

May 2020

FRRS President's Report

Since I've been tied up with family responsibilities again at the beginning of the month, I've relied on Steve to keep the museum on course. Thank you Steve.

Having said that, I was back at the museum on Friday the 15th for the Whitcomb move. Mark McClarren, Casey Wilmunder and Tony Howard came up from Oroville on Friday to load the Whitcomb in the parking lot and get it moved to its new owner in the SF Bay Area. From the museum, Steve Habeck, Ethan Doty and David Elems assisted with the loading. We got a slow start but the Whitcomb was on the trailer by 2:50 pm and the cleanup of the parking lot was quickly taken care of.

Of interest, Casey Wilmunder is involved with the newly formed museum in Oroville. He is interested in our WP wooden caboose 646 on the flat car, even though it has been badly damaged by an arson in late February. He and Tony feel they could rebuild it with new wood and even have a set of trucks to set it on. Tony was a carpenter before he had to retire. Since we were going to rebuild it possibly in the future for use as an ADA compliant restroom facility, this maybe a better future for it. Discussion is on going about it but it's not my place to make a decision on whether it stays or goes to a new home. Also discussed was Magnolia Tower. The new museum in Oroville at the WP depot may be interested in Maggy. While it probably will never be restored to a complete WP artifact, there is a chance parts of it and a lot of new wood may help Maggy live on in Oroville next to the old depot. Again more discussion needed. Third and lastly, interest in the 804-A cab on the flat car from the Zephyr project was mentioned to me. I know this is a touchy subject and I said at the moment it isn't for sale but some interesting ideas were put forth. I'm hoping to find out more, about the idea and plans they have for it in Oroville.

Greg Elems

President - FRRS