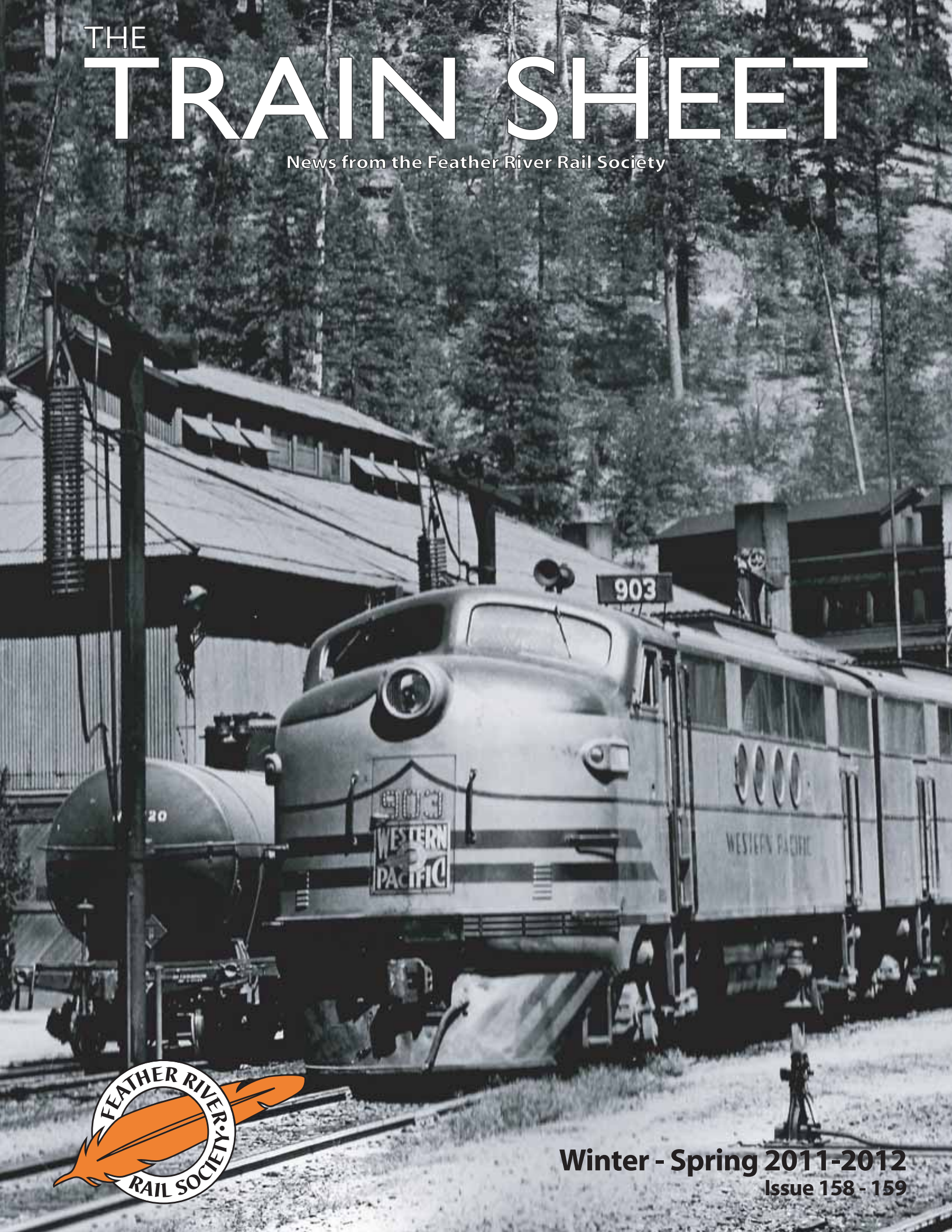


# THE TRAIN SHEET

News from the Feather River Rail Society



Winter - Spring 2011-2012  
Issue 158 - 159

**- THE TRAIN SHEET -**

News from the Feather River Rail Society and the Western Pacific Railroad Museum at Portola

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Contribution Deadlines: Last Day of February, April, June, August, October and December

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**FEATHER RIVER RAIL SOCIETY  
WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD  
MUSEUM at PORTOLA**

P.O. Box 608 . Portola, CA . 96122-0608

Museum: 530.832.4131  
Fax: 530.832.1854

The museum grounds are open to the public from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM daily from the first Saturday in April through the first Monday in November. The Diesel Shop is open from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM daily during these dates.

Train operations begin the last Saturday in May and continue each weekend through the first Monday in September.

The museum grounds are closed to the public from the first Tuesday in November through the first Friday in March except for special events in which advance arrangements have been made. If you wish to visit during the closure period, it is advisable to call in advance and find out if the museum will be open.

Entrance to the museum for members is free. Non-members are required to pay an admission fee, details are in this issue.

The Feather River Rail Society, a tax-exempt public benefit California corporation, is the historical society for the Western Pacific Railroad and operator of the Western Pacific Railroad Museum in Portola, California.

***The FRRS is not associated with the Union Pacific Railroad.***

FRRS Tax ID number is 68-0002774  
Member of the Association of Railway Museums and the Tourist Railway Association, Inc

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*Cover Photo - WP FT 903 waits at the Keddie Roundhouse for another run down the Feather River Canyon.  
- WPRRHS / FRRS Archives*

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***Preserving "THE FEATHER RIVER ROUTE"***



**- WEB PAGES of INTEREST -**

FRRS Official Site	www.WPLives.org
WPRR Historical Society	www.wprrhs.org
CZ Virtual Museum	calzephyr.railfan.net
California Zephyr	californiazephyr.org
Western Pacific Pages	www.WPLives.com
WP Virtual Museum	wpmuseum.railfan.net
Sac Northern On-Line	www.people.virginia.edu/~ggg9y
Tidewater Southern Pages	www.TidewaterSouthern.com
Tidewater Southern	www5.pair.com/rattenne/WP/TidelIndex.htm
Central Calif Traction	www.trainweb.org/tractionco/



## AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE

- Rod McClure, President

Over our first 25 years, the FRRS has acquired one of the most complete and comprehensive collections focusing on a single railroad family. This includes not only our big rolling stock items, but also an amazing paper and photo archive, personal stories and small items such as tools, signals and uniforms.

