



Preserving "THE FEATHER RIVER ROUTE"



The Train Sheet

News from the Feather River Rail Society and the Portola Railroad Museum

ISSUE 128

January/February 2005



- The Train Sheet -

News from the Feather River Rail Society and the Portola Railroad Museum.

Editor – Frank Brehm (916) 212-2547 or email at trainsheet@wplives.org

Contribution Deadlines: Last Day of February, April, June, August, October and December.

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- Portola Railroad Museum -

P.O. Box 608
Portola, CA 96122-0608

Museum: (530) 832-4131
Fax: (530) 832-1854

The museum grounds are open to the public from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. daily the first Saturday in March through the first Monday of November. The museum building is open from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. daily. Train operations begin the last Saturday of May and continue through the first Monday of September. The museum grounds are closed to the public from the first Tuesday of November through the first Friday of March except for special events in which arrangements have been made in advance. If you wish to visit during the closed period it is advisable to call in advance and find out if the museum grounds will be open.

Entrance to the museum is free, although a suggested donation of \$5.00 is greatly appreciated.

The Feather River Rail Society, a tax-exempt public benefit California corporation, is the historical society for the Western Pacific Railroad and operator of the Portola Railroad Museum in Portola, California.

The FRRS is not associated with the Union Pacific Railroad.

FRRS Tax ID number is 68-0002774
Member of the Association of Railway Museums and the Tourist Railway Association, Inc.

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Cover Photo: E9 951 blasts uphill over Donner Summit on the way to Truckee in 2003. Yes the traveling season for the museum equipment is about to open again.

Photo by Gail McClure

Back Cover: Work weekends will also be starting soon. Track work is just one of the many projects planned this year.

Photo by Gail McClure

Web Pages of Interest

Feather River Rail Society (Official Site) www.wplives.org

CZ Virtual Museum	calzephyr.railfan.net
Tidewater Southern	www.tidewatersouthern.com
WPRRHS	www.wprrhs.org
SN Page	www.people.virginia.edu/~ggg9y
WP Virtual Museum	wpmuseum.railfan.net
Tidewater Southern	www5.pair.com/rattene/WP/TideIndex.htm
Western Pacific	www.wplives.com

- FRRS Membership -

<i>Yearly Dues</i>		<i>Single Life Membership</i>		<i>Family Life Membership</i>	
Associate	\$20.00	Birth-17 years of age	\$1200.00	Birth-17 years of age	\$1800.00
Active	\$40.00	Age 18-39	\$900.00	Age 18-39	\$1350.00
Family	\$60.00	Age 40-61	\$600.00	Age 40-61	\$900.00
Sustaining	\$100.00	Age 62 and above	\$300.00	Age 62 and above	\$450.00

These are the dues for the duration of one year, with Life and Family Life being a one-time payment. Five year payment plans are available for life memberships.

Associate memberships do not have a vote, receive The Train Sheet but not the Headlight and are for one person only.

Active memberships receive both The Train Sheet and the Headlight, have voting rights and are for one person only.

Family memberships receive both The Train Sheet and the Headlight, have one vote and include all members of ones immediate family.

Sustaining memberships receive both The Train Sheet and the Headlight, are for a maximum of two persons with one vote each.

Life memberships receive both The Train Sheet and the Headlight, have voting rights and are for one person only for life.

Family Life memberships receive both The Train Sheet and the Headlight, are for a maximum of two people and have two votes (one per member) for life.

Send all applications, renewals and address changes to:

**Feather River Rail Society
Membership Dept.
P.O. Box 608
Portola, CA 96122-0608**

Address changes may also be sent to membership@wplives.org

A Message From the FRRS President

By Rod McClure

We have received some very positive comments on the direction and progress of the FRRS in recent weeks. We are seeing old members renewing their membership for the first time in many years and we are starting to see some new members join us as well. We are proud of this trend and will begin acknowledging new and renewing members in The Train Sheet. However, our membership numbers experienced slow growth for a number of years and I would like to see our membership roster begin to expand at a faster pace. This helps us with dues income, but just as important expansion in the number of available volunteers who make things happen at the Museum. I have been asking for and stressing the importance of financial donations in my last few columns, but it is time to take a different focus: Stressing the need for volunteers and what it takes for even the smallest things we do to happen.

