

**2022 Crew Training – Mark Your Calendars***- Loren Ross, Superintendent of Operations*

This year's annual Crew Training sessions will be held on Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup>, and Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>, at 10 AM at the Western Pacific Museum in Portola, CA. The June class will coincide with the annual Members Meeting held that evening, so plan on coming and making a day of it!

As a reminder, Crew Training is mandatory for ALL Operating Department personnel. If you will be unable to attend either of these dates, please notify Operations Superintendent Loren Ross to make other arrangements to achieve annual certification. (OpsSuperRoss@gmail.com) Failure to complete Crew Training will result in suspension from the Operating Department.

Everyone should sign up for the Crew Training on the FRRS website. Once you sign up for the class, you will receive an E-mail with a link to take the annual Rules Exam online. All you need is your Rules Book to take the test. Everyone is required to take this exam. By taking it online, in advance of the class, it will allow the class to cover more material that will satisfy our insurance requirements, and probably get out of class a little earlier than usual.

Once you've completed the Rules Exam online, you will receive a report form of completion. Print a copy of this form and sign it. Bring it with you to the Crew Training so that the report of completion can be added to your personnel file. You will also receive a copy of the annual Liability Release Form, the Emergency Contact/Information Form, and Qualification Forms to fill out and bring with you. If you are a new crew member, you will receive a Safety Orientation Checklist to bring with you also.

At this time, we are planning on being open for the entire summer operating season, so come prepared to run the railroad!

**Use a Qualified Charitable Distribution to make a donation to the FRRS**

If you are 70½ or older, you can make a tax-free gift directly to the Feather River Rail Society from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) now and for years to come. It's a smart way to enjoy tax savings and support the society.

Here's how it works:

- Who? You must be 70½ or older to make a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to the FRRS.
- What? You can give up to \$100,000 per year from your IRA.
- How? Instruct your IRA custodian to send a specific dollar amount directly to the FRRS. (You cannot withdraw the funds yourself.) The FRRS's tax I.D. number is 68-0002774. Your IRA custodian can send the gift by check or electronic transfer.
- When? Your gift must be completed on or before December 31 in order to count towards your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the calendar year.

Benefits to You:

- RMDs: Your donation will count towards your RMD for the current year. Note that as of January 1, 2020, individuals must start taking RMDs at age 72. (Those who turned 70½ in 2019 must still take RMDs in 2019, 2020 and beyond).
- Tax Savings: You can exclude up to \$100,000 of this gift from your federal gross income – resulting in lower taxable income and possible tax savings (A \$200,000 exclusion may apply for taxpayers who are married and filing a joint return).

Tip: This tax savings is especially valuable to donors who are non-itemizers and donors who have reached their limit on itemized charitable deductions.

Please consult with your financial advisor about this special opportunity.