



Preserving "THE FEATHER RIVER ROUTE"

Issue - 185

April/May/June 2020

President's Pin

- Greg Elems

Well it's time for another *Train Sheet*. It has been decided to cancel the WP Historical Convention since our venue in Oroville has decided not to open up for gatherings such as ours for the rest of the year. At this late date finding a venue is problematic, so it has been decided to start planning next year's. We will need to be flexible next year also. Just as a teaser, we may be in Reno NV.



Since there will be no official convention, we have been discussing the possibilities of a virtual convention with at least (workshops/clinics) being online and recorded.

Mechanical work on the non-railroad fleet saw good progress. Rear tires on the backhoe were replaced with new ones. The electric forklift received a new battery, the old one went away with the service truck. All of our forklifts are now working, but still need some fine tuning and repairs.

Housekeeping, shop cleaning actually, is continuing with the west-end of the shop starting to look like a shop.

Part of our cleanup program has included fire safety. Phil Schmierer has taken on the job of cleaning up and removing brush and trees. With the removal of small trees and delimiting the bigger trees, we are reducing the fire hazard. Phil has spent the last couple of weeks on tree work and will be tackling grass and brush removal in and around Dodgepole siding and

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WP 2020 Convention Oroville Update – 6/21/20
Kerry Cochran and Eugene Vicknair - 2020 Western Pacific Railroad Historical Convention co-chairs

With apologies to all the Western Pacific fans out there...



When the venue chosen in Oroville for the 2020 Western Pacific Historical Convention originally shut down their events due to the COVID-19 crisis, the hope was that the convention could be rescheduled for late summer/early fall. We recently got word that the venue was rescheduling us for mid-September. We started all the back-end work to get everything shifted, reconfirm the shows and banquet speaker and started getting the word out to the public.

Unfortunately, the venue contacted us again and informed us that they had changed their minds and were cancelling all events through the end of the year. It appears that COVID-19 cases in Oroville and Butte County are spiking and they did not want to take any chances.

We made an attempt to find an alternate venue on short notice, but with nothing being available and registrants waiting to see what would happen, the final decision has been made to cancel the 2020 WP Convention.

Information will be sent soon to those who are registered concerning their options for their registrations. We thank all of you for your support of the Western Pacific and are sorry we won't be getting together in Oroville this year.

On a more positive note, we are now moving to planning the 2021 Convention. Look for information on that in the near future.

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the Inside Balloon track. Charlie Spikes and Phil serviced and filled the water buffalo so when the tree work takes place we have an ample supply of water for keeping the area moist and, should a fire start, we are right there with a way to put a lot of water on the problem. Thanks Charlie and Phil for that! I spent June 23rd and 24th helping Phil on tree work. Dusty but satisfying to see as we reduce our fire danger.

Switching, Steve Habeck is still refining the placement of our "at risk equipment" and displays. We will continue to switch at the museum as inspections and work dictate. As the plan develops we will try to have a couple days lead time on the switching. With the usual caveat, anyone in the Operating Department who wants to help, let us know so we can contact you. Hopefully by the time we are allowed to open up next year we will have a new look to the museum.



Track work hasn't started yet but plans are in the works on what I would like to accomplish this year. We have ties to replace with the balloon and switches in need of attention. Time to prioritize and set up days to plan on early start times. Midday will be out of the question with summer temps and the evening mosquito problem makes morning work the most likely time to tackle the work.

In closing, I would like to thank Steve Habeck, Ethan Doty and David Elems for their constant presence at the museum. I should mention Bob Sims and Phil Schmierer also. Bob spends extra time after the steam work sessions at the museum doing less glamorous projects. Thanks Bob. Phil has come over from Dunsmuir to donate time and energy on the grounds. Thank you Phil.

'Till next time, stay safe and cool.

Greg Elems

FRRS Yahoo Group – Train-Off Notice

- Paul Finnegan, Webmaster

Yahoo has phased out one of its longest-standing features, the "Yahoo Group". The FRRS Yahoo Group was formed on February 27, 2000 and, for many years, was very active with user posts and discussions. Over its life, a total of 4,276 messages were posted.

Over time, it fell into disuse. The last real post was November 2, 2018 by Eugene Vicknair. The most recent post from someone other than Eugene or me was April 17, 2017.

Before Yahoo deleted all the old messages and files last October, I backed them up onto our WPLives Cloud server. I do not really think any of it is important anymore, but it is preserved just in case.

After consulting with the members of the Signal Department, the remnants of the Group were removed on July 1, 2020 and the FRRS Yahoo Group faded into history.