I am talking about everything from bringing the Museum out of winter hibernation to big projects like painting a locomotive or moving a piece of equipment that the organization has acquired. Nearly all of our activities take volunteer participation to make it happen. I know some of you might think that because we have a *paid* Museum Manager, all of the little things get done. You are correct that John addresses many of the mundane chores at our facility: He cleans the bathrooms, answers the phone, works the Gift Shop and handles the RAL reservations. He also talks to our visitors and answers questions from a hundred differ-

ent directions. This alone is a full time job. He also spends time helping us switch cars, fix problems with the building, and a many other items that would fall between the cracks, but are not part of his job duties and responsibilities. John has become an integral part of our team. I know you hate to hear this John, but Thanks from all of us!

However, John's time, in many cases, could be better spent elsewhere. Do you know what it took to move the Tidewater Southern bunk car from Sacramento to Portola? How about the ongoing move of the Silver Lodge? What it takes to build new track? Before anything else, it takes labor – bodies to make calls, work a shovel or spike maul, write letters or coordinate services. Our volunteers make the caboos train work on the weekends, they help service and repair the locomotives and cars, they help build and repair the track. Our volunteers also paint benches, clean windows, sweep the shop, work on our vehicles, and empty the trash cans. We need volunteers to make things happen every-day. I understand that we all have families, jobs and other commitments that take up a good majority of our time, but if you can find one weekend a summer or one day a month, that would go a long way to make more things happen, and at a much quicker pace, at our Museum. We need help this summer with a number of projects, both big and small including the completion of the our new volunteer lounge car and deck. We are going to need to build some new storage tracks this year to accommodate the new equipment we are receiving. We have the materials for both of these projects, but we need the manpower to make them happen.

I am asked repeatedly by members why this or that project has not been started or completed. The answer is the same: Not enough money and/or volunteers to help do it. We are certainly not alone in this situation. All volunteer organizations have these same problems. Can we resolve these obstacles? You bet we can! Come and spend some time with us this year and make a difference at YOUR museum.

OK, enough ranting for this month and updates are in order. The Silver Lodge is enroute to Portola as is GP7 WP 705. Both should arrive by the end of March if all goes well. I was just notified that one of two remaining WP 39 foot steel gondolas is being donated to us by the Union Pacific Railroad for preservation. These cars were very important to the modernization of the WP as they were the first production freight cars the WP bought that were equipped with roller bearings. They were one of the first production roller bearing cars in the US. The SP 1100 is working on the property as our primary engine and is a fantastic locomotive. We have recently received a large donation of items from member Keith Smith in Utah. Because of a rather large amount of snow in December and January (and since we were on the subject, a lack of volunteers), we have not yet unloaded the cars that shipped the items but as soon as we can we will. I hope to have a detailed report on Keith's donations next issue. Special thanks to you, Keith, for watching out for the FRRS and PRM!

By the next issue of The Train Sheet, we should have a majority of the Rio Vista equipment trade as well as WP 165 on the property. Now that the snow is about over, we can bring Magnolia Tower up from Oakland and unload it. This project is going to need some special attention as once it arrives in Portola, we are going to have a short window of time to build the new foundation and begin reassembly of the building to arrest further decay. A site has been picked, but we are going to need at least \$50,000 for the foundation and reassembly. Please contact me if you are interested in assisting with this time critical project.

As you can see, we have a busy year ahead of us. I really look forward to seeing the changes and seeing all of *you* at the Museum! Until next time, WP Lives at Portola!

