

2022 Crew Training

- Loren Ross

The new operating season has begun! Our two Crew Training classes were held in April and June with most everyone returning for another season. General Superintendent Kerry Cochran conducted the classes and covered the current year's operating plans along with an update on operations of the WP 165 for two special weekends this summer. The plans are to utilize the 165 as lead power for the caboose trains on July 2-3 and on September 3-4. As with all things steam, we're expecting pretty large crowds for these weekends so if you're available to sign up and work, we could really use the help.

Staffing shortages are a major concern this year as we try and ramp up our return from the pandemic of the last 2 years. Already this season we've had one weekend with NO crew and had to cancel passenger operations. We certainly understand that family time is most important to all, but we'd ask that everyone please check the schedule weekly and see if you can fill vacant slots on the Extra Board. Going without passenger trains leaves a lot of folks stranded on the platform, and that isn't good for our museum.

We're also prepping to resume Pumpkin Patch and Santa Trains trains this year. As with all special events, there's a lot of work to be done setting up. We're asking the yardmaster to schedule switching operations for setup so that we can all have an opportunity to help get things started. Steve Habeck and Ethan Doty can use assistance in setup of the events and equipment, so watch the web site and calendar for updates on workdays.

The Run-A-Locomotive program is off to a good start this summer. Although we only have two running locomotives currently (SP 1100 and WP 1503), people are still making reservations! I'd like to recognize both Craig Simmons and Charlie Spikes for going out of their way to cover the RALs during the week. Don Nelson and Bil Jackson are also putting in time with the customers, sending folks home with huge smiles!!



We held two crew training classes in 2022. The photo above is from the April class.

- Photo by Kerry Cochran

Finally, I'd like to welcome a new member to the Operating Department. Mr. Logan Beers has joined us this summer. Logan lives in the Beckwourth area and attends the University of Nevada full-time. Logan, thanks for joining the Operating Department! I am looking forward to working with you!

As always, thanks to all of you for the work you do to keep us open and operating.



Steam operations planned for September 3rd & 4th, 2022. See WPLives.org for latest update!

Departure

FRRS life member and volunteer, Terry Decottignies, passed away on June 14, 2022. Terry was a long-time volunteer in the Operating Department.

