

## 2015 Crew Training Recap

– Rick Gruninger  
WPRM Superintendent of Operations

Our Operations Department Crew Training was very well attended and received this year. My personal heartfelt "Thank You" goes to Kerry Cochran, David Elems, Paul Finnegan and Greg Elems for their positive, professional, and "hands on" assistance and teachings for our Students. It truly was a team accomplishment.

Subjects covered were SAFETY, Organizational structure (FRRS and Operations), Positive Relationships with our Patrons and fellow Volunteers, Train Operations, Hand Signals and, yes, some good solid "hands on" work.

Here is how the numbers broke out:

Overall attendance: 4/11, 4/12, 5/2 (5/3 was annulled)

- 1) 25 total Students. 27 participants.
- 2) ALL 25 Students Passed. With a noticeably higher average test score than in years past!
- 3) 21 of the Students are returning Veterans of our Operations Department.
- 4) 4 attendees are brand new to our Organization & Department.
- 5) 2 Students are Female.
- 6) 3 returning Veterans have returned after a hiatus.

I am very proud to share that the Operations Department is very much alive and well at the WPRM and FRRS. The participants in this year's Operations Training are bright, energetic, and willing to bring the quality of service needed to be a Top Notch leader in our field. Please support them.

It is not too late for additional Members to be part of the Operations Department. There will most likely be one last Training session, potentially in July. Please keep an eye on I-Volunteer and our website calendar for the date.

## Operations Department Updates

– Rick Gruninger  
WPRM Superintendent of Operations

### July 2015

The Operations Department is pleased to announce that:

- Bil "One L" Jackson has successfully been re-qualified as a Qualified Brakeman, Conductor, and Fireman. Bil has worked very diligently at his Operations Qualifications. Please welcome & support Bil in his efforts to make a positive difference for our Museum, its patrons, and Volunteers.
- David Elems has completed his Student Passenger Engineer training with flying colors. He awaits a DSLE check out ride. We are confident that David will proof. (No pressure, David.)
- Kerry, Paul, and I have begun working on clarifying and finalizing Ops Department processes, issues, and items of confusion that have developed over many years.

### August 2015

The WPRM Operating Department is proud to announce that:

- Harvey Duncan has been promoted to Qualified Brakeman. Harvey has worked diligently at his Railroad skills. He has participated in WPRM activities on a regular basis this season. Please Congratulate Harvey on his promotion and job well done.

### September 2015

The WPRM Operations Department is proud to announce that:

- David Elems has been Qualified as a WPRM Passenger Engineer. This is the highest qualification in our Engine Service Program. Hyper-Kudos David! Our Patrons and Crews are well served with you behind the throttle.
- Loren Ross has been officially appointed as Assistant Yardmaster for the WPRM. Loren has all of the skill sets and experience needed to make "The Yard" operate properly, smoothly, & efficiently. Happy to have you on the team, Loren. Welcome!
- David Epling has been Qualified as a WPRM Passenger Engineer. David brings years of positive WPRM experience to the table. We are all in good hands with David at the helm of one of our Locomotives.