WP Equipment Sightings

By David Epling

Another Month WP fans and we have good news and bad news, the good news is there are a lot of WP equipment sightings. The bad news is something goofy happened to my E-mail folders and I opened my program only to find the lower 15 folders had been emptied of their contents. Among these folders was the one containing your sightings. Several people replied to my call to have this information re-sent to me. If your sighting is not here, please send them to me again and I'll make sure it makes the next issue. Now for the reports:

Bill Gilbert photographed WP Boxcar 65631 (w/UP Shield) in Roseville on January 14, 2005.

Greg Elems scored with WP 1403, a Centerbam flat that now carries NOKL 728203. Greg says the B end truck still sports the WP mark and number.

Merrill Thurman was the big winner with WP sightings

as his job had him traveling all over the country. He reports the following: WP 12100, A Covered Hopper, heading East on Sherman Hill at 0942 Jan 6, 2005. WP 12063, A Covered Hopper, Sitting at Ave 304 and US 99 on Jan 16, 2005. WP 65679, A Boxcar, sitting at Ave 48 and US 99 on Jan 16, 2005. WP 12100, Second sighting, this time heading west out of Jefferson City MO on Jan 29, 2005. WP 10208, An Open Top Hopper, sitting on a siding at Pryor OK on Jan 29, 2005

Biff Byrum reported WP Boxcar 38143 in a string of cars tied down on the 131 rail near the Rockpile at the Roseville Yard on Feb 18, 2005.

And bringing up the rear of this report are two sightings by myself. First was WP Boxcar 38043 headed east at Alta CA (Donner Pass) on Jan 29, 2005. The final car reported for this report is WP Boxcar 65667 with the UP shield on a Westbound departing Sparks Yard in Sparks NV at 1441 on 2/27/05.

Remember WP fans, the success of this column depends on your sightings...well and to a certain extent the reliability of my computer. I think to avoid loss of info again, I will hand write the information. So for now. remember our battle cry... WP LIVES!

2004 Donation Thanks

The FRRS gets many donations from visitors and members here at the museum every week. These donations, both large and small, are very important to us and we simply could not function without the contributions of these fine folks.

Late last year, we discovered that this very important element of our daily accounting of money wasn't being accurately reported. The information was recorded at the museum and forwarded up the line where it was mistakenly assumed that someone else was forwarding it to Trainsheet Editor Frank Brehm for inclusion into the newsletter. Unfortunately, the information was not passed along to him and the information was never reported so these fine folks did not get the recognition they so well deserve.

We sincerely apologize for our error. To correct this oversight, we dug through all of the daily sales records from 2004, compiled a list of all the donors who made contributions through the gift shop and are printing it here to give proper credit where credit is due. Again, we apologize for the belated recognition, but feel that we owe these members and visitors a hearty **THANK YOU!** for their generosity to the FRRS, Portola Railroad Museum and the Western Pacific Railroad Historical Society.

The following people made Material Donations to the museum and the Archives:

Thom Anderson-CZ Poster from the estate of our late friend Pete Solyom.

Richard Kirker of Oklahoma-HO models.

Fred Smith of Oregon-HO locomotives and cars.

Virgil Staff-Several boxes of old WP records.

Marylyn and Glen Mangham-Pictures and Prints.

T.E. Mooney of Fort Bragg-Pictures and a Map.

Jan and George Breitwieser of Portola-Paper Shredder and Digital Camera.

Howard Hansen of Portola-Wood Burning Stove

The following people made Monetary Donations to various projects and the General Fund:

France Family of Utah-\$500.00
Julia Flanery-\$96.00
David Colbert-\$20.00
Ken Fletcher of L.A.-\$105.00
Carl Motycka-\$2,268.56
Grant Vogel-\$20.00
Donald Saiger of Bodega Bay-\$25.00
C. Jenkins of Novato-\$25.00
Jim Stewart of Blackhawk S.D.-\$200.00
Don Nelson of Eureka-\$500.00
Ken Noren-\$500.00
Warren Richards-\$500.00
Dave Tateosian-\$40.00
Norman Holmes-\$25.00
David Wilson-\$100.00
Derek Anderson of Lake Almanor-\$100.00
Rod & Gail McClure-\$100.00
Phil and Joann Guidera-\$40.00
James Ramlich-\$300.00
Greg Elems of Reno-\$300.00
Ben and Susan Barnes-\$50.00
Andy Petersen of Portland, OR-\$500.00
Sally Thomas-\$30.00
W. Rose-\$25.00
Dan Crews of Doyle, CA-\$50.00

We would also like to welcome new Life Members:

Robert Diehl of Fremont and Mr. Richard Johnson

We sincerely **THANK** all of you and apologize again if we missed anyone. We promise to try and get this right during 2005. We thank you for your patience and understanding.

