ISSUE 137 - Nov / Dec 2006 The Train Sheet

STEAM DEPARTMENT REPORT

- Chris Allan, Steam CMO

Thank you to all of you who have donated to the Steam Fund to help get the 165 back up and running, every dollar goes a long way toward our goal! Thanks especially to WPRM members Roger and Gloria Stabler of Woodland who not only came through with their challenge donation, but also added another \$500.00, for a total of \$1500.00 for the cause.

In mid-January 2007 JM Environmental of Granite Bay, California removed the asbestos lagging. John Moore's crew was very professional and worked long hours for three full days on both the WP 165 and the SP 1215. With this task behind us, the boiler shell is being inspected and a determination is being made as to what repairs are required. Upon preliminary inspection at least two or three-dozen flexible staybolts, caps and sleeves are in need of renewal due to corrosion. Ultrasonic testing will take place to determine shell thickness prior to developing the calculations for the FRA Form 4. "As is" condition will be determined and recommendations will be made as to repairs needed. The running gear is in good shape, thanks to being shopped by the WP just prior to retirement. The spring rigging is another matter. Several of the leaf springs are broken either due to wear or rust expansion while sitting next to the San Francisco Bay all those years. These will need to be replaced and many of the pins and hangers will need renewal.

Charlie Spikes, Dana Greeley and myself have been inspecting other parts of the 165, including the cylinder bores, which look as if they are brand new. Charlie also has the steam dome lid nuts broken loose in preparation for pulling the throttle and getting inside the boiler for inspection. Thanks also to Rod McClure who has secured three pallets worth of brand spanking new interlocking firebrick from our friends at GGRM. These will come in handy down the road. Charlie has cleared out the boxcar that will be used for steam storage and has already moved a large quantity of parts and supplies into it. This in itself was no small task, and we are very grateful to Charlie for doing this.

The next task will be removal of the Superheater units, tubes and flues in late July. A complete

cleaning and descaling of the boiler shell interior will follow. So far every indication points to the fact that the WP took good care of, and had pride in their locomotives. Thanks to all those WP people the 165 is still in relatively good overall condition. We have just started, and momentum is building, so please keep those donations rolling in! If you would like to help out with the restoration you can email me: wpsteam@wplives.org Lots of tasks need to be accomplished, at all skill levels, so come up and do your part. Let's return WP steam to Portola!

WP 165 Donors as of December 2006

Chris Allan . Larry Biggs
Don Borden . Pat Brimmer
Tony Burzio . Daniel Haneckow
Dora Johnson . Robert Keller
Michael J. Knight . David Mitchell
Doug Morgan . Michael Newton
Matt Parker and Family . Joe Radetich
Bryce Reynolds . Craig Simmons
Charlie Spikes . Roger Stabler
Christopher Stark . Scott Thomas
Hank Stiles and Janis Petersen
Merrill Thurman . Bruce Veilleux
Ed Wagner . Wood Foundation
Jack Zygner

Memorials

Eugene Vicknair in memory of Jim Boynton
Philip Schmierer in memory of Jim Boynton
and "Dirty" Jack McClure
Rod McClure in memory of "Dirty" Jack McClure

Honorariums

Gail McClure in honor of "J." Edward Parker

For more information, check out the web at steam.wplives.org. You can donate through the PayPal link on the website or send your check to FRRS/WPRM, P.O. Box 608, Portola, CA 96122, Attn: WP 165.

If you would like to donate in memory or in honor of an individual, please be sure to include a brief note as to whom and why you are making this recognition. We would also like to have the address of the individual or surviving family so that your donation may be acknowledged to them as well.