Along the way, we have also acquired items that, while they may have served us in the past, no longer fit our refined mission. Currently, the Society is engaged in a refinement and deaccession of pieces that don't serve our larger goals and can bring resources and funds to protect our main collection. This will mean that some "personal favorites" may leave, but we cannot save everything and we need to make hard choices to continue to protect what we have.

It is a fact that the economic times of the last few years have had an impact on our budget and fundraising. We have responded by seeking to hold down costs, eliminating or delaying some activities and looking for ways to boost revenue. Among the more visible signs of this is the 1 year old admission policy, which has given us a sizable increase in income. However, more is needed.

We hold one of the larger collections of railroad equipment and archives in the nation. While the FRRS has proven over the years to be very inventive at stretching a dollar and we keep running with fairly lean budgets by the standards of other organizations, it still costs to protect and preserve these things. Eventually, we will need to build covered storage for our pieces and expand our archives cataloging and preservation efforts. These things take funds.

We are rapidly approaching more hard decisions concerning our collection, particularly in terms of rolling stock. To achieve a sustainable level, either funding must increase or the size of the collection must decrease, or a combination of the two. While there are still non "mission critical" items to deaccess, the choices will get more difficult. The FRRS is taking several steps to mitigate this. We are increasing our fundraising outreach, looking for more revenue opportunities, cutting costs (the most noticeable of which is no longer

having a paid Museum Manager) and seeking to maximize the revenue we do get through our RAL program, admissions and store sales. We are also implementing an Equipment Sponsorship program. Anyone person, group or company who feels strongly about keeping or protecting an item in the Rolling Stock Collection will be able to "adopt" a locomotive or car and provide for its preservation.

We are also promoting our On-Line Store. If you need books, gifts, models or apparel, please visit <http://Store.WPLives.org> and take a look. All proceeds benefit the FRRS.

We are asking our members and friends to help us increase our capabilities to protect our amazing collection. Please consider the FRRS for a donation. We also need docents and volunteers both at the museum and for our off-site Roadshows, and for tasks that can be done remotely. For example, we need someone to take on management and promotion of the Equipment Sponsorship Program and volunteers to assist and manage several fundraising / revenue generation programs.

Together, we have built an outstanding historic organization in just 25 years. Together, we can make it even better. Several exciting new developments are on the horizon for 2012 and beyond.

If you want to help or need more information, please contact President Rod McClure, Secretary Eugene Vicknair or .... by email at [TheNext25@WPLives.org](mailto:TheNext25@WPLives.org) or by post mail at FRRS – The Next 25, P O Box 608, Portola, CA 96122.

Donations can be mailed to FRRS- Funding, P O Box 608, Portola, CA 96122.

Thank you for your on-going support.

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue of the Train Sheet was delayed due to an error in the editorial process prior to printing. This has been corrected and the next issue should arrive to you shortly.

## WP 165 FALL PROGRESS

- Chris Allan, Steam CMO

The 2011 Season for the Steam Department has ended, and we can be proud of our accomplishments over the past year. The lion's share of the work was toward our 1472 day FRA inspection, with all but a very few of our ultrasonic thickness readings on the boiler shell completed by Nathan Osborn and James Cowdery. Nathan has also been meticulously transcribing the thickness readings into a format that is more "user friendly".

We welcome new steam team member Dick Coudin, who I met onboard Roger Stabler's private car "Two Rivers" on the Railroad Days Special to Portola in August. Dick met me in Woodland on Tuesday the 27th of September, and together we motored back over the hill to Portola in time to get moved into the Pullman before dinner.

Wednesday we were joined by Steve Lee, in from Cheyenne to lend a hand and help us get through our initial FRA boiler internal inspection. The inspection was to take place on Thursday, but was cancelled Wednesday evening by the inspector for reasons beyond his control.

We will reschedule in the spring of 2012, and continue on with boiler work in the meantime. Roger Stabler arrived about this time, and got to work on the base of the cab, welding up what Erin Swain had tacked in place during the summer work session. Dick drilled out for the rivets along the bottom of the sides. These will be driven into place, hopefully, in the spring. Thanks to Roger and Dick for finishing up around the base. All that remains is to patch the drip rail areas on the roof. Charlie Spikes has the cab mounting brackets pilot drilled. Those will be finished off with the magnetic base drill after the cab is in place. He has also been systematically cleaning up the driving boxes over the summer. The grease is quite stubborn, and progress is slow, but he is sticking with it. With any luck we will have them ready to lower the frame and boiler back down on the drivers by this time next year. Wednesday evening ended up with some delicious rib eye steaks grilled to perfection by Roger, a nice way to end the day.

Thursday a twenty-thousand pound capacity forklift, sourced out by Charlie, was delivered to unload our 16" lathe from where it has been residing over the summer, in the back of the dump truck. This machine was too heavy for our beleaguered white forklift, so more power was

*Roger Stabler and Dick Coudin forming a piece of boilerplate using heat. - Chris Allan photo*



in order. After the lathe was set in place, the next logical move was to relocate the locomotive drivers indoors where they could be cleaned and inspected for cracks, a chore the giant rented forklift handled readily, and we sent it back on its way. Our good friends from the Golden Gate Railroad Museum, Dave Roth and Severn Edmonds arrived to find us at work in the shop. Dave pitched in with Nathan and Steve on needle scaling and scraping the driver sets, and Severn set about cleaning the years of built-up scrounge on the lathe, which as he discovered, is in nice shape. Duane started the wiring, and he hopes to have it operational soon. Our thanks to the Union Pacific railroad for their donation of this machine. Steve Lee inspected each driver spoke closely, and found no cracking, which was a huge relief. Repairs to spokes can be a costly and dramatic undertaking.



Our "new" 16" lathe indoors at last! - Chris Allan photo

Roger began prepping the patched area on the right side of the wrapper sheet that had been removed last season. The sheet was corroded to the point of needing replacement, so new pieces of code steel were obtained. Roger and Dick ground the new plate to fit, beveled the edges for welding, and tacked in place so we could transfer the staybolt locations for pilot drilling. The two larger patches up on the roof area of the wrapper still need to be fitted; more work for the Spring. Thursday night was dinner at the Roadhouse across the river. Thursday was a good night for dining there- no Karaoke.