FRRS Fundraising Campaign 2005

By Gail McClure

On behalf of the Board of Directors, a special thank you goes out to the following members who have so generously donated to our recent mail out fundraiser:

Donald P. Griffith, Mike Flaherty, Dr. Michael C. Andrews, Barbara A. Flannery, Ron Mack, Robert Burns, Jon & Lynne Haman, David Edwards, Erik Frodsham, Bill & Barbara Holmes, Stephen & Linda Lowens, Ronald & Pamela Kaiser, Lloyd & Jane Cornell, Art Grassi, Gary T. Lower, Dwight Teague, Jim Kramlich, Robert J. Hall, Charles H. Givens, Robert Morrey, Marshall & Marlene Hall, R. Douglas Thorman, Clifford & Patricia Dawley, Loren Ross, William & Betty Stanaland, Larry Galetti, Steve VanDenburgh, Craig & Marissa Walker, Jay & Julie Sarno, Ken & Lolita Falconer, Thomas Mitchell, Thomas & Marcella Phillips, Bill & Laura Parker, Jonathan & Charlotte Reynolds, Casey McCord, David Trusse, Ken & Terrie Noren, Richard Severance, Henry Bergen, Dr. David Edwards.

Due to your willingness to give, we have raised nearly \$5,000! This is enough to paint and letter one or two boxcars, or one caboose. It represents 10% of the estimated cost to reassemble/restore Magnolia Tower or approximately 20% of a cosmetic restoration for a locomotive. It will cover 50% of the anticipated

cost for a crane to load the WP 165 on flat cars for transport from Niles Canyon to our Museum.

It is not too late to donate to your Society! The above list of contributors accounts for less than 5% of our total membership – think about what we could do if every member would participate. Your financial gift will help enable us to continue our work in preserving the Western Pacific and educate the public regarding this unique fallen flag. You can return the fundraising mailer with your donation or pledge, or you may donate by calling your gift shop, sending a check or credit card payment request by mail (be sure to indicate “2005 Fundraiser Campaign” on your envelope), or by going on line at www.WPLives.org (click on the Membership Information link at the center of the page, then the donation link on the left column – make sure to note in the Comment Field “2005 Fundraiser Campaign”).

Don't forget our great drawing prizes including Napa Dinner Train tickets for two and a signed copy of “Portrait of a Silver Lady”. You will receive ticket for each \$100 donation with no limit on the number of tickets you can receive. All donations earmarked for this campaign and received prior to June 2005 will qualify. Please see fundraising mailer for details.

WP LIVES IN PORTOLA, CA!

View From the Crummy

by Gail McClure

Imagination

Definition: The ability to confront and deal with reality by using the creative power of the mind.

As Rod and I traveled down I-5 toward our first Museum stop of the day, my mind drifted to a conversation I had with a fellow Board member a few weeks before about three dreams I have for our organization.

Those dreams, in no particular order, are to obtain the equipment necessary to run a representative California Zephyr train set with all equipment under our ownership (i.e. – I want to see The Zephyr Project near fruition), have all five remaining WP steam locomotives under our care in Portola, and to have the four final freight Fs, “The Fab Four”, as centerpieces to our collection.

Is it likely this will ever happen, let alone in my lifetime? Highly, highly doubtful. Does that keep me from dreaming and talking about it? Not in a heartbeat.

