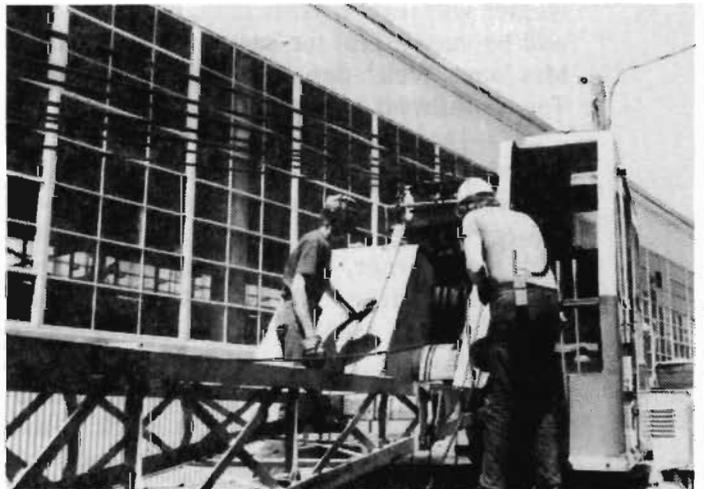


Opening Weekend

Despite cool winds and even a little snow, attendance was good during the opening weekend. Saturday's operations got off to a slow start, but as the day warmed up a bit, more visitors dropped in. Two engine sets were used, GP-9 No. 707 and F7 No. 921/GP-30 No. 849 performed opening day honors. The operating department sported new caps for members, available only to operating department volunteers. Engineers for the weekend were: Dave McClain, Jim Ley and student passenger engineer Bruce Cooper. Conductor duty was handled by Gary Cousin and Assistant Trainmaster Vic Neves. Fireman duties were performed by Bruce Cooper (on runs when passengers were in the cabs), Dale Wyant and ??????. Brakemen were Mark French, Fred James, Dave Waters and student brakeman Sam Burton. Gordon Wollesen also assisted with operations. Trainmaster Steve Habeck had to depart early to home near San Luis Obispo since his wife had baby number four, a girl. Congratulations!

Beyond his usual frantic pace around the engine house, Norman Holmes found time to grease the balloon track thereby endearing himself to the crews and passengers alike. After the winter, the flange squeal was LOUD!

Assistant General Manager Hank Stiles was out and about the property helping out with odd tasks and operations assistance. Thanks also to the snack bar crew, Barbara Holmes and Sue Cooper, with Emery Godard again slinging his famous burgers and hot dogs. Pat Cousin manned the gift shop with help from Hap Mani. If you haven't visited the gift shop lately, you're in for a surprise. Lou Ann Milward has completely reorganized it and it looks (and sells) great! As always, mail orders are cheerfully accepted!



Activities on Spring Work Weekend. Top, Brian Challander and Gary Griffen finish the roof on oil house; middle, Dave McClain and Larry Hanlon see what the inside of a turbo looks like; botton, Jim Ley and Mark French replace cable on our Little Giant Crane. Dave Waters photos