

## Operating Department

By Jim Gidley

We kicked off the Operating Season on a positive note this year with 17 members taking the rules exam. This is an open book test, which all Operating Department Members must take and pass annually to qualify for service. Initial crew training for the year occurred on April 29 and May 7. Crew training and safety meetings are ongoing throughout the operating season. Those taking the test included Andy Anderson, John Hittner, Don Nelson, Norman Holmes, Jack Palmer, Bob Carr, Tom Miller, Ken Iverson, Ken Roller, Kerry Cochran, Ed Wagner, Tom Graham, Melissa McGrath, Judy McGrath, Jim Gidley, John Walker, and Eddie Chase.

A warm welcome is extended to our six new operating department crew members, Rick Edwards of Elk Grove, CA, Mary and Robert Salling of Sparks, NV, Bob Kane of Nevada City, CA as well as Tom and Matthew Parra from Sacramento, CA. We invite all members to visit us this year and participate in the many activities which will be occurring throughout the season.

## FRRS Discussion Forum

By Frank Brehm

In an effort to afford better communications between members of the FRRS a discussion forum has been created on the Internet. This forum is open to all FRRS members on the eGroups site, formally known as OneList, and you are encouraged to join. This is a restricted group and is open only to FRRS members.

Signing up for the forum is easy and free. I must approve all requests for inclusion on the list and because I check the request against the FRRS membership list I ask that you fill out the member profile so I can have a better idea of who you are. Only I, as moderator, can view the member profiles although your name will appear for other list members to see.

This forum is an unmoderated discussion group put in place for the decimation of information amongst members. Attachments of any kind are not allowed on messages. eGroups offers many features such as a file area to which members can upload files for other members to view/download, the ability to create polls, create databases, a calendar of events in which all members receive advance notice of upcoming activities as well as a chat room for the use of members only. I am hopeful many members will take advantage of this tool so we can stop rumors and also work together to better our society.

I invite you to join this group at <http://www.egroups.com/group/FRRS> and I look forward to bettering our communications.

## FRRS Membership

By Kerry Cochran

To the Members of the FRRS, THANK YOU for joining or renewing your membership in Feather River Rail Society.

As a Feather River Rail Society Member, you make possible many programs and activities at the Portola Railroad Museum and the Feather River Rail Society.

You are invited to participate in the activities of the organization either by helping around the museum, in restoration, maintenance, building and grounds, operating department, or the Western Pacific Railroad Historical Society.

All members are invited to visit the museum at any time, you are always welcome.

Museum Hours are:

March through the end of October, Museum Grounds open Daily 10:00 AM until 7:00 PM, Building is open Daily 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM

Passenger Trains are Operated Weekends and Selected Holidays, Memorial Day through Labor Day weekends, Portola Railroad Days, Railfan Day, and Two Saturday Nights in December for Santa Trains. (Please check the yearly calendar for dates)

Please note that we are in the process of having new membership card and life membership certificates printed, and as soon as they are completed, we will send your card(s) to you.

Should you have any questions, change your address or just need to get in contact with one of the Board of Directors, Supervisors, or Department Heads, please send us a note to FRRS Membership, P.O. Box 608 Portola, Ca. 96122-0608, and you can call us at (530) 832-4131.

For those with email, membership information or questions can be sent to Kerry Cochran, [kc6knt@CompuServe.com](mailto:kc6knt@CompuServe.com)

## 2000 Election Results

By Gary Hall and Tom Graham

The 2000 election process is now complete. Collectively approximately 100 man-hours were contributed in setting up the process, making phone calls, looking for candidates, printing, transportation to the printer and Portola, as well as stuffing the election material for distribution and mailing, counting the ballots and writing the committees report.

The following members and non members assisted with the election process: Pat Brimmer, Don Borden, Beverly Decenso, Tom Graham, Gary Hall, Norman Holmes, Ken and Missy Iverson, Judy, Melissa and William McGrath, Jill Prickett, Art Young.

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## 2000 Election Committee Report

Members returned 311 ballots of which four were disqualified for incorrect form. The following are the results in order of votes received of the FRRS election as tabulated by the committee on May 13, 2000. Jim Murphy, Pat Brimmer, Eugene Vicknair, Norman Holmes, None of the above, Jim Gidley, Steve Habeck, Milissa McGrath, Wayne Monger.

It was noted that overall the election process worked well as evidenced by the strong response. However, continued improvement is needed. Some area's identified for improvements by the committee are:

The need to reduce US Mail time required to send ballots as some took over a month to reach members. Improve/reduce steps required by members to return ballots. Need to correct mailing list to ensure only current members in good standing are sent ballots. Need to refine mailing procedures, remove barcode from return address. The committee noted that a good number of ballots were received with various comments on them and that a fair number of write-in candidates were submitted.

The following items were donated; transportation 1050 miles, phone calls \$10.00, refreshments for crew \$20.00, computer time and office expense \$25.00 for a total of \$55.00. The following items were paid by the Society, Printing \$771.98, Mailing \$394.02, less printing by candidates paying for their own statements \$202.02 for a total cost to the Society of \$963.98.