You see, it is the human imagination and our dreams that keep us alive and fosters growth, on an individual basis as well as on an organizational one. It was the imagination of a small group of forward thinking pioneers who, fueled by determination, created the Feather River Rail Society for the purposes of preserving the Western Pacific Railroad. People told them “It won't work” or “You'll never be able to make that happen”. But they did. Their imaginations created a dream and they chose to develop that dream rather than listen to the naysayers.

Our organization is well beyond where many others have been at this time in their lifespan. Why? Because of the creative imagination, unbridled dreams, and hard work of its members. We have a master plan that incorporates incredible vision and well thought-out use of the limited land resources we have available (A big thank you to our Site Committee Members!). The

response we have had from much larger and longer standing Museums upon review of this document has been overwhelmingly positive. We have just acquired our second CZ car, the Silver Lodge and are working on opportunities for two to three more. We have our first WP steam locomotive. And in the words of the representatives of other organizations, we have "one of the finest and most focused collections of equipment representing one railroad in the country" as well as "a switcher collection to die for". And to think this was the result of imagination run amok!

Who knows where our imaginations will take us? The acquisition of land for an excursion line, albeit a short one, would be fabulous. Dinner trains, anyone? The WP Portola hospital restored to provide a library and climate controlled archive, 150 seat amphitheater, offices and meeting rooms, interpretive wing regarding the role railroad hospitals played in rural communities as well as the development of industrial medicine, and a viewing platform overlooking the UP mainline and Portola yard for the foamer in us all would be incredible. A replica roundhouse in the center of the balloon track patterned after the Winnemucca roundhouse complete with the turntable from Oroville, which we already own, is planned. The list goes on and on...

Dare to dream and choose to share! Even if the ideas spawned by your imagination are so wild they are beyond reach, they may lead to others that are genius and obtainable. The Wright Brothers were told flight was impossible, yet they did it. Experts told Howard Hughes that the Spruce Goose would never fly, but she did. The Empire State building was an architectural and engineering miracle for its time. The biggest challenge you can present to a visionary is to say, "It can't be done." After all, that's what they told the founders of the Feather River Rail Society about the Portola Railroad Museum...

Your feedback is critical to our success in the direction of the Museum mission and goals. Please contact me at 2.cents.worth@charter.net. I'll see that your commentary is forwarded to the appropriate member of the Board of Directors or Department Head for response.

CMO Report

By Hank Stiles

As I sit here and look out my office window, spring is in the air here in the valley and the neighbor's plum trees are a riot of pink flowers. Petals are wafting on the wind and into my pool. I guess everything has its drawbacks. On the positive side that means that winter is on its way slowly towards spring in Portola.

There is a lot to do in all departments at the museum. In the Mechanical Department we will have our hands full. We have locomotives to put in service for the rental program and maintenance to do on the caboose train. Radiators leaks and electrical problems on the "B" unit need to be addressed. When all the equipment from Rio Vista arrives at the museum, the WP 917 gets the focus of our efforts so we can get it in service. When the WP 917 is ready to go in service the WP 921-D will be taken out of service and backed shopped for heavy repairs. In the mean time work can be finish on the WP 512. When all this is done there is work to finish on the WP 501 and we also want to put the WP 731 in service.

I think that this aggressive agenda in the mechanical

department will eliminate the need to worry about having any spare time. In fact it is beyond our wildest hopes to accomplish much without you, the members. Your support, both with your volunteering at the museum and your financial support of the museum is needed and appreciated. If a dozen of you came up and volunteered just once or twice each season and half of the wife's and husbands were to come along to help out this would be a shot in the arm for our efforts to preserve the rich history of the Western Pacific. There are jobs to fit everyone's abilities. You can work in the gift shop, on restorations, repairing all kinds of equipment, upgrading the facilities or being a conductor or an engineer. Please look at your calendar and see if you can make the time to come up and help out.

I want to say thank you to all those of you that have volunteered at the museum in the last 22 years. You are the people that make it work, you should be proud of yourself. You have made it possible for the Portola Railroad Museum to excel in the museum community.

