



Historical/Archive Department Report

3-5-2019

Since we are in the closed portion of the museum operation, I will be suspending some of the activities that need to be performed on-site. The Portola winter weather is not kind to those of us that have to spend time in a cold boxcar or archive car to retrieve or research information.

We are still processing archive requests through the winter (those that can be done remotely) and are creating a list of things that need to be done once the museum opens again for this next season.

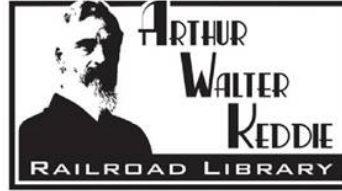
March is here and as we start to ramp up for the museum to open, I have been working on some projects for the historical/archives department.

There was a recent question sent to us about a WP pocket watch. So far, the archives staff have been unable to find specific information on the request. The photos sent to us show a National watch, (now Elgin) that was produced some time between 1920 and 1950. We do have some safety award pocket watches in the archive, however they are in storage at the museum, and since we are right in the middle of the winter, I have not been to the museum to look at them.

We did respond to the individual looking for the information and let them know about a pocket watch data base that may help and that we would get back to them as soon as we could after we were able to get back to the museum.

I have been fortunate to have Frank Brehm and Eugene Vicknair as resources on the Historical/Archive staff to help me in obtaining answers, or the correct resource to look for answers, for these inquires along with Paul Finnegan who helps me all the time.

Frank has passed more archive materials to me that he has scanned so that we have more in electronic format, this along with more photos we received from John Walker to help us in some of our publications and articles on the Western Pacific. Frank is also working on some scanning of slides/photos that we will have permission to use in some of our publications and the upcoming 2019 convention.



If you have not visited the Historical/Archive Department web page recently, please consider looking at them to see “What’s New” in the Western Pacific Documents page.

http://wplives.org/wphistory_wp_documents.html

We continue to add more materials to the Historical/Archive web pages. Please take time to view the Historical/Archive web pages and see what’s new.

Needs for the Archives:

We are always looking for help in getting materials properly stored and we need the support of the membership with helping supply storage materials for the archives.

Items listed below are needed to help keep our collection stored properly and should you wish to help us out, we certainly would like your donation and help.

- Computer Program to track all the Historical/Archive items (PastPerfect) is the computer program that I have been looking at, however I have not received a cost for that program as of yet.
- Archive Storage boxes for 35mm slides
- Archive Storage boxes for 8 1/2 X 11 materials

Should any member receive any donation and/or get an inquiry about a donation, please get in touch with Eugene, Frank, myself or any member of the board of directors so that we may follow up with the donor to make sure we properly address the donation or inquiry.

I would also like to thank all the volunteers that help us in the Historical/Archive Department.

Kerry Cochran
Director, General Superintendent