

Museum Web Page Update
Paul Finnegan
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With the coming of the New Year, the Western Pacific Railroad Museum at Portola has an updated web site. We have a new menu system and a collection of new web pages to serve and inform our members and visitors. A few pages have been moved to the dead line; but the overall content has been expanded while keeping the best features of the past. There is a link on the home page (wplives.org) to a presentation showing the new features and highlighting the things that have moved. Find it in the “*Latest Museum News Update*” box.

The biggest change has been to the “Members” pull down menu. Previously it had only a single entry for I-Volunteer. The “Members” menu now has nine new entries. Several are related to general museum events and documentation. Some are focused on the Operating Department activities.

In addition to the new material added, most of the existing pages have been reviewed and updated. For example, our visitors now have an interactive map to help plan their visit which replaced an out-of-date local attraction map. The train schedule has also been updated. The Membership page now shows the 2016 election information. There are many more updates scattered throughout the site.

A new entry under the “About Us” menu, “WPRM Video & Photo Gallery,” is a place where we can keep and share the WPRM/FRRS family photos and videos. If you have a collection of museum-related photos or a video that tells a story about a WPRM/FRRS event, please submit it so we can share it. Submission instructions are on the gallery webpage.

Four new sign-up tools are now on the web site. There is one for volunteering to help at general museum events, such as the Membership Meeting, RR Days or Santa Trains. There is another to sign up for the annual Operating Department Crew Training. A new sign-up tool for the *Extra Board* for working on the train crews has been implemented. The last is an online reservation request system for getting a room in the Endenwold sleeper while working at the museum. The tools are all designed to be easy to use and will help us coordinate activities at the museum.

There are several new web pages to help keep everyone informed and on track at the museum. One page has all the museum policies that have been approved by the board of directors. Another has printable copies of museum forms and documents, such as the General Release form used for RALs. A similar web page has the forms and documents used by the Operating Department. Now everyone will have immediate access to the current version of all the forms we use at the museum. If you use a form that should be, but isn't, on one of those pages, please contact me at webmaster@wplives.org.

A special effort was made to collect all the material used by the Operating Department's annual crew training. It is being reviewed and updated for the spring training classes. It is under the Operating Department's main web page titled “Crew Training Materials.” Additionally, a new video is being added this year to demonstrate the hand signals we use at the museum.

I invite you to visit the web page and explore. I hope you find things that will be useful to you as a member and enticing to potential visitors. If you have suggestions, comments, or questions about the website, please contact me at webmaster@wplives.org.