

The FRRS Welcomes Silver State TRAIN '92 Conventioneers

A brief description follows of the Feather River Rail Society and the Portola Railroad Museum for the benefit of Silver State TRAIN '92 Conventioneers and for the many newcomers to the Feather River Rail Society.

The Portola Railroad Museum in Portola, California, is located at the 5,000 foot level in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, near the headwaters of the Feather River. The museum is a 39 acre former locomotive service facility in use by the Western Pacific Railroad from 1954 to 1974. The non-profit, tax exempt Feather River Rail Society was formed in February 1983 by local rail enthusiasts and railroad employees solely for the purpose of promoting the idea of preserving the history and equipment of the Western Pacific Railroad. The Feather River Rail Society operates the Portola Railroad Museum.

This site includes a 16,000 square foot, 220 foot long shop building and two and one half miles of trackage. Western Pacific's last remaining "covered wagon" diesel unit, 921D, an EMD F7, was donated to the museum in August 1983, at Portola's first annual Feather River Railroad Days. Numerous donations of Western Pacific equipment from Union Pacific followed. Union Pacific's last built double engine "Centennial" locomotive was donated to the museum in August 1984. During the past several years, members of the Feather River Rail Society have spent thousands of volunteer hours and tens of thousands of donated dollars on the improvement of the museum grounds, plus the purchase and repair of historical railroad equipment from other lines. The work continues on a year round basis.

The theme of the Portola Railroad Museum is a living museum in the form of a small railroad locomotive facility typical of the 1940's, 50's, and 60's. We hope to provide our visitors with an "up close and personal" experience of what it was like to be around such a facility. Unlike other railroad museums, we encourage our visitors to climb up into the cab of a locomotive and sit in the engineer's seat, or to ride in a caboose behind a freight train.

The FRRS has a unique Rent-A-Locomotive program that allows people to fulfill their wildest dream by operating a real diesel locomotive with their own private instructor.

Scheduled events include Track Motorcar Races, Feather River Railroad Days and Railfan Day, on which trains of the 1930's, 1940's, and 1950's are re-created and run for the joy of photographers and history buffs. We also operate a Christmas-time "Santa Train."

FRRS Mission Statement: The Feather River Rail Society is dedicated to preserving the history of the Western Pacific Railroad, the railroad history of Northern California and the history of the evolution of the diesel locomotive in North America over the past 50 years.

To this end, the Feather River Rail Society now has at Portola, one of the largest and most historic collections of diesel locomotives in the United States.

Enjoy your visit!

FRRS Locomotive Roster

Road	No.	Mfr.	Model	Bldr. No.	Blt.	Acqrd.	Hpower.	History
FR&W	1	PLY	ML-8	4504	-43	12-86	250hp	x WCTU 1, xxUSA QMC (gasoline)
KCC	2	ALCO	RS-3	78371	11-50	8-85	1600hp	x American Smelting
KCC	3	ALCO	RS-3	78372	11-50	10-85	1600hp	x American Smelting
O&NW	3	BLH	AS-616	75470	5-52	5-92	1600hp	x SP 5274
O&NW	4	BLH	AS-616	75449	3-52	4-92	1600hp	x SP 5253 xx McCloud 34
USS	16	BLH	S-12	75912	10-53	10-92	1200hp	x McCloud 30, xx Rayonier 203
NVR	51	BLW	DS-4-4-660	73042	11-46	11-90	660hp	x MF&M 1, xx SNC 51
FR&W	80	GE	80T	15671	8-42	7-88	500hp	x USA 7376
FR&W	81	GE	80T	31853	-53	7-88	500hp	x USA 1694
KCC	104	ALCO	RS-2	77888	1-50	11-85	1500hp	(Nevada Mines, Ely) x KCC 908
WP	501	EMC	SW-1	906	8-39	2-88	600hp	x Corn Products 1, xx SN 401
WP	506	ALCO	S-1	69687	5-42	8-88	660hp	x ST&E 506
WP	512	ALCO	S-1	69514	11-41	11-88	660hp	x USA 7372
FR&W	541	ALCO/GE	MRS-1	80352	6-53	10-91	1600hp	x USA 2119, xx USN
FR&W	544	ALCO/GE	MRS-1	80355	6-53	9-91	1600hp	x USA 2122, xx USN
LI	604	ALCO	FA-2	81086	6-56	7-87	1600hp	x L&N 314
WP	608	EMC	NW-2u	1000	5-40	12-84	1200hp	x UP 1001
WP	707	EMD	GP-7	17031	10-52	2-87	1500hp	
WP	708	EMD	GP-7	17056	10-52	11-84	1500hp	
KMC	778	GE	125T	33348	4-58	10-85		x Chino mines 104 (electric)
WP	805A	EMD	FP-7A	9004	1-50	7-87	1500hp	x L&NW 49
UP	849	EMD	GP-30	27558	9-62	7-86	2250hp	
WP	921D	EMD	F7-A	8979	1-50	7-83	1500hp	
WP	925C	GMDD	F7B	A214	-55	5-91	1750hp	x CN 9190 upgraded to F9B specs.10-72
WP	2001	EMD	GP-20	25623	12-59	7-85	2000hp	
WP	3051	GE	U30B	36451	9-67	1-85	3000hp	
SP	4004	ALCO	RS-32	84029	3-62	4-90	2000hp	x SP 7304
SP	4404	EMD	SD-9E	20206	4-55	12-91	1750hp	x SP 5428 xx SP 3906
MILW	5057	GE	U25B	35640	6-65	8-87	2500hp	
UP	6946	EMD	DDA40X	35520	9-71	8-84	6600hp	