

GIFT SHOP REPORT

by Chris Skow

Our new 1986 merchandise catalog is being mailed with the TRAIN SHEET and as you can see we have expanded our line of goodies offered to you. Also if you look at the prices you will see that we offer just about everything at a discount.

You help us grow by buying our merchandise and we help you by giving a discount. As time goes on I will be adding more and more items to the ever growing list. In time I want us to be the number 1 gift shop and mail order museum in the Western States. I want to have more of a variety than any other railroad museum.

This months specials.....

OVERLAND TO THE ROCKIES is a 104 page book which is a 240 photo pictorial covering the western railroad scene including WP-UP-SP-BN & DRGW. 12 pages are devoted to the WP.

List price is \$14.95 softbound--Our special is \$10.50.....

GOLDEN STATE RAILS is a softbound pictorial covering Calif. railroading from the 60's to the 80's.

List price is \$8.95--Our special is \$6.95.....

BELT BUCKLE SALE.....check out the buckles in the catalog that we have for sale. Take the price listed (which is discounted) and subtract \$1.25.

HAT SALE.....Again check out the hats we have offered in our new catalog and subtract \$1.00 from the price.

Remember, California residents must add 6% sales tax and every one please add postage.

THESE SPECIALS ARE GOOD UNTIL MAY 15th

I would like to welcome member David Dodds to my sales staff.

He and his crew will be setting up booths at most railfan shows and swap meets in the Southern Cal area and will have most of our merchandise on sale at these meets.

Member Vickie Krois will be again operating the gift shop on most weekends through the tourist season. She did a fine job last year and I welcome her back.

Anyone that thinks they might enjoy working in the gift shop please drop me a line.....

Please feel free to pass out our new 86 catalog to your friends. If you need extra copies just let me know. REMEMBER-Help us grow, buy from us!!! WP LIVES IN PORTOLA.....

WESTERN PACIFIC DEPOTS

Norm Holmes

In Western Pacific's early days, nearly every siding between Oakland and Salt Lake had a depot. Today only nine remain:

OAKLAND---original depot now in use as a restaurant

STOCKTON---original depot is now a youth center

SACRAMENTO---original depot is now a restaurant

MARYSVILLE---original depot is now in use as an architect's office

OROVILLE---original depot is now a restaurant

GREENVILLE---original depot is not in use and an effort is now underway to save structure, may be moved

PORTOLA---original depot demolished, current depot in railroad use since 1964

GERLACH---current depot built when original was demolished

ELKO---depot built in 1940's after original demolished, now State of Nevada property following relocation

Events Leading to the birth of the WESTERN PACIFIC.....

In 1900 two events occurred that were to have tremendous long range influence upon western railroading. During the year George Gould's Missouri Pacific began to buy stock in Denver & Rio Grande and the latter railroad commenced heavy purchases of Rio Grande Western holdings. With this move, the young man made his move to fulfill the transcontinental aspirations so long entertained by his father, Jay Gould.

The August death of C P Huntington and leaving to his estate 40,000 shares of Southern Pacific stock: now up for grabs. Shortly Harriman & Kuhn, Loeb & Co. went after Huntington interest in an attempt to obtain control of Central Pacific and before finished had to buy the whole SP system.

In May of 1901 George Gould gained control over the entire Rio Grande system giving entry to Utah transportation picture which angered Harriman who now was able to close the Ogden gateway bottling up D&RG thus forcing Gould to build to Calif.

Excerpts from "REBEL OF THE ROCKIES" a book by Robt G. Athearn as done by George Comer.....

SOUTHERN SALES.....

This is just to let the members know that we are keeping WP ALIVE in So Cal by selling our museum merchandise at shows down here in So Cal. On March 1st we made \$338.98 at Orange Empire Railway's museum. On March 8th we made \$300.93 at the Santa Fe modelers swap meet. A total of \$639.91 so that is a good start for keeping WP ALIVE.....

Thank you members,

Dave Dodds

Bob Thrasher

Bill Marshall

IF YOU LIKE FREIGHT CARS LIKE I LIKE FREIGHT CARS.....

Then you need to know about two groups that are doing something in the much needed freight car area..

1. FCDX, WITH A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE FREIGHT CAR DATA EXCHANGE, GOOD MODELING AND PROTOTYPE INFO..
2. FREIGHT CARS JOURNAL, Published by the Society of Freight Car Historians, mostly prototype data on whats up in new or used freight equipment, with a little modeling.

FCDX, Annual is \$5.00

P.O. Box 711

Cotati, Calif. 94928

FCJ, Annual is \$12.00

P.O. Box 1458

Monrovia, Calif 91016

Ski