Friday cleaning continued on the locomotive frame outside. This less than pleasant task was undertaken by Ed Chase, Steve Cope, and Jim Greco, who was experiencing his first day in steam restoration (and hopefully not his last!). The guys found a formerly undisclosed crack in one of the frame spreaders. This can be ground

out and welded in situ due to its easily accessible location. Thanks to them for sticking with it, a good deal of the frame may now be inspected for cracking. Dick and Charlie primer painted the pilot beam and deck, as well as one of the cylinders. The 165 is starting to look like someone cares!

Friday continued with more of the same. Grease, paint removal, on and on it went. Roger's company thought they might need him at some point, so he headed back to Woodland that evening. Thanks to him for bringing up his welding machines, and getting a good deal of work accomplished. Steve Lee was presented with the Ultrasonic thickness readings taken to date. He will begin to generate our FRA Form 4, which is essentially a big book of stress calculations, over the winter back in Cheyenne. Given the average winter temps in Cheyenne, he should be encouraged to stay out of the wind and get a lot done. Thanks again Steve for coming out to Portola and your continued support!

Dave and Dick took preliminary UT readings on the drypipe inside the boiler, the pipe that delivers the steam from the throttle valve on one end, to the cylinder admission pipes on the other. This is simply a length of seven inch diameter pipe with fittings on each end. Readings revealed thin areas in several places. I opted for replacement, Steve concurred. Now is the time to replace this component, since the boiler is devoid of tubes, and front tube sheet is partially removed, giving easy access. If we waited until after the engine was in operation, and this pipe failed, even if nothing bad happened due to the uncontrolled acceleration, we would have to go through seven levels of Hell to get it out. Another dandy project for the spring.

All week long Bob Sims was hard at work measuring our ex-D&RGW tool car for interior build outs to outfit it as a machine shop and work area for the Steam Department. Thank you to Bob for taking this necessary project on. As I write this about half of the materials necessary are onsite. Bob will with any luck and good weather get a lot done later this year.

Saturday we winterized, tarped, and generally put things away. Another season is behind us.



Sunday morning Dick and I headed down the hill and stopped into Colfax, where our Museum's train was on display, staffed by our friendly volunteers, for the Railroad Days celebration in that town. The equipment looked shiny and spiffy, a rolling ambassador to the WPRM.

Thanks again to all of you for your continued support. Thanks also to the team behind the scenes that makes sure we keep moving forward, including Rod and Gail McClure, Yardmaster Steve Habeck, treasurer James Mason who keeps us grounded, our webmaster Tom Carter, Eugene Vicknair, our graphics department and cheerleader for us from time to time, Norman Holmes who continues to donate more bits and pieces for the engine he comes across and of course to Steve Lee, whose mentorship during this project has been invaluable. Special thanks to Charlie Spikes who spends days getting ready for our arrival making sure everything is in place when we arrive.

Interestingly, after a gorgeous week in Portola, the weather turned just days after we left, and snow was flying again by the middle of the week. Everyone have a nice holiday season, and we will pick up where we left off next year! We will convene again at the end of April, after things thaw out a bit.



Dick Coudin drills holes for rivets at the base of the cab.

- Chris Allan photo

WP 165 needs your help. Steam engines run on 4 things: fuel, water, rails and money. We've got 3 of those in abundance, but your help is needed for the last one. To donate to the 165, you can post mail a check to Steam Department - FRRS, P O Box 608, Portola, CA 96122. Or go on-line to the WP Store: [giftshop.wplives.org](http://giftshop.wplives.org). Click on Monetary Donations and select 165 Donation to support the return of steam to Portola.

## BUY A HOUSE – HELP THE SOCIETY

The FRRS has received the donation of a residence in Portola for resale, proceeds to go to support the Society's efforts. The property is located a few blocks from the museum just above Old Town Portola.

The home is a one bed, one bath layout with a kitchen, family room and front room, as well as a yard with alley access and a garage in the back. Condition is as-is. It does require work, mainly in the roof, but will make someone a nice vacation home or mountain residence.

The Society thanks Gary Yee for his generous donation to help our preservation efforts. If you would like more information on the property or would like to make an offer, please contact Eugene Vicknair (via email at [eugene.vicknair@gmail.com](mailto:eugene.vicknair@gmail.com)) or Rod McClure (via email at [president@wplives.org](mailto:president@wplives.org)).



## EQUIPMENT SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM

The FRRS has enacted an Equipment Sponsor Program to support the preservation of our historic collection. This unique program gives businesses and individuals a chance to participate in the on-going mission of the Society. Historic pieces and structures in the museum collection can be sponsored by businesses, individuals and / or groups, providing support for their restoration and preservation.

Sponsorship consists of an initial donation, then yearly donations of a lower amount. Sponsorship does not preclude additional fundraising for a piece of equipment if needed for advanced restoration work.

Sponsor levels depend on the needed degree of care, difficulty of care, historic significance of the piece and other factors. At least 60% of sponsorship donation must be applied to the sponsored piece. 40% will be used at the discretion of the Society, but priority is given to needed care of the sponsored piece.

Each sponsored piece, if needed, will get, by its fourth year in the program, a complete paint job (including needed cosmetic repairs). The only exception will be pieces that are undergoing an active restoration. These will get cosmetic work in coordination with the restoration. Pieces will receive informational plaques featuring the name of the sponsoring individuals and / or groups. In return, sponsors shall receive a plaque they can display showcasing their sponsored piece, invitations for their employees or friends to attend WPRM events and coupons good for discounts on train rides and Run A Locomotive plans to be given to their employees or friends, or other suitable gifts, depending on the sponsorship level.

Sponsored pieces will be eligible for use, if operational, in any service required by the WPRM and will only be limited by mechanical condition / suitability or issues relating to age and other historic considerations.

Featured items available for sponsorship include WP California Zephyr locomotive 805-A, UP Centennial locomotive 6936, WP SW1 501 (the railroad's first diesel), WP 0-6-0 steam switcher 165 and the proposed Whitman Display Building.

