

runs as well as a place to gather before and after operating sessions. Thanks to Bruce Cooper, we now have a nice cabinet for our locomotive service and parts manuals. Steve Habeck made a crew signup board for operating weekends. It is mounted on the wall where crew members may sign up for positions. If possible, please sign up in advance so we will know who is on duty. Hank Stiles has a desk to keep crew and equipment records. Members working on equipment or on operating crews are reminded to fill out the appropriate forms each day as we need a record of what is being done and by whom. Thanks. Jim Ley moved the Portola operator's desk from the Silver Palace outfit car to the OR. It is now used by the dispatcher and operator. This desk was used for many years in the Portola depot. Hank has prepared a bulletin book for the office. Operating crew members should check this book before the day's runs. Also, our 1988 rule books are still available, if you are on and operating crew it is your responsibility to be familiar with the rules.

### News From Around The Balloon

An 8' by 16' wood frame structure is being built to house our oil supplies and related items. A concrete slab of this size is located between No. 2 and No. 3 tracks at the west end of the diesel shop and was used for this purpose when the WP used this facility. The former building was removed before we acquired the property and we are now replacing the structure. Andy McCarron, Rod Mc Clure, Phil Schmierer and Norm Holmes started the frame in August. It is expected to be completed soon.

The *Soroptimist International* donated four metal BBQ units to our Society for the picnic areas. Ground breaking was held on June 15th following their meeting in the Mike Flannery Room. Although the picnic area is incomplete, the area has been used by three groups for picnics. Further ground work is needed and we will still need picnic tables and a large BBQ pit for group use.

Ken Roller has painted a number of oil paintings of WP steam locomotives. They are on display in the Mike Flannery Room and are for sale. They are fine works of art and would be a nice addition to one's home. Ken is also our number one track man. He is again at work, building a switch on Rip 3 to allow Rip 4 to be built. The new 300 foot track will be parallel to Rip 3 and temporarily end at the ramp. Norm Holmes has been using this occasion to practice operating our Little Giant crane to move rail. Dean Hill assisted in the rail movement.

For the second year, John Marvin set up a window display at the Plumas County Fair in Quincy. The display was very well done and helps acquaint fairgoers with the museum.

### Membership

We wish to welcome Dale Meyers, Richard Severance and Peter Watkins who joined our organization as Life Members. This brings our total Life Membership to 32.

### WP Notes

Western Pacific's car ferry *Las Plumas* has been sold to Sea-Link Marine Services, Ltd. and converted to a barge for service between Vancouver and Swartz Bay, British Columbia for CP Rail. It has been redesigned to haul highway trailers (without tractors) between these points. The former self-propelled ferry was used by the WP to transport freight cars between Oakland and San Francisco and has been out of service for several years. Our museum has the log books from it's WP service era.

A free sample of a timely railfan newsletter can be obtained by sending two stamps to *Western Line Productions PO Box 6776-L, Orange, CA 92613*. Northwest Railfan covers CA, NV and AZ and is published twice a month. Mention your FRRS membership when requesting the free copy.