## Minutes of Past Meetings

May 13, 2000

The meeting of the Feather River Rail Society was called to order at 1100 hours at the Stanford Gallery, Sacramento, CA.

Directors present were: Stiles, Vicknair, Anderson, Brehm, Neves, Morgan. Absent: Wagner, Monger & Englert.

Minutes were approved as mailed. Guests introduced themselves.

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Letter from Orange Empire Railway Museum regarding advertising in our publications. Director Brehm to respond.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Code of Ethics/Policy & Procedure. Chairman Cochran presented, for the Board's perusal, the updated Code of Ethics/Policy & Procedure for FRRS. Action by the Board will be taken at the next meeting.
2. Treasurer's Report. Treasurer Brady, in his report to the Board and others in attendance, gave a budget review, explained investment policies to be followed, the financial goals and the intent to abide by the accounting codes. He stated telephone charges are exorbitant and should be diminished. Advertising is high at this time but should level out within the year. INVESTMENT POLICY MOTION 39-5/2000. The equity portion of the endowment fund will be invested approximately 50% in Janus Funds and 50% in the Fidelity Index Fund. Moved by Director Stiles, second by Director Vicknair. Passed.
3. Credit Cards. Treasurer Brady reported new credit card forms are to be filled out by appropriate personnel and forms returned to Chairman Anderson. Credit cards will be with Bank of America only, all previous cards will be cancelled. Credit cards are not to be used for

## Minutes of Past Meetings

personal expenditures or cash advances. A receipt will be necessary for every charge with an explanation of goods purchased.

4. A & D Committee. no report available.
5. Advertising/Calendar. Director Neves indicated there were possible problems in getting the 2001 calendar published in a timely manner and in the event this were to occur the calendar for the coming year would not be printed. Director Neves was instructed to make this call.
6. Rail Fan Day. An in-depth discussion was held regarding the Rail Fan Day and given that a possible co-event with Truckee-Donner Railroad Assn. could occur; no action was taken. A written proposal from Truckee-Donner Railroad Assn. will be presented at our June Board of Directors meeting. At that time, the Board will decide this matter. Also being discussed, was the possibility of certain FRRS rolling stock to be transported, at no cost to the organization, to Truckee for the purpose of making up a train representing the FRRS to be used, manned and paid for by the Truckee-Domer R.R. Assn. This has been deemed a very real possibility for raising funds for our Museum.
7. By-Laws. Attorney Tom Jacobson was present and met with the Board and other attendees for a protracted period of time during which he outlined and need to update our Bylaws. The Chair of the Bylaws Committee, Kerry Cochran, was present and it was the Board's direction by MOTION 40-5/2000 that Chairman Cochran, his committee and Mr. Jacobson completely RE-DO the Bylaws of FRRS. A new set of Bylaws will be presented to the Board and members in attendance for review and possible acceptance. This meeting will be held at a later date and all members will be notified prior to the meeting. Mr. Jacobson stated the election procedure needs to be stated clearly. He informed the Board that according to California law; permanent appointment of a Director is legal but voting privileges are withheld.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Dunsmir Daylight. Director Morgan reported that the total ticket sales, as of this date, were 110. Advertising will be emphasized more the first part of June.
2. Camp Car. Director Morgan reported that the \$2000 proposal for the Camp Car has been accepted. Director Morgan will proceed with this project.
3. Painting of GP9, 921 and Boxcar. Is being pursued by Director Stiles with the help of other Board members. At this time no definite arrangements have been made but Director Stiles asked for any input from other members and will continue researching this.
4. Silver Hostel Lawsuit. Director Morgan reported that proper papers have been filed and this item is being put on calendar. We are being joined by Gold Coast R.R. Museum in this endeavor.
5. Zephyr Project. Director Vicknair gave an update and the figure of \$22,000 has been donated to date toward restoration of the Silver Hostel. Restoration work has been started.
6. Silver Thrush. After much discussion, regarding the possible acquisition of the Silver Thrush and given that a time limit of May 31 was indicated, Director Vicknair, in concert with the other Board Members is exploring the possible acquisition of funds to enable us to acquire this unit.
7. Both the Tidewater Southern 70 Tonner and 44 Tonner were discussed with no action taken.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Participation in Portola Railroad Days. Chairman Anderson was instructed by the Board to inform the City of Portola that we will participate in the same manner as years past in this event.
2. Headlight Publication. Director Brehm said that problems with the Headlight Issue #17 have been taken care of and it will be out within the month. Issue # 18 has no timeframe for publication at this date.
3. RAL Proposal. A proposal by Yardmaster Steven Habeck was put in motion form; MOTION 41/5-2000. During the period of May 29, 2000 through September 2, 2000 the FRRS guarantee a weekly income of \$200 to R.A.L. instructors who are willing to commit to a minimum of

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