A complete list of all equipment and facility structures in the program is available upon request. For more information, please contact the Society by email at [info@WPLives.org](mailto:info@WPLives.org) or by phone at 530.832.4131.

## WP HOSPITAL ARSON FIRE

The Feather River Rail Society suffered a huge loss on the morning of September 7th at 1am when the fire department was called for a fire at the old WP Hospital site in Portola, CA. Upon arrival of the first responding units they found the structure fully involved in fire. Although efforts were made to save some of the structure these efforts were in vain. The building was a total loss.

The WP Hospital in Portola was the only such facility in the U.S. known to be owned by a preservation group. There are only a few railroad hospitals left nationwide, and most have either been reconfigured for other institutional uses, or sit in a state of disuse and uncertainty.

The railroad hospital system itself is a fascinating story, one we had hoped to showcase with the WP Hospital. It was the precursor to our modern health care system and gave birth to the field of occupational medicine. The WP Hospital, in particular, not only served the people and families of Western Pacific employees in Portola and Eastern Plumas County, but also served as the community hospital for the public until the 1960s. There are many people living in and near Portola today (and elsewhere) who were born there. One of the most interesting stories in the hospital's history was that it was the location for the first clinical use of Penicillin for treating gangrene which occurred in 1943.

The cause of the blaze was suspected as arson early on and an investigation led to the arrest of 18 year old Harold Ellis Johnson of Portola on September 15, 2011 by the Plumas County Sheriff's Office. After his arrest, Johnson reportedly admitted starting the hospital fire as well as a fire the next night at the Feather River Middle School. He said he acted alone.

On December 1, the hospital arsonist was sentenced to one year in the county jail and five years of formal probation. He must also register as an arson offender, pay appropriate restitution and undergo counseling as directed by the probation department. The felony arson conviction is considered a "serious" felony and constitutes a strike under the state's three-strikes law. Costs to clear the destroyed structure and make the area safe have reached nearly \$50,000.

The FRRS wishes to extend its thanks to the firefighters who bravely fought what was a large and dangerous blaze, as well as the Sheriff's Department and the Plumas County Prosecutor's Officer for their fine work.

## October 2011 Board Meeting Motions and Actions Summary

### 2012 Calendar and Concert Calendar

Tabled to November

#### President's Report

- WP HOSPITAL -- The clean-up and safing of the Hospital area is complete. We have received bills from Rick Joy (actual labor) and Intermountain Disposal. Rick Joy gave us a nice discount. A person has been arrested and has reported confessed to the arson. The bail is set at \$1 million. They also burned the school in Portola the night after the Hospital fire.
- COLFAX RAILROAD DAYS -- Colfax went well. We saw a lot of people and the event organizers and local merchants were very happy with us and the event. We received a lot of media coverage and should be able to spin some more promotion / media out of this. Gross income in stores / RALs nearly \$4500. Talking about improvements for next year, including a planning guide for future events. UP expressed that they are happy with us and our participation. They would like our involvement in more events.
- WP 106 / CHARLES O. SWEETWOOD -- We have the ownership papers and keys for the Sweetwood (and the blue Santa Fe reefer). The car is officially owned by the FRRS and all issues relating to it are concluded.

#### Financial Report

- Financials provided.
- Looking at large end of year cashflow deficit, much due to Hospital Fire clean-up.
- Museum Store is looking to break even, Operations side of budget showing deficit.
- Admission numbers were lower than expected for

2011. We need to bring in more people. A review of admission reveals we had less than 4000 paid visitors. Manager Epling believes that we may be missing about 40% of the visitors for getting paid tickets.

- Assets listed around \$2 million. Our asset position is very good.
- An error was discovered in compensation approved by Board for President McClure for time off to deal with museum legal issues. Discovered that this is prohibited by by-laws and has been stopped.
- There were a lot of one time / surprise expenses this year, but we have no buffer for such expenses.
- Business Practices Committee will be looking at ideas and business plan for improving income / admission numbers.
- We are moving in the right direction, we need to just improve several things.
- RAL is doing very well this year.

#### Director's Reports

*Vicknair* – Thanks to the work of Bruce Bowman and especially Bob Sims, the Silver Debris is nearly complete. The floor is done and Bob and I are coordinating the purchase and installation of the appliances and the movement of the cabinets from the Shower Car to the Debris. We need to find a crew to complete the deck for 2012. The plans are available, we just need the people and some good lumber. The Shower Car needs repair, particularly some areas of floor. I would recommend looking at doing a floor similar to the Silver Debris'. Also, we should probably look at just doing one end at a time in the Shower Car and repairing / upgrading the various fixtures.

#### Department Reports

*Publications* – Double issue at printer, but we have few

### HOW TO MAKE ADDRESS and MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

In our efforts to inform and keep in touch with our members, one of the difficulties we often face are members who have moved or changed their contact information without sharing the changes with us. If you move, get a new email or phone number, or need to make other changes to your contact information, there are several easy ways to let us know.

By postal mail: FRRS - Membership, P O Box 608, Portola, CA 96122

By email: [memberships@wplives.org](mailto:memberships@wplives.org) or [info@wplives.org](mailto:info@wplives.org)

Or you can call the museum directly at 530.832.4131

When sending new contact info, please include your full name, member number, former contact information (and mark it as your old information) and your new contact information. Also, if you have an email address, please consider adding it to your membership information so we have multiple ways to contact you. This will help us keep in touch with you in case other methods do not work.



items for future issues. We need more submissions. Issue 42 of Headlight is going to press soon.

### Committee Reports

- *Business Practices* - CapitalOne Card Connect: CapitalOne is offering a credit card that donates portions of charges to non-profits. Committee recommends that a plan for marketing and promoting the cards be put together.

2012 Store / On-Line Store Business Plan: Discussion about creating a promotion / business plan to increase awareness and revenue for the FRRS retail operations and improve the look of the On-Line Store. President McClure gave consent to proceed and the committee will consider this further.

