

fun to work with and he is a good teacher. So, come up and help and learn.

Now I would like to talk to all of you about our collection. I started to do this in the last report but due to a technical problem with my computer, only part of it was sent to the editor and my article ended in mid-thought.

We have a large collection of equipment at P.R.M. It represents many railroads. Webster's Dictionary defines a museum as "an institution devoted to the procurement, care and display of objects of lasting interest or value." We have done a good job procuring railroad equipment, however, we have not done such a good job caring for it. As it stands now, we have a collection so large we cannot care for it the way we should. If we are to live up to our responsibilities as a museum, we owe it to everyone's kids to take care of our collection in a way that will preserve it for future generations. We do not have the resources in money or manpower to properly care for our equipment. We need professional and long range plans.

I believe, and I think you will agree, we cannot save railroading all by ourselves. We need to decide what is important to us as a museum. I do not want us in 20 years to be in the position of equipment falling down around our heads because of neglect on our part. I would like to have the resources to completely restore everything we have, but I don't see that happening at this point unless we can find a way to come up with money and manpower. I think the responsible thing to do is reduce our collection to what is important to us

and let someone else take care of the rest. I would like to keep most of what we have but know we have to be realistic. This is the big question facing us now.

What will we do to see that our museum and its equipment go on for many, many years?

I would like to hear from all of you on this subject. Please see me at the museum or get in touch with me on the phone or E-mail me with your comments. My phone number is (916)363-8572 and my E-mail address is 103344.2501@compuserve.com.

Thank you for your time...

Hank Stiles

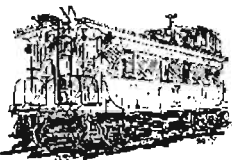
Chief Mechanical Officer

A SPECIAL MAINTENANCE DAY

Several volunteers who regularly work on diesel maintenance projects at the California State Railroad Museum wanted to visit our museum and help us with some of our maintenance work. On August 8, Dick Hulbert, Ben Hale, Paul Sanger, Norm Clark, Al Onodera and Frank Fuson came up from the Sacramento area, Howard Wise and George Childs, members of Pacific Locomotive Association, came up from the Bay Area. Work included solving a troublesome electrical problem on SP 2873 and found the reason the bell took so long to stop ringing after the valve was turned off. (A check valve was installed the wrong way). A replacement air compressor was installed in WP 2001 and the cylinder head was

replaced on WP 608 to determine the cause of the water leak. (Problem not found). Howard Wise became very interested in our Ingersoll-Rand unit and wants to design a new electrical system to replace the missing parts. To keep the mechanics working, Ed Powell, Norm Holmes and Doug Morgan were kept busy supplying parts and tools. On Saturday evening an impromptu potluck bar-be-cue was held at Tom Graham's home. The Beanery provided lunches Saturday and Sunday for the crew. We are very grateful for these friends and their wives who spent a weekend helping our museum. We hope they will return.

—*Norm Holmes*



Courtesy John Ryzkowski

CABOOSING BY HAP MANIT

Some activities at the museum...

July 2-3 Jack Palmer, Kerry Cochran working on the Shower Car.

July 2-3 Tom Graham, Jeff Palmer clean out box car for storage.

July 7-10, 15-16 Ken Iverson electrical in Shower Car.

July 29 Doug Morgan, Meg Evans cut trees near the balloon track.

August 1 Peter Lyman and nephew David worked on engines.

August 7 Eugene Vicknair cleaned up work shop areas.

August 8 Skip Englert helped make video of museum.

August 12 Ken Iverson hauled gravel for ballast.

August 12 Skip Englert repainted entrance sign.

August 13 Don Borden pressure washed engines, cabooses.

August 14 Norm Holmes painted picnic tables.

—DONATIONS FOR THE ARCHIVES—

Dottie Aten donated two boxes of model and rail magazines, Danny Turner gave us two WP caboose stoves, Bob Mead brought up an old typewriter from WP's 25th Street yard in San Francisco and several boxes of timetables, forms etc., Robert Morris gave us two kerosene lanterns, John Krause donated a steam era tallow pot and lantern and Art Lloyd sent a number of WP steam negatives from the Louis Stein collection.

—DONATIONS TO THE GENERAL FUND—

Steve Paluso, Walter Whitman, Paul Lucia, Leo Prescott, Will Raymond, Ralph Shafer, Chuck Holland, Bob Carr, Richard Hunt, Warren Gilleran, Vincent Sanders, Mike Brodersen, Gilbert Rogers, Jim Folsom, Rick Stafford, Dave Taleosian, Richard Newman. We thank all for their generosity in helping our museum.

