

Museum Web Page Update
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April 24th, 2016

On Monday March 7th the WPLives.org web site went mobile. A set of six web pages designed for the mobile smart phone or tablet user went live. The pages contain the high priority information a mobile user is anticipated to value about the museum. Major content includes directions to the museum, museum hours of operation, the FRRS calendar, admission and train ride fares, RAL information and society contact information. The main WPLives.org web address has been enhanced to immediately redirect a mobile user to the mobile home page. However, the mobile user also has easy access to the full WRPM/FRRS web site on each mobile page.

The new pages are:

- m_index / d_index: The mobile and full desktop home pages.
- m_calendar: The FRRS calendar reformatted for the mobile user.
- m_contact: Contact information (with direct phone number hot links – click to call on smart phones.)
- m_ral: RAL information and contact information (again with phone hot links.)
- m_trainride: Caboose Train information.
- m_visitwprm: Information on how to visit the museum.

The online archive now has almost all The Train Sheets issues going back to the formation of the FRRS in 1983. The archive is under the “News” pull-down menu on the web site. Train Sheet #167 was added to the online archive and the master index on April 1st. The master index is designed to help the user easily find specific articles or topics in the archive.

Our collection of rolling stock is one of the strengths of our museum. The web site has a large number of photographs and information about many individual pieces. Under the “Museum → Museum Rolling Stock” pull down menu is a set of pages showing many of our locomotives, passenger cars, freight cars, etc. Some of the items in our collection (e.g. WP 805A) have their own “mini” web page. I have enhanced the revision control system I developed for managing our web site to now search the Train Sheet archive and insert links into the collection web pages to the individual Train Sheet articles about the item. The revision control system will automatically update the article links each time the Train Sheet archive is updated. I hope the users will find this very helpful when researching a particular piece of our collection.

I created a new passenger car web page for the WP 106. I found a large pdf file, *A HIGHER CALLING the story of Western Pacific's "Charles O. Sweetwood"*, prepared by Eugene Vicknair that did not have any links to it. The history is very well done and tells a tremendous story. To share this document I created the web page for the car and added it to the passenger car web page under the “Museum → Museum Rolling Stock” pull-down menu.

Ethan Doty, the Assistant Roadmaster, called a work day for March 26th to work on the west 1/2 switch. I added this to the Museum Event Volunteer Sign Up system. He took some photos at the event and sent them to me so I could create a new “Track Work” gallery on the WPRM Photo & Video Gallery web page under the “About Us” pull-down menu. Ethan also wrote captions for each of the photos. Take a look to see what the team did. If you weren't there this time, please feel welcome to

come join in next time! Watch the Museum Event sign up and *Latest Museum News Update* on the home page for future opportunities.

We used the newly developed Crew Training Material web page for our annual rule training and exam sessions on April 9th and 10th. We had fourteen students (and three instructors) on Saturday and eleven students on Sunday. I created a down-loadable, static copy of the appropriate sub-set of the web site to use at the training. It can be loaded on a memory stick or disk drive and functions just like the real web site. We used it at training and therefore the training class did not require internet connectivity. All the material we used is available on line on the Museum → Operating Department → Crew Training Materials page.

We showed the new “*Use of Hand and Lantern Signals for Train and Engine Movements*” training video produced by the Operating Department at the training. You can view it on the Crew Training Materials page or on the “About Us → WPRM Photo & Video Gallery” web pages. It was filmed on site at the museum.

With very short notice, the Operating Department learned a school group was coming to the museum on Thursday April 21st. It was added to the “Operating Dept Crew Sign Up” tool which helped pull a crew together so we could run a caboose train for the visitors.

I am always looking for feedback, content and new ideas. If you have some, please don't hesitate to contact me at webmaster@wplives.org.