Admission: Reviewing data and feedback from first year of admission. Overall, the concept looks to be a success, with a marked increase over what we were receiving in the donation boxes and relatively few complaints. We will be considering suggested discounts, tweaks to the program, cross marketing / joint admission with other groups and possible promotion ideas.

### Public Comments

- Charlie Spikes, Matt Elems and others have donated money to the Fuel Fund.
- Grizzly Ranch holds a Halloween Party each year. Asked if they could use the tow rig we use for Portola Railroad Days.
- October 15-16 there are plans for a track work party.

### Closed Session

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 5:32 PM and reconvened to open session at 5:54 PM. Director Vicknair reported following the closed session:

"The Board heard a report on a legal issue: FRRS v. Morgan. Final paperwork concerning the settlement, including ownership papers of the WP 106 passenger car, has been received and this issue is considered closed at this time. No action taken.

The Board heard a report on a legal issue: FRRS v. Kasten / ITAC. No action taken.

The Board heard a report on an equipment issue: Equipment Donation. No action taken."

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## November 2011 Board Meeting Motions and Actions Summary

### Motion 11-11-01 Consent Calendar

Motion to accept consent calendar and the minutes of the September and October 2011 meetings. Brehm / Monger. Aye – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 1. Motion carries.

### Motion 11-11-02 2012 Event Calendar

Motion to accept revised 2012 calendar. Cochran / Vicknair. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

### Motion 11-11-03 Records and Communications Policies

- Review of updated volunteer record and communication policies
- Review new Volunteer Program policy
- Discussion: 2.1 Maintenance of Records – request to keep records on volunteer hours, want to see the point about recording hours strengthened.
- Look at implementing this feature in the Point of Sale system
- This will be addressed in new Volunteer Training Manual
- Discussion about needing improvements to or new program to replace iVolunteer
- Discussion: 6.1 Reimbursement – current reimbursement forms require only 1 signature. Recommendation to require 2 signatures on reimbursements for amounts above a certain level.
- This policy does not layout process of reimbursement. That is in another area with procedures.

Approve the three presented Policies (Volunteer Files and Records, Volunteer Communications, Volunteer Program) with amendments. Brehm / Carter. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

### Motion 11-11-04 Deaccess FRRX / VIA 754 Lounge Car

- Review proposal to approve FRRS / VIA lounge car 754 for deaccession and sale. Estimated listing price \$55,000.
- Car originally purchased along with the Edenwold for use by the volunteers. Was a plan approved by the Board years ago to use it as a volunteer lounge which was rescinded and changed to use in off-site service.
- Question if that use of the car is still viable with the other resources we now have. Silver Debris and Silver Plate are now available.
- Has been discussion about adding it to the off-site road train. Car can be used as a snack bar and for sales. Could be used to make money.
- Car was purchased for \$12,000 - \$14,000 for use by volunteers. Norman Holmes got free movement on

the car.

Approve the deaccession and listing for sale of FRRS 754 Lounge car as presented.

Carter / Monger. Aye – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 1.

Motion carries.

### **Motion 11-11-05**

#### Offer for Milwaukee U25B 5057

- Review proposal and discuss terms to sell body of MILW 5057 to Cle Elem, WA.
- Discussion about status of deals with Cle Elem and possible buyer for MRS-1 and locomotive parts.
- Cascade Rail Foundation now wants 5057 intact.
- Concerns selling intact 5057 would kill other deal.
- Power assemblies are being removed from 4450.
- Suggestion to sell 567C on Rail Swap.
- Suggestion to renegotiate with CRF and possible buyer R. Kemp.
- We also have 2 GE 752 motors to replace damaged motor 1 on 5057. Recommendation to offer best traction motor to CRF. Also have spare parts and repair manuals for the 5057 that can be included.
- Transfer \$500 painting grant to CRF as part of deal.
- Offer is \$25,000 including spare motor, parts, manuals. \$10,000 down payment by March 1. Rest within 12 months of March 1.
- Will take estimated 3 full days to get engine roadable. We can get the engine to Keddie.

Motion to renegotiate with CRF for the 5057 intact and with Bob Kemp for remaining materials. We will hold Kemp's check pending final negotiation.

Cochran / Brehm. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0.

Motion carries.

### **Sales Contract for MRS-1 and Parts**

- Approve sales contracts for USN MRS-1 544, internal parts from MILW U25B 5057, internal parts from SP SD9 4450 and spare 567C block. Price \$20,000.
- Can get crane for less than Kemp has been quoted if he pursue purchase of MRS-1.
- 567C block is probably worth \$20,000 alone.
- Look at listing block separately.
- Consensus direction to list block on RailSwap and bring offers back to the Board.
- Consensus direction to offer MRS-1 and bare 4450 block and generator to Kemp. Any further offer on 5057 would be pending decision by CRF.

### **Motion 11-11-06**

#### Sales Contract for SP SD9 4404

- Approve sales contract for SP SD9 4404. Price \$35,000.
- P5 horn loaned by Vic Neves has been removed from SP 4404 and will not go with the engine.

Approve the sale of SP SD9 4450 for \$35,000 as per contract.

Carter / Cochran. Aye – 6, Nay – 1, Abstain – 0.

Motion carries.

### **Motion 11-11-07**

#### Trade Contract with Dakota Southern

- Approve trade with Dakota Southern for TS 70 ton 743 and Plasser Tamper, plus parts.
- Review of trade deal
- Clarification: Gondola filled with scrap is 70' long

Approve the trade with Dakota Southern as outlined in contract.

Cochran / Vicknair. Aye – 6, Nay – 1, Abstain – 0.

Motion carries.

### **Museum Manager's Report**

- Museum is closed. Inventory done and sent.
- David is now released as Museum Manager. November 7 was final day.
- Some pending orders for Meeker's book.
- Suggestion to use UPS more often for mailing instead of USPS.

### **Financial Reports**

- Financials provided.
- Final hospital cost was over \$46,000. Contractors being very reasonable.
- We need \$100,000 before June 1 to cover budget.
- We are anticipating \$5,700 from Chris Skow, WPRRHS will be transferring \$4,800 to Archives Restricted Fund. \$15,000 can transfer from Investment Account.
- Suggestion for Treasurer Mason to investigate loans up to \$60,000 in case they are needed. Use will be subject to approval of Board.
- Due to our good asset position, we have time to improve finances. Current issues are cashflow crunch mainly caused by Hospital expenses.
- Question about expense for repairing museum Dodge. We got a good deal, had dangerous front end issues now properly repaired.

