



... and then there was LIGHT!

- Paul Finnegan

While at the museum in August, I was sorting boxes of *Headlights* and *Train Sheets* in the container on the loading dock in the dark. Of the four overhead fluorescent lights, only one was reliably working. Kerry Cochran and I tried replacing the bulbs to no avail. The following weekend FRRS member Eric McKay came to the museum to do some work in the Museum Store and he shed some light on the subject.

Eric had installed the lights in the container 12 or 13 years ago and the ballasts had failed. He reports that nowadays you can get direct-wire LED lamps that don't require a ballast. He picked up a case of them and re-wired the fixtures in the container to accommodate them. And then there was light!

He also relocated and added some plugs in the Museum Store and moved the neon California Zephyr sign to the wall behind the counter. He ran a conduit to a location behind the sign and put in a couple of receptacles. One of them is controlled by a switch so we can turn the sign on and off easily.

I extend my thanks to Eric for bringing his expertise and skills to the museum. All of us working together, we can continue to make progress improving our museum.

Museum Store Update

- Eugene Vicknair

Janet Steeper and I have been reviewing and adding new and long out of stock products to the store, including puzzles and coffee mugs depicting Western Pacific scenes, WP Lives bumper stickers, new pins from Sundance Marketing, new styles of hats, railroad themed children's toys and new artisan beverages. We are also exploring several possible custom products that will be exclusive to the WP Store.

Work continues on improvements to the Museum Store itself. With thanks to Duane van der Veen, Bob Sims, Ethan Doty and others, the Z Scale Western Pacific layout has been relocated and returned to service. Also, the beverage cooler and new soda machine counter have been set up and are all in operation. Bob Sims continues to place tinting on the windows and additional product shelving has been assembled by Greg Elems and Tim Steeper.

Most recently, Eric McKay spent several days at the museum working on relocating and upgrading some electrical systems, fixing the exhaust fan system in the side storage room and moving the "California Zephyr" neon sign to its new home over the new sales counter area. In addition, Kerry Cochran and Kenneth and Paul Finnegan installed a system that includes a flat screen for displaying information such as admission costs, caboose train schedules and announcements for our visitors.

Our new On-Line Museum Store is now available to the public. We now have two ways to shop for FRRS/WPRM & WP products! To check it out, please go to shop.WPLives.org.

At the On-Line Museum Store, FRRS members get their member discounts by entering a coupon code and we will check against the current membership roster.

- Associate, Active, Family get 10% - coupon code: FRRSMember10
- Sustaining and Life levels get 15% - coupon code: FRRSMember15