

Conductor Steve Habeck after doing an outstanding job both last and this year running the operations, is now in charge of all operations at the museum. Steve is setting up crews and overseeing the use of any equipment in passenger operations. Please see Steve if you are going to be part of a crew or want to be....

GROUNDS IMPROVEMENT

A six foot cyclose fence is now in place along 1,000 feet of our easterly property line including a gate across our main entrance, thanks to the City of Portola. The 37 acres leased from Union Pacific to the City of Portola is now some what fenced except the areas south west and in the pine forest. Hap Manit worked hard to get the fence line ready for the installers, "arranging" free ground work to provide a level area....

PORTOLA MUSEUM MASTER PLAN SOP.....APPROVED.....

Our Master Plan, Standard Operating Procedures were approved by the Portola City Council at their July meetings. A number of questions arose regarding our training program and these were satisfactorily resolved after consulting former WP VP-Law Walt Treanor. Larry Hanlon, Norm Holmes and John "SKI" Ryczkowski worked hard to finalize the paper work. We also wish to thank the Advisory Board and the City Council, particularly Fran Rhodembush for their understanding of our needs. With the SOP in place we have named John Ryczkowski and Dave McClain as Qualified Enginemen, and Matt Parker as Conductor. At the end of this operating year the training dept along with Steve Habeck will put a list in the SHEET as who's who in the operating dept showing everyone's qualifications. We need more members to come up and join in I see the same faces each operating day. The members are doing a great job and welcome any new comers.....

SIGNS

Bert James volunteered to improve the quality of signs around the museum, snack bar area and to make posters to be placed in area stores and camp grounds. Emery Godard painted new signs for the ticket booth and some "Train Rides Today" signs. Both efforts are appreciated

and will help make our museum look better.

We have placed 10 baked enamel directional signs along the A-15 route to the museum entrance and have two larger directional signs for the sign post at the intersection of Gulling and Hwy 70. A large 6 X8 foot sign will soon be placed on Norm Holmes property so travellers coming west on HiWay 70 will be aware of the museum.

The Eastern Plumas Chamber of Commerce has voted to give us a check for \$50 to help in the cost of the signs. Attracting visitors not only helps our museum grow, but helps the economy of the local area as well.

Wayne Monger lettered a number of informational signs to be placed around the museum, including a nice one advising the visitors of the donation box and who pays for all the improvements in the museum.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS

Mike Attama continues to improve our electrical system. We now have power to plugs and lights at the rip track and diesel fueling areas. Clyde Lippencott donated two large 3 phase switch boxes and told us about some electrical items available at reasonable prices in Washoe Valley. Norm Holmes stopped by and picked up a 3 phase 200 amp entrance panel with meter socket for \$20. a bargain. Although a larger amperage unit would have been preferable, this unit will work fine for a long time. Norm also picked up four casters for use with our scaffolding. We could use 4 to 8 more if any one has some to donate.?????

Incidentally Mike has offered a 10% discount to any FRRS members who wish to stay in his Sierra Springs RV Park, located 7 miles west of Portola on Hwy 70. Full hookups are available.....

Chris Skow and Vickie Krois have cleaned and painted the floors in the display room and the theatre.

And, at long last....the Diesel Shop building has been painted. The painting was authorized by UP last year, but for a number of reasons the work was not done until now. A special thanks is due Mr Flannery for recommending the improvement.

ONE UP AND ONE DOWN

KCC 908-this Alco RS2 sprang to life July 5th-moving on its own power for the first time in over three years. Jim Ley worked on the engine governor and found the trouble and now the engine stays running. It's only running on two traction motors because of the

removal of No 1 motor, but it will pull several cars and runs fine. A loud knock was evident near the air compressor and the trouble was diagnosed as a loose/worn coupling. A tube of grease quieted it down so it could be run until repaired.

KCC 2-our operational Alco RS3 developed a water leak in one of its 12 cylinders. The offending head will have to be removed and the cause ascertained, meanwhile it is out of service.

ON "MILEPOST" ARTICLE

Member John C Miller sends along this letter about the article in the last TS about the Westwood line...

"Must make comment about the article on Sheet 3 from May-June 1966 issue of "MILEPOSTS". Editor Lee Sherwood must have had misinformation when the article was written.

When SP stopped their operations in Westwood they used a section gang to maintain the 5.267 miles of joint track in accordance with the joint track agreement. There were no SP trains so the entire cost of maintaining the track, grade crossings, bridge and the station, performed by SP personal, was borne by Western Pacific per the agreement.

This arrangement was uneconomical insofar as we were concerned so in the early 70's, while I was Executive Assistant to the President, we negotiated a lease with the SP. This provided that SP would lease the tracks, structures and rights of way to WP for an annual rental fee and that Western Pacific would maintain the property with its own forces and at its own expense. This arrangement existed in 1982 when I retired and up to that time SP retained ownership of the line."

UPDATE ON 426 MODELS.....

As I was putting together this issue of the SHEET I called Overland to get a current update on the progress on the caboose models. We are looking at a Spring of 87 delivery with the wooden cupola to follow. I have all the reservations that have been sent in on file and will confirm by letter before the end of the year. Also we are looking into doing other WP models starting with passenger cars and others, please write to me and let me know your ideas and I'll make up a list and work on the most popular....Ski