### **Director's Reports**

*Carter* – Update about status of stored equipment payments and concerns about some late payments. Will recommend changes to current policy concerning storage rental and present for revision. Steamer trunk donated at Colfax RR Days.

*Monger* – Track Repair Weekend for October 16: David and Matt Elems and Rick Gruninger installed new variable point switchstand on 3 rail on Saturday morning. Ethan Doty, Wayne Monger and Bill Parker worked on balloon loop slow order on Saturday and Sunday. Installed 10 new ties and hand tamped track. Bob Sims hosted first dinner in Silver Debris on

Saturday night. Trackwork weekend for November 5 were cancelled due to snow. Discussion about trackwork party in March or April.

*Brehm* – Archives: has had good discussions with Mike Mucklin, John Walker, Wayne Monger and others about archives and tracking of archives. Looking at purchasing PastPerfect software for this. We would need to buy own server and co-locate it at a server farm. 4U rack would run about \$300/month for co-location, back-up, power and other required service. Could put volunteer tracking and website on server.

### Event Reports

- Concern about Santa Train and needing sponsors. Preparations have begun. Steve Habeck has spent 2 weeks working on it. Matt Parker looking for sponsors and will be doing PR. Charge will be \$10 per car.

### Department Reports

*Publications* – Written report provided. Train Sheet: There was an issue with mailing / production of issue 155. Members have been receiving it anywhere from yesterday to several weeks ago. Issue 156 – 157 should be received soon. Issue 158 in progress. Have nothing but minutes for 159. Headlight: Issue 42 has gone to press.

*Facilities* - The water line to the shower car was dug up by Duane Vanderveen, Jeff Saunders, Terry Dicogtignes, David Elems, David Foreman and Charlie Spikes.

Replaced old valves with two new valves of the stop and waste type for better and full drainage of the system. A new stub up was set in place for the lounge car and we will tie that in next spring so the car will be fully functional for the 2012 operating season. Bob Simms and Charlie Spikes removed the cabinetry from the shower car and Bob installed it in the lounge car. Bob also built a new lumber rack in the wood shop bay and thus created some much needed space in the wood shop for some of the new equipment. I can not thank Bob enough for his generous donations of the new disposal, water heater and stove for the lounge car. Also his generous donation of time and work. Thanks Bob for all you do. Duane Vanderveen was going to look at repairing the backhoe, but I have'nt heard from him about that as of Monday the 7th. I will go out one day this week and drain the water heaters in the shower car and check with him then. Most facilities and locomotives are drained and winterized. Concerns about Hotbox, recommendation she go to the vet.

### Committee Reports

*Business Practices* – Committee has begun review of admission policy. Also began looking at improvements to recommend for the Store and Web Store to increase sales, appearance and operation for 2012.

*Election* – Habeck, Vicknair and Brehm up for election

### Public Comments

- Jack Palmer addressed the Board. Introduced himself to newer members he did not recognize. Jack volunteered starting in 1983. Retired 6 years ago at 80 years old. Never split a switch. Very happy to see the progress of the museum and proud to have worked with the museum. Is looking forward to visiting again in 2012.

### Closed Session

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 4:16 PM and reconvened to open session at 4:25 PM. Director Vicknair reported following the closed session:

“The Board heard a report on a legal issue: FRRS v. Kasten / ITAC. No action taken.”

## December 2011 Board Meeting Motions and Actions Summary

### Correspondance

- Debbie Baer did blitz of local businesses for Santa Train support. We received donation for \$200 from Sharon Weaver, dba Denim Blues. Debbie Baer also donated \$25.

### Motion 11-12-01

#### Consent Calendar

Motion to accept consent calendar and the minutes of the November 2011 meeting.

Vicknair / Habeck. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0. Motion carries.

### Motion 11-12-02

#### Home Donation

- Owner has offered to donate a home located in Portola to the FRRS. There is no mortgage and no other liens. Society would be free to use or sell.
- Keys received today.
- It appears that roof must be replaced.
- Inspection will be done after meeting.
- Director Vicknair offered to pay for title search.
- Professional home inspection is needed and will be arranged by Director Vicknair.
- With taxes, inspection and title search, accepting donation would cost us about \$1200 immediately. Insurance could cost about 2-3X normal for an unoccupied home.
- Suggestion to conditionally accept pending inspections, title search and other research.
- Special Meeting may be required to accept donation before year end as requested by donor.

Conditionally accept donation pending positive



outcomes on inspections, title search and research into insurance and other costs.

Vicknair / Carter. Aye – 7, Nay – 0, Abstain – 0.

Motion carries.

### Strategy Planning Meeting

- Recommendation to hold a Strategy Planning Meeting involving all directors, officers and managers to determine priorities for 2012 and beginning of 2013.
- Consensus direction to proceed.
- Director Vicknair to suggest times, locations and estimated cost at January BOD Meeting.

### President's Report

- Written report provided.
- The UPY 1042, originally WP SW1500 1503, has now arrived on the property. As everyone knows now, this locomotive was donated by the Union Pacific. They have valued the locomotive at \$235,000.
- I am working with Rick Gruninger to review our insurance policy with an eye toward finding ways to reduce the cost of our insurance. I will report back to the Board when this is complete.
- The SP 2873 has a broken air compressor due to freeze damage. A plan is in place to have this repaired in the next few weeks.
- The Hospital arsonist has been sentenced. He is receiving 12 months jail time (including time served), 5 years restricted probation, has to registered as a convicted arsonist and will be receiving 1 "strike" under the California 3 Strikes law.
- Additional information given on sentencing of arsonist. Sentencing includes restitution and a keep-away order.
- Thank you given to Rod McClure for all his work in getting the WP 1503 donated. UP valued at engine at \$235,000.
- Thanks to all the Santa Train volunteers for all their work, including Steve Habeck and family, Duane Vanderveen, Debbie Baer, Feather River Rentals, Rick Gruninger and everyone who baked cookies.

