

Feather River Rail Society – Board of Directors Meeting – April 11, 2015

FRRS Director Wayne I. Monger – Report to the Board and Membership

With the conclusion of the 2014 Tax Year, Wayne Monger and Lynda Monger, both charter life members of the Feather River Rail Society, have reported on the 2014 personal joint federal income tax filing a total of 6,458 miles of volunteer mileage and \$2,445.04 in total volunteer non-reimbursed meal, supply and lodging expenses. Of these totals, 89% of the mileage and 85% of the non-reimbursed expenses are attributed both directly to FRRS volunteer service and secondary to FRRS volunteer service (i.e. attending the California Association of Museums annual conference, Milwaukee Road 5057 preparation project for Cascade Rail Foundation, traveling to make a Western Pacific RR historical presentation on behalf of the FRRS membership at the annual Union Pacific Historical Society convention).

From November 20, 2014 to March 9, 2015, Wayne Monger was the FRRS representative within a small team of archive volunteers from the Western Railway Museum working to sort, identify, catalogue and prepare for shipment all railroad historical materials of the Jeffery Moreau estate in the Sacramento area. Jeff was a charter life member of the FRRS (member #0227), a charter member of Bay Area Electric Railroad Association (Western Railway Museum), one of the 10 founding members of Orange Empire Railway Museum (member #6) and the owner of railroad history book publisher Car barn Press. Work was performed under the close management of estate manager Tom Messer with the direct approval of Jeff Moreau's sister, Stefanie Powers of Beverly Hills, California. Working 2 or 3 days per week each week during this period, the final volunteer tally sheet shows 93 man-days of effort on this project, with each day running 9 hours (not including 2 to 3 hours of travel time each day). Upon conclusion of the last segment of this project late in the evening of March 9th (identification and sorting the last of Jeff's collection of just over 200,000 color slides), we ended up with right around 220 standard size "banker boxes", around ten 5-drawer file cabinets full of fragile documents and over two dozen historical artifacts. Once this large volume of historical materials is given a valuation estimate by a qualified appraiser, Ms. Powers will approve the planned transfer to her designated railroad history organizations. Unfortunately, the volume of Western Pacific Railroad materials within Jeff's estate was disappointing low, coming out at approximately one tenth of one percent of total volume and well below the minimum \$5,000 approximate valuation that Ms. Powers required for any organization to be considered. Thus, what little WP materials there are in Jeff's estate will be sent to Western Railway Museum's archives, to be added to the vast WP corporate materials available for research access there. The five railroad history organizations receiving the Jeff Moreau estate are Bay Area Electric Railroad Association/Western Railway Museum, Orange Empire Railway Museum, Cascade Rail Foundation/Pacific Northwest Railroad Archive facility, Illinois Railroad Museum of Union, Illinois and the New York Central Railroad Historical Society in New York State. During a yet to be specified date later this year, Ms. Powers is planning on an official ownership transfer ceremony of the large volume of materials going to Orange Empire Railway Museum at OERM, which will include a scattering of Jeff's ashes along the OERM right of way. Wayne plans to attend this event as the FRRS representative.