

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK Norman Holmes

A year has almost passed and what a year it was. Last year at this time we were wondering if the museum would actually get going. There was no site commitment from Union Pacific and our only piece of equipment was the 921. Now we have a 37 acre site, 7 locomotives and 35 cars. We have 223 members and growing every day. The financial and sweat support of many of our members helped greatly to make our museum grow. Thanks.

As a result of the passage of Prop. 18 last June, the City of Portola has applied for a \$150,000 grant to fence the property, build a new access road and repair the diesel shop building. Our Society, through the efforts of Jim Boynton, Bev Moore and myself, has also applied for grant money—\$41,000 for a visitor center (depot), a picnic area and a RV park. This is the first time the state has made funds available to non-profit organizations for recreation purposes. The competition for funds in the bond issue will be fierce, but we hope to at least get a part of the funds that we applied for. The entire museum project will cost \$450,000. The City can apply for funds again in 85 and in 86; the Society's application is a one shot deal. Without a doubt, we have the fastest growing museum and rail society in the country. We hope to have the facility open to the public on May 25.

Merry Christmas to you all.....

B & B

How do you spend a week's vacation in Oct? Ask Jack Paimer, He decided our diesel shop needed some window glass installed and he wanted to do it. So, Jack drove up from sunny South San Francisco ready for work, but due to an early snow storm Jack's cold fingers allowed him to install only 36 panes. However, that's 36 that wouldn't have been in place if he hadn't wanted to do something for the museum. Hap Manitt, Mel Moore and Ken Shipton also helped install glass. It's a cold-slow job, but if you can help, you sure are welcome.

Contributions from 22 members allowed us to purchase the glass. We still have over 350 more to replace, we are concentrating on the lower shash first as this will help secure the building. Window panes are still available for \$2 each.

WESTERN PACIFIC MODELERS

Cascade models is going to do a HO brass model of WP #1 "FEATHER RIVER" business car. It's due out early in 85 you may ask your dealer or write us for more info. Also Overland has a Jordan Spreader w/large snow blade just like WP's and a Snowdozer D&RGW 44 which is like WP 8 that was in Portola so long.

Precision Scale Co. is showing an Ho brass 2-6-6-2T Clover Valley #4 delivery date to be announced please watch the SHEET when info comes available.

THE WHEEL REPORT

On Monday, Nov 20th Chris Skow, Lave McClain and John Ryczkowski as switchmen, Norm Holmes as engineer, we spotted eleven new cars on the museum trackage with 921.

Included are ; all WP

Box cars 0207 from Oakland 1937 40'
0209 from Sand pass ex MILW
0239 from Gerlach 1951 40'
0246 from Sacramento a former
compartmentizer car to be painted B.C. red with
a orange feather and yellow lettering
22009 from Milpitas
36045 from Portola 50' TS car
Flat cars 0318 from Keddie
8522 from Oakland
8545 from Oakland
Gondola 6116 from Oakland wood side
6550 from Oakland steel

After the cars were spotted, UP 6946 was pulled out of the house for some publicity photos and when everything was put away, 921 was drained for the winter, so it won't freeze up.

WP GP-7 708 arrives

Thanksgiving Day, WP 708 came in on the SST. It was moved to the west pass on Friday and on Nov 27 was placed inside the diesel shop in front of the 6946. The engine is complete except for batteries, engine governor and four cylinder heads and pistons have been removed, also a tag indicates a crack in #9 cylinder. Its to bad that so much is missing however our competent mechanical staff will go over the unit and get it running again, we hope. The out side appearance is good, the green and orange paint needs a cleaning, but overall the unit is in good shape. It is a welcome addition to our collection and we thank the Union Pacific for their donation.

Locomotives ~~808~~ G 3051, one flat, a air dump gon, one tank car, the 481 class tender, and five more box cars as well as Norm Holmes' FR&W equipment have yet to be delivered to the museum. We need more tracks by next summer.

NEXT YEARS SPEEDER RACES

Wayne Monger, has been appointed chairman of the speeder races next year. He has come up with a lot of suggestions and rules on how to make this a grand event. If you know of anyone who has a track motor car, let Wayne know so he can contact him to inform him of the event. Wayne Monger, Mr. Motorcar, 1245 Esplanade #8 Chico, California 95926

John Marvin has taken on the project of rebuilding the wooden WP 779 caboos. This is a major rebuild as much of the wood has rotted over the years it has been exposed to the elements and the damage done in moving it. Nearly every Saturday you can find John working on his project.