### Financial Reports

- Written report and financials provided.
- Reviewed financial report.
- Various collections and assets are safe and are in no financial danger. Donation of WP 1503 and loss of Hospital when figured in will leave a final asset total of nearly \$2.5 million. With donation, our IRS reporting will show a profit for this year.
- Cash on hand is insufficient and we need to bring in revenue.
- This does not mean we are near bankruptcy or any kind of default and does not mean we have any kind of accountability problem.
- James Mason loaned us \$15,000 interest free to cover

payments on Hospital clean up.

- Reviewed recommendations for improvements to admission capture, expense efficiency, company store and on-line store and fundraising.
- Discussion on Board fundraising will be part of Strategic Planning Meeting.
- Rod McClure, with donations he arranged, was effectively our biggest fundraiser.
- California Franchise Tax Board is going after unreported income, but we have been good at reporting income and payments to everyone and this should not present a problem for us.
- Will be talking to Chris Skow since payment is due for Railroad Days train.
- Signatures have been updated for RBC Investment Accounts in Reno. Steve Habeck to handle transfer of some money to cover bills.

### Notices

- Tom Carter and Eugene Vicknair donated custom No Trespassing signs and are placing them around the museum.

### Closed Session

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 1:59 PM and reconvened to open session at 2:01 PM. Director Vicknair reported following the closed session:

"The Board heard a report on a legal issue: FRRS v. Kasten / ITAC. No action taken."

## January 2012 Board Meeting Motions and Actions Summary

### Correspondance

- *Fundraiser* – good initial surge then slowing down. Over \$11,000 processed so far.

### Motion 12-01-01

#### Consent Calendar

Motion to accept consent calendar and the minutes of the December 2011 BOD Meeting and December 2011 Special Meeting.

Vicknair / Monger. Aye – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 1.

Motion carries.

### Strategy Planning Meeting

- Consensus to hold the meeting Feb. 11 at 6:00 PM after Board Meeting in Roseville.

### Motion 12-01-02

#### Meeker Collections Donation Contract

- Written report and preliminary contract provided.
- Donation will be a fractional donation over 10 years.

- Agreement was drafted by Director Vicknair with input from Director Monger after meeting with Dr. Cheryl Meeker. Agreement is currently in legal review.
- Several items included at request of Dr. Meeker and required by fractional donation law.
- Two collections are being donated: WP Corporate Collection and Ken Meeker Photo Collection.
- Both collections has a no sale / deaccession clause.
- Director Monger has already completed a preliminary inventory on the Corporate Collection.
- Photo Collection is currently being scanned by Dale Sanders. Will be given to FRRS on March 11 or 12, 2012 along with scans.
- Questions about insurance, signatory on contract, revenue generation from collection.

Motion to approve the agreement as presented (version C) and designate Director Vicknair and Director Monger as signators on behalf of FRRS, pending legal review.

Cochran / Brehm. Aye - 7, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0.

Motion carries.

### **Motion 12-01-03**

#### Revise Investment Signatures

- John Walker would like to not be on RBC account.
- Frank Brehm will be placed on account.

Motion to replace John Walker with Frank Brehm on RBC account.

Vicknair / Carter. Aye - 6, Nay - 0, Abstain - 1.

Motion carries.

### **Tool Loan Request**

- Written report provided.
- We have received a written request from Folsom RR Museum to borrow tools from us.
- Director Cochran pointed out that we have a draft policy to not loan tools personally or organizationally.
- Motion made in June 2007 to create policy, but will of Board is to not loan.
- Based on draft policy and past practice, the Board gives consensus direction to respectfully deny the request.

### **Recommendations of Collection Committee**

- Written report provided.
- Noted that some items are already up for deaccession and some have already been scrapped, sold or removed.
- Correction: the O&NW locomotive listed should actually be O&WN 3 / SP 5274
- Correction: RPO is UP 5810
- Noted that some engines are in RAL service now and possibly future RAL.
- Consensus to accept report and table to February.

### **Motion 12-01-04**

#### Modifications to Admission Policy

- Written report provided of Business Practices Committee recommendations.
- Place larger signs with admission info and direction to the store and provide better guidance into store
- Train / encourage volunteers to greet visitors and direct them to the store to get admission. In particular, operations department crossing guards used on busy weekends should have greeting / direct visitors as part of their task.
- Charge full regular admission for Railroad Days.
- Set-up a staffed ticket and info counter in the parking lot at main walkway entrance and put up temporary barricades at other access points from the parking lot during events.
- Continue Trains Magazine discount / ad program.
- Add discounts for AAA and AARP members in exchange for marketing / notice in their publications
- Discussions about possible pushback from city concerning Railroad Days admission, expectation that attendance would drop dramatically.
- Opinion that we should have capturing admission from Railroad Days as a policy, but can negotiate how that is accomplished.

Motion to accept Admission Recommendations with caveat that we explore Railroad Days admission more in future.

Vicknair / Monger. Aye - 7, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0.

Motion carries.

### **President's Report**

- Flat car "Big Red" is back from CSRM. IR loco unloaded successfully. Will be cleaned up and put in main building at backshop. Chains and tiedown gear for car will be picked up in early spring.
- WP 1503. UP removed SmartStart system which resulted in some disconnected wiring.
- Rod McClure, Gail McClure and Rick Gruninger looked at RAL costs and did full financial analysis. We need to look at raising RAL prices soon. Now looking at caboose train costs.
- RAL Rule Changes: 18 and older only. All RAL guests must have a seat. No caboose train moves while RAL is in operation.
- Insurance went up \$960 this year.

### **Financial Reports**

- Written report and financials provided.
- 2011 Year End Report still being worked on.
- Cash is tight. \$7100 in operating account.
- Need to look at total costs for off-site shows, including incidental and secondary costs.
- Request that Directors increase their involvement in fundraising and income generation.

- Legal issues with Morgan v. FRRS lawsuit and Hospital clean-up costs hit our finances hard.
- Soliciting suggestions to reduce expenses. Board broke into small work groups to examine budget and come back with change suggestions.
- We will look more at fundraising in February.