We always have a good time at the museum. At night we get together and socialize with one another. This summer our new volunteer lounge will be finished, with cooking and eating facilities, a lounging area with VCR, DVD players and comfortable furniture. I don't know about you but I always enjoy getting together with friends to watch movies or train videos and to cooking and enjoying a nice supper.

Please call me at (916) 363-8572 or e-mail me at flatiron@calweb.com if you have any questions or you would like to be part of the exciting things happening at the Portola Railroad Museum. Thanks for your time.

Railfan Photographers Day 2005

The Portola Railroad Museum is pleased to announce the return of its Railfan Photographer's Day!

Join us on Saturday, May 21, 2005 for this special day devoted to recreating period railroading from the 1950's and 60's. Railfan Day opens at 10:00 AM and runs until 10:00 PM or when the final photo session ends.

The PRM will be operating vintage trains of authentic equipment for viewing and photography. There will also be static displays, railroadiana vendors, slide shows and a special night photo shoot hosted by Winterail's Vic Neves. Other special events to be announced in the coming months!

Tickets are \$20 per person for all day admission. Our \$30 combo ticket includes BBQ lunch and dinner at the museum. Meals will also be available separately: \$5 lunch and \$8 for dinner.

Tickets are available at the gate, in our Gift Shop or order by phone at 530.832.4131 or on-line at www.WPLives.org. ~~Mark your calendar~~ and plan on attending this unique event!

WP Lives in Portola, CA!

Feather River Rail Society - Portola Railroad Museum
700 Western Pacific Way, Portola, California 96122
ph: 530.832.4131 - web: www.WPLives.org

Scheduled events are subject to change.

Operating Department News for the Upcoming Season

Calling all Members, Calling all Crews

The 2005 operating season is just around the corner. With this in mind, Crew Training weekend is coming up soon.

I would like to invite members of the Feather River Rail Society to join the members of the Operating Department on Saturday April 30th and Sunday May 1st, 2005 for our Annual Crew Training.

As in the past the Portola Railroad Museum needs its members help for this years operating season.

New Members and Members, who are not in the Operating Department, are welcome to join us. The Operating Department is always looking for new crewmembers, so think about joining us.

Crew Training will be held on one weekend this year. Saturday and Sunday starting at 9 AM each day, lasting until approximately 4 PM. (at least one hour break for lunch)

On Saturday night April 30th, a dinner will be provided by the museum, staffed by Gail McClure and her cooking staff. The dinner will be along the lines of an Italian style menu with all the fixings.

You only need to attend one of the two days. You are **not** required to attend both days. Classroom and Rules test will be conducted on both days and each day is identical.

I would encourage all members to attend and learn all the changes that have taken place since last year.

Should you not be able to attend the training days in April/May, The mandatory rules test can be provided through the year.

Requirements:

18 years of age (16 years of age for junior members with a sponsor).

Active membership or above.

Leather gloves.

Leather footwear that protects the ankles.

Please visit the FRRS WEB site at www.wplives.org and use the link to visit the crew pages hosted by Crew Caller, Paul Finnegan.

Attention all Locomotive Engineers.

Due to ever changing requirements in the Operating Museum arena, the operating department will be changing some practices for locomotive engineers this year.

During Crew Training on Saturday April 30th and Sunday May 1st, I will be discussing the Certification of Locomotive Engineers.

The purpose of this is to ensure that only qualified persons operate a locomotive or train. These new requirements, set standards for the eligibility, training, testing certification and monitoring of all locomotive engineers.

I would encourage all current qualified Portola Railroad Museum engineers to attend and learn about the changes that have taken place and what will be required of them starting this year.

Railfan Day 2005

The Portola Railroad Museum has decided to return the Railfan Day event in 2005.

As in the past it will take the operating department help to make this event successful.

The date for the event has been moved to Saturday May 21st, 2005. This will involve some prior yard switching before the event.

We need to have a minimum of one full crew (engineer, fireman, conductor and brakeman) and one supervisor on Saturday May 21st to operate trains for the event.

All operating department members please consider joining the FRRS for this event.

