

Grants to Support Museum Programs

- Eugene Vicknair

To help deal with the issues brought on by COVID, the FRRS stepped up its grant application work and managed to secure a number of support grants that have helped the museum through the crisis.

With those awards in place, we began working on applications from other sources. The Emery Foundation graciously awarded us \$6,000 for work on the California Zephyr dining car “Silver Plate”, work that was delayed by COVID but which is finally getting started. We currently have four grant applications awaiting decisions. These grants total over \$1.3 million:

- \$3,000 application with the Society for Industrial Archeology for survey and restoration work on the WP / PFE reefer car 55069.
- \$10,000 with the BNSF Foundation for revamping our Display Room.
- \$300,000 with the California Museums Grant Fund for work on the roofs of WP 106 “Charles O, Sweetwood”, WP 701 “Clover Plot” and UP 105.
- A \$1 million grant through Congressman Doug LaMalfa’s office (CA-1) has been accepted by the congressional appropriations committee. Now it just needs to get final approval and be included into the budget appropriation, which is expected to happen toward the end of summer. This grant would complete purchase of the Whitman Multi-Purpose Building and fund its initial construction phase.

We are continuing to work on additional grants and foundation funding to improve the museum and our collection. If you have any questions, or wish to assist in grant applications, please contact Eugene Vicknair, Funding Chair, at funding@wplives.org.



The 2022 Membership Dinner was cancelled and hopefully will return in 2023. Photo above is from our 2019 dinner.

2022 Membership Dinner Cancelled

The FRRS Board decided it was in the best interests of the membership to annul the 2022 Membership Dinner previously scheduled for Saturday, June 11, 2022.

The decision was driven by several regular volunteers being unavailable for various reasons, a lack of additional volunteers and concerns expressed by some members and volunteers about COVID-19, which appeared to be raising its ugly head again.

The regular FRRS Board June Meeting and the Annual Membership Meeting were combined into a single meeting starting at 5 PM at the museum.

The Board / Membership meeting was open to the public and members, Remote teleconference attendance was offered.