### Director's Reports

- *Holmes* - Norm checked with State Farm and they would not insure vacant, but would insure rented or pending rental. Received suggested comparable of \$28,000 to \$32,000.
- *Vicknair* – addition: Rick Gruninger researched insurance on donated house. House is not currently insurable on personal policy due to ownership by commercial entity. Our carrier will not insure a vacant residence, will insure rented property. Rick is checking with other carriers and providers.
- Suggestion to insure the Hospital vacant property under liability section of insurance. Consensus to proceed with that suggestion.
- Thanks to Norm and Eugene for work on the house.

### Event Reports

- *WPRRHS Convention* – There will be no convention this year, focusing on 2013 Elko.

### Closed Session

The Board heard reports on a Legal Issue, FRRS v. Kasten / ITAC and a Donation Issue, Meeker Collections. No action taken.

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## February 2012 Board Meeting Motions and Actions Summary

### Recommendations of Collection Committee

- Written report provided.
- Discussion about definition of collections.
- Agreement that these are candidates for deaccession from permanent.
- Tabled to March to correct list and take final action.

### Equipment Sponsorship Program

- Written report provided.
- Statement that there will be no "NASCAR" style branding on equipment.
- Question about tax implications and possibility of issues with taxes. Appears that tax issues are not a problem, but we will verify.
- Concerns about restricted funds. We currently accept restricted donations, this would be no different.
- Discussion about logistics issues.
- Recommendation to approve concept, move forward.
- Consensus direction given to move forward and approach person recommended by Chris Allan.

### Caboose Train Schedule

- Revised schedule presented.
- Consensus that it looks good and that we proceed with plan.

### Motion 12-02-01

#### New Account Signatures

Approve Steve Habeck, Rod McClure, Susan Scarlett and Eugene Vicknair as signers on the new BofA internet account.

Vicknair / McClure. Aye – 6, Nay – 0, Abstain – 1.  
Motion carries.

### Fundraising Program

- Written report provided.
- Suggestion to consider a fundraising program similar to one just implemented by Orange Empire.
- In first year, this program raised over \$130,000 for 2011 and \$130,000 pledged for 2012.
- Donors get invitation to special deals / events.
- Could use Roger Stabler's car for a program like this, if he agrees.
- Discussion about what benefits to offer, costs for the program. Need to gather more cost information. What could we offer that is similar.
- OERM established a minimum number to cover trips.
- Suggestion that we could piggy-back with AAPRCO trips in 2013 in Napa Valley.
- Consensus to gather more information and report back in May after OERM runs their first trip.
- Return to Board with full business plan.

*February 2012 Minutes continued next issue...*

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*Any member in good standing may request a complete copy of the transcript of board meetings from the Society. There is a nominal charge for each copy which covers postage and administrative costs.*

*The Train Sheet needs your photos and articles.*

*If you are working on projects for the Society, volunteering on restorations, performing archives work, helping out at off-site events, etc., or if you get some nice photos of FRRS happenings that you want to share, please contact us to have them printed in *The Train Sheet*.*

*Photos should be at least 5" high by 7" wide and 300 dots per inch. Articles should focus on FRRS related events, people or your own personal experiences with the Society.*

*To contribute, contact Editor Eugene Vicknair by email at [trainsheet@wplives.org](mailto:trainsheet@wplives.org).*



**- FRRS Membership -****Yearly Dues**

Associate \$25.00  
 Active \$50.00  
 Family \$80.00  
 Sustaining \$150.00

**Single Life Membership** - \$1800.00

**Family Life Membership** - \$3000.00

**Institutional** - \$60.00 (annual membership for 501c(3) groups)

These are the dues for the duration of one year, with Life and Family Life being a one-time payment.  
 Five year payment plans are available for life memberships.

**Associate** memberships do not have a vote, receive The Train Sheet but not the Headlight and are for one person only.

**Active** memberships receive both The Train Sheet and the Headlight, have voting rights and are for one person only.

**Family** memberships receive both The Train Sheet and the Headlight, have two votes and include all members of ones immediate family.

**Sustaining** memberships receive both The Train Sheet and Headlight, have voting rights and are for one person only.

**Life** memberships receive both The Train Sheet and Headlight, have voting rights and are for one person only for life.

**Family Life** memberships receive both The Train Sheet and the Headlight, are for a maximum of two people and have two votes (one per member) for life.

Send all applications, renewals and address changes, including email changes, to:  
 Feather River Rail Society - Membership Dept. - P.O. Box 608 - Portola, CA 96122-0608  
 Address / email changes may also be sent to membership@wplives.org

**Mission Statement**

"The Feather River Rail Society is dedicated to the preservation, interpretation and education of the public, as to the history and people of the Western Pacific Railroad."

**Mission Goals**

To preserve and interpret the history of the WP, the "Willing People" as a vital link in the development of the rail industry on the West Coast, including the steam and diesel evolution, WP's influence in the passenger tourism industry, the impact of freight competition between neighboring railroads. WP's influence in the lumber, mining and agriculture industry from Plumas County throughout California, Nevada and Utah.

**WPRM Admission and Train Ride Fares for non-members (effective April 1, 2011)****Admission**

- Adults 19 and over... \$8.00
- Youth 4 – 18... \$4.00
- Child under 3... free
- Family... \$20.00  
 (2 adults plus any related children 18 and under)

Admission and Train Ride tickets are good all day.

Admission and Train Rides for FRRS members are free. Cab ride is extra fare with member discount.

Admission charged April 2 to November 6, 2011, plus Santa Trains, December 4 and 11, 2011.

**Train Rides**

- Adults 19 and over... \$4.00
- Youth 4 – 18... \$2.00
- Child under 3... free
- Family... \$10.00  
 (2 adults plus any related children 18 and under)

**Cab Rides**

- Adult 19 and over... \$20.00
- Youth 4 – 18... \$10.00

Cab rides are for one (1) ride only.

## The Train Sheet

Feather River Rail Society  
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### FROM THE ARCHIVES...



*Wearing UP colors, Tidewater Southern RS-1 waits the next call for duty in Stockton on June 13, 1971.*

*- Vincent Porreca photo, Eugene Vicknair collection*