contact the archive staff to make arrangements to visit.)

Ethan Doty has been working on the magazine collection and we have purchased 120 magazine boxes for them. Ethan has started an inventory and placing the magazines into the new boxes. .

We have rearranged the Simplot car with some working space and two desks and cleaning up several of the stored items in the car.

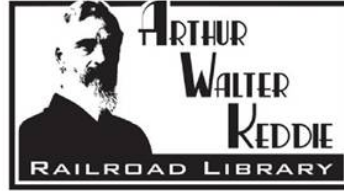
This year we have received several exceptional donations.

Patricia Ellis has donated an original Brass Bell from WP Locomotive #31 along with a photo of locomotive #31 and a Memorial Plaque for her late husband.

Suzanne Delzell Rogers has donated Zephyrette Jane Conner California Zephyr Scrapbook and Memorabilia. This will go with our other CZ collections.

Gary Broeder of Quincy has donated an Enameled Metal Western Pacific sign off a WP Fled Van/Trailer. He indicated this was on a restaurant in San Jose, Ca. that had a WP Caboose and Budd car used for the restaurant.

Tom Hervey has donated 1992 Conductor Seniority Roster and a 1992 Brakeman Seniority Roster to be added to the other seniority rosters that we have in the collection.



Eugene Vicknair was approached by a person that had a locomotive builders plate from the WP Locomotive # 301. After some checking with other members and discussion with the Board of Directors. The society elected to purchase the builder plate for \$500.00 including shipping. Several members stepped up and donated \$100.00 each so that the society only had to pay \$100.00 for it. The funding will come out of the Archive Department budget.

Thank you to the following members for their donations:

Matt Shuman	\$100.00
Greg Elems	\$100.00
Eugene Vicknair	\$100.00
Kerry Cochran	\$100.00

Since I have been working on the train crew when I am at the museum, I have not had a chance to tend to some other projects that I expected to get to early this year. Hopefully I will have some time later in the summer to make more progress on some of those projects.

We have been making more improvements to the H/A webpages and are bringing a new level of access to some of the collections donated to the society by our members, railroad employees and the general public. This is just a start as to what we envision on releasing to our members and public. Please understand this is a "Work in Progress" and several collections have not been inventoried or processed as of yet.

Each month we release new materials to the archives pages. Please be on the lookout for these new items. The new material is announced in the Latest Museum News column on the website. The updates contain several different aspects of our collection and modeling items and I hope that we can continue to add to the photo albums that we have been working on.



If you have not visited the Historical/Archive Department web page recently, please consider looking at them to see “What’s New” in the Western Pacific Documents page.

https://wplives.org/wphistory_wp_documents.html

Members and the general public mostly contact us through our website using the Info@wplives.org or Historical_Archive_dept@wplives.org, when asking questions. Emails sent to these are directed to a mailing list so that they can be addressed.

As I point out in each of my reports every month, we still need some donation help with the materials needed to keep the archives moving forward and protecting them.

Needs for the Archives:

We are always looking for help in getting materials properly stored and we need the support of the membership with helping supply storage materials for the archives.

We still need help in getting funding and storage materials for the archive department. Should you be able to help out, please let us know!

Should any member receive any donation and/or get an inquiry about a donation, please get in touch with one of the archive staff or archive committee to make sure we properly address the donation or inquiry.

Thank you to all the members of the FRRS/WPRM who contribute to the society and the archives.

Kerry Cochran
Director/General Superintendent/Archive Manager