



# CMO REPORT

**HANK STILES**  
CHIEF MECHANICAL OFFICER

Time again for an update on what is going on with our equipment. The word is not much at this time of the year. The shop is cold and working with bare fingers is tough. Work however does go on, not so much at the shop but in my nice warm office here at home. Not to say that nothing is going on in the shop. Gordon is working on keeping the locomotives with batteries charged. Doug has gotten things ready for the trip to Foster Farms to retrieve our ALCo S-4 that Norm and John have donated to the PRM. Locomotive rentals go on, thanks to that crew. Of course there are all the little things that people who live in Portola and come down to the museum one to seven days a week to do. Things like cleaning the bathrooms and dumping the trash. Things that most of don't see or think about but are a necessity in order to keep things going. This is a lot of work and having been on this crew for 8 years I know. These people deserve our thanks.

One thing that happened that will disturb us all, someone came up to the museum and closed the battery switch on the WP 2001 and the SP 2873. Because of the way it was done, it was done on purpose. Of course the batteries went dead, and then froze. This is especially sad when you know that there are people that will come to a museum and do things to destroy a piece of equipment that so many people have worked so hard to preserve. I guess some people have such a sad life that they can't stand

to see anyone have something nice, we should feel sad for these unfortunate people.

On a brighter note on Dec. 27th Doug Morgan and Bob and Darlene Crews drove to Livingston to the Foster Farms plant to be joined there by John Reese. They started the setup work for the loading of our ALCo S-4. Janis and I with my son Jeremy arrived on the 28th and we worked all day on this project. We all stayed overnight and on the 30th we got the locomotive loaded onto a flatcar. We had a couple of problems but those of you that have done a project like this know that things never go just as you plan them. It was a big job but with hard work, common sense and first and foremost safety, we were able to load the locomotive. It sure looked good sitting on that flatcar after all that work. We had quite a crowd when the locomotive was up in the air about five feet. It did look strange to see it with all that air under it. Doug Morgan and all his helpers get a big thank you from all of us for his hard work on this project.

Remember that Locomotive Maintenance Clinics Start on April 4th & 5th. It will be time to wake up our locomotives for this years operating season. I would like to see more of you come up to help. With more equipment and more use they requires more upkeep. I hope to see many of you up at the museum for the clinic.

Thanks for your time...

—*Hank Stiles*

## —GENERAL FUND DONATIONS—

Mr. Folchi, Kevin Metzger, Jack Tomczak, Steve Fauth, Charles Givens, Don Hunter, and James Schindler. We thank all for their generosity in helping our museum.