- Roland Bayly reported WP 38008 (Boxcar) sitting in Kaiser Yard in Ontario CA 11/17/05. He also reported WP 13312 (Flat Car) sitting in the One Spot (Car Repair) at W. Colton Yard on 11/28/05. Later that same day he observed a large WP Lettered boxcar but it was too far away to see the number. He also reported WP 38265 (Boxcar) in the W Colton yard on 11/30/2005. He then kicked off December with WP 38156 (Boxcar) in a WB Manifest in Fontana CA on 12/01/05.

- Roland Bayly reported WP 38291 sitting in the Dolores Yard in Long Beach CA on 12/8/05.

- Merrill Thurman reported WP 65623, with UP Herald, sighted in the hole at Lexington, NE on 12/12/05. Later the same day, he saw a WP Boxcar w/large WP Lettering, but reporting marks completely tagged, on the Main at Maxwell, NE. Merrill hit the mother lode on 11/15/05 in the Laramie, WY Yard, on 12/15/05 @ 14:15. He observed the following cars: WP 10291, 10487, 10227, 10239, 10847, 10461, 10804, 10208, & 10449.

- Ed Wagner reported High side gondolas WP 7703 and WP 7718 EB through Niles headed for Altamont pass on 12/15/05.

- Bill Tharp reported seeing WP 7710 (High Side Gondola) at Oakland CA on 12/21/05.

- Biff Byrum reported WP 38195 (Boxcar) spotted at Smurfit-Stone Recycling in Polk, CA on 12/28/05.

- R. Wullich reported WP 1905 (89' Flat) in Oakland CA on 12/31/05. He says Happy New Years!

- Mark Freiberg reported WP 7701 (High side Gondola) in a Herzog Work train in the UP Yard in Oakland CA on 1/1/06.

- Bringing up markers for this edition of the WP sightings column is Merrill Thurman again. He reports WP 12063 eastbound at San Simon, AZ and WP 10207 eastbound at Separ, NM on 1/10/06.

Well that is it for this edition of WP sightings. Without you this column does not work. I thank you again for your contributions and remember our battle cry...WP LIVES!

Mechanical Report
                                        - Hank Stiles, CMO

 I hope the holidays were as joyous for you and your family as they were for me and my family.

As per normal the museum is shut down for the winter. But some work and board of director meetings go on. I am trying to get a little work done so we can use our equipment for some upcoming projects.

Most of what goes on as this time of year is planning for the 2006 season. Many projects face us, repairs to the WP 917, turning the wheels on the WP 512 and repairs to the WP 501 prime mover are but a few of the things that we need to accomplish. Each small job that we finish on our equipment makes it look better and or makes it more reliable and longer lasting and fulfills our commitment to save the history of the Feather River Route. By April the weather will warm up and we can start another season. I have every reason to believe that we will be more successful in 2006 than we were in 2005. Unfortunately we are not blessed with the funds to make many of the repairs and improvements that we would like to. If all 1000 members donated the cost of a cup of coffee a day to the museum, it would add up to about $1250.00 a day and that is $456,250.00 a year. A cup a week adds up to $65,000.00 a year. Think about what that amount of money would mean to our museum. We could paint ten pieces of our equipment even at the low figure. If we all give a little we gain a lot.

A lot of what needs to be done can be accomplished with little money if we had the more people to help share the work. We use most of our help keeping our equipment up and running and keeping the museum doors open. Most people don't understand how much work is involved in running a museum like ours. I know that John Walker puts in about 60 hours per week and then there are the others like Rod Mc Clure, Steve Habeck, Doug Morgan, Ken Iverson and Norm Holmes that put in many hours each week also. There are about 25 others, like myself, that come up on a regular basis that add greatly to the hours being put in to run our museum. I would like to invite all of you to come up to the museum and help out, your help can be used and will be appreciated, no matter what you like to do. Many of you don't live close