



Caboosing

WP/Willing People

By Mark French

I feel that an incident that occurred on April 4, 1993 should be brought to the attention of the members of the FRRS.

David Dewey, Kent Stephens and I were headed home after attending a board meeting at Bruce Cooper's home that day. About a mile above the Pulga Bridge on Highway 70, we came upon a bad single car accident involving a family from Gridley who were just starting out on their Easter vacation. David, Kent and I pulled over immediately to assist.

The family consisted of a husband, wife and 4 kids; they had hit the side of a cliff on the right side of the road. The continuing danger was that the accident scene was not visible until people were right on top of it because it was at an S-curve in the road.

After making sure that everyone was OK, (luckily no one was hurt, just a bit upset) Kent and I went east and west of the accident to flag traffic since the vehicle was blocking the eastbound lane. David tried to help move the wrecked vehicle out of the way but because the front end was totaled could only move it a few feet. It was enough to make it easier for traffic to pass on the westbound lane.

In the meantime, Vic Neves, who was driving behind us a mile or so came upon the wreck, stopped and started putting out road flares. All four of us stayed until Cal Trans showed up and took charge of the situation.

The upshot is that our members competently took charge of a bad situation and averted further disaster.

I'd like to personally thank Kent, David and Vic for helping at this accident. It makes me feel good to be a member of the FRRS knowing that our members really are WILLING PEOPLE ready to assist whenever needed!

First Day of Crew Training

Jim Gidley, Sr. and Gordon Wollesen held our first crew training class April 17, 1993. Dave and Julie Anderson, Ed-die Chase, Kerry Cochran, Mark French, Steve Habeck, John Hittner, Peter Langdon, Mardi Langdon, David Mihevc and Don Nelson attended the class of instructions with the new rule books in hand. Despite the rainy day, some outside instruction was given. All operating personnel will need to review the new rule book before they participate in our operations this year. Copies are available at the museum.

with Hap Manitt...

...the Museum's Diary

March 11, 1993 Bob Lindley and Bruce Cooper removed snow piles off of roof of engine house and hauled it away with the dump truck. Gordon Wollesen worked on batteries all day; his work on this was ongoing.

March 13, 1993 Bob Lindley, Pete Langdon and Hap Manitt cleared snow away from the loading dock area.

March 16, 1993 Hank Stiles and Pete Langdon loaded traction motors from parking lot and brought them into the house for inspection.

March 24, 1993 Bruce Cooper and Hank Stiles drove to Herlong to inspect Fairbanks-Morse Switcher for possible acquisition.

March 28, 1993 Gordon Wollesen inspected the engine house roof and noted the damage caused by ice and snow.

March 30, 1993 Ken Roller started replacing ties near Mal-function Junction. His work on this was ongoing for several days.

April 1, 1993 Three Baldwin switchers and one GP9 were switched into the FRRS on this day.

April 3, 1993 Hank Stiles and a crew from Turlock inspected, prepared and started Baldwin switchers.

April 8, 1993 Bill Alexander replaced the voltage regulator on engine SP 4404. Then he and Hank Stiles worked on engine SP 2873.

April 17, 1993 Operating crew training took place on this day.

April 18, 1993 Hank Stiles, Dave Anderson and David Mihevc started building shelves in box car for parts storage. Norm Holmes worked on engine SP 2873 repairing the air system.

April 19, 1993 Steve Habeck changed the signs on engine UP 6946. Then he, Bruce Cooper and Hank Stiles switched the yard to prepare for the summer season. Engine UP 6946 was turned around to face east.

April 20, 1993 Bruce Cooper traveled to Herlong to check the Fairbanks-Morse switcher. Ken Roller washed and cleaned engine SP 2873.

New Lifers

The following people have shown their faith in and dedication to the FRRS and have joined the ranks of FRRS Life Members:

Bob Walker
from Pittsburg CA

Casey McCord
from Pacifica CA

Eric Stephens
from San Jose CA

We are now only 4 people short of attaining 100 life members. How about you?

Donation

Marilyn Crowe donated a collection of 125 railroad books that her late husband Dick wanted our museum to have. Also included were a large number of issues of Western Railroader, newspaper clippings of railroad interest and other books and pamphlets. We appreciate her generosity.

One never knows when we will take our final breath. Have you made your wishes known? It would be a shame for someone to throw out all that railroad "junk" you've collected.

Cash Donations

The following people have made generous cash donations to the FRRS:

Jeffrey Baus

Robert Blanch

Don Douglas

Erik Frodsham

William Garner

David Krieger

Peter & Mardi Langdon

George McKenzie

Edward & Jean Perkins

Larry Richards

Charlotte Rodgers

Paul Romig

Richard Simonsen

Ken Storey

Stan Thomson

Fred & Sandra Trieselmann