

FEATHER RIVER RAIL SOCIETY
FIRST SUBDIVISION CLUB

For a few years now, there has been some desire on the part of the FRRS members that live in the San Francisco Bay Area to become more involved with the museum, inspite of the four hour plus driving time one way to Portola. Thanks to the efforts of members such as Gary Cousins, Vic Neves and Erv Hartung, there is now a set time and place for regional FRRS members to socialize, talk and learn about the latest at Portola without actually having to travel there. This loosely organized social meeting has been dubbed the "First Subdivision Club", named after the Western Pacific's First Subdivision line between Stockton and Oakland. There is already some interest in starting a "Second Sub Club" for the members in the Stockton/Modesto/Lodi/Sacramento area and a "Third Sub Club" for the members in the Marysville/Chico/Redding area of the Sacramento Valley.

The first meeting of the "First Sub Club" was held on April 1 at Victor Neves' house in San Leandro. Thanks to the efforts of membership officer Joe Way, notification of this meeting were sent in the mail to all FRRS members that live in the Bay Area region. In all, 27 members showed up to pack Vic's house with lively discussions and suggestions of how we as members can best help the museum and our society grow. FRRS Board member Wayne Monger and his wife Lynda Monger passed out a prepared members questionnaire to the people present to get some solid feedback as to what the membership as a whole are concerned about and what they would like to see done to increase involvement in our organization. (The results and suggestions from this survey were presented to your Board of Directors the next day in Portola.) Many great suggestions came from this first meeting, some of which included better facilities and accomidations for the working membership, setting up a regional phone message line to help with updated museum information and carpooling to and from Portola, order forms for individual name badges, a well publicized prioritized work projects list and the possibility of the regional groups getting together to concentrate on a specific project at our museum. Other items discussed during this first meeting was how extensive was the interest in modeling information, possible video and multi-media productions and the need to make the meetings of the "First Subdivision Club" a regular event. Before the evening's discussions came to an end, it was decided that the "First Sub Club" would meet about every three months. After this, the activities continued with slides from some of the participants on hand, and WP videos from Vic Neves' extensive collection. We all have to thank Gary Cousins for "getting the ball rolling" on this idea and then following up on it to a productive end. Unfortunately, the Cousins'

family moved from the Bay Area to Redding about a month before this first meeting, but Gary did make it to see just how well his efforts paid off.

The second meeting of the "First Subdivision Club" took place the evening of June 10 at the beautifully restored Southern Pacific Niles Depot in the old Niles district of Fremont, California. This meeting saw only 17 of the regional FRRS members show up for an evening of discussions led by Erv Hartung and Wayne Monger, refreshments (including two pizzas delivered to the depot), a tour of the large model railroad being built in the basement, and slides from some of the people on hand. Thanks to the generosity of the people at the Niles Depot, the "First Sub Club" now has a very classy and impressive "home" to meet in. Most of the discussions at this meeting centered around the summertime plans at our museum and developments since the first meeting.

We hope that many more of our members from not only the San Francisco Bay Area but other areas will attend the next "fun-filled" meeting of the "First Subdivision Club". The next meeting is:

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 1989
7:00PM

At The OLD SP NILES DEPOT
(Located Along Mission Blvd. in the Niles District of Fremont)

* Tell a Friend and Bring Along A Neighbor! *

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

Erv Hartung at (415) 727-0253

or

Victor Neves at (415) 352-4373

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doors off and the internal works exposed on the #5057, this locomotive has been a favorite display of many of our visitors this summer, allowing them to see what actually makes a locomotive run.

With some luck and lots of spare time for the people working on the #5057, this member of the collection at our museum that represents a very important step in the evolution of the diesel locomotive will be fully restored and repainted in less than two years. Meantime, the work will continue at a slow pace, and the sound of the FDL-16 prime mover will occasionally break the current all-EMD sound found at our museum.

Late breaking news: On September 4th 5057 moved under its own power. All systems seem to be working properly. The engine shut itself down several times due to a low-water protective device - typical of early GE's according to WP engineers...