

The latest word on

Steam Locomotive Acquisition

When our museum was formed in 1983, we invited Jim Boynton to take Feather River Short Line engine 2-6-2 No. 8 out of the Plumas County Fairgrounds in Quincy and bring it to Portola for restoration and operation. No. 8, a caboose and an Army car were brought to Portola. The engine was restored to operating condition and operated on our trackage for several years. A rules disagreement resulted in the engine being moved to Virginia City and the cars being moved back to Quincy and placed in storage.

A number of our members have wished we would acquire a steam locomotive again to operate on museum trackage. The five remaining WP steamers are pretty well settled in their present homes, so this left us to find a non-WP engine that would represent steam in this area. The acquisition of a steam engine is not as easy as acquiring a diesel. It's been nearly 40 years since steam was in regular service. Remaining steamers are either in parks or on tourist railways whose owners are reluctant to part with them and when one does become available, the cost of acquisition, moving and restoration is usually beyond our financial means.

Recently the possibility of acquiring a "park" locomotive

came to our attention. It is Southern Pacific 4-6-0 No. 2252, built in 1897, and is located at the Placer County Fairgrounds in Roseville, CA. We have made an offer for the locomotive and are waiting for a response from the Fair Board.

The possibility of a second steam locomotive is also being pursued. This is a three-truck Shay, built for Yosemite Lumber Co. as their No. 4. It is located in Heber City, UT and is being acquired by the Nevada State Railroad Museum along with other pieces of equipment for operation at Boulder City, near Las Vegas, NV. NSRM does not particularly want the Shay and would be willing to trade it for an operational diesel locomotive.

As we do not wish to part with any locomotives in our permanent collection, we needed to find one to purchase. It so happened that LMC Metals at Richmond, CA has purchased 12 SP GP9 and SD7 locomotives for scrapping. Vic Neves, Wayne Monger and Norm Holmes looked over the available units and selected GP9 No. 2873 as repairable and negotiated its purchase. It will soon be moved to Portola for repair and be available for trade to NSRM for the Shay.

Upcoming Railroad Shows

Great American Train Show

Pomona, CA

February 6 and 7, 1993

Shasta Division Winter Rail Fair

Dunsmuir, CA

February 12-13, 1993

Friday railroad art show 6-9 PM. Saturday events include Railfan Swap Meet 9 AM-4 PM; Railroad Slide Show and musical entertainment, model railroad exhibit, Amateur Railroading Filmmaker Show 10 AM-4 PM; Railroad Art Show, Hollywood Film Festival and other events scheduled. For further information contact Dunsmuir Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 17, Dunsmuir, CA 96025 (916) 235-2177.

Winterail '93

Stockton, CA

March 6, 1993

Fifteenth Anniversary

Railroad Photography Exposition
and

Railroadiana Show & Sale

Multi-visual slide presentations and photo print competition along with our large Railroadiana Show & Sale. Full event ticket \$17. Order from FRRS Life Member: Vic Neves, Winterail '93, P. O. Box 23721, Oakland, CA 94623-9991. Make checks payable to Vic Neves and include a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Great American Train Show

Costa Mesa, CA

March 14, 1993

In Memory



This past year we lost several friends who were longtime FRRS members.

Ken Boynton passed away in Antioch in July.

Ronald Jackson who lived in Salida passed away in October.

Jim Boynton passed away at his home on Chandler Rd. in Quincy on Wednesday, March 4, 1992.

Grant Allen passed away this past year also.

Our deepest sympathy goes to their families.

WP LIVES ON