

2003-2004 Facilities Projects

By Eugene Vicknair

This year and next are looking to be a busy ones concerning facilities and volunteer support work around the museum. Already, a team spent one weekend cleaning up, repairing and repainting the Women's Restroom in the Diesel Shop. While some work still needs to be completed to finish it, it is already drawing many positive comments. Big thank you's to Gail McClure, Mary Ann Vicknair, Eric Stephens, Charlie Walls, Aaron McClure and Doug Morgan for their work on that project. In addition, Frank Brehm, Charlie Walls and Gail McClure repainted and striped the electrical cabinet safety area in the Diesel Shop and Eric Stephens installed new lighting in the hallway to the Women's Restroom. Doug Morgan and Alan Hirasawa repaired several broken water lines left over from the winter freeze.

Some new projects are already in progress, including improving traffic signage for visitors, reorganizing the Electrical and Tool Rooms and the Wood Shop in the Diesel Shop, and continuing the general grounds clean-up begun last year.

The most visible projects this year are going to involve the newly designated Volunteer Lounge in the UP bunk car long ago nicknamed the "Silver Debris" and rebuilding and expansion of the deck between the Shower Car and the Sleeper Car. Other items are in the works and many need your help. If you are experienced in the work listed, or just want to lend a hand, please contact Eugene Vicknair, PRM Facilities Manager for more details on how you can help. E-mail: facilities@wplives.org.

The Volunteer Lounge in particular is going to require a LOT of work and funds. If you can't join in the work, please consider donating funds or materials needed. As work begins, we will need construction items. After the car is ready for furnishing, sofas, small dining tables, lights and chairs will be needed.

PRM Facilities Work Projects for 2003 Season:

Diesel Shop

Visitor's Lounge: repaint and spruce up former Gift Shop as lounge/meeting area

Men's Restroom: repaint and repair toilet and urinal

Volunteer Deck

Construct new access ramp and stairs and expand deck (carpentry work)

"Silver Debris" Volunteer Lounge

Strip current interior

Reinsulate and sheetrock walls and ceiling (requires furring out walls, new ceiling joists)

Carpet interior (will require carpet installation tools and carpeting experience)

Install new door and windows

General Museum Clean-up

Weekend clean-up crews are being organized (requires lifting and hauling).

ISSUE 120

WPRRHS News

By Thom Anderson

As this is being written (mid-August), the next issue of the Headlight (Issue #21) is proofread and will be going to the printer later this month. It contains an article authored by Virgil Staff covering the efforts to upgrade the railroad from the end of initial construction in 1910 to become a first-class operation in every sense of the word in 1930. I'm sure it will be fascinating reading for all of us.

Subjects for future issues include modeling articles on SW1500 locomotives and derrick tender for derrick #37 that was based at Oroville for many years and now part of the PRM collection. Other subjects include the final installment on the U23-B series, covering the locomotives conversions to "Super 7" units by General Electric, an article from Founding Editor John Ryczkowski on the "Final Four" F-units in the 1970s, and an article on Binney Junction, the crossing with the Espee in Marysville. On the Property, Portrait of a Feather, and Rolling Stock Gallery will also return. They were "bumped" from Issue #21 due to size limitations.

The FRRS Board of Directors, Headlight magazine staff and I have made commitments to ensure the magazine appears on a regular schedule and fulfill our obligations to the Society membership. We hope you've been pleased with both the content and frequency of the magazine.

Like any other volunteer organization, the Society relies on support from its members. In the last couple of years, several members have come forward and supplied articles and other materials for publication. Please consider adding your efforts to this continual process. As articles are printed in the magazine, more new material is needed to stage for future issues. This is no different than adding fuel to your car or food in your refrigerator. If replacement material is not added, eventually you run out and the process comes to a stop.

As an example, we'd like to run more Sacramento Northern features in the magazine. If you have materials or knowledge that could be put into article form, please contact Editor Dave Pires. His address and e-mail are listed in the Headlight. Someone on the magazine staff can assist you if needed.

We are also looking for the following;

-Photos of the ex-WP "Super 7" units in Monongahela Railway paint, or any subsequent owner's paint, including Conrail, NS, CSX, Providence & Worcester, and Newcastle Industrial Railroad.

-Photos of Binney Junction.

-action photos of WP SW1500 units, and photos of the units as UP 1315-1317 or UPY 1040-1042.

Frank Beavers is continuing to prepare for the WPRRHS 2004 Convention, scheduled for April 16-17 at the Reno Holiday Inn. If you're interested in helping out, or making a presentation at the convention, please contact Frank at P.O. Box 759, Westwood, CA 96137, 530-256-2141, e-mail wp751@thegrid.net

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