

FEATHER RIVER RAIL SOCIETY – REPORT

DATE: September 9, 2014
FROM: Director Vicknair – Convention Co-Chair
ITEM: Event Report
SUBJECT: **2014 Historical Convention**

Despite the compressed advertising and some concerns about getting enough clinics / presentations, the 2014 Convention in Fairfield seemed to be very well received. While the attendance numbers were down, we think we know why and this is discussed below. Despite the low attendance, the convention did make money for the archives.

Here is the accounting for the 2014 Historical Convention according to the tallies I have.

Gross Registration Income	\$ 6,514.00
Gross Membership Income	\$ 290.00
Gross WRM Event Income	\$ 1,296.00
Gross Raffle Income	\$ 834.00
Total Gross Income	\$ 8,934.00

Expenses

PayPal Charges	\$ 87.51
Hilton Garden room usage	\$ 1,750.00
Hilton Garden dinner / catering	\$ 3,191.67
Hilton Garden rooms	\$ 403.41
Office Depot – supplies	\$ 163.00
Sign Warehouse – supplies	\$ 51.72
Mailrite – mailing	\$ 495.14
Buckhorn Catering - WRM event	\$ 708.00
Western Railway Museum	\$ 432.00
Total Gross Expenses	\$ 7,282.45

Net Income from Convention **\$ 1,361.55** minus memberships of \$290.00

Notes:

- There was a payment of \$1,200 to Vic Neves for A/V equipment rental and services that will be repaid as caboose space rental for the next year. This is not accounted in the totals.
- There are some outstanding reimbursements that need to be settled in the total amount of \$715.00. These should be settled by the Board Meeting.
- There was \$293.00 in expenditures made for materials that, while purchased for the convention, are reusable items that will be used by the museum in general or at the 2015 convention. These are not

accounted in the totals and include a new Store Printer, sign holders and an order of lanyards that were not delivered in time for the convention.

- I believe Wayne has 1 outstanding receipt for about \$65.00 for replacement lanyards.

Attendance Numbers

2014 Convention: 98 Convention
83 Banquet

2013 Convention: 139 Convention
109 Banquet

The lower attendance numbers can be attributed partly to getting advertising out later than usual, but a majority issue seems to be the August date. While some convention goers expressed approval of the later date, most attendees and many who did not register prefer spring.

If we had reached 2013 attendance numbers, the income would have been about \$2,000 higher in terms of registration and banquet net after estimated expenses.

Raffle

In 2013, the raffle made \$1,077.00. This year, it made less, \$834.00, however there were less attendees.

The raffle income per attendee in 2014 was \$8.51, while in 2013 it was \$7.75.

Also note that in 2013, raffle tickets were sold in two locations (FRRS table and Registration table), while in 2014 the raffle sales were only at the Registration table.

Many attendees expressed approval of the "voting" aspect introduced into the Raffle this year and it did seem to spur sales. They liked the idea of having input into the location of the next convention. The two choices were San Jose and Elko, with Elko being the winner.

We had a great set of raffle prizes this year, donated by both companies and members. Thank you to:

Signature Press

Shade Tree Press

Woodland Scenics

Kalmbach Publishing

Kadee Quality Products

Napa Valley Wine Train

Walt's Trains and Electronics

Brad Lomazzi

Ed Wagner

Jim Dias

Scott McAllister

WPRM Museum Store

FRRS Archives

and some others I know I am forgetting at the moment

Memberships

We received 6 new Active memberships, 4 renewal Active memberships and 1 renewal Family membership.

2015 Convention

Planning has already begun for the 2015 Convention, which will be in Elko, unless something changes dramatically. Dates are in the calendar to be approved this meeting and a tentative location has been chosen. It just needs to be vetted. Also some special events are being explored and clinics / presentations are being solicited.

We also will be soliciting volunteers earlier. I have determined that we should have at least 3 for each day, aside from the co-chairs. This gives some trade off if someone wants to attend a clinic.

Thank Yous

Several people were very helpful in setting up this convention and volunteering to work during it:

Scott McAllister
Elizabeth Freitas
Jeff Asay
David Dodds

Tom Carter
Alicia LaBreque
David Epling

Presenters and Vendors and Tech Support:

Dale Sanders
Ted Benson
Dave Stanley
Bob Sims
Brad Lomazzi
David Epling

John Schmale
Ken Rattenne
Rod McClure
Stuart Swiedler
Walt Schedler
Vic Neves

Special thanks to Dave Buccolo for being our guest speaker.

Also, to Phil Kohlmetz and the Western Railway Museum, Buckhorn Catering and the staff of the Hilton Garden Inn - Fairfield.

And thank you to my co-chair, Wayne Monger