Lodging at the Museum

The Portola Railroad Museum provides sleeping/lodging facilities for its working crew during the year.

Weather you work on facilities, in the mechanical department, the operating department or any other area, the museum has lodging and restroom/shower facilities for its members.

Most of the time the lodging facilities are open to use without much notification, however during the peak-operating season (May thru September) reservations are required.

This requirement has been in place for about four years and prevents members from arriving at the museum and finding no room or wakening another member up in the middle of the night when they arrive late in the evening.

During the peak operation season, reservations can be made by contacting the Superintendent of Operations and/or checking the posted reservation sheet in the operating office for a vacant space in the sleeping car.

Advanced calls to the museum manager are also helpful to members so he can check the reservations sheet prior to your arrival.

As in the past the reservation sheets will be available starting on the crew-training weekend Saturday April 30th and Sunday May 1st.

As always restroom and shower facilities are open to all member at any time during museum operating hours.

Should you have any questions on the Operating Department or the crew training please contact me. Email KC6KNT@covad.net, Home telephone (650) 952-7127; Fax (650) 588-5490 or you can write me at P.O. Box 911. San Bruno, Ca. 94066-0911.

Kerry Cochran
Superintendent of Operations

Portola Railroad Museum
(530) 832-4131

Promoting the FRRS Away From the Museum



Right: Pat and Linda Brimmer manned booth promoting the Run-a-Locomotive program and the FRRS at the recent Hostlers Festival.

Below: There was a large turnout for this years festival.

Photos supplied by Pat Brimmer.

By Pat Brimmer

The Hostler's Festival is a major model RR show and has been going on for at least 10 years. It is sponsored by the Hostler's Model RR Club and is held at the Union Station in Ogden in the early spring of each year. Average attendance for the show which runs from 5-9 on Friday, 9-6 on Saturday and 9-4 on Sunday is between 5,000 and 6,000. Saturday night at the banquet, they announced almost 3,600 people through the gate.

They had to give up one large room this year due to a scheduling conflict and so lost some vendors and model layouts. I counted about 10 different layouts. Most were modular but some were stand alone. Every scale was represented from Z to G. Lots of vendors selling everything from models to tools to railroad memorabilia. Union station itself has a large HO model rr layout behind glass in a long zigzag hallway representing UP railroading in northern Utah. Also at Union Station is a wonderful classic car exhibit and a huge exhibit of Browning

firearms on the second floor (both free with admission to model rr show).

Outside they have several locomotives and cars on display. Usually, they will not let you climb on the equipment but this year they did open up a few cabs. They did open a refurbished Troop Hospital Car and a refurbished RPO car. Both were nicely restored and interesting to visit. They also have a SAC car on site like ours. Locomotive's include UP 26, a gas turbine; a gp9, UP 833, a 4-8-4 northern, and an RSD-15 (ex Utah Railway, exx Santa Fe). I researched the history on the RSD-15 to find its Santa Fe number to see if I worked on it in the early 1960's out of Bakersfield. When I found the number and checked my time books, I found that I had not been on that particular locomotive.

You can visit their web site at www.hmrc.org. From there, click on Union Station, then on Utah State RR Museum and at the bottom of that page, click on Eccles Railroad Center to see their equipment.





**Activities, Travel and Weather.
Being a part of the FRRS is a rewarding experience.**





Summary of Recent Board Meetings

Any member in good standing may request a complete copy of the transcript of board meetings from the Society. There is a nominal charge for each copy which covers postage and administrative costs. Full minutes are posted on the FRRSlist hosted by Yahoo Groups.

January 2005 Board Meeting

Motions and Actions Summary

Motions Passed

Consent Motions – Removed from Agenda by Motion 05-01-01. Tabled to February 05.

Minutes – Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held December 4, 2004.

Financial Reports – Approval of the financial reports.

Motions

No motions presented

Actions and Notices

Treasurer Dan Brady advised we look good financially as he reviewed the line item categories. His one caution was to curb spending until further notice due to low income potential usual for this time of year.

President McClure advised the Board that the Rio Vista equipment move is postponed until the weather improves. With over four feet of snow at the Museum and soggy ground at Western Railway Museum, it may be some time before we can move forward. The movement of WP 165 is also on hold due to heavy snow in Portola.

Effective January 1, 2005 Charlie Spikes has been appointed as the new Facilities Manager.

Morton Thiokol has made a generous donation includes industrial shelving, a Unimog with many specialized repair tools, parts and manuals, air conditioning unit, chairs, and many other useful items.

Closed Session

Director McClure reported out of closed session that the Board of Directors received a report regarding two ongoing business items of a proprietary nature. No reportable action was taken. The Board also received information regarding ongoing legal issues. Consensus direction was given to the President. No reportable action was taken.

February 2005 Board Meeting

Motions and Actions Summary

PRESERVING “THE FEATHER RIVER ROUTE”

WP Lives, in Portola!

Mission Statement

The mission of the Feather River Rail Society is to preserve the history of the Western Pacific Railroad. The secondary mission is to preserve the history of the subsidiary and interchange railroads within the territories it served.

Mission Goals

To preserve and interpret the history of the WP, the “Willing People” as a vital link in the development of the rail industry on the West Coast, including the steam and diesel evolution, WP’s influence in the passenger tourism industry, the impact of freight competition between neighboring railroads. WP’s influence in the lumber, mining and agriculture industry from Plumas County throughout California, Nevada and Utah

ISSUE 128

Motions Passed

Consent Motions – approved

Minutes – Approval of the minutes of the regular meetings held December 4, 2004 and January 8, 2005.

Financial Reports – Financial reports tabled until April 2005 Meeting.

Motions

No regular business motions presented

Actions and Notices

President McClure advised that there has been little forward progress with regard to the equipment move due primarily to inclement weather, both in Portola and at Rio Vista.

President McClure reported an official request from the Shasta Cascade Rail Preservation Society to participate in the Dunsmuir Railroad Days event July 8-10, 2005.

The purchase of the Silver Lodge is complete. Necessary repairs for movement are to be completed by either on-site personnel or by FRRS personnel shortly.

The WPRRHS Convention is scheduled for April 15-16th, 2005 at the Tracy, CA Holiday Inn.

Ed Wagner, Election Committee Chairman reported as of the deadline, there were four declared candidates for this year’s election: Frank Brehm, Doug Morgan, Matt Parker and Hank Stiles.

Closed Session

Added under Motion 02-05-03 – Addition of item of urgency regarding an income opportunity which arose after publication of the agenda and which is of a proprietary nature. Motion made by Director Stiles, seconded by Director Cochran. All Directors present voted in favor – Motion carried

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 2:45 pm and reconvened to open session at 3:30 pm. Alan Turner, legal counsel, reported the following:

Board heard information regarding the legal matter of the FRRS vs. Kasten and ITAC, as to the negotiations for settlement from counsel and the President. Consensus direction was given to counsel and the President. No reportable action was taken.

A status report was given regarding possible income opportunities in the future. No reportable action.

respectfully submitted by Eugene Vicknair, secretary

Upcoming Events

- April.. Prepare for Operating Season Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM
- 2 Board Meeting - 1 PM Portola
- 2-3 Locomotive Maintenance Clinic, Facilities Work Weekend
- 15-16 WPRRHS Convention - Tracy, CA - Tracy Holiday Inn
- 20 Election Ballots mailed to membership
- 24-May 2 Facilities/Track Work Week
- 30 Train Sheet Deadline
- 30-May 1 Crew Training/Rules Exam
- May.. Prepare for Operating Season Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM
- 8 Mother’s Day
- 14 Board Meeting - 1 PM Portola Appoint Election Tellers
- 14-15 Locomotive Maintenance Clinic, Facilities Work Weekend, Track Work Weekend
- 21-22 Railfan Photographer’s Day
- 27 Ballot Return Deadline – 5 PM
- 28 Operating Season Opens
- 30 Memorial Day

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The Train Sheet
